

A moment with Mary: By Mary Halvorsen

Early one evening last week, a boy who looked to be about eleven years old, crossed the highway at the south end of town as I sat in my car waiting for the light to change. He was blonde, wore shorts, a red t-shirt, and cradled a round, black puppy in his arms. When he reached the other side, he set him down, and they ambled off together, the pup leading the way. It seemed sweet the way he had sheltered the little dog, protecting him, until they were safely across.

The saying goes that, "dog is man's best friend", and it seems the reverse is also true. It got me wondering what it means, what it is, to be a friend. Random House states that a friend is "a person attached to another by feelings of affection or personal regard" and "a person who gives assistance; patron, supporter."

By that definition, I think I have suffered a loss recently. I didn't know her a lifetime, and there were no long phone conversations or "girls night out" events. We didn't share confidences about our families, jobs, or complain of snoring husbands. We didn't exchange gifts in bright, colored bags, or do any of the things associated with friendship in today's social climate. We mostly sat quietly.

More than Random House's brief definition, I like the take of an unknown author who observed, "The best kind of friend is the one you could sit on a porch with, never saying a word, and walk away feeling like you just had the best conversation you've ever had." Our porch was inside, with a rocker and recliner.

Sometimes in the mornings when coffee was coursing, I would blurt random admissions

like, "I know I will eventually have to leave my property" which brought only a "why?" and a puzzled look, as if what I had said made little sense. Albert Schweitzer reflected on friendship, "In everyone's life at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle that inner spirit." I don't know that there was anything bursting into flames that day, but in the months that followed, I wondered that I had ever felt leaving my place was inevitable, that getting older means giving up the things you love. I began to see the value of asking "Why" and of not wasting words.

Some friends are around a lifetime, some a moment. Sometimes we lose people before we have figured out who they were to us, what they

meant. We only wish we'd had more time.

I pondered the different forms friendship could take as I watched that boy carry the puppy across the highway. I thought of the person that I wasn't going to get to see anymore, and saw her clearly. I knew in that moment you never really lose a friend.

This Valley, the waterways that run through it, and the seasons that define it, circle around. The whispering rush of the summer river, trees surrendering leaves in the wind, and clouds gathering over the hills to the west, signal autumn stepping aside for winter. One season follows the other, again and again. We think of friends, and settle in.

Obituaries

JaDawn Michelle Phillips, age 44, of Cave Junction, died Friday, July 19, 2013 at her home. A celebration of life will be at 3:00 p.m., Friday, July 26, 2013 at 27606-B Redwood Highway, Cave Junction. Illinois Valley Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements. JaDawn was born October 23, 1968 in Grants Pass. For the last eight years she lived in Cave Junction and has lived in the Rogue Valley all of her life. For many years she worked at It's a Burl in Kerby. Her hobbies included woodworking, playing pool and riding motorcycles. Survivors include a daughter, Nichole Phillips, two sons, Levi Eickhoff and Garrett Skidmore; her parents, three sisters and one brother.

Cosimina Christianson of Cave Junction Oregon died peace-

fully Monday afternoon, July 1, 2013 at the age of 100 years, 1 month, 17 days. Known to her family and friends as Mina, she was born 4th child of ten on May 14, 1913 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the daughter of Guiseppe and Pierina Foty. Survived by sons Tony and Ron Christianson, 6 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, 2 great-great-grandchildren, sister Rosalie Spandel, and brothers John, Marcus and Charles Foty. Mina was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, Raymond Christianson. A devout Catholic, Mass was said in her honor at Saint Anne Catholic Church in Grants Pass, Oregon. She loved working in her garden, studying and watching birds, singing at church, painting figurines and fine china, playing her Baldwin organ, and caring for her dog. Alert and witty to the end, she celebrated her

100th birthday with immediate family and close friends. Mina is interred together with husband Raymond at Oakhill Cemetery near Yosemite National Park in California. Illinois Valley Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

Jane C. Riggan, age 93, longtime Illinois Valley resident, of Selma, passed into Glory on Monday, July 8, 2013 at Three Rivers Medical Center.

A celebration of her life will be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, July 20, 2013 at Selma First Baptist Church with Pastor Monty Pope officiating. Hull & Hull Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

Remembrances may be made to Illinois Valley High School Alumni and Friends Scholarship Fund, PO Box 2086, Cave Junction, Oregon 97523 or Selma First Baptist Church,

PO Box 279, Selma, Oregon 97538.

Please sign the family guest book at www.since1928hull.com.

Jane was born June 6, 1920 in Denver, Colorado. She taught for many years at Illinois Valley High School, retiring in 1983.

Jane enjoyed her family, her many friends, and her church activities. She was an avid reader and was always up for any new experience or adventure.

She is survived by her children, Mike (Vicki) Riggan of Fairbanks, Alaska, Mary (Greg) Petsch of Bend, Oregon, Lynn (Lary) Smith of Selma, Oregon, and Phillip Dailey of Fort Dick, California; 11 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Lex; her sister; and her parents.

Fran Spellman, age 68, of

Cave Junction, died Sunday, July 14, 2013 at her home.

A gathering of family and friends will be held at a later date. Illinois Valley Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

Remembrances may be made to Rogue Valley Humane Society (Cat Shelter) or National Wildlife Federation, 11100 Wildlife Center Drive, Reston, Virginia 20190.

Fran was born March 7, 1945 in Milford, Connecticut to William & Frances Spellman. She moved to Cave Junction from San Diego, California ten years ago. She fell in love with the area and it's wildlife including birds, deer and cats which she fed every day.

The family needs 8 cats to be adopted.

ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS
WWW.SINCE1928HULL.COM 541-592-4110

Letters to the Editor

Illinois Valley News welcomes Letters to the Editor. Please e-mail them to dan@illinois-valley-news.com

POLICY ON LETTERS: 'Illinois Valley News' encourages letters to the editor provided they are legible and not libelous or scurrilous. All letters must be signed, including name, address and telephone number. The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity. The "News" reserves the right to edit letters. Letters are used at the discretion of the publisher.

(Editor's Note: Views and commentary, including statements made as fact are strictly those of the letter writers)

Thank you IV News!

I want to thank you for printing the articleEverything you know about marijuana is wrong. Cannabis is without exception THE most useful plant known to man. Another example is the medicine derived from juicing the raw leaves which is not psychoactive. Not to mention all the industrial uses, Food, Fuel and Fiber.

Thanks again,

**Spaceman
Hope Mountain Radio
Takilmamf.com**

Dear Editor,

In regards to the letter from a person who objected to my article on the "History of the

Hippies of Takilma, Oregon" I wish to sincerely apologize to him for getting some facts wrong and not cross-checking and not corroborating the facts of the incident from other sources, which led to my misunderstanding.

I admit to being insensitive and I regret the errors. I have written a corrected version for my permanent records which removes the offending paragraphs.

Sincerely,

**Kindi Fahrnkopf
Takilma, Oregon**

Save the date

July 30

The Illinois Valley branch of GMO Free Josephine County presents a free screening of Genetic Roulette: The Gamble of Our Lives, a film by Jeffrey Smith, on Tuesday, July 30, at 7 PM. The movie will be shown in the Fellowship Hall of Immanuel United Methodist Church, 200 W. Watkins St., in Cave Junction.

This film presents never-before-seen evidence that points to genetically engineered foods as a major contributor to rising disease rates in the U.S. population, especially among children. Gastrointestinal disorders, allergies, inflammatory diseases, and infertility are just some of the problems implicated in humans, pets, livestock, and lab animals that eat genetically modified soybeans and corn. Monsanto's strong arm tactics, the FDA's fraudulent policies, and how the USDA ignores a growing health emergency are also laid bare.

Bring a donation for the food pantry at the Methodist Church. For more information call

(541) 761-4746.

Aug. 3-4

Blackberry Festival downtown Cave Junction. Benefits the I.V. Little League.

Aug. 3

The Cave Junction Lions Club will do a Blackberry Bingo on Saturday, August 3rd from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Senior Center in Cave Junction. Game cards sell for .50 each, open games. Winning pot will be split 50/50 between winner and Cave Junction Lions.

Aug. 3

Pregnancy Center of the Illinois Valley will hold a HUGE YARD SALE Saturday, August 3rd, 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. 520 Caves Hwy.

Aug. 4

Deer Creek Vineyards will host the Soul Food Band Sunday, August 4th at 2 p.m. for a Breast Cancer Benefit.

Guild offers free class on applying for upcoming Artoberfest or any art fair

Applying for a juried art fair or gallery show can be intimidating until you do it once with help from those who have already been successful.

Two Southern Oregon Guild members, Celia Lettis and Joyce Abrams, are offering a free class on how to present a successful application

and, once accepted, how to achieve success at a fair. You'll receive loads of information gleaned from their experience, including tips on presenting good photographs and do's and don'ts on booth design and product presentation.

The class will be held Friday, July 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Guild Gallery

on the RCC Kerby Campus (Belt Building) in Kerby. Artoberfest application deadline is August 1st so this is an opportunity to strengthen your Artoberfest application as well as learn of other show opportunities from Guild members and resources.

The class is free but you need to register so

instructors can plan materials.

Call 541-592-5019 M-F, 11-3 p.m. to register. Call Joyce at 541-659-3858 with questions.

Information about Artoberfest is available at southernoregonguild.org

Concerts in the Park

Summer 2013

Thursday Evenings
6:30 - 8:30
Jubilee Park
Cave Junction
Free admission

Bring your lawn chairs or blanket
Refreshments for sale by IV Little League

July 25th ~ I.V. String Band
August 1st ~ Oregon Little Big Band
August 8th ~ Eastfork





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