

A moment with Mary: By Mary Halvorsen

We meandered through the campground, twelve miles up Caves Highway, among the thick, gray trunks of Douglas fir, on our way to Grayback's mile-long, interpretive loop trail. Originally put in by the Civilian Conservation Corp, it stretches along the water, to the convergence of Sucker and Grayback creeks, where the two rush into a deep, shaded pool, before Sucker Creek continues on. The water is cold there, supporting Coho, Fall Chinook, Cutthroat Trout, and Winter Steelhead. The midsummer temperature readings from 1998 to 2004, peaking at just sixty-six degrees, dropping to the 40's and 50's by October.

The town and valley seemed far away under the canopy of firs, the steady flow of water rushing over rocks, the pooling and channeling around mossy boulders, a backdrop of calm. Earlier in the week, at work, my boss stopped me in a wide, bright corridor, wanting to know, "What is going on in Cave Junction?" as if I could tell her. Passing the sectional couch and

assorted employees lounging in the break room, the serious face of a local anchor filled the television screen, reporting, "Four homicides in Cave Junction in thirty days."

I was thinking of lives cut short, and violence in a community, and if there was any way to insulate from it, when a blue heron appeared, gliding silently, inches above the stream. He flew ahead, landing on a large rock in the middle of the creek, facing away from us. Ten minutes later, peering down from the middle of a rust-colored suspension bridge, it appeared a salmon flashed through the water, but was the reflection of light on the rippling current. I looked up to see the wide, gray wing span of the heron, neck extended, undulating around a bend, out of sight.

It may have been due to recent events, when a few nights earlier, standing in line at Shop Smart, the cashier made a co-worker, who was on her way out, promise to call when she got home. The consolation I have been ap-

plying, of, "Well, it happened south of town" or "it happened in town, away from where I live" is thin. No one is removed.

Sucker creek flows around the valley and ultimately into the Illinois River. Its watershed comprises 62,000 acres of the Illinois' 628,000 acre watershed. Events upstream can impact water throughout the Valley, just as violence in O'Brien, or a neighborhood in town, radiates to the far reaches of the area.

Rounding the last curve, as the trail left the creek, the heron once more lifted off a downed tree, putting distance between himself and possible danger. It was a wonder he didn't go a significant distance to begin with, rather than just far enough, again and again. Maybe he didn't want to leave the area. Maybe it was home.

Early yesterday morning in Shop Smart's parking lot, I stood looking across the street at a red-outlined heart, broken by a bolt of black. Painted next to it, a dark-lashed, blue eye,

heavy drop poised to fall, floated over a pool, ripples spreading out from the center. In bright green and blue, the name of one of the young men, recently deceased, mushroomed on the smooth, exterior wall of the old annex of Valley Farm and Garden. I didn't mind it being there, I felt relieved to look at grief expressed in wide strokes, and to see reflected back, the emotions swirling through the community.

There may be something to the quiet evasiveness of the blue heron at Grayback, his stealth avoidance, gliding around corners from rock to rock, hop scotching his way up the creek, staying one step ahead of any perceived threat.

But walking towards the store, unable to drag my gaze from the images, colors, and name, I knew that to look away, to keep moving, was not the answer.

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)

Veterans Day confusion

The Illinois Valley Senior Center sincerely apologizes for the misinformation regarding our Veteran's Day Luncheon on November 11, 2013, which resulted in some non-

member veterans being turned away. An outside entity, without our knowledge, gave information that our members-only lunch was open to all veterans. We deeply regret that we had no knowledge of this public invitation until the day of the event, and thus we were not prepared to serve more

than those who had made advance reservations. It is not Illinois Valley Senior Center's policy to ever disrespect veterans in any way.

**IV Senior Center
Board of Directors**

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

Obituaries

Nathan Daniel Jensen passed away September 27, 2013 at his home in Wasilla, Alaska at the age of 47. Nathan was born November 23, 1965 at Good Samaritan Hospital in Los Gatos, California where he resided with his father, mother and siblings. They moved to Cave Junction in 1969 and he was raised on a farm on Holland Loop. Nathan's unique and fearless nature led him on many journeys, but he never forgot his loved ones and always wanted them near. He loved fishing, camping, sunsets, spending time at the coast, mining, traveling and exploring. A dear father, husband, brother, son and friend, Nathan will be dearly missed. He was preceded in death by his father J. George Jensen Sr. and a son Joshua. He is survived by his mother Margi; daughter Haley and son Ryan, both of Wasilla, Alaska; 5 brothers and 2 sisters. I love you my brother, my hero. I will see you again. Aaron Jensen "Cave Days Forever."

Donald Bruce Wadsworth December 10, 1943 - November 4, 2013 Resident of O'Brien, Oregon.

Don passed away on November 4, in O'Brien, Oregon after losing a fight to cancer. Don was born in Oakland and lived in San Jose for most of his life. He attended Lincoln High School and lettered in football. Don married his high school sweetheart (Diane) and was married to her for over 50 years until his death. A plumber by trade (South Valley Plumbing), he ended up working for the city of San Jose for 20 years as a building inspector. He also earned a degree at the University of Michigan and taught plumbing/code classes as Foothill College. Don was a member of the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, Central California Chapter, where he served as Chairman in 2010. After retiring from his city job he worked as a regional representative for the Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute. Don enjoyed fishing, reading, watching college football and boxing and attending his grandchildren's sporting events. He is survived by his wife, Diane, daughters Tammy and Jamie and grandchildren Garrett and

Grace. His smile, and his kind and unselfish nature will be greatly missed by all. A memorial service will be held at Cathedral of Faith in San Jose on December 9th, at 11:00 am.

Michael Wayne Motley Born Aug 29th, 1959 Passed Nov 9th, 2013 Motley was born in Portland, Oregon and grew up in Anchorage, Alaska. He moved his family to Oregon in the mid 80's and shortly after settled in Cave Junction, OR in the early 90's. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, motorcycles and hotrods. Most of all he loved spending time with family and friends. He will truly be missed and never forgotten. There will be a celebration of life at the Kerby Belt building in Kerby, OR on November 24th, 2013 from 2p.m. to 5p.m. His family would love to have you join and share your memories of Mr. Motley.

Motley was survived by his girlfriend Cathy Burdick. Also survived by his children - Samantha Raney and Bridgette Raney of Gresham, OR; Michelle Motley of O'Brien, OR; Patricia Motley of Portland, OR; Krysti Norris of Cave Junction, OR. Parents - Gary Motley, Patricia Ritter of Zavalla, Tx; Barbra Wines of Beaverton, OR; Sisters - Wendy Corrigan-Lindberg of Anchorage, AK; Kari Motley of Gresham, OR; Evyjo Gundersen of Beaverton, OR; Brothers - Zero Black of Beaverton, OR; Greg Corrigan of Vidor, TX; Jay Corrigan of Australia; James & Ray Harris of Oregon. Grandchildren - Keith Broncheau, Kieran Opie and Caleb Huntamer all from Gresham, OR; Jhonathan & Jocelynn Southammavong of O'Brien, OR; Leilani, Jasmyn & Damarcus Gantt of Virginia.

Preceded in Death By - Father Gary Motley, Brother Steven Motley, Best Friends Larry Silva, Willie Deason and Macky.

Aaron Lee Clouser, age 39, of Cave Junction, died Tuesday, November 5, 2013.

A celebration of life will be from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Sunday, November 17, 2013 at the Kerby Belt Building. Illinois Valley Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

Aaron was born January 29, 1974 in Central Point, Oregon to Daniel & Nina Clouser. He enjoyed drawing, tattoo art, skateboarding and motorcycles.

Survivors include a son, Michael Clouser of Medford, Oregon; parents, Daniel & Nina Clouser; uncles, Karl Kennedy & Eric Kennedy, both of Anchorage, Alaska; Jim Jones & Aunt Margaret Jones of Clearlake Oaks, California; grandmother, Audrey Harding of Grants Pass; grandfathers, Leroy Clouser of

Selma, Oregon and Terry Kennedy of Weldon, California.

Aaron was preceded in death by Uncles, Norman Clouser and Jamie Clouser and a cousin Sarah Jones.

Thomas Howard Keith passed from this earth on November 14, at his home in Cave Junction aged 66. Keith was born December 4, 1937 in Shepherdsville, Ky. Thomas was a retired river guide who loved to fish and hunt. He loved to spend time in his garden and can vegetables for the winter. His cabin that he built from the ground up was his pride, next to his family and friends and of course his daily companion, Missy, a Springer Spaniel. He is preceded in death by two brothers, Tony and Johnny, along with one sister, Mary Ellen and three half-brothers, Roger, Glen and J.J. Thomas is survived by three sisters; Mildred and Martha both from Louisiana; Brenda Kay of California along with seven children: Jenene of California; Tom and Cliff, both of Cave Junction; Sandy from Washington; Paul and Julie both from Arizona and two half-brothers; Timmy and Billy, both of Southern California. Thomas also is survived by nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Services will be held Saturday Nov. 23 on Thomas' property located at 3631 Dick George Rd. Cave Junction, OR. Services begin at noon followed by a potluck, bring your favorite dish.



Save the date

Nov. 22

Protect Your Identity JoCo Library CJ Branch Friday, November 22, 10-10:30 a.m. Local computer expert Chris Funk completes his three-part computer series with what you need to know to protect yourself from identity theft.

Nov. 23

Precious Dirt is sponsoring a Freedom from Pesticides PARTY. Join us as we dance a little, eat at little, laugh a lot and have a good time, celebrating our ongoing work to protect our communities

Saturday 6:00-9:30 p.m. @ the County Bldg, Cave Junction ~Featuring: Live Music w/Tim

& Michele ~Finger Food Delights & Beverages ~Silent Auction highlighting: Artistry, Wares, Goods & Services from local businesses, organizations and artisans

For more information visit www.preciousdirt.org or contact info@preciousdirt.org or call 597-4809

Praise & Pie Social Benefit Concert featuring Dale Hopper, The Guppy Band, and the Praise Teams from Evangelical Free and Fountain of Life churches. Saturday, November 23, 2013 at 6 p.m. Location: Community Bible Church, 113 S. Caves Ave.

Admittance is free - donations for the Pregnancy Center of the Illinois Valley will be ac-

cepted.

Nov. 30

The public is invited to join Amnesty International's Write for Rights campaign between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 30, at the I.V. Branch of Josephine Community Libraries. Participants will write a brief message of hope to one of the 13 people from 13 different countries who are featured this year. Each of the 13 has been falsely imprisoned or is otherwise fighting for human rights.

Participants are also asked to write an appeal to the respective government, via either email or snail mail.

Information and talking points will be provided. We can use the library computers, but those with a laptop or other device that can han-

dle WiFi may want to bring it, in case there's not a library computer available at the moment.

Participants are encouraged to bring two or three dollars to help pay for postage. Attractive note cards will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own if desired. Call 592-3073 for more info. If there is enough interest, more dates will be added.

Dec. 7

America in prophecy, Days of Noah, Myths of Old and Alien / UFO Fallen Angels / Walking Dead? FREE Seminar: December 7, 2013 TIME: 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. (Bring Lunch)

Cafeteria of the Selma Community & Education Ctr. 18255 Redwood Highway Selma, Oregon. 97538 Phone: 541-660-7770 (Larry)

**Illinois
Valley
News**

Published weekly by
W.H. Alltheway, LLC
Daniel J. Mancuso, Publisher

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to P.O. Box 1370, Cave Junction OR 97523

Illinois Valley News is published at 221 S. Redwood Hwy., Cave Junction, OR 97523 Telephone (541) 592-2541 FAX (541) 592-4330

Since 1937 periodicals postage paid at Cave Junction OR 97523 P.O. Box 1370 USPS 258-820

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
One year in Josephine County - \$30.50
One year in Jackson and Douglas counties - \$32.50
One year in all other Oregon counties and out-of-state - \$39.00

Illinois Valley News does not refund subscriptions. Remainder of subscription will be donated to the charity of your choice.

News - Dan Mancuso
dan@illinois-valley-news.com

Circulation - Kimberly Potter
office@illinois-valley-news.com

Advertising / Composition
Dan Mancuso
dan@illinois-valley-news.com

Mailroom - Millie Watkins

Office Manager-Laura Mancuso
office@illinois-valley-news.com

DEADLINES:
News, Classified and Display Ads, Announcements and Letters
5 P.M. FRIDAYS

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.