



Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO, Publisher

As many of you are reading this you may be getting ready for the annual Thanksgiving feast.

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 The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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)

Poison Butts?

So it’s OK that the timber industry sprays poison in our forests that ends up in our water ways, and it’s OK that the chemical industry engineers our food with Round-up in it, and it’s OK that the gas and oil industry uses our drinking water and mixes it with chemicals and pumps it into the ground and causes the water that flows out of our taps to light on fire... But don’t you dare throw a cigarette butt on the ground, because that will be what kills all of us and everything else on the planet. Right?

So are the propaganda campaigns that good or is the general public so afraid to pull their heads out of the sand and stand up, stand together and

stop the insanity that is killing everything? Or shall we just wait until they do the right thing, like stop poisoning us for their own profits, and blaming all our woes on the individuals that smoke?

We can’t get our government to do anything to protect us because, “We the People” who work as government employees or politicians have been bought out by, and are owned by, the very same corporations that this country stood up against back in 1776. They just use social media now to keep you blinded to what’s really going on. Welcome to slavery.

So while the rest of the world stands up and fights back against the corporate corruption of their coun-

tries, the CEO of BP calls us the little people, and we do nothing but take their money and say what else could we have done? So I’m asking you, do you like the way you are being poisoned to death? Or are you intelligent enough to see thru the smoke screen?

Please, I’m calling all of US out. We can make a difference if we can learn to look each other in the face and start being the change that we want to see. We are the ones that made them rich beyond all belief. Either by doing the work or by buying their products, or both. We can stop them in exactly the same way, stop working a job that is killing all of US and stop buying the products that are killing all of US. Do you really need

a new smart phone every 6 months, or x-box, or car? What happened to pride of workmanship, quality, durable and long lasting?

We do not have to continue down this path of self destruction to have a job that pays the bills and puts food on the table. We do not have to buy into the lies we are selling to ourselves. It’s time to put aside our petty differences, also it’s time to open our eyes to who is manipulating US to press their agenda, and do what’s right for the greater good and that includes OUR planet too.

**Nina Horsley
Cave Junction**

ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Obituaries

Ralph Lee Spliethof of Selma died Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2013, at RVMC in Medford after a short bout with lung cancer. He was undergoing lung surgery at the time of death.

A Memorial Service will be held Saturday Nov. 30, 2013 at 11 a.m. at The First Baptist Church of Selma with Pastor Monty Pope officiating. Stephens Family Chapel is in charge of arrangements. A brief grave-side service will follow.

Ralph was born in Roseburg, Ore. on Aug. 29, 1944, the seventh of eight children to Andy W. & Bonita (Wilson) Spliethof, but lived most of his life in Selma.

Ralph married Vicki Jo Pearce on Nov. 5, 1961 in Grants Pass. They had 5 children. He later married Opal B. Wyatt on April 23, 1977 at Lake Selmac in Selma thus adding 5 more children to the family.

Ralph was a mill worker in Oakridge, Ore. in the late 60’s to 70’s. Upon returning to Selma he managed Kerby Landfill for over 10 years. Most of his customers lovingly referred to him as “Filthy Beast” due to a hat he wore.

After retirement he spoiled his grandchildren with pride, then on to his great-grandchildren, taking them on rides in his golf cart and loving every minute.

He loved co-hosting Family Reunions with his siblings, with 150-200 family members present. He would entertain the family with his singing & guitar playing with others joining in. The reunion would always end with an auction and Ralph entertaining all with his auctioneering skills to fund the next reunion.

The outdoors was a favorite of Ralph’s, looking forward each year to hunting seasons with the family and friends. The hunting camps would number about 40-50 family members with potlucks and more singing & guitar playing around the campfire.

His last big moment was being in the Labor Day Parade in Cave Junction in Sept. while driving his pride & joy “Big Red” a 1964 Ford Pick-up that had been in the family for 49 years. With help from family in decorating, he brought home the 1st place medallion in classic car category. It definitely was “The pride of the Spliethof Family in the Illinois Valley.”

In addition to his wife Opal, he leaves behind nine children. Lori, Lynda, & Shon of Selma, Betty & Justin of Grants Pass, Andy of Medford, Henry of Nehalem Or., Amy & Patrick of Cave Junction. Also four sisters: Lois & Linda of Selma, Edith of Myrtle Creek. And Lou of Arizona. Twenty-three grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were both his parents, father-in-law, one child Kenneth; one grand-daughter Leanda; one sister Evelyn and two brothers, Andy and Tex.

By request of Ralph, please bring a potted plant or a single rose, no flower arrangements.

Thomas L. Griffin, 70, of Crescent City, Calif., passed away in Brookings, Ore. on Nov. 21, 2013. Thomas was born on the 4th of July in 1943 in Scranton,

Pa., to Thomas Jr. and Marie (Vaughn) Griffin. He married Crystal Metzger on June 15, 1963 in San Francisco. Together they had three sons; Thomas L. Griffin IV of Crescent City, Daniel V. Griffin of Clear Lake and Treson V. Griffin of Crescent City.

Thomas was an avid business man, who spent a number of years running his own business in real estate. He loved to travel with his family in their motor home. At one point he thought about becoming a professional truck driver, but decided he’d just rather travel instead. He also loved to play the recorder.

Thomas was a religious scientist, and practiced the science of mind. He was a loving husband and father; he was very gentle, kind, smart and devoted to his family.

Thomas is survived by his wife, Crystal; their three sons; 10 grandchildren, and his brother, William Griffin. He is preceded in death by his parents.

Redwood Memorial Chapel is assisting the family, and condolences may be expressed online at www.redwoodmemorial.net.

A celebration of life will be held for **Patrick Leroy Hamer** Dec. 8, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Kerby Belt Building, Patrick was born July 26, 1961 and passed away Nov. 19, 2013 Donations for cremation will be appreciated.

Save the date

Nov. 28

Cave Junction Cares Thanksgiving Day Feast. This is for all persons in the Illinois Valley who do not have others to share their thankfulness with on this day. Free! Rain or Shine. All you can eat noon till 2 p.m. Thursday, November 28 at the Warm and Dry Jubilee Park pavilion. This is a community effort and all volunteers and donations of any kind will be gladly accepted and appreciated Call Lynn Boucher at 541-592-3594 for more information.

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 devices that can handle 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. 4

Josephine Co. Veterans Service Office will sponsor a free Veterans Walk-In session Tuesday, December 3 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the I.V. Family Coalition. This service is available the first Tuesday of every month. Assistance is provided for service-connected disability claims, enrollment in the V.A. Health Administration and pension and dependent claims. Call 541-474-5454 for more information.

Dec. 4

JCLI’S IV LIBRARY- FREE Baby & Toddler Playgroup Wednesday, December 4, 1-2 p.m., Before the doors even open to the public on Wednesdays, the playgroup begins it’s playtime! Play, learn & read with our free program for you and your little one. 209 W Palmer St, CJ 541-592-4770

JCLI’S IV LIBRARY- Free Movie - Force of Nature: The David Suzuki Movie

Wednesday, December 4, 6- p.m. Winner of the People’s Choice Documentary Award at the 2010 TIFF, Force of Nature offers a glimpse into the events that shaped David Suzuki’s life and career. The film weaves together scenes from the places and events that shaped Suzuki’s

life with a filming of his Last Lecture, which he describes as “a distillation of my life and thoughts, my legacy, what I want to say before I die”.

Dec. 6

The Dell’Arte Company Presents the 33rd Annual Holiday Tour BABES IN TOYLAND coming to CAVE JUNCTION this December.

The Dell’Arte Company’s annual holiday show returns for its 33rd year with a mad-cap adaptation of Victor Herbert’s classic family tale, BABES IN TOYLAND. Dell’Arte International is delighted to infuse the 2013 holiday season with their one-of-a kind comedy and energetic physical performance style. Join us at Lorna Byrne Middle School on December 6, 2013 at 7 p.m.

JCLI’S IV LIBRARY- Young Master Gardeners : “Hidden Roots”

Friday, December 6, 2 Sessions 2:30 & 3:30 p.m If the roots don’t work then the plants don’t grow. Explore how roots assist in raising a healthy plant. Kids of all ages are welcome and it’s FREE! 209 W Palmer St, CJ 541-592-4770

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY Annual Book Sale - Fri & Sat Friday, December 6, 5-8 p.m., The County Building - Free entertainment. Snacks and refreshments for sale. Drop by on your way to your Dell’arte evening for a look

around and a bite to eat. Then just a short stroll over to Lorna Byrne Middle School. Hours on Saturday, December 7, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

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)

Dec. 7 & 8

The Dome School’s 31st annual winter Holiday Bazaar, Saturday from 10 to 5 and Sunday from 10 to 4. Crafts, food, raffle and live entertainment. 9367 Takilma Rd. 592-3911. Look for our ad next week.

Dec. 8

Securing our Safety is partnering with Illinois Valley and Cave Junction in “ Taking back Jubilee Park”.

Join us for a candlelight vigil to end violence. Warm drinks, soup, candles will be provided.

Event will take place at Jubilee Park in Cave Junction December 8, 2013. Starting at 4:00 p.m.

For more information regarding event, call Shane Simon@ 218-8278

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

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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

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