



## Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO,  
Publisher

My father used to say that a good negotiation always leaves both sides feeling like they left something on the table.

While some may not be happy about the mill re-opening, I for one am very happy. Sixty-seven residents will again have livable wages and that can't be too bad for our economy, as well

as the emotional well being of the Illinois Valley.

The main reason for this great news, is that for once, the government worked. Governor John Kitzhaber along with other state and federal representatives were able to work with Southern Oregon Forest Restoration Collaborative, and environmental interest groups such as Ecotrust to make this happen. Kudos to the real players for giving this valley a hand-up. Now that it's election season, I am sure some small fish will try to take credit where it is not due. Sorry, but any local politician just doesn't have the clout to make a deal like this happen, period. This took leaders at the top to step in and save the day.

It seems that with good news, there always comes some bad spin. I record the nightly news on two of the three stations. I watch one newscast live and then check the two recorded newscasts. What I have come to see is a blatant bias toward our community. While we have become numb to our friends on the other side of the hill showing the Valley in the worst light on a regular basis, it seems the TV stations are following suit. Do they have

to ask the person who is jacked up on meth what they think about the mill reopening? This person is not the typical member of this beautiful valley. Why is it that I never see the "positive majority" in the news? It makes me angry, but I suppose there is little that I can do to fix that problem.

Lastly, I would like to touch on what I see as a burgeoning problem with transients. With summer quickly approaching, the problem will only get worse. I watch a select few lay around on the sidewalks all day drinking beer and creating general chaos. Just last week, I had one of our temporary citizens go through my garbage can, take a drink out of an empty coffee cup and then proceeded to urinate on my sidewalk.

Some in our community feel we need to help these people. I feel like they have families who have given up hope of helping them and have cut them loose. I'm not sure what we can really do to help them. My two cents.

Have a beautiful sunny week and thank you for picking up this week's paper, enjoy! ~ djm

## A moment with Mary: By Mary Halvorsen

My brother would have been sixty next month, and it's hard not to imagine what he would be like twenty years after the loss. Would his hair be completely gray, or only at the temples, like mine? Would he be retired from teaching? Would he have done any of the things he long ago dreamt of doing? Though he achieved much in his life, it seemed he sometimes longed for things he didn't have, that his dreams were within his sight, but not quite within reach.

A dream is defined as, "...an aspiration or goal... a wild or vain fancy..." or to "...imagine as possible..." Some question if a dream is the same thing as a goal. A goal set and not realized may leave one feeling inadequate, while a dream may be chased for a lifetime without the

same pressure.

Recently, as my son sat across the kitchen table, a year shy of finishing his degree, he revealed he still harbored the dream he'd had since middle school, admitting, "I don't know what to do. It's confusing." The logical, mother speech, about the importance of finishing, and preparing for the future, was ready to pour forth, but I found myself sharing, instead, what it has taken me a lifetime to learn: "If you have a dream, don't ever let it go, no matter what anyone else says about it." Thirty-eight years ago, in southern Oregon, during my first summer away from home, my brother delivered the same message to me in a letter, along with the counsel: "It doesn't matter what anyone else thinks, it only matters what you think."

In college, he had talked of joining the Peace Corp, of Africa and Australia, of going to a place where he could help. He was the first of nine siblings to go to college, three of the five younger than him, following in those footsteps. I think of pursuing fancy over foundation, and wonder if finding myself at this age, in a small corner of Oregon, pursuing an arts degree, has anything to do with the influence of my idealistic older brother. Bruce Springsteen once asked in a song, "Is a dream a lie that don't come true?" It could be, but maybe the only lie is the premise that pursuing what one really wants, or following a dream, is acceptable only when relegated to hobby status.

I look at our valley and think of families and individuals who have made a difference,

singularly, or with businesses, conceived and grown over the years. They helped create an economy, a cultural landscape, and a community's perception of itself. Surely, some started out with nothing more than a dream.

I remember the dreams my brother had, and wish he'd had time to live them. I think of what he would be like today, and how different our family would have been without him.

It's not such a stretch to believe that dreams don't die, that like the soul, they live on, in the hearts of those left behind. Maybe the legacy of those lost endures, when their loved ones chase, and realize their own dreams.

## Obituaries



### Joanne P. Ireland (1943-2014)

(also known as mom, grandma, or g-ma) passed away at her home February 22, 2014. She passed peacefully as she slept and had by her side her two sons, her daughter in law, and the family dog. Mom was born and raised in Salt Lake City, Utah. Her parents Douglas and Dorothy Goddard had their hands full with mom, as people who knew her well

could verify that Joanne definitely had a wild side. She moved to the Illinois Valley in 1981 and never moved back to the city, but the city really never left her either. Mom was always late because her hair had to be just right and no way would she go out without make-up on. Joanne could always be seen due to her love of bright colored clothing with matching sun glasses and shoes. Joanne was a friend to

many. She was always willing to listen, give advice or a harsh opinion, and do what she could to help.

Joanne is survived by her two children; Don Peterson, of Kerby, OR; and JoDon Ireland, of Eugene, OR. She is also survived by her three grandchildren; Jared Peterson, Jadyann Ireland, and Aaliyah Ireland; Along with her brother Darrell Goddard, of Salt Lake City, UT. She was

preceded in death by her parents and her sister Sharron.

Joanne lived 70 strong years. She was loving, giving, strong, independent, beautiful, witty, at times a little foul mouthed, and the best mom and grandma a couple of brothers could ask for. We will celebrate her life at her home in Kerby on March 15, 2014 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

# ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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## Save The Date



Kairos is looking for energetic individuals to be foster parents to provide a safe and caring home for children and adolescents who have had significant challenges in their lives (ages 4 through 18) in Jackson and Josephine County. Foster parents in either one or two parent households develop long lasting, healthy, and healing relationships with youth in their homes through structure, supervision, skills coaching, and positive role modeling.



Kairos offers extensive backup and parenting support with training, 24-hour on-call support, 48 hours of respite per month, daily check-ins and a monthly reimbursement of \$1,800. Please phone 541-474-5579 for more information.

[www.kairosnw.org](http://www.kairosnw.org)

### March 15

LBMS Music Department is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner fund-raiser on Saturday, March 15 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Taylor's Country Store. The \$10 per person dinner will include spaghetti, salad and bread - purchase dinner tickets at LBMS office or during the event. Dessert and beverages will be available as an additional purchase. Proceeds will benefit the band program with instrument maintenance and repair. We hope you'll come out and support this wonderful, enriching program. For information phone Lorna Byrne Middle School at 541-592-2136.

### March 15

Taught by an experienced local farmer on site, this class series is designed to guide participants through the process of choosing, maintaining and repairing equipment specific for their farming operation.

Basic: One class on Saturday, March 15 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. An overview of basic maintenance and troubleshooting for tractors, implements and small engines, and will explore the tools used for hay, row and veggie crops, tillage, seeding, wine grapes and irrigation. Fee: \$30.

Three Class Advanced Set: General Machinery on Sunday, March 16 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., followed by two shop sessions on subsequent Saturdays and Sundays in late March and April. Fee: \$130. Participants will have an opportunity to utilize a wide range of tools and be trained on their use and repair. Receive guidance with identifying, obtaining and repairing a piece of equipment that would most benefit your farming and gain confidence for tackling future repairs. Select and complete a student project with extra shop time as needed.

For more class details and to register: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/sorec/farm-equipment> or call 541-776-7371.

You may also contact Aluna Michelle at [aluna.michelle@oregonstate.edu](mailto:aluna.michelle@oregonstate.edu) for questions or more information.

### March 17

Precious Dirt Meeting.

Airing the KTVL News 10's Special Report "Pesticide Spraying in Gold Beach", regarding yet another investigation into timber herbicide practices and trespass.

Discussion will follow regarding these ongoing practices, taking place right here in the Illinois Valley.

The second half of the evening will feature Part II of the new series Community Rights Conversations, sponsored by Community Rights Josephine County.

Originally scheduled for Sunday 3/9, they ran out of time.

Wanting to keep these conversations vibrant, the last half of our Precious Dirt meeting will be Part II of their series.

"How corporate-written laws stifle democracy".

Please join us for another stimulating evening.

6:00 - 6:30 p.m. ~ Social -Coffee/Tea & Goodies provided.

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. ~ Pesticide Spraying-Special Report/open discussion.

7:30 - 8:30 p.m. ~ Community Right Conversations Part II

At the County Building, 102 S. Redwood Hwy @ Lister, Cave Junction, 97523. [www.PreciousDirt.org](http://www.PreciousDirt.org) 541-597-4809

### March 18

The RCC Illinois Valley Chorus will present a free concert at 7 p.m. titled: "Going Home." The concert will take place at Immanuel United Methodist Church, 200 W. Watkins, across from Shop Smart.

### March 19

Wed, March 19th - Movie: A Chemical Reaction, 6 p.m., FREE - IV Library, 209 W Palmer St, CJ 541-592-4778

"A Chemical Reaction" tells the true story of how much of Canada banned Roundup, Weed 'n Feed and other pesticides from public and private property - and how SafeLawns founder Paul Tukey is steadfastly attempting to bring that movement to the United States.

### March 21-23

Josephine County is pleased to announce we will be hosting a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Class in the Illinois Valley March 21st - 23rd.

Registration is limited, please sign up in advance by contacting Jessica Schwarz, Emergency Services Manager at [jschwarz@co.josephine.or.us](mailto:jschwarz@co.josephine.or.us) or by calling 541-474-5300.

### March 22

I.V. Little League will be hosting a chili feed/chili contest from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Kerby Belt Building. Come enjoy a night with the family filled with fun and live entertainment. Dinner is \$5.00 which includes: a bowl of chili, drink, cornbread and dessert. There will also be a silent auction of items from local businesses. Entry fee for the contest is \$5.00 per entry.

For more information contact: Ashley Davis at 541-415-4684.

## Spaghetti Dinner

All Proceeds Benefit the  
Lorna Byrne Middle School  
Band Program



Saturday March 15, 2014  
Taylor's Country Store- 7:00-9:00 pm  
\$10.00 per person  
Beverages and Desserts also available for purchase  
Tickets available through LBMS Band Students, the LBMS Office or at the Door

## Fundraiser

# 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.

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