



Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO,
Publisher

Throughout history, there have been trends and revolutions due to inventions and advances in technology. Along that line, one could argue that the synthetic boom of the 1940s was a necessity due to the Marihuana Tax Stamp Act of 1938.

In "The Emperor Wears No Clothes," a book about hemp that was first published in 1985, author Jack Herer argues that corporate greed and, dare I say, dirty politicians who were financially invested in certain synthetic companies like DuPont, led to the criminalization of marijuana.

Herer backs his positions with some thought provoking facts. According to Herer, in the 1860s, 80 percent of our economy depended on hemp for paper, fiber and fuel. At that time, it took 300 man-hours to harvest an acre of hemp. But, with the invention of the brand new hemp decorticator in the 1930s, the

costs to harvest hemp were radically reduced. This invention caught the eye of "Popular Mechanics Magazine" which published an article in February 1938 that called hemp the "New Billion-Dollar Crop."

While this invention made those in the hemp-based economy feel optimistic about the country's future, others did not share the feeling. In the 1930s, DuPont Industries had been developing chemical-based synthetics such as plastics made from coal and oil; sulfur based paper making processes; and the nylon that we now use in our daily lives. DuPont Industries had a problem, and that problem was hemp. Hemp produced four times the amount of pulp per acre than trees. DuPont products would not fare well against low cost hemp products.

DuPont Industries received a large amount of financial support from Mellon Bank.

The Mellon Bank was owned by Andrew Mellon, who also happened to be the United States Treasury Secretary and held quite a bit of political clout. Mellon had so much clout that he was able to handpick the man who ran the Federal Narcotics Bureau, Harry Anslinger, who was married to Mellon's niece.

Given the facts about hemp, why would Mellon continue to heavily invest in DuPont? Well, he had a plan. He knew something that most Americans didn't know. During the course of two years, Anslinger wrote the Marihuana Tax Act in secret. Anslinger never spoke to the American Medical Association or law enforcement agencies for fear of having it shot down by doctors, farmers, law enforcement and businessmen.

The second part of Mellon's plan involved William Randolph Hearst. Mellon used Hearst's powerful chain of newspapers to work over the public. Hearst was a big investor in the timber industry, which produced newspaper. Hemp would cause his investments to wilt.

Because of land lost in the Spanish American War, Hearst was not a fan of Mexicans and used his papers to show that "lazy" Mexican immigrants used marihuana, which in turn shaped American's negative views on both Mexican immigrants and "marihuana." After that, he went after African Americans by claiming that they abused marihuana, raped white women and created the satanic music. They even funded a move called "Reefer Madness" to double down on the issue. By the time Anslinger shared his bill, even Congress believed that marihuana was a powerfully addictive and dangerous drug that should be prohibited. By doing this they killed the "billion dollar" cash crop in exchange for reaping the profits from DuPont's chemicals and Hearst's timber.

Many of our readers grew up in an era that was brainwashed by Mellon and Hearst, and I understand your position against the plant. Unfortunately, the basis behind your position was a belief based on lies fabricated by the rich and powerful.

All this leaves me wondering this: What's in it for our elected officials to continue the hoax that hemp and cannabis are bad and therefore state-sanctioned dispensaries should not be allowed?

Thank you for picking up this weeks paper, enjoy ~ djm

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)

Charter in question

I want to thank the publisher of this paper, Dan Mancuso for pointing out the tyranny of the law in Josephine County. The county commissioners are once again using building ordinances to twist the truth to serve their own corrupt purposes.

If you look up the JO CO Charter, you will find section 25.2 clearly states that the county commissioners are not to be paid more than \$30,000 a year. The amount can only be ratified every 4 years with a 2/3 majority vote. The county commissioners of

that time used the county legal consul to bring this to court. A county judge overturned the election, the will of the people and the county charter. In the name of the state and federal constitution decided the raising of county commissioners salaries was an administration responsibility and could not be voted on. Meaning the county commissioners could decide on their own raises of salary. They are now paid \$78,000 a year plus perks. The county commissioners stand firmly against any lowering of their salaries. They distort and abuse ordinances, codes, rules, regulations, charters and laws. They continue to demand more tyrannical ordinances, codes, rules, regulations and more levies to raise property taxes.

Then they don't understand why the voters consider them arrogant and corrupt. They plead with us to trust government, not to abuse the will of the people and the constitution. Now they are claiming if we vote no on new property tax levies, the lawyers, judges, commissioners and governor will declare a public safety fiscal emergency and enforce the corruption and distortion of the constitution. Does anyone out there still believe we are not in a state of tyranny of the law?!

Mark Wichers Cave Junction

Publishers note: This letter was accepted prior to Mr. Wichers filing as a candidate for County Commissioner. Had this letter come in after, it would not have ran.

Just say no!

Recently, the PAC Citizens for Securing Our Safety (CSOS) petition for a five year levy to fund the County jail and Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) was approved for the May 2014 primary. If passed, this levy would daddle property owners with a tax rate of \$1.19 per \$1,000 assessed value for five years, which, for example would ADD \$238 per year on property assessed at \$200,000.

But there is something very wrong with this picture. It doesn't fund ANY Sheriff's road patrols! The jail and JJC is staffed and otherwise operational, but there are no Sheriff's deputies in patrol cars on the road to apprehend or deliver juveniles or other law-breakers to the county jail. Earlier this year, there were two dedicated Deputies and the Sheriff for road patrol funded for only eight hours per day, five days a week. Now there is only the Sheriff and ONE Deputy funded for only EIGHT hours

per week! Sounds like CSOS wants to throw a party, but nobody will come.

Commissioner Simon Hare recently said if the levy passes, \$2 million from a carry-over fund would be freed up to pay for the D.A. and Sheriff's patrols. If Josephine county is partitioned into three areas (Illinois Valley, Murphy and Merlin), and each area would need 5 Deputies for 24/7 road patrols, about 15 Deputies would be needed. It is estimated that each Deputy costs the county about \$100,000 per year or \$1.5 million, not counting training costs if no patrolled Deputies can be found. That would leave about \$500,000 for the D.A.

But it is not known if the current year one supplement of \$2 million will be available in tax levy years 2, 3, 4 & 5. Commissioner Hare says, "Our projected carryover for 2014 - 15 is nothing." And odds are slim to none that federal funds will be available in the future. If this is the case and the levy passes, county taxpayers will still have to pay \$8.1 million levy - year 2, \$8.3 million levy - year 3, \$8.6 million levy year 4 and \$8.8 million levy year 5. If the \$2 million supplement is not available for the next four years, Sheriff's road patrols and the D.A.'s will not

be funded, reverting back to virtually no patrols like we have today. Passage of the levy, however, benefits the city of Grants Pass, who will be able to fill the jail and JJC, leaving the rest of the county again without added patrols and D.A.'s and continued lawlessness.

CSOS and JoCo Commissioners must also take responsibility for this debacle, their only funding solution was easy pickin's, property tax instead of other alternatives, such as an in-county-only JoCo lottery, where 10 winners of \$10,000 could reap net proceeds of several million dollars dedicated only to the Sheriff patrols.

It's a sad state of affairs when rural residents must rely on state police who race 30 minutes or more to an incident, only to arrive too late to prevent it. Has JoCo's economy improved so much to justify a third vote in three years when most of the county is rural and people are out of work?

The proposed five year levy sounds like a lose-lose situation for county taxpayers.

Vote NO! on the proposed tax levy on the May primary ballot.

Robert Thomas
Cave Junction

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

Obituaries

Verle "Lee" Paxton, age 74, of Cave Junction, died Tuesday, March 4, 2014, at Three Rivers Medical Center.

A memorial service will be at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, April 12, 2014, at Valley Evangelical Free Church, with Pastor Marvin Porter officiating. Illinois Valley Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

Please sign the family guest book at <http://www.since1928hull.com/>.

Remembrances may be made to the Verle Lee Paxton Fund at any branch of Washington Federal.

Lee was born on November 18, 1939, in Hedrick, Iowa, to Verle and Freda Paxton. At age 16, he joined the Iowa National Guard and after

one year enlisted in the United States Air Force serving four years. In August 1961 he entered the United States Army and served with the infantry in the 101st Airborne Division. On January 22, 1960, in Ottumwa, Iowa, he married Linda K. McCarty. In January 1965 he moved to San Bernardino, California, and began working for GTE Telephone

Company, retiring in 1987. In 1988, Lee went to work for CP National in Colusa, California. The company later became Alltel (now Frontier.) He was promoted to manager within the company in 1993, and moved to Cave Junction that same year. He continued to work for the telephone company until his retirement in 2003. From November 2005 to May

2012 he worked for Josephine County UCAN.

Lee was a member of Valley Evangelical Free Church in Cave Junction since 1995. He served on the leadership board as well as volunteering in many other capacities.

His hobbies included woodworking, breeding and showing dogs, reading, and spending time with his family.

Lee is survived by his wife, Linda K. Paxton, of Cave Junction, Oregon; two sons, Brad Paxton and wife Carrie of Cleveland, Missouri; and MAJ (Ret) Jason Paxton and wife Gina of Cibola, Texas; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

His parents; three sisters; and a daughter preceded him in death.

Save The Date

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 SafeLaws 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 or by calling 541-474-5300.

March 21

Debbie Lukas, who grows over 100 species of medicinal plants on their Permaculture

farm, will present a slideshow of plants (including medicinal plants) taken on her recent trip to Malaysia at this Friday's March 21 meeting of the Illinois Valley Garden Club. Come join us! The IV Garden Club meets the 3rd Friday of the month at United Methodist Church, 200 W Watkins (across from Shop Smart) in Cave Junction, OR. Coffee hour is at 12:30p.m. Meeting starts at 1p.m. For information call 541-592-6009. (You can 'like' Debbie on facebook at Siskiyou Mountain Herbs, Spiral Living Center and Frog Farm.)

March 21

Friday, March 21: The Dome School elementary class presents a child-created theatrical performance of "Beauteous Black." The Moorish African fairy tale is based on the book illustrated by local artist Johnnie Walker. Bring snack/dessert dish and small container of water for Spring Equinox ritual and potluck after the performance. Shows starts at 6 p.m. at the Dome School, 9367 Takilma Road. Free.

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.

March 26

Wed, March 26th - Craft Night: Miniatures, 6 p.m., FREE - IV Library, 209 W Palmer St, CJ 541-592-4778.

Join Roberta for an evening of creating miniatures. Whether your interest is doll house, Barbie or itty bitties, we know you'll have fun with this little workshop.

April 12

FREE Eye Clinic Saturday April 5th from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (9:00a.m. - Noon by

appointment, Noon - 3:00 p.m. walk-ins welcome). At the Illinois Valley High School Gym. Free eye exam & pair of glasses (if needed). To schedule an appointment call 541-787-0860. Please leave a message. This clinic is brought to you by Amigo Vision, Josephine County Foundation & IVHS Leadership Class.

April 12

Open House on April 12, 2014 to invite Bud Winter's friends and relatives to spend the day to help celebrate his 100th birthday. Steak, chicken, barbecue, plus sides will be served from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. followed by birthday cake & ice cream. 5138 Holland Loop Dr., Cave Junction, 541-592-2743.

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