



## Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO,  
Publisher

I try not to involve the paper in elections. I feel it's a slippery slope for newspapers to endorse candidates. We have to cover the winner when they take office and if Joe were to win and we endorsed John, Joe would say we are biased since we supported his opponent.

But now, as you read this, the election is over and I have

no idea what the outcomes are. As such, I have a few thoughts to share about what my predictions were heading into the election.

The hottest topic was the GMO ban. My opinion is simple. I don't want to eat anything that Roundup won't kill. That, of course, ties directly into the Monsanto Protection Act. Basically, the act states that if in 20 years we find out that GMOs are bad for human consumption, we can't sue them. That makes me think that they already know it's bad for us now.

Then there are puppies. Everyone loves a puppy. I think that the three-year Levy for Animal Control and Animal Shelter deserved to pass and I thought that it would.

Normally, I pontificate about the fact that we don't need a public safety levy. This time around, though, when it came to the five-year Levy for Jail Operations and Youth Services at \$1.19 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, I stayed pretty quiet on the issue. That's because I kind of wanted it to pass. If it did pass and, if and when things change for the better, we will all be winners. If not, I can say, "I told you so." It's a win-win for me.

I believe Steve Rich has a lot of experience and I expected

him to win on Tuesday. I have nothing against Wally Hicks, but Steve's experience should have carried him through. That's my analysis, not an after-the-fact endorsement.

While Ed Vincent impressed me more than I expected in the Josephine County Sheriff contest, it seemed like a two-man race between Dave Daniel and Sheriff Gil Gilbertson. I was expecting those two to have a run-off in the fall and I think that Sheriff Gilbertson will be the frontrunner. Who knows, though, I could be completely wrong!

When it comes to the county commissioner race, I'll just say that the field left me scratching my head and I was as curious as anyone else to see what voters had to say.

On a happy, non-political note, I just came back from Caves Chevron after getting the nail out of my truck tire. I was quite surprised to hear Jeff say, "No charge because you purchased the tires here." Try getting that service from a website!

Thank you for picking up this week's 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.

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

### Am I scared?

I start by telling you that I am retired from Safeway—a senior citizen who does not receive a "PERS" government pension. I am also a member of Securing Our Safety. As I write, I do not know the outcome of the May election. That is not my concern here. What I am concerned about is the misinformation dissemi-

nated as a reason to vote against the jail/juvenile justice levy.

If Raymond Smith wants to vote no on the levy, that is his privilege. But either he doesn't know what he is talking about or is deliberating giving false information to support his decision. I don't believe his misstatements should be left standing. Therefore I want to correct the following.

Mr. Smith calls out Pat Fahey and Mark Gatlin as "public employees" trying to save their salary. Well I don't know Mr. Smith's definition of a public employee, but by my understanding of the term, neither of these gentlemen qualifies for the label.

Pat Fahey is the owner of Southern Oregon Sanitation and as he says it "I'm the garbage man". The one thing Mr. Smith got right was that Mr. Fahey is a member of the county budget committee—but he fails to recognize (I won't try to guess his motivation) that Mr. Fahey is a VOLUNTEER CITIZEN member of the committee who receives NO COMPENSATION for his time.

As for Mark Gatlin, manager of Shilo Inn, it would be news to me if Shilo Inn was part of county government. But of course he is also a Grants Pass City Councilor—an UNPAID VOLUNTEER POSITION—the only benefit city councilors receive is sandwiches for lunch if they show up for the Monday noon-time meeting.

I close by saying vote no if that is your choice—but don't make important decisions like how you vote based on false and misleading information.

### Jody Nigh Grants Pass

### Reader voted no

Nearly 60 years ago my wife and I had a conventional garden like our folks before us, using what disease and insect control we felt necessary.

Somewhere in the late 60's or early 70's the term Organic Gardening was born. Thinking it interesting we adopted the method for about 10

years. Our library contains over 100 issues of Mother Earth News including issue #1 Jan 1970, plus issues of Organic Gardening.

Then over the years, past experience and curiosity needed answers. Papers from professors, the Master Gardeners course and 4-day mini college (Corvallis) supplied many answers. Several professors are convinced if all growers and ranchers used the organic method, in 4 to 5 years the world starve to death.

Lack of true knowledge about food is one of the problems. Here is only one example—ask your friends if they have eaten any candies or pharmaceutical or confectioners glaze...the odds are overwhelming your glaze was shellac.

Since I first found glyphosate it is used around my fruit trees, grape vines and the garden before tillage. Read the label and be amazed what it can do for you.

In 15 years, the Lord willing, this writer will be 100 years old and any new developments such as GMO by

the big companies that will help produce an abundance of healthy foods will be used on this family farm.

So join me in voting "No" on measure 17-58

### Rocky Jones Cave Junction

### Lets Skate

There are some wonderful things happening in our town! Be sure to check out progress in Jubilee Park—the SK8 Park is progressing fantastically. Many are already involved in donating time, talents, come by and see how you can be involved. I hear folks are bringing snacks, treats and encouraging words, acknowledgement of appreciation, its great that we, as a community, are "taking back Jubilee Park" so it will be a good place for our kids and families to gather.

### Lyn Berry Cave Junction

## Obituaries



Noel "Margie" Jensen, 79 of Cottage Grove, Oregon passed away

May 8, 2014 at her residence from cancer. She was born December 31, 1934 in St. Louis, Missouri to Monroe and Margaret (Helm) Jones.

She grew up in Los Gatos, Ca. and attended Los Gatos High School. Shortly after high school she met & married J. George Jensen in California. She was a member of the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses for 51 years.

While her husband was overseas in Korea, she worked as a stenographer for the teamsters in California. Margie loved traveling, gardening, canning, and spending time with her family and friends, most of all she enjoyed her ministry work.

She was deeply loved and will be missed by many.

She is survived by her son Aaron Jensen and Laurie Houston of Cave Junction, Nora and Mel Barlow of Cave Junction, J. George Jensen Jr. of Grants Pass and four additional children. Carley Jensen, Trent Jensen, Daniel Houston, Sarah Houston, Elana Barlow, Bailey Barlow, all of Cave Junction and 27 additional grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, J. George Jensen in 1982, her son, Nathan D. Jensen of Palmer, Alaska in 2013 and grandson Jarred Houston in 2013. A Graveside Inurnment

was held on Thursday, May 15, 2014 at the Fir Grove Cemetery, Cottage Grove, Ore.

**Ila Clark, age 72**, of O'Brien, died Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at Three Rivers Medical Center.

No services are planned. Illinois Valley Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

Ila was born November 28, 1941 in San Francisco, Calif. While working at General Telephone Company of California in Santa Barbara, Calif. she met Robert Dean Clark. They were the very first couple to be married at the famous Dos Pueblos Ranch in Goleta, Calif. on July 1, 1959. In 1977 Bob, Ila and their two sons moved from Santa Barbara to O'Brien.

In addition to her husband, Bob Clark of O'Brien, she is survived by two sons, Curtis Clark of Cave Junction and Scott Clark of O'Brien and four grandchildren.

**Albert Dean Laorde "Shorty", 79** of Cave Junction passed away April 27, 2014 at his home in Cave Junction. Arrangements by Stephens Family Chapel www.stephensfc.com.

**Melinda Kolberg, age 46**, of Selma, died Friday, May 9, 2014 at her home with her family by her side.

Family services will be held at a later date. Illinois Valley Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

**Scott D. Armstrong, age 51**, of Selma, died Saturday, May 10, 2014 at Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center.

Private services are planned. Illinois Valley Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

Scott was born September 30, 1962 in Santa Monica, Calif.

Survivors include his mother, LaQueta Armstrong of Reno, Nev.; a son, Scott Damon Armstrong Jr. of Reno, Nev.; a sister, Dondi Armstrong of Reno, Nev.; and a stepson, Cory Livingood of Selma; a sister, Alexandra Armstrong-Latz of Reno, Nev. and a cousin, Shelly Ackley of Reno, Nev..

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

## Save The Date

### May 22

Thursday May 22- IVHS Music Department presents the annual "Rivers" concert at 7:00 p.m. in the IVHS Commons. Admission is free, and performances of a variety of music by the Chamber Singers, Cougar Band, Concert Choir, and Senior Soloists will be offered.

### May 24

Come out and support the IVHS Cougar Band when they march in the Boatnik Parade on May 24th!

### May 27

Tuesday May 27- LBMS Bands perform in their final concert of the year, "Coda." The concert begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Jamie Scott Memorial Gym, and admission is free.

### May 28

Wednesday, May 28th Healthy U presents a FREE Health Talk titled Senior and Disability Services: A Community Asset For All.

Topics include: home-delivered meals, caregiver support, elder abuse and fraud prevention, access to in-home care services and living well with chronic health conditions and

## For more listings go to [www.ivcalendar.org](http://www.ivcalendar.org)

more.

5:30-6:30 p.m. at Healthy U. 535 E. River St., Cave Junction, OR (In the very back of the Family Resource Building, by the playground). Call 541-592-4888 for details.

### June 1

IV Bikespace and Spiral Living Center present The 2nd Annual Otis Memorial Bicycle Ride!

A free, fun, and easy-paced group ride from Takilma to Cave Junction and back. We'll start at 10 a.m. at the Lower Parking Lot of the TCA Building in Takilma. We'll have one rest stop at the halfway point at

Coffee Heaven, then back to Takilma, where we'll finish at the Upper Parking Lot, TCA Building around 2 p.m. for a snacks-and-drinks pot luck under the trees.

This is an unsupported, unescorted ride—we will all try to stick together for fun and safety!

Rain cancels. For more info please contact Keeeth: 541-592-3722 shhhhh@sonic.net

### June 7

The annual fund-raiser breakfast for Volunteer Firefighters will take place in collaboration with 22 local non-profits and agencies providing

a day of youth activities, aircraft displays, remote control airplane demonstrations, museum tours, and more. Admission to the event is free and starts at 8 a.m. Illinois Valley Airport is located four miles south of Cave Junction. Parking will be at Rough & Ready Mill. Bring your families to enjoy breakfast, free ice cream from Schwans, participate in activities, and learn about opportunities for youth to get an airplane ride, participate in local youth sport programs, learn to fly a remote control airplane, and go through the firefighter obstacle course.

## Illinois Valley News

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