



Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO,
Publisher

I have been meaning to weigh in on the Cheryl Walker for awhile, but have found other things more important to the Valley.

I will start with the fact that unless there has been criminal activity, like filing a false police report, I cannot support any recall.

I'm reminded of the words of New York Mayor Ed Koch when

he was asked if he would ever run for office again. "No," Koch said. "The people have spoken ... and they must be punished."

Like her or not, the people have spoken and we need to live with that decision.

The main issue people are tossing around about Walker is that she was the architect of the doomed solid waste ordinances. This is not even close to being true. During the weekly business session for the county commissioners on April 3, 2013, Simon Hare stated, "We have been working on this issue for years. I brought this to this board as I felt we had the wherewithal to deal with it. We have been over this with a fine tooth comb."

Walker and Keith Heck had only been in office for three months, they had no idea it existed other than when Hare brought it up.

Before the final reading, Jack Swift got into Hare's ear and convinced him that it would lose in a referendum. Before the final vote, Hare chuckled and said, "I can't believe I am going to do this, but I think it will lose if it goes to a referendum, so I am voting 'no.'"

Recall supporters also allege that Walker is interfering with free speech. I feel Walker has been overbearing at times and the

whole video camera issue is ridiculous. However, the state's public meeting law (ORS 192.610 to 192.690) does not provide for public comment during the weekly business session. Public comments are taken at the will of the chair. I can recall Hare, the past chair, on multiple occasions not allowing people to speak at a weekly business session.

As someone who actually listens to all of the meetings the commissioners hold each week, I can't see any reason to recall Walker.

I hope to see you all out for the Labor Day festival this weekend. Due to all of the festivities, our deadlines have been moved up to 5 p.m. Thursday.

On another note the Valley lost a good one this past weekend. Lex Johnson was always a joy to be around. While I did not know him that well, I will miss his smiling face and kind words when I am out and about. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and all of the people in the Valley who's lives Lex touched.

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.

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

Reader has tips

Jammers Jukebox will be doing the sound on the main stage in Jubilee Park for the Lions Club Labor Day Festival. We will be providing sound for the Talent show as well, but we are not involved in signing up talent, judging or giving prizes this is all done through the Illinois Valley Lions Club. Donna Whitfield as in years past will be handling all of this. An important note to contestants, If you are using your own backing tracks we will need a copy 24 hours in advance of your performance. Any commercially available CD will work, however Burned CD's may or may not be recognized by my system, so it would be prudent to bring a copy well in advance just in case. Karaoke CD's will have to be "ripped"

for sound quality so if we are using your Karaoke tracks, 24 hours would be good there as well. We can also use MP3 tracks from a flash drive as long as the minimum 128 resolution is available, anything lower will degrade sound quality and be detrimental to your performance. We will not plug in cell phones, I pods, tablets or lap top computers due to inconsistent and or incompatible sound cards. The last time we broke this rule it cost me \$250 to repair the damage on a pro bono gig. Professional sound gear is acceptable such as a key board with 1/4 TRS Stereo out or XLR, Most guitar amps with line out will also work, but can be "Mic'ed" as well and in many cases sound better with a good microphone rather than using the line out. We have Stage mikes available, but if you have a favorite mic, as long as it uses XLR cable, we will be happy to let you use it. Our goal is to make every performer look and sound as good as possible and will be as accommodating as is reasonably possible. We will also be doing Open Karaoke during the festival. A schedule for this is still pending, but there will be no minimum age or talent required, anyone sober enough to hold the mic will be welcome. Good luck to all the performers and let's have a fun festival! Sincerely, The Staff at Jammers Jukebox

David Korrell
"Jammers Jukebox"
Cave Junction

Reader questions commissioners

The JoCo County Commissioners unanimously approved an advisory question in an emergency meeting on August 15 to be placed on the November 2014 ballot. The reason for the emergency meeting was that Commissioners anticipated the cost of regulating marijuana if Measure 91 passes will exceed the county's share of the state tax for law enforcement. No public notice or hearing occurred because the deadline to put it on the ballot was August 15, the last day for filing.

JoCo Charter, Section 12.1 "Emergency Board Meetings", states, "An emergency session of the Board shall be called only in the case of an actual emergency..." An Emergency is defined as "the existence of a clear and present danger or threat to life or property of the people of Josephine County resulting from a disaster, either natural or man made, including ... earthquake, conflagration, flood, war, plague pestilence or riot;..."

Section 1 states in part, "An emergency session ...shall be open to the public and allow for public comment. Notice ...shall be reconcilable with the urgency and ...nature of the emergency...and entered into the minutes."

The Commissioners violated their Oath of Office by failing to adhere to provisions of the Charter: No

clear and present danger or threat to life or property, no public hearings or comments preceding the ballot approval, no deference to the voters who in 2012 rejected legalization of marijuana.

Robert Thomas
Cave Junction

Reader questions Walker Recall

I want to extend great thanks to Robert Thomas for his extra-long letter to the editor on July 16.

He was able to compile the full litany of misinformation, innuendo, and misdirected anger behind the recall effort against Commissioner Cheryl Walker. While it makes for a really great story, it's just plain not true.

1) The solid waste and nuisance ordinances were the direct result of private property owners asking the Commissioners for help in trying to protect their real estate values. All they wanted was the same legal protection already afforded to residents of Grants Pass and property owners over most all the rest of Oregon, where ordinances just like the ones proposed have been in effect for years. These basic facts were overwhelmed by the completely misguided hysteria.

2) That often referenced May 21 Commissioner's meeting has now taken on a mythical life all its own. The Commissioners are elected to

manage and conduct the County's business. For folks who aren't familiar with the business of public meetings, they are not a town hall open forum. For those of you who rarely attend one of these meetings, you might be surprised to see that there is a dedicated group of partisan political activists whose goal is to regularly disrupt the County's ability to do its basic, legally mandated business. It's the responsibility of the elected Board Chair to run meetings in an orderly and productive manner. When the rude, disruptive conduct of a disgruntled minority did not respond to patient requests for order, Commissioner Walker merely did her job. Those who now use this incident to make a mountain out of a molehill remind me of a bunch of grade school boys who didn't like being told to mind their manners by the teacher.

3) All the grandiose statements about the County Charter, the Bill of Rights, and freedom of speech? A lot of hyperventilation and classic tempest-in-a-teapot distraction from the week in and week out mundane reality of Josephine County business.

No matter how hard you want to pretend, the fate of the free world is not at risk here. Unfortunately, it is these delusions of grandeur that now look to heedlessly waste County resources and the public's good will with this fanciful recall, which is nothing constructive, just a lot of barking up the wrong tree.

Kenny Houck
Cave Junction

Obituaries

Dr. Julian Holman, age 79, of Grants Pass, died Wednesday, August 20, 2014 at Noble Heights.

A celebration of life will be at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, August 30, 2014 at Faith Orthodox Presbyterian Church, 2033 Harbeck Road, Grants Pass. Private interment will be at Granite Hill Cemetery. Hull & Hull Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements

Please sign the family guest book at www.since198hull.com.

He was born September 5, 1934 in Los Angeles, California. He graduated from Los

Angeles City College. From 1957 to 1960 he served in the United States Navy as a hospital corpsman 2nd class. In 1962 he graduated from University of Southern California School of Pharmacy with a doctor of pharmacy degree. He married Elise Ann Houghton on June 22, 1963 in Torrance, California. For 51 years he was employed as a pharmacist. He owned and operated Fiesta Pharmacy in Santa Barbara, California before moving from Santa Barbara to Grants Pass in 1978. During his years in Grants Pass, he worked for Ron's Drug Store in Rogue River, Christian's Pharmacy in Medford,

Bi-Rite Pharmacy in Grants Pass, Caves Drugstore in Cave Junction and Bi-mart Pharmacy in Grants Pass. He loved interacting with his pharmacy customers and counseling them regarding their medications.

He was a member of the Rho Pi Phi (pharmacy fraternity) and Oregon State Pharmacy Association.

He was a member and former deacon and elder at Faith Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

His hobbies included reading, astronomy, and traveling. He enjoyed his family especially playing games and reading with his grandchild-

dren.

Survivors include three children, Ruth Rodgers of Cove, Oregon, and Becky Friesen and David Holman both of Grants Pass, Oregon; a sister, Edna Minor of Ashland City, Tennessee; a brother, Bob Holman of Garden Grove, California; 14 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Elise Ann Holman; two brothers, Bill and Eddie; and two sisters, Margaret and Bonnie.

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

Save The Date

For more listings go to www.ivcalendar.org

Aug. 27

TIME FOR TALENT! The TALENT SHOW is just around the corner. The I.V. Lions Club Labor Day Festival will again host a TALENT SHOW (amateurs only) and cash prizes will be awarded the winners of each age group. Don't forget to sign up by August 27. For more information and/or to sign up, please call Donna at (541) 596-2719 or Sue at (541) 592-2252.

Aug. 30

Janie Pope Run/Walk Benefit. The 5K Run/Walk, Janie Pope Benefit will be

held on Saturday, August 30 at 9 a.m. in Jubilee Park during the Labor Day Festivities. Janie is fighting liver cancer and working her way to being cancer free. She needs help with her medical costs and treatments. Sign-ups start at 8 a.m. The cost is \$30.00. Please come join us to help Janie!

Aug. 31

Join local favorites the Illinois Valley String Band for an afternoon of Roots, Americana, and Folk-N-Roll at the Chateau at the Oregon Caves, Sunday, August 31, at 4 p.m.. The IV

String Band features Kent Fisher on guitar, Mark Kelz on accordion and bones, Jack Dwyer on mandolin and banjos, Carol Valentine on guitar, harmonica and percussion, and young Ari Dwyer on rip-roarin' fiddle, plus 4-part harmony vocals. Come early for a hike or a cave tour and/or stay for dinner in the elegant dining room (reservations suggested). Call (541) 761-4746 for more information.

Sept. 6

Saturday, September 6, Kerbyville Natural Farms, Dehydration Demo and

Pressure Canner Gauge testing for accuracy by Josephine County Master Food Preserver, Jennie Reed.

Sept. 7

4-8pm Come down to the IV Library, 209 W. Palmer St. in Cave Junction, to help get KXCJ-LP, Cave Junction's volunteer-run, FM community radio station, off the ground! KXCJ's "Pie In the Sky" FUNdraiser features music, a BBQ dinner at 5 p.m. followed by a Pie Auction at 7 p.m.. To volunteer, contribute a pie, or for more info call 541-592-6084.

Sept. 7

Join Oregon Poet Laureate, Peter Sears on September 7, 2014 for a poetry workshop at 2 p.m. and a reading at 7 p.m. at the Historic Chateau at Oregon Caves. Both the workshop and reading are free to the public. Please call the Chateau for reservations for the workshop and lodging at 541-592-3400. We ask that reservations be made by September 5, 2014. Saturday, September 13th, 10AM-4PM

Sept. 13

Saddle Up! B.C.H.

Poker Ride in Beautiful Illinois Valley, West Fork Trails, Saturday, Sept. 13, Call 541-597-4383 or 541-592-4806.

Sept. 13

Spiral Living Center presents the 6th annual Illinois Valley Farm and Garden Festival at Jubilee Park in Cave Junction. Free music, demonstrations and skill-building workshops, kids activities, farmer's market and more. For local farm/business vending info contact 541-592-3642.

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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
laura@illinois-valley-news.com

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