

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 The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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 not sure about Art

Hi, my name is James Kaiser. I've lived in this valley for over 14 years. I am a farmer and I sell fresh, clean, local produce, non-GMO, at our local totally awesome community empowering event; the Cave Junction Farmer's Market.

I just want to open a discussion concerning Art Robinson, who is running for Congress for Oregon's Fourth District. That's from here to Eugene, and he is a Cave Junction resident, I hear. It seems most everyone must know who Art Robinson is, since there are so many billboards and signs folks have proclaiming they "like" you Art and that you're their "friend."

But I believe most of you folks would be alarmed if you knew where Art stood on the issues. I see the obvious major issues in Southern Oregon by knowing our last ballot measures and results and most certainly by the upcoming November election. The measures that we the people petitioned for, signed and voted for according to the democratic process, if ever there was one, were GMO's, Marijuana and applying pesticides upon our public lands and watersheds from which many of us get our drinking water. Interestingly, those seem to be prevalent issues across the country.

So, Art, where do you stand on those issues? I could not possibly vote for you until this is clear. I've done some research, but I'm not finding the answers. Can anyone tell me?

I know one thing, you can find a lot more about Art on Peter DeFazio's site than on Art's. In his own words, mostly,

See, Art, I fear that your true opinion on these matters is actually against public interest, as well as our safety, well-being and sovereignty.

I mean, as far as our drinking water is concerned, according to your April 2006 newsletter, "Access to Energy", you lament that "It is unfortunate that this water under San Onofre is being wasted. If we could use it to enhance our own drinking water here in Oregon where background levels are too low, it would hermetically enhance our resistance to degenerative diseases."

See, in 2006, the groundwater beneath San Onofre nuclear power plant, now closed, tested 16 times the allowable levels for radiation. And so, Art, among many other insane ideas, wants to dump nuclear, toxic waste into our drinking water. Is this how you're going to "put Oregon first, Art?" Sounds like a terrorist's fantasy to me. I feel threatened. Is this what everyone "likes" about you? I don't know about everyone else, but I'm not into being your "hermetic guinea pig." Sounds to me like you want to Fukushima Oregon next. Somebody call Homeland Security, please. Is this the "change" we're after?

Now, Art, one can find tons of information about you and way more rhetoric by you thanks to the world wide web. Just Google "Art Robinson." In fifteen minutes, even I was able to conclude from the piles of evidence (most in a self-incriminating form), Art, that you are highly suspect of being racist, homophobic, and against Women's Rights. Also, you are most definitely pro-resource extraction without regulation, or environmental accountability. You call all commonwealth type services like public schooling, Medicare, Veteran's Benefits, and libraries socialist and therefore should be abolished. Art, I say, if we're not paying taxes for public welfare, then what should we be paying taxes for? War? Corporate subsidies and prisons?

Now, Art, I have my doubts that you'll do anything like answer my questions pertaining to these issues, or any others anymore than you'll be endorsing a GMO-Free Josephine County. I can't overcome a sense that you consider yourself above us, like on the *Rachel Maddow Show*, claiming greater intelligence, and that you can create jobs. What jobs? Mari-

juana creates a thousand times more jobs. What's your opinion on that, Art?

Here's one last quote from you, Art Robinson, to consider before we vote. "People who have been cut off at the knees by public education are so mentally handicapped that they cannot be custodians of advanced accomplishments of civilization. These ignorant people vote, and their votes are destroying our way of life. Can this problem be corrected? Yes. Can it be corrected by improving public schools? No, only by abolishing them."

**James Kaiser
O'Brien, Oregon**

Reader says no mine

I would like to voice my opposition to the nickel strip mines that are threatening the clean water of some beautiful rivers nearby. Will these multi-national corps stay around and cleanup after they loot these salmon streams? Is cleanup even possible? We need an economy focused on sustainable production not unsustainable destruction. I value my ecosystems intact, not in a 1%ers pocket in a far off land.

**Joe Ninnemann
Cave Junction**

Yet another reader says no to nickle

My name is Eric Guinther and I am writing this letter in response to the ongoing mining plan on the Rough and Ready watershed and Kalmiopsis Wilderness area. I believe as do many concerned neighbors, this is one of the most pristine of natural areas. I would hate to look back at the later part of my life and think there could have been more we should have done to prevent the destruction of this area. Thank you!

**Eric Guinther
Gasquet, CA**

Obituaries

Gerald "Jerry" Earnest

Sommers was born on February 22, 1939 in Arkansas City, Kansas. While he lived there, he worked in oil fields and then moved to California at the age of seventeen. He owned and operated an auto-mechanic shop and gas station. He married Janice in 1962 and they had three daughters, Laurie, Rebecca and Jacque. They moved to Oregon in 1973 and he opened an auto-mechanic shop in Cave Junction, Jerry's Auto Repair & Towing.

Jerry was a member of the Masons and also a member of the Lion's Club since 1975, where he founded the Cave Junction Tuff Trucks. He was an avid bowler, loved motorcycle riding, fishing and hunting. He went to many auctions with his granddaughter, Mahkayla. He enjoyed coaching his grandson Jesse and the wrestling team and was a passionate sports fan. The Broncos were his favorite football team. He liked to go to breakfast with his buddies. He also loved ranching, working on his property and was a fan of Louis L'Amour.

Jerry helped out a lot of people and truly enjoyed doing so. He dearly loved his grandchildren, Jesse, Mahkayla and Gracie. He was an outstanding husband, father and grandfather who worked very hard to take care of his family and supported all of their endeavors such as 4-H, FFA and all of the sports that they participated in.

Jerry is survived by his wife, Janice, daughters Laurie, Rebecca and Jacque, son in-law, Ken, grandchildren, Jesse, Mahkayla and

Gracie.

Jerry was genuinely a unique, one-of-a-kind, spirited soul who was very well known and will be forever missed by all who knew him.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Lions Clubhouse (located at the Illinois Valley Airport) Saturday, October 11, 2014 at 1 p.m. a potluck. If you would like to bring a dish, please call Joy at 541-660-3649. In lieu of flowers please make donatios to the IV Wrestling Club.

Darlene Ness, age 88, of Grants Pass, died Friday, September 19, 2014 at Norris Adult Foster Home.

Private services will be held. Illinois Valley Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

Memorial donations may be made to Parkinsons.

Darlene was born December 27, 1925 in Mitchell, South Dakota to Fred & Celia Maresh. She graduated from high school as valedictorian and was a Mensa member. During World War II she packed food for soldiers while living in San Luis Obispo, California. She met Sonny Ness through her brother who was Sonny's best friend. On September 8, 1943 in Berkeley, California she married Sonny as he was transferring from Europe to Japan and she lived with relatives while Sonny served in the United States Army Air Corps. After the war, they settled in Illinois first in Wauconda for a year, then Palatine for five years and Batavia on a farm for five years. 1957 they moved to Casa Grande, Ari-

zona where they owned and operated a motel for two years. They then lived in Phoenix for a short time before moving to Chico, California for two years and Los Molinos, California on their large farm for nine years. From 1971 to 2001 they lived in Scottsdale, Arizona. In 2001 the couple designed and built an extremely energy efficient concrete and styrofoam home in O'Brien, Oregon and then in 2012 they moved to Grants Pass. Darlene taught all her children to cook, sew and garden before they could date. They took a photo of every state capitol except Hawaii.

Survivors include her husband, Sonny Ness of Grants Pass, Oregon; four daughters, Linda June Ness of Scottsdale, Arizona; Kathleen Y. Lombardo of O'Brien, Oregon; Vicki Brady of Benbrook, Texas, and Glenna Green of McMinnville, Oregon; a son, Tom Ness of Grants Pass, Oregon; a brother, Richard Maresh of Fullerton, California; 12 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a grandson, Robert Denlis in 2008.

Mildred 'Millie' E. (DeGray) (Keys) Chadderton, age 83, of Cave Junction, died peacefully on Saturday, September 20 in her home.

A celebration of life is scheduled for Saturday, October 4 at 2:00 p.m. at the Illinois Valley Senior Center at 520 E River St in Cave Junction. Friends and family are invited to bring

something for a potluck.

Millie was born May 18, 1931 in Worcester, MA. She attended Commerce HS in Springfield, MA before moving to San Diego where she studied and became an LPN. She moved to Cave Junction in 1976. She was a talented artist who worked for many local businesses designing their logos and signage. Her calligraphy was incredibly beautiful. Many will remember her delightful store window designs she painted for the holidays, and the billboard welcoming people to Cave Junction. She worked in the visitor center for many years and retired from the forest service at the age of 65. An avid gardener and outdoor enthusiast, her favorite art subjects were birds, trees and flowers. You could take a walk with her but be prepared to stop every ten feet to inspect every rock, flower and twig.

Millie was always the life of the party (especially for Halloween) and could be found regularly playing pool at the senior center with her many friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Ina and Earl DeGray, her brother Robert, her son Tommy, and longtime partner Harold.

She is survived by her 3 sisters, Doty, Terry and Mickey, her brother Frank, her daughters Diana and Eileen, her son Larry, her twin grandsons Isaiah and Jeremiah, and her many nieces, nephews, grand nieces, grand nephews, and cousins, all of whom will miss her greatly.

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

Save The Date

Oct. 1

IVHS Boys JV Soccer game, Away vs. Ashland High School at 4 p.m., IVHS Girls Varsity Soccer game Away vs. Rogue River High School at 4:30 p.m.

Oct. 2

IVHS Boys JV Soccer game at Home vs. Milo Academy at 4:30 p.m., IVHS Girls JV Volleyball game at Home vs. Prospect at 5 p.m.

Evergreen Elementary Open House from 5 - 7 p.m.

Oct. 3

IVHS Boys JV Football game at Home vs. Fall River at 4 p.m., IVHS Boys Varsity Football game at Home vs. Fall River at 7 p.m.

Oct. 3

Young Master Gardeners will meet Friday, Oct 3 at the Illinois Valley branch of the library at 2:30 p.m. We will be investigating how plants use water and how we can conserve water in our gardens. This program is free and designed for 5-12 year olds, although younger siblings are welcome. There will be several hands on learning centers for the young gardeners to explore and learn. This is the first session of the program for this school year, we will meet the first Friday of each month through June so mark your calendars!

Oct. 4

IVHS Cross Country Varsity Away vs. Ashland

at Lithia Park, IVHS Girls Soccer game at Home vs. St. Mary's at 10 a.m., IVHS Boys JV Soccer game Away vs. Crater at Anhorn Field at 4 p.m.

Oct. 9

Taco Night, 5-7 p.m. St. Matthias Episcopal Church, 25904 Redwood Hwy., CJ, Donations go to benefit the Harvest Kitchen.

Oct. 9

"The Human Experiment," a documentary produced and narrated by Sean Penn, will be presented free of charge at the Grants Pass H.S. Performing Arts Center. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The film will screen at 7 p.m. and an expert panel will offer a Q & A session at 8:30 p.m. Guest Evan G.

For more listings go to www.ivcalendar.org

Vallianatos, author of *Poison Spring - The Secret History of Pollution and the EPA* will discuss the "...thousands of untested chemicals in our everyday products, our homes and inside of us." Vallianatos states, "The EPA, an agency Americans have naively trusted, has betrayed its mission." The evening will also feature music by Carol Valentine and is sponsored by the Freedom from Pesticide Alliance and the Siskiyou FilmFest. Donations welcomed. Call 541-592-2693 for carpooling or further information.

Oct. 11

Harvest Moon Hoedown, Barn Dance & Variety Show presented by IRVAC at the Selma Community & Edu-

cation Center, 18255 Redwood Hwy., Selma, 5-10 p.m. Admission \$10, \$5 for ages 8-18, 3-5 p.m. Outdoor Jam session, 5 p.m. Doors open, 5:30 p.m. I.V. String Band, 6:30 p.m. The Antonucci Collective, 7:30 p.m. Square dancing with John Luna (will teach dances), Quilt Show, 50/50 raffle & Pie Auction.

Oct. 13 & 14

Youth Wrestling sign ups: October 13 & 14 from 5 - 7 p.m. at I.V. High School for ages 5 years and up. Fee: 1 kid-\$100, more than 1 kid - \$75 each. Parent involvement in fundraising is required. We are not a school funded sport. Parents are responsible for getting wrestling shoes. Please

bring back any warm-ups, singlets, and donated shoes from last season.

Oct. 28

Rogue Community College, in partnership with College Dreams, are excited to announce the 7th annual "College Night in Oregon" (CNO) events on Tuesday, October 28, 2014. CNO presents a unique opportunity for us as educators to promote post-high school attendance at any college, to Rogue Valley High School seniors and juniors. Attendees will learn much needed information about admissions, financial aid, and scholarships to assist them (and their parents) in making that all-important transition to higher education.

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