

# Letters to the Editor

*Illinois Valley News* welcomes Letters to the Editor. Please e-mail them to [dan@illinois-valley-news.com](mailto: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 The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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.)**

## Reader questions reporter

I was surprised to see an editorial on the front page as though it were a factual article. "Candidates face-off in Cave Junction" by Jude Hoyle presented a Sheriff Gilbertson who exists in her imagination, not the real Sheriff Gilbertson I have heard several times at meetings and have spoken with personally on numerous occasions. Why the fawning over Daniel and the caricature of Sheriff Gilbertson? Who knows? The truth is that Sheriff Gilbertson has years of experience in bringing a lawless city during wartime to law and order, has already stood up against the out of control federal government to protect our Constitutionally protected rights, is not a good ol' boy with hidden interests or bias, and is an honorable man who means what he says.

Not a soul on earth could do a better job than Gil has done after the corrupt County Commissioners gutted the Sheriff's office to a partial skeleton while cutting nothing else in the budget, including buying new cars, doing remodeling and hiring staff for themselves.

**Pramada Kisiela  
Cave Junction**

## Measure 17-63 is under attack

Measure 17-63 is under attack from a multitude of sources who have paid to publish and speak their "opinions". I have studied the Measure wording closely and would like to present the actual case in support of 17-63.

The primary prohibition of Measure 17-63 specifically states "any corporation or governmental entity holding an applicator license" as the target of this measure. Since that is the case, the first list I sought out was the official list of pesticide applicator license holders in Josephine County, Oregon.

There are 133 businesses/in-

dividuals on this list. Here is the good news.

There are no restaurants with applicator licenses on the list, therefore the passage of this Measure into law will not prohibit your local eatery from continuing its established practices to ensure cleanliness and a safe dining environment. If your favorite restaurant/eatery stops its current hygienic practices after the passage of Measure 17-63 into law, I'd seriously consider eating somewhere else.

There are no hospitals, retirement homes or clinics on the list, therefore no hospitals, clinics or retirement homes will have to change their well-established regimens which ensure the highest standards of hygiene for the doctors, nurses, patients, maintenance staffs and residents of these facilities. If they claim otherwise after Measure 17-63 becomes law, please ask them for a copy of their applicators license.

There are no Veterinarians on the list, therefore your local Vet will be able to continue to prescribe and dispense flea collars and the full range of medications that he/she has always prescribed and dispensed. If they stop or change what they've always been doing for you and your animals, it will have nothing to do with Measure 17-63.

There are no schools on the list. Do I have to continue?

Several of the folks who have paid to express their "opinions" have implied that farms will fail, the timber industry will cease to exist, school children will succumb to head lice and ticks and the County will have to spend "10, 20, 50% more" than some phantom number to do something that isn't specified during the television sound bite.

Here's the reality. Farmers have farmed and loggers have logged for most of recorded history and they have done so for most of that history without the use of the toxic chemicals that will be banned by Measure 17-63. Those industries defend their use of toxic chemicals with the argument - better, cheaper, faster. The question I'm stuck with is "At what cost?" If the argument is that I can buy a 2x4 for three cents less or pay a dime per pound less for hamburger at the same time that I'm paying \$500.00 a month for the medications I have to take to stay alive during the constant battle my body is losing to the toxic chemicals that pervade my food, water, air and soil, then the argument is over. No contest! I'd much rather pay a little more for

food and lumber and pay a bunch less to the pill producers who are in league with (or the same as) the major chemical pesticide manufacturers.

Measure 17-63 specifically states "if the local government... fails to enforce the rights and prohibitions of this ordinance" which means that the Sheriff or Police would be called to enforce the law if someone violated Measure 17-63 after it becomes law. If, and only if, the Sheriff, Police and/or Courts fail to uphold the law (their job), then "direct action" would be authorized. Since "private residential properties" are exempt from this prohibition, it's highly unlikely that anyone will be taking "direct action" by entering your home under the guise of enforcing Measure 17-63.

This important and timely measure is equally as much about restoring our rights to self-determination and self-government as it is about Freedom from Pesticides. Read the measure, not the paid-for falsehoods. It's time to roll back the over-reach of government and the government created corporations. Join me in support of Measure 17-63.

**Mike Mann  
Selma, Oregon**

## Vote yes for libraries!

The libraries of Josephine County are much more than depositories for books. They are centers of learning and information that allow us access to and the ability to do research and share and enjoy the wisdom of the ancient and modern world.

The libraries provide meeting spaces for lectures and study groups. A successful library is a great public asset to any community. It will attract new business, and educated families will help all of Josephine County grow and prosper. Who would start or move a business to a community that doesn't support libraries? Volunteers augment the paid staff, but it is not enough to keep the libraries open. Creating a library district will provide an independent source of funding to keep the libraries open. Please vote yes on measure 17-62 to keep our libraries open and protect our past investments.

**Caroline Griffith  
Kerby, Oregon**

Hi, I want to respond to a letter in the October 22 IV News which alleged that passage of measure 17-63, the Freedom from Pesticides Bill of Rights, will allow "any person or groups to enter

your and my property to look for pesticides without any permission or warrant." This is an alarming misconception to read in the paper. 17-63 specifically allows both direct and legal action by citizens, but only against corporations and governments, not against private individuals who use pesticides on private residential property.

It's important to remember that 17-63 is designed to stop governments and corporations from using the most dangerous pesticides which are known to cause health problems in humans including various types of cancer. 17-63 is not designed to stop you or me from using pesticides on our own private property and does not permit any action on private residential property.

There are a number of other strange misconceptions about 17-63. For instance, it's alleged that hospitals won't be able to use disinfectants and other important substances. Again, only chemicals being applied by corporations or governments that require an applicator license are prohibited. There are many pesticides that can still be used under 17-63 which do not require a license.

It's too bad there were no arguments in favor of this measure in the voter's guide because this is probably the most important piece of local legislation to come before the people of Josephine County in a long time. 17.63 is a bold exercise of our democratic right to defend ourselves from harm by entities too large for you or I to individually defend ourselves against.

Deadly, invisible toxins are used regularly to control weeds in road maintenance, timber production, and a variety of other activities that occur in close proximity to our homes. While often convenient in the short-term, these chemicals disperse into the environment in various, largely unknown, invisible concentrations. Linking a specific incidence of illness or death to these chemicals is difficult, and thus we cannot simply sue for wrongful death or illness. Our legal system is designed so that the producers of these pesticides can sell us a great, effective product while avoiding liability for the associated healthcare costs—those are passed on to the consumer.

If we pass 17.63 it will be inconvenient for some corporations and governments to adapt to the new law. In our democratic republic solutions to problems are never perfect for everyone, and sometimes a downright bummer for a few. In this case the few who

will suffer the most are those who have been inadvertently poisoning us (and themselves) for decades—they will have to change their techniques and pesticide choices.

On the other hand, passage of 17.63 will result in less illness and lower healthcare costs for every human-being in Josephine County. We have been poisoned long enough by a privileged few chemical companies who profit from the degradation of our quality of life. We have a brilliant opportunity before us to protect our health here in Josephine County. I believe our lives are worth it and encourage everyone to vote yes on 17.63.

**Daniel Dalegowski  
Cave Junction**

## Reader likes libraries

Though we and our five siblings were active kids who spent much of our summers on bikes, or swimming in Deer Creek and the Illinois River, we also enjoyed many hot summer afternoons lounging in the quiet and cool libraries in Cave Junction and Grants Pass. It always felt like we might get in trouble for greedily pulling out 10 or 12 books from the shelves and stacking them up just for ourselves! But instead, the librarian and volunteers encouraged that overindulgence and seemed pleased to support a developing love for books. Those afternoons seemed to fly by and before we knew it, our Mother was there to pick us up.

It wasn't until we became adults that we realized it was an involved public who had provided that calm and nourishing place for kids like us. We also realized that the habit of reading fostered so long ago had translated into a growing awareness of the community and the world around us, and a feeling of being part of those worlds.

We would now make an even bigger claim—libraries and citizens' habits of reading actually protect our freedoms. Discerning readers make thoughtful decisions when it's time to vote and are not at the mercy of hotheads and demagogues. Ben Franklin and his fellow Junto members recognized the potential for good with their first rudimentary lending library. It's no less important today. Please join us in support of the Community Library District, Measure 17-62.

**Jennifer Krauss Phillippi  
Jane A. Krauss**

**See Letters on A-8**

# Obituaries

**Lewis M. Lyons, age 87**, of Cave Junction, died Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at his home.

Arrangements are pending with Illinois Valley Funeral Directors.

**Doug Davis, age 78**, of O'Brien, died Saturday, October 18, 2014 at Three Rivers Medical Center.

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

rangements.

Please sign the family guest book at [www.since1928hull.com](http://www.since1928hull.com).

He was born Dal Mar Warren Davis on September 2, 1936 in Hammett, Idaho. He worked in the television industry starting at ABC and working on shows such as General Hospital, American Band Stand, Lawrence Welk, Let's Make A Deal, Joey Bishop Show, and Chuck Barris' game shows such as the Dating Game, Newlyweds, and Family Feud. In 1969 he went to work in

television post production at Vidtronics Inc as a telecine operator and cameraman and for many years transferred film, commercials, and features to video tape for studios including Paramount, Universal, MGM Warner Brothers, Sony and many independent film makers. He helped develop the first real time Pan-And-Scan film to tape. Over the years he also worked for Starfax, AME, TAV (Trans America Video), and DUBS where he retired from. At that time, he moved with family to Grants Pass and

eventually O'Brien.

Survivors include five children, Douglas Davis of Grants Pass; Mark Davis of O'Brien; Wade Davis of Grants Pass; Vickie Soy of Grants Pass and Paul Davis of O'Brien; three sisters, Dona Guin, LaRee Fowler and Carolyn Davis; a brother, Terry Davis; 26 grandchildren; and 36 great-grandchildren; former wife, Shar Fairchild.

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

# Save The Date

**Oct. 29**

are always welcome.

The Lorna Byrne Middle School Music Department will present the Fall Concert on Wednesday, October 29 at 7 p.m. The Concert Band, Choir, and Cadet Band will perform a variety of pieces in the Jamie Scott Memorial Gym. Admission is free, but donations to the LBMS Music Department

**Oct. 31**

IVHS JV Homecoming Football Game vs. Lakeview High School at 4:30 p.m.

IVHS Varsity Homecoming Football Game vs. Lakeview High School at 7 p.m.

**Nov. 5 – Nov. 6**

Lorna Byrne Middle School will hold Parent / Teacher Conferences on Wednesday, Nov. 5 from 4:15 to 8 p.m. and Thursday, Nov. 6 from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Please attend to obtain your student's progress report and discuss

your child's academic progress. Any questions, phone LBMS at 541-592-2163.

**Nov. 7 & 8**

Illinois Valley Senior Center, Christmas Bazaar 9 a.m.-4 p.m., 520 E. River St., 30 booths, kitchen open, lunch can be purchased and a bake sale available.

**Nov. 8**

Saturday, Nov. 8 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. is the "Clothes Giveaway" at Takilma Bible Church, 10343 Takilma Rd.

**Dec. 5**

IV Chamber Mixer/Auction at Wild River Brewery Friday, Dec. 5 from 5-9 p.m.. This will be

a no host pizza with beer and wine tasting donated by Wild River and Bridgeview Winery.

**Ongoing**

Cub Scouting, Pack 880, Grades 1-5, Call Larry Hammersmith, 541-592-3919 or George Nadow, 541-592-6771.

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

**Illinois  
Valley  
News**

Published weekly by  
W.H. Allthway, 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.

News - Dan Mancuso  
[dan@illinois-valley-news.com](mailto:dan@illinois-valley-news.com)

Circulation - Kimberly Potter  
[office@illinois-valley-news.com](mailto:office@illinois-valley-news.com)

Advertising / Composition  
Dan Mancuso  
[dan@illinois-valley-news.com](mailto:dan@illinois-valley-news.com)

Mailroom - Millie Watkins

Office Manager - Laura Mancuso  
[laura@illinois-valley-news.com](mailto:laura@illinois-valley-news.com)

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News, Classified and Display Ads, Announcements and Letters  
**4 P.M. FRIDAYS**