



Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO, Publisher

We have added yet another animal to our household, a pot-bellied pig named Betsy. The boys had the pig, which had been making its sty at their father's house. On Satur-

day, CJ woke up and just had to get the pig to our house. Being the sucker I am, I went along with it.

CJ and Laura had a plan to get the pig into the horse trailer. I was skeptical and quietly made up my own plan so I could step in after they made fools of themselves. CJ, who is way too soft on animals, was trying to coax the swine in with sweet talk and food. Finally, we reached a point where daylight was coming to an end and I wanted to get home before dark, so I spoke up.

Having lived in Illinois and Wyoming where herding animals is a daily occurrence, I felt I knew how to get it done. That background, combined with the fact that my daughter Abby took third place in the pig wrestling tournament at the Goshen County Fair, makes me think it's in my blood.

CJ felt my method was cruel. He said that we should just leave the pig there. But, his father travels a lot and is not always home to feed it. I told him that we could leave

the pig there to starve or he could go in the house and let me get the job done. He stood there for what seemed an eternity as the sun slowly dipped, and finally walked away.

Five minutes later, Betsy was in the trailer and we were ready to leave. All was good and the pig seemed satisfied.

On the way home, I told Laura no more pets. As it is, we have three horses, three stray cats and a dog. Laura replied, "Well, I would like to have a goat!" Welcome to my hell!

Anyway, I hope you all have a great Thanksgiving. Remember the things you are thankful for. I, as always, am thankful for my family, near and far. I am also thankful to live in a beautiful community with many wonderful souls. And, no, I didn't forget, I am thankful for my Green Bay Packers!

Thank you for picking up this week's paper, enjoy!

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 The letter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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 says grow up

It was somewhat surprising to read a pretentious quote in the Nov. 12 issue from Commissioner Simon Hare, who said, "I do not talk to the Illinois Valley News." Really. What kind of publicly elected Josephine County commissioner would take that juvenile stance? Is he for real?

Apparently Hare has a hair about some stories that ran in the IVN when he reported his county vehicle stolen. If that's the reason for his boycotting the only newspaper that actually covers the Valley, who is he short-changing? That sort of sophomoric attitude does not belong

in the realm of public service, especially when you look at his salary and benefits.

Is he for the Valley? Kind of difficult to tell. Grow up, Simon; you need a thicker skin.

Bob Rodriguez
Clark, Wyo.

Reader thankful for kindness

I would like to thank two very caring people that were standing in line with me at the post office on the afternoon of November 21, 2014. I was mailing a package to two young orphan children in Uganda the clerk said the mailing fee was \$65.37. I told the clerk I will have to lighten the package because I had \$40.00 set aside to mail the package. I moved out of line and begin taking coloring books, add and subtract flash cards, etc out of the mailing sack. A lady waiting at the front desk said "I want the children to have that stuff here is \$10.00 to help you with the postage". I just stood there in disbelief thinking how very wonderful when a man in line stepped up and said here is \$10.00 more to help with the postage. I thanked them and like a girl, started to cry. This is Thanksgiving week and I want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart to this awesome lady and man I had never seen before in my life, their help is such a wonderful blessing to these little children. The fun package was sent off to

Rachel and her little sister Karen they should have it by Christmas day. Sincerely,

Jo-Ann Wulf
Cave Junction

Reader skeptical of development

As it regards the proposed construction at the airport: it should be remembered that the investor, Larry Osborne, came riding into the Valley a number of years ago just as the real estate bubble was reaching speculating heights nation-wide. Much was made then of his plans for the Valley, cheered on by boosters, including reporting in the IV News.

For anyone needing a reminder of what became of Mr. Osborne's plan, simply drive by the "development" alongside the golf course. There you'll find what remains of a dream that never saw the light of day. The local bank that invested in Mr. Osborne's dream went bankrupt.

Donald Smith
Cave Junction

A letter to the Illinois Valley Community,

We have hopes that the warming center at Immanuel Methodist Church will soon open, a place where the homeless can be fed and sheltered from the elements. At this time we

lack enough volunteers to make this happen.

Currently, we plan only to house and feed people, but in looking ahead we put out a call for a donated or low cost RV trailer to be repurposed into a shower/laundry facility for use by the shelter residents.

To keep the shelter going when the temperatures drop below 40 degrees we are requesting individuals or groups to be put on a list to do the following: Prepare and serve dinner around 7 - 10 p.m., be a greeter registering shelter participants, around 8:30 - 10 p.m., assist with breakfast from 5:30 - 7:30 a.m., be an overnight chaperon from 10 p.m. - 5:30 a.m. and contribute to a non-profit. Also, we seek ideas on how to coordinate job opportunities for those wanting to work, (many without transportation or phone).

A person can become destitute for many reasons, but the lack of an address, personal space, showers, and laundry can challenge even the most resolved individual to better their situation. We are hoping the residents of Illinois Valley will be able to help us in opening the Warming Center for this season. For more information, please contact Reverend Charles Chase at 541-287-0740 or email: rev_chase@peoplepc.com

Gail Lebowitz
Cathy Hughes
Illinois Valley

ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

WWW.SINCE1928HULL.COM 541-592-4110

ILLINOIS VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND WILD RIVER BREWERY HOST THE ANNUAL AUCTION & MIXER DECEMBER 5, 2014 5-9 PM

WINE & BEER TASTING COMPLIMENTS OF BRIDGEVIEW WINERY/ WILD RIVER BREWERY

AUCTIONEER-JIM FRICK

PROCEEDS FROM THIS AUCTION WILL GO TO RESTORING THE WEATHER DAMAGE TO THE CHAMBER SIGNS AT THE NORTH & SOUTH OF THE VALLEY

BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND MEET AND GREET FELLOW CHAMBER MEMBERS

YOUR AUCTION DONATIONS APPRECIATED 541-592-3326

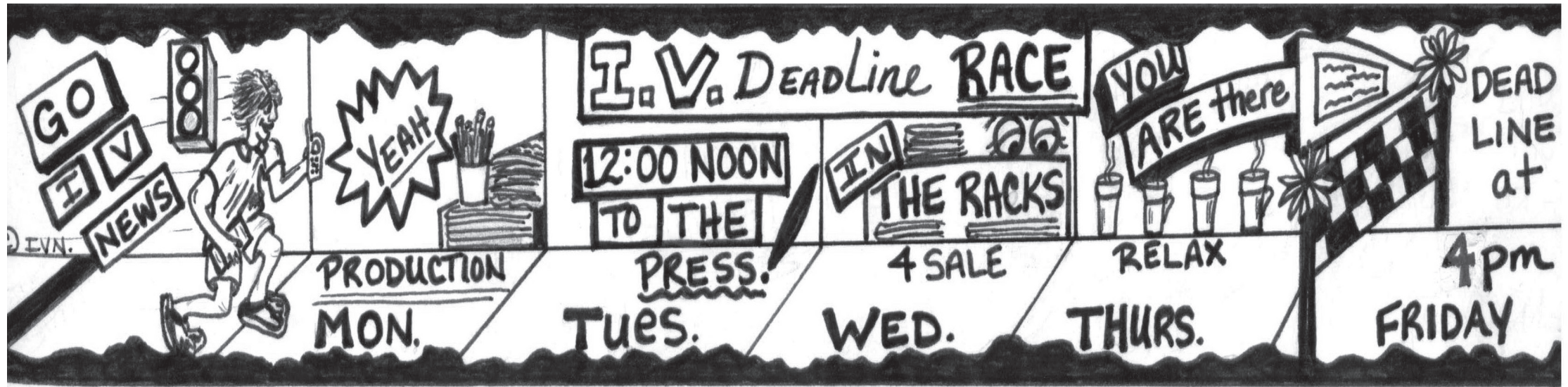
Save The Date

For more listings go to www.ivcalendar.org

- Nov 24 - 28**
Public schools closed. No sports.
- Nov. 27**
Thanksgiving, Cave Junction Cares Program will provide their 25th Thanksgiving dinner Thursday, Nov. 27, from Noon - 2 p.m. Warm and free to everyone, the dinner will consist of a complete home cooked meal of turkey, ham, candied yams, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables, rolls and butter. Hot coffee, milk, punch and pies are also available. This is an all you can eat meal. Donations and volunteers are always needed. If you wish for more information please contact Lynn at 541-592-3594.
- Dec. 3**
6 p.m. Wednesday, December 3rd FREE Book Reading and Sales - Local Authors @ IV Library.
Local authors Kindi Fahrkopf, Michael Spring, Justin Rohde, Deborah Murphy, K.R. Hulsey, Kelpie Wil-

- son, Buckwheat Bob Harrison and Ryan Forsythe & son Rory present their latest publications. Come join us for readings, signings and sales along with refreshments. Autographed books make unique holiday gifts!
Josephine Community Libraries - IV Branch 209 W Palmer St, CJ 541-592-4778
- 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. Proceeds will go to purchasing new Christmas Lights and refurbishing the Illinois Valley signs at both ends of the Valley.
Christmas Gifts Bazaar December 20, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Takilma Bible Church, 10343 Takilma Rd, Cave Junction. Handmade Arts & Crafts / Bake Sale Gift wrapping available.
Enjoy yummy soup & desserts while you shop (available all day).

- Please join us for Live Music, Fellowship & Fun.
For more info call 541-592-6058. 100% of proceeds to benefit the Pregnancy Center of the Illinois Valley.
- Dec. 6 & 7**
Winter Holiday Bazaar, Dec. 6 & 7, Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. & Sun. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Crafts, food, live holiday music and a raffle. At the Dome School, Takilma Community Building, 9367 Takilma Rd., Cave Junction. For more information call 541-592-3911.
- Dec. 20**
4th Annual Artisans' Holiday Faire this year will be at the County Building on Friday, December 12 from 4-8 p.m. and Saturday, December 13 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.



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