

# 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 The letter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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.

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

## Reader says forget Keystone, bigger dangers lurk close to home

Oregonians arise. Wake up...Forget XL Key

## Obituaries



Barry Snitkin

Longtime Illinois Valley resident **Barry Snitkin** died peacefully at home on February 5, 2015. Barry is survived by his wife and partner, Meadow Martell; his children, Oshia Golden, Amara Channell and Cara VanAllen; his grandchildren, Aurora, Malia and Eliana; and his two brothers, Alan and Orrin Snitkin. Barry is also survived by his community – the hundreds of people in Oregon and elsewhere who admired and loved him.

Barry was born in 1948 in Irvington, New Jersey. He earned a bachelor degree from Florida State University and moved to the Illinois Valley in 1983 where he worked as a realtor for many years. In 1992 he joined the staff of

the Siskiyou Regional Education Project in Takilma as outreach coordinator supporting the group's program of forest protection and nature education by reaching out to local communities and promoting public involvement. As outreach coordinator, Barry founded the Siskiyou Environmental Film Festival in 2002. Barry worked for the Siskiyou Project until 2009 when the organization merged with Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands and Barry continued to produce the Film Festival under the banner of K-S Wild.

Barry was involved as a volunteer in many important community organizations and events. He helped Agnes Pilgrim organize the first Salmon Ceremony in Takilma in the early 1990s. He volunteered as a local organizer for the Social Justice Alliance and was an enthusiastic volunteer and supporter of Josephine Community Libraries. Barry was on the boards of many community organizations, including the Siskiyou Field Institute, Spiral Living Center and Southern Oregon Land Conservancy.

Barry was a master organic. He believed strongly in organic farming and was a mentor to several young people who learned gardening and life skills from Barry. Aside from his community and his garden, Barry's greatest love was the wild rivers of the Siskiyou. One of his greatest pleasures was riding the wild rivers in his kayak.

Stone...Beware! Fear! Jordan Cove natural gas pipeline, a multi-billion dollar Canadian energy company, Veresen plans to clear cut a 50 yard wide and 240 mile swath from Klamath Falls to Coos Bay.

Try to imagine how ugly and environmentally disgusting this will be. Where the pipeline cuts through Shady Cove and under the Rogue River there are Oregon property owners who do not want a clear-cut swath thru their private. They refuse to sell. Veresen is planning on going to court using the Doctrine of Eminent Domain to forcibly seize these private properties. This legal doctrine is meant to seize private land for the common good. However, it's ludicrous and illegal to take land belonging to private citizens in the name of profit. How is it possible to let a foreign company come in and rape our state and take private citizens in the name of profit? How is it possible to let a foreign

company come in and rape our state and take private property and leave a 240 mile swath of clear-cut in its wake?

They claim this will create lots of jobs. Lies, lies, lies. How many Oregonians are part of a pipeline construction or maintenance crew. They will probably use foreigners to clear the 240 mile swath. Many local people will not be willing to do that kind of work for minimum wage.

The bottom line is if the jobs and benefits are so great, why isn't this pipeline and facility being built in Canada? Say NO to this project and send Veresen home.

**Chris Mathew, RN**  
Cave Junction

Barry's friends and family remember most his sparkling blue eyes, easy smile and warm hugs. He shared his life in such an open way, living his ideals, that he became an example and inspiration to hundreds of people.

Several gatherings were held for Barry during his illness including a wonderful tribute to his life at the Siskiyou FilmFest on January 30, 2015. There will be no public service or memorial. Donations in his memory can be made to the Siskiyou FilmFest through the Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center.

**Richard D. Hale, 82** of Cave Junction died Jan. 4, 2015, from heart failure. Richard was born 1931 in Norfolk, Nebraska. He was a Marine Corp. Veteran of Korea from 1952 – 1955 and he served his country with pride and honor. Richard is survived by wife Norma (Miller) Hale of 57 ½ years; his two sons Rick Hale of Williams and Robert Hale of Cave Junction.

**Raven Alexis Mistretta, 24**, of Cave Junction, OR, passed away in her sleep at home on February 4, 2015. She was born in Grants Pass, OR on November 9, 1990 to Tony and Heather Mistretta.

Raven was preceded in death by her brother Brandon Gunder. She is survived by her husband Israel Hopper, son Judah Hopper,

parents Tony and Heather Mistretta of Cave Junction, OR., brother Ian Martineau of Carmel, CA., sister Ryann Mistretta of Cave Junction, OR., and brother Maximilian Mistretta of Cave Junction, OR along with many loving grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Raven loved spending time with her close friends; she had an amazing sense of humor and the best laugh. She was protective of her siblings and soft-hearted towards animals, older people and young children. As a mom, Raven took pride in accompanying Judah to school where she read stories to the class. She loved to watch Judah grow and succeed. Raven also enjoyed trying new recipes, interacting online, Pinterest, and reading; she could finish a paperback in a matter of hours. Raven made a house into a home where she and her family lived. She will always be remembered for her strong, uncompromising personality. If she wanted something she always found a way of getting it. All who knew and loved her are left with treasured memories.

An account is set up for her son Judah and to assist with funeral expenses. Donations can be made at Washington Federal bank.

A memorial service will be held at Community Bible Church 113 S. Caves Ave. at 2 p.m. on Thursday, February 12, 2015.

# ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

WWW.SINCE1928HULL.COM 541-592-4110

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

### Feb. 11

IVHS Girls JV Basketball Senior Night at Home versus Cascade Christian High School at 4 p.m.

IVHS Boys JV Basketball Senior Night at Home versus Cascade Christian High School at Lorna Byrne Middle School 5:30 p.m.

IVHS Girls Varsity Basketball Senior Night at Home versus Cascade Christian High School at 5:30 p.m.

IVHS Boys Varsity Basketball Senior Night at Home versus Cascade Christian High School at 7 p.m.

### Feb. 12

IVHS Wrestling Varsity Meet at Home versus Glide & Rogue River at 4 p.m.

### Feb. 13

IVHS Boys JV Game Away versus St. Mary's High School at 4 p.m.

IVHS Girls Varsity Game Away versus St. Mary's High School at 5:30 p.m.

### Feb. 15

Announcing the 2015 Spring Seed Swap & Plant Sale, hosted by the Spiral Living Center, Sunday, Feb. 15, 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. at the Frog Farm, 9044 Takilma Road, Cave Junction, OR 97523. Everyone is invited to come BUY or TRADE plant materials such as seeds, tubers, divisions, cuttings and starts at this fun event.

Come get your spring inspiration revved up.

Contact Roxanne at 541-415-2998 (call or text) for questions about this event. Bring envelopes for seeds you may receive or share. NO dogs-Thank You.

### Feb. 18

"Don't let me blow my top" everything you always wanted to know about pressure canning vegetables, meat, poultry and fish. Master Food Preservers will conduct this class on Feb. 18, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the RCC/Belt Building, 24311 Redwood Hwy. Call Jennie 541-592-0327 to register, registration closes Feb. 16. \$5 for the class, limit of 15 participants.

### Feb. 20

GMO Free Josephine County invites everyone to their Community Potluck.

Join us as we share our thoughts and ideas about how best to move forward with our mission to share information about GMOs and support a GMO Free county and beyond. Find out about our newest projects and how you can plug in.

Come share a warm winter meal with friends and fellow volunteers, old and new. Bring a GMO-free dish to share, and a beverage if desired. Please help make this a zero-waste event by bringing your own table settings.

Friday, February 20 Grants Pass Community Center 234 SW 'L' Street,

Grants Pass, 6 p.m.

Can't make the potluck, but want to volunteer? Have questions?

Contact Carol@gmofreejosephine-county.org or call 541-761-4746.

We look forward to seeing you!

### Feb. 22

Depression Recovery Program Free Orientation, Kerby Belt Building, 24353 Redwood Hwy., Kerby 7 p.m.

### Feb. 23

Depression Recovery Program Free Orientation, Senior Center, 520 River St, CJ, 7 p.m.

### Feb. 24

Depression Recovery Program Free Orientation, Family Coalition Bld., 535 E. River St. CJ, 7 p.m.

Community Meeting / Potluck

Tuesday, Feb. 24, 5 to 8 p.m. at the County Building by the CJ Post Office. Potluck 5-5:30 p.m., Neighborhood Watch Updates, Open Forum for concerns of citizens, Emergency Preparedness & Neighborhood Watch updates, Law Enforcement Levy Pros & Cons, Geoengineering, 7:30 p.m. Open Mic and music performances. For full Agenda, to Include your presentation, or tabling contact coordinator Guenter at 541-592-4124, visit: [www.ivcme.org](http://www.ivcme.org) or email [cmec@cavenet.net](mailto:cmec@cavenet.net).

com. This is a Bi-monthly event, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays.

### Feb. 25

Depression Recovery Program Free Orientation, Adventist Church, 265 Old Stage Rd., CJ, 7 p.m.

### March 1

Banana Belt Photography Club of the Illinois Valley meets the FIRST Sunday of every month at 1:00 at the Southern Oregon Guild and Friends in Kerby. (Kerby Belt Building on the art guild side.)

First two meetings are free to guests.

### March 7

SOS Run For The Law, A Community United! 10k Run or 5k Walk/Run & Kid's Dash For details and registration see this page: <http://securingoursafety.org/run-for-the-law-a-county-united/>

For more information contact: Holly Lidey (541) 660-8186.

### Continuing

Nomination Forms for Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce, Citizen of the Year are available at the Visitor Center. Please contact Dulcie Moore at 541-592-3326 for more information.

# Illinois Valley News

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