

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 The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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 on fixed income against levy

In reference to the Justice Levy:

Don't you people understand how unfair this Levy is? Besides those people who are working hard, struggling to pay their property taxes, there are many elderly homeowners on fixed income really hurting with everything going up, food, heat, gas, etc. For Pete Sake! Work a little and come up with another way to pay for services.

Laura Williams
O'Brien

Garden Club News

The "Pineapple Express" has given the Illinois Valley enough rain to pass up last year's drought total. The wind did some treetop pruning. Considering that the unhealthiest branches are generally the ones to end up on the ground, the rare wind events here in the IV are only doing their natural job. More dangerous is the waterlogged tree falling over. February is an excellent time for planting dormant trees and shrubs, if the soil is dry enough, so the oxygen isn't compacted out of the soil around the roots. Effie Smith, founder of Illinois Valley Garden Club, in 1927, had a winter blooming shrub, February Daphne, Daphne mezereum, with mauve flowers on bare stems. Because Mrs. Smith propagated, most of these shrubs here are descendants of that one bush. Witch hazel, Hamamelis X intermedia, blooms through winter, with odd spidery flowers of yellow, orange or red. The name "witch" came from Old English wicce, meaning "pliant", nothing to do with witches. On sunny days, the crocus open and the honeybees roll in the winter honeysuckle Lonicera fragrantissima,

which smells like roses. For those who garden and keep chickens, if there is a "hen door", like a doggie door, but smaller, connecting poultry yard with garden, the happy feathered workers will spread those piles of manure and compost laid on in the fall, and eat grubs and flea beetles, right up to spring planting time, when the door is closed for the season. This is a good time to start propagating new plants from old, to share with friends. Those lanky geraniums held over from last year can be rooted to make new ones, just cut healthy tips and root them in water containers on the windowsill. Propagation can be easy if one learns to "go with the natural flow", or to learn when different plants are eager to grow, and when they are reluctant. For example, willow cuttings start most easily not through April. Kimberlie Lehman will present a class on Propagation at the Illinois Valley Garden Club, Feb. 20, See "Save the Date" for information.

Kathy Lombardo

Obituaries

Timothy J. "Tim" Gale, age 56, of Cave Junction, died Thursday, February 12, 2015 at his home.

Illinois Valley Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

Loretta M. Sanders, age 74, of Cave Junction, died Sunday, Feb. 8, 2015 at her home.

Loretta was born Nov. 1, 1940 in La Crosse, Wisconsin to Verle & Barbara (Jones) Brey. On Aug. 13, 1958 in Gold Beach, Oregon she married John E. Sanders. She moved from White City, Oregon to Kerby, Oregon where she was the former owner/operator of the Ritz Tavern (also known as the Old Stoney Front). Loretta later moved to Cave Junction.

Her hobbies included pottery, collecting, and baking.

Survivors include five children, Raymond Sanders of Grants Pass, Oregon, Robert Sanders of Cave Junction, Oregon, Richard Sanders of Brookings, Oregon, Kathy Valentine and Rodney Sanders both of Cave Junction, Oregon; a sister, Loraine Niccum

of Brookings, Oregon; two brothers, Gerald Brey and Barry Brey both of Brookings, Oregon; 13 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Loretta was preceded in death by her husband, John E. Sanders; brother, Donald Brey; granddaughter, Kari MaeLynn Valentine; and her parents.

Please sign the family guest book at www.since1928hull.com.

A memorial graveside service at Eagle Point National Cemetery will be announced at a later date. You may call Kathy Valentine for more information.

Ethel Mae "Melody" Mickelsen, age 96, of Grants Pass, died Monday, Feb. 9, 2015 at The Bridge.

Melody was born Sept. 19, 1918 in Burley, Idaho the fourth of nine children of Rowland & Priscilla Hill. At the age of seven, she moved with her family to Salt Lake City, Utah where she lived until 1945. On September 25, 1937 in Salt Lake City she married Hans Mickelsen who preceded her in death in 1966.

She moved to Southern Oregon 14 years ago from California.

Melody was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints her entire life. Over the years she has attended the Merlin Ward, Cave Junction Ward, and for the past two years the Grants Pass Riverside Ward.

From 2003 to 2012 Melody volunteered as a foster grandparent at Evergreen Elementary School.

She enjoyed singing country music.

Survivors include a daughter, Karen Rieck of Unicoi, Tennessee; a son, Dennis Mickelsen of Cave Junction, Oregon; 12 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and nine great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Shaye Roach in 2012.

A funeral service will be at 11:30 a.m., Friday, Feb. 20, 2015 at Hull & Hull Funeral Directors. Interment will follow at Hawthorne Memorial Gardens.

Please sign the family guest book at www.since1928hull.com.

ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

WWW.SINCE1928HULL.COM 541-592-4110

Save The Date For more listings go to www.ivcalendar.org

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, Feb. 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. 20

The IV Garden Club's meeting on Friday, Feb. 20 will feature club member and master gardener Kimberlie Lehman speaking on propagation- creating new plants from a variety of sources; seeds, cuttings etc. We will also have a seed and cutting share at this meeting. The IV Garden Club meets the 3rd Friday of the month at United Methodist Church, 200 W. Watkins (across for Shop Smart) in Cave Junction. Social and finger foods at 12:30 p.m. Meeting at 1 p.m. Visitors welcome.

Feb. 20

IVHS Speech/Debate Varsity Tournament Away versus University of Oregon at 7 a.m.

IVHS Varsity Wrestling District Regionals Away versus Rogue River High School at 12 p.m.

Feb. 21

IVHS Speech Varsity Tournament Away versus University of Oregon

IVHS Varsity Wrestling District Regionals Away vs. Rogue River High School at 8 a.m.

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.

Feb. 24

Community Meeting / Potluck Tuesday, Feb. 24, 5:30 to 8 p.m., at the County Building by CJ Post Office. Potluck 5-5:30, Neighborhood Watch Updates, Open Forum for concerns of citizens, Emergency Preparedness & Neighborhood Watch updates, Law Enforcement Levy Pros & Cons, Pesticides and Geoenvironment (Aluminum Oxide aerosols)- Health Alert information, 8 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 or e-mail cmec@cavenet.com. This is a Bi-monthly event, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays. Next meeting is March 10th, at

Wild Rivers Brewing & Pizza.

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 p.m. 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.

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