



## Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO,  
Publisher

On Monday, Judge Pat Wolke ruled on the GMO ban lawsuit. While his decision angered many, it should have not surprised anyone. The GMO ban vote was preceded by a state law giving that power to the state. Senate Bill 17-12 was passed

in 2013 primarily due to the fact it was packaged with public employee pensions and other like bills. Funny how our public employees pensions out weighted the will of Josephine County voters.

Another point of interest to me is that people who are not Democrats are angry that they can't vote in a Democratic Party primary. If you are not a member of a party, what makes you think you have a say in who they choose to run on their behalf? If you want to have a say, join the party. I must confess that as a lifelong Democrat I once registered as a Republican. (Because I lived in Wyoming and the first time I had the chance to vote, my Democratic ballot was empty, it's Wyoming, go figure.)

Speaking of Wyoming we just came back from there to celebrate my daughter Abby graduating with her master's degree from the University of Wyoming. Whoop! Oddly enough it snowed two days before Laura and I got there and

again the night we left. Yes it's May but Laramie sits at 7,220 feet elevation so it's not uncommon to have snow in May even in July.

In other news, the forest service has decided to ban alcohol on Illinois River Road swimming holes. Like many locals this pleases me. I won't go there, because too many people leave too much trash. This is not an isolated problem; it's the same at many other places like Seats Dam. I love Seats, but avoid it. When we do go, we always bring an empty bag and bring back far more trash than we created. My biggest beef is glass, who in their right mind would bring glass to a river? I beg all of you, if we want to continue to enjoy the outdoors in the area we need to take care of it. Remember the old adage, "Take nothing, and leave only footprints."

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

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 The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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

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

### Chamber seeks to clarify

As President of the

Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce I believe the article in last week's paper referring to the City raising the business licenses to be misleading. "Though no members of the business community were in attendance at the meeting, city recorder Ryan Nolan mentioned that the subject had been broached at a recent Chamber of Commerce meeting and that the idea seems to be well accepted by the business community." I believe this statement misrepresented the Chamber and the conversation that took place. The following is what was spoken about; as we all know too well the concerns of both business owners and citizens of the crime taking

place in our downtown business area is real and we are all attempting to find solutions to this problem.

My conversation with Ryan was "businesses are in favor of solving our crime issues." Not that the Chamber or our business community was in favor of supporting any raise in City License fees.

Thank you for allowing me to clarify the Chamber and our business community's views.

**Sonny Moore**  
President  
Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce

### Reader like clean water

The word that comes to mind when I think of southwest Oregon landscapes is magical. Natural cycles still prevail and the forests produce food and natural medicine. Crystal-clear rivers nourish communities and we can drink our tap water.

This is a stark contrast in my industrialized hometown in northeast Pennsylvania, where residents regularly receive letters warning of high levels of heavy metals and toxins, like arsenic in the water supply. Nothing can change the taste or stink.

Can we secure a future in Oregon where pristine waters flow down tree covered mountains? Toxic strip mining threaten the headwaters of the Smith

and Illinois Rivers, Rough and Ready Creek, home to the highest diversity of plants in Oregon. The Forest Service concluded a five year evaluation saying the impact would be irreversible.

I urge everyone to look at the big picture. The life-supporting systems provided by the natural landscape directly affect who we are, after all we are made 75% of water.

Tell your neighbors, write your elected officials, and support the mineral withdrawal during this 30 day public comment period - for your own protection. Comment Period ends May 27th.

**Christie Fairchild**  
Cave Junction

### Intrepudence Day party comes to an end

It is with mixed emotions that Out 'N' About Treehouse Treasort is canceling it's annual 4th of July Intrepudence Day celebration this year. Due to the immense popularity and influx of attendees it has become to big of a liability to continue hosting such an event. We would like to thank everyone who has been a faithful supporter of our event over the years. We hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday this year!

**Out 'n' About Treehouse Treasort**

## Obituaries

### Kiari Amara

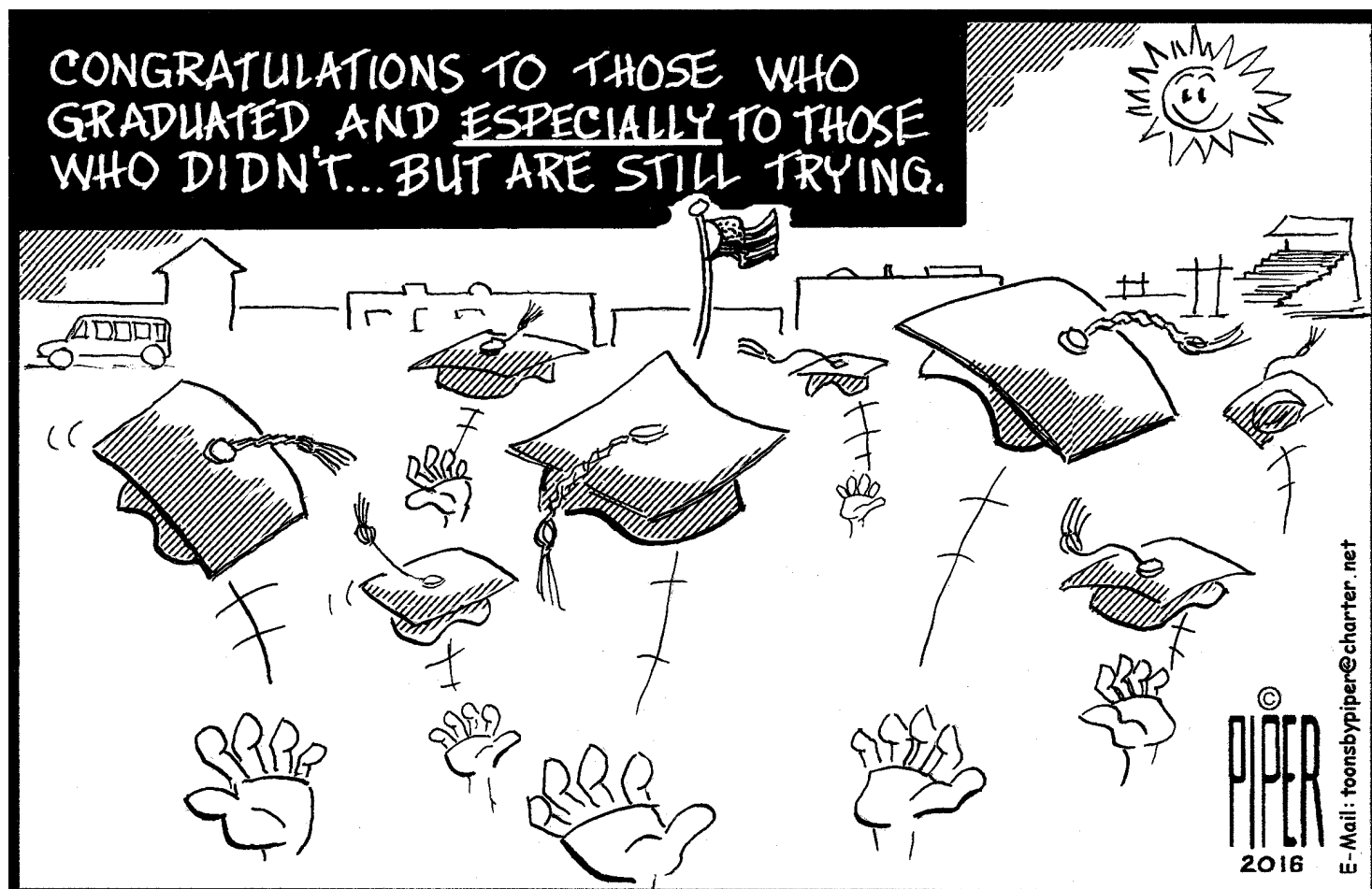
**Forsey**, 5 months old, Dec. 2, 2015 to May 8, 2016, will be forever remembered by her loving family.

She is survived by her mother, Ericka Dean;



father, Mark Forsey Jr.; big sister, Emmarie Niclolle Lyn Forsey; grandmother, Teri Dean; great-grandfather, Howard Dean; grandmother, Bobbie Forsey; grandfather, Mark Forsey; grandmother, Joycelyn Wilbourn; grandfather, Christopher Wilbourn; and several aunts, uncles and cousins. She was loved by all that met her and will be greatly missed.

Kiari's Memorial Services will be held at the Valley Evangelical Free Church at 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., 498 Laurel Rd., Cave Junction.



# ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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## Save the date

### May 20

The I.V. Garden Club's meeting on Friday May 20 will have Kathy Lombardo speaking about our official club plant - Darlingtonia. The I.V. Garden Club meet the 3rd Friday of the month at United Methodist Church, 200 W. Watkins (across for Shop Smart) in Cave Junction. Social time and finger foods at 12:30 p.m. Meeting at 1 p.m. Visitors welcome.

### May 20

IVHS varsity track for state: away at University of Hayward Field, Eugene

### May 21

IVHS varsity equestrian for state: away at Jackson County Fairgrounds

I.V. Little League annual Bake Sale, Saturday, May 21, starting @ 10 a.m. at Jubilee Park.

### May 22

4th annual Otis Memorial Bicycle Ride! Sunday, May 22, 10 a.m. A \*free\* fun group ride from Takilma to Cave Junction and back! Start: 10 a.m. at the lower parking lot, TCB,

Takilma Finish: around 1 or 2 p.m. at the upper parking lot (Dome School), TCB

We'll have one rest stop at the half-way point at Coffee Heaven in CJ, and then head back to Takilma, where we'll finish at the Dome School parking lot with a drinks n' snacks potluck under the trees!

For more info call Keeeth, I.V. Bikespace Coordinator: 541-592-3722.

### May 26

Lovejoy Hospice will be starting a monthly Grief Support group starting on Thursday, May 26 and meeting the last Thursday of each month.

This will be held at the Illinois Valley Family Coalition, 535 E. River St., CJ from noon to 1:30 p.m. Individuals who are interested need to contact our group facilitator for an orientation appointment prior to attending. Call 541-474-1193. This is free to the community.

### June 20

Compassionate friends meeting - Monday, June 20, at 6:30 p.m., Asante Three Rivers Hospital - Cascade Room #2, "Providing grief support after the death of a child," meets every third Mon-

day of the month. Open to parents, grandparents and other adult family members. Toni 541-597-2812.

### Continuing

Cave Junction Farmers' Market happens every Friday from 4 - 7 p.m. all summer through Friday, Sept. 23, 2016. All are invited to this open air market displaying the works of local farmers and artists. Available for sale are fruits and veggies; plant starts; homemade canned and baked foods; fresh eggs; local medicinal, handmade health products; and beautiful local crafts. You might find a freshly made meal or treat, listen to music, catch a dance performance, get you bike tuned up, visit with friends and more. The Market is located in the parking lot of Jubilee Park. The Market can accept Debit cards and Oregon Trail SNAP cards. Every week the Market can double up to \$10 of SNAP credits for the purchase of fresh, frozen or dried whole or cut fruits and vegetable. For information about the Market or the Double UP Food Bucks program, please visit the Farmers' Market Information Booth at each Market or call Sarah Kuhn 541-415-4419 and Nick Reynolds 541-637-9044 or email cjfarmersmarketinfo@gmail.com.

Fire & Emergency Services Career Exploring is open to young men and women from our local schools with an interest in learning more about careers in the field of fire or emergency services. Fire & EMS Exploring is a hand-on program that exposes young people to fire and emergency services. The most popular career exploring includes firefighter, EMT, paramedic and nursing. Career exploring combines some classroom training with hands-on lessons and you will learn first aid, fire safety, emergency medicine, leadership methods, teamwork and much more. You will develop emergency management skills and physical fitness and have the opportunity to participate in local and national competitions, community events and real firefighting scenarios in a training setting. Call 541-592-2225 to benefit from this college and career readiness program.

\*The C.J. Substation is now open as follows: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The phone number at the Sub is 541-592-5151. We are looking for more volunteers to expand the hours; applications to become a volunteer can be picked up at the Sub Station.

## Illinois Valley News

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News - Dan Mancuso dan@illinois-valley-news.com

Editor - Laura Mancuso laura@illinois-valley-news.com

Classified Ads - Laura Mancuso laura@illinois-valley-news.com

Circulation - Kimberly Potter office@illinois-valley-news.com

Advertising / Composition - Dan Mancuso dan@illinois-valley-news.com

Mailroom - Millie Watkins

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