

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 The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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

Wolfpac

Someone thinks the wild pack will attack the homeless camp. In my 50 years of having one or more wolves the only thing I haven't been able to disprove is they have been known to huff n' puff and blow our house down. If you're homeless you got it made.

Jim Lombardo
Cave Junction

A dire pot concern

With the abundance of pot grows in our valley, I am concerned with their impact on other farm crops. Just as the non-GMO farmers have serious concerns about contamination of their crops by GMO crops, I have a concern that non-pot crops will be contaminated by pot crops. Those pesky bees can't be given directions on which flowers to wiggle their little bodies in and which ones not to. It might not take very long for everything in the Illinois Valley to be cross-contaminated with pot pollen, including our wine industry (many vineyards are surrounded by pot grows), fruit orchards, blueberry farms, honey producers and others.

I sure might think twice about giving a child an apple grown in the Illinois Valley wondering if it's been contaminated by pot. Or make a peanut butter and honey sandwich for the kid's lunch and wonder if the little bugger will be stoned by afternoon recess. But how would anyone know if a product was contaminated? If you ate it, and it was contaminated, you may not remember that you ate it, or even what it was that you

did eat. Perhaps all fruits, veggies, honey, wine, and livestock produced here should have a mandatory test to ensure that pot contamination has not taken place. Better yet, we could require that a warning label be placed on all products from the Illinois Valley, to wit: "WARNING! This product is produced in an area where pot is grown and processed" . . . sort of like the warning of peanut processing occurring in a plant that makes candy bars. Or, there could be a Surgeon General warning posted on the product, similar to a pack of cigarettes, that "this product is dangerous to your health and has been shown to cause brain damage, genetic damage, loss of memory, an

increase in stupidity, and I can't remember what else." Then let the buyer beware, and the law suits begin.

Maybe the proliferation of the legal and illegal pot grows will make all other non-pot crops go the way of logging in our valley. But by that time, anyone still here might be too stoned to care. Ahhhh, the rich irony of the unintended consequence.

Sue Williams
Cave Junction OR

IVHS Class of 1961



(Photo by Laura Mancuso, Illinois Valley News)

Ardene Hoover Robin (left), Linda Poff Damen, Sandy Piper, Ken Stepp and Gloria Hare McMillan.

KERBYVILLE MUSEUM SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

You can help put a new roof on the main museum building
Bronze sponsor \$50 Silver Sponsor \$100 Gold sponsor \$200

Sponsorships are tax deductible

Contact the Museum at 541 592-5252 for more information.

Obituaries

Adeline A. Merriman, 95 1/2, was born January 2, 1921 in Creston, Iowa.

She passed over to her Heavenly Father on June 24, 2016 at her home in Cave Junction, Ore.

She will be remembered by her friends for her service and compassion, always ready to extend a helping hand.

She is survived by her daughter, Joan L. Abbott; her son, Harry R. Parker; grandchildren; great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Her family will miss her physical

presence. She will always be in our hearts--our memories will be sweet. A life well lived!

No services are planned. Hull & Hull Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

Please visit the obituary and sign Adeline's tribute wall at www.since1928hull.com.

Our mother passed, **Lavellia G.**

Johnson Stephenson, passed away quietly. Pamela Coots Owen, Steven Coots, CJ, Lori (Lavellia Lorene) McCarthy, Terry

Coots, James Coots, Larry Johnson, Eva Johnson, numerous foster kids, Bryan, Cathy and Susan Connolly. We will be having a memorial for her at the park, in Cave Junction. I really don't have a place picked out but I think the park is easiest. This is Pamela Owen. Larry and His wife from Georgia will be here, Pamela and her husband Larry will be here. The grandchildren live here in Cave Junction. Mike and Jeff Coots, Shane McCarthy, all are local. Chelsea McCarthy and her daughter Tiana. Jennifer Stephenson, daughter of Don, Lavellia's past husband. She was the mother

of many. Known as the goat lady to everyone in Takilma to Selma she was the one to talk to about goats. Lilac Valley Dairy Goats was our name. Many babies in the Valley were raised on goat milk so they didn't have to use formula, as I did too. She as 4-H, did the fairs, and she had Ray by her side to help the next person who came along. Ray was the president of the Southern Oregon Dairy Goat ASSC as he was a community man. Volunteer firefighter and father to any child who needed it. They were a couple who took community to heart. God Bless them both.

ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

WWW.SINCE1928HULL.COM 541-592-4110

Save the date

July 6

Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of IVHS ALUMNI AND FRIENDS - July 6, 6 p.m. at the Museum

July 11

Neighborhood Watch Captains & General Meeting, Monday, July 11, 5 p.m., Wild Rivers Brewing & Pizza. General Reports covering activities for the Illinois Valley including patrols. We are forming a 'Committee of Safety' to review and implement a Rural Law Enforcement District, deadline in August. Representatives are needed from all Neighborhoods. Help your community avoid more cutbacks on law enforcement. We can do this. Contact Guenter Ambron, 541-415-1929, or cmec@cavenet.com.

July 12

Racial Justice in the Illinois Valley - Monthly Meeting Tuesday, July 12 (2nd Tuesday of each month) 6-7:30 p.m. Kerby Belt Building, 24353 Redwood Highway

Racial Justice in the Illinois Valley (temporary group name) addresses the difficult legacy of racism and white privilege in Southern Oregon and beyond. Meetings include co-learning, self-reflection, and community engagement. This is a new group, formed in response to the April 2016 presentation in Cave Junction by Portland State Professor Walidah Imarisha, "Why Aren't There More Black People in Oregon?" Join us in creating a community that lives up to its ideals of inclusion, self-reflection

and mutual acceptance.

For more information, contact kacielder@gmail.com

July 14

Forest and Watershed Health Workshop, Thursday, July 14, 6 to 9 p.m., Selma Community and Education Center, Community based collaborative efforts and solutions, study of local forest ecology, fire, wet forest areas, watersheds, protection for rural homes, working with BLM and Forest Service, ODF, IVFire. Biologist Rich Nawa, Mary Camp - Natural Selection Alternatives, and fire safety. Guenter Ambron, 541-415-1929, or cmec@cavenet.com.

July 16

Saturday, July 16, the I.V. Senior Center will be hosting a Bingo Fundraiser for our new Thrift Store building fund. Doors open at 3 p.m. along with the kitchen. We will be selling hamburgers, hot dogs and other snacks. Bingo will start at 4 p.m. and will be 50 cent cards along with a 50/50 raffle, a Bake Auction as well as other raffles. Come in and join the fun meet your neighbors and win something. Help us help our community with a new Thrift Store. This event is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

July 19

Come join the nightly fun!! Bring family and friends. FREE for ages 3 and up. Vacation Bible School July 19-July 22 5:30-7:30 p.m. The Armour of God is sponsored by Illinois Valley Baptist Church, located at 102 S. Red-

wood Hwy (in the County Building). A snack will be provided.

July 29

4-7 p.m. at the Historical Schmidt House Barn Corner of 5th and J Streets We will have a pie baking contest. Sign up at the Research Library 512 SW 5th Street Call 541-479-7827 for details. Food, Fun and Entertainment Any questions please call Josephine County Historical Society 541-479-7827 or Christina Carver Publicity Director 541-507-7618 tcilimom@yahoo.com.

July 30

Southern Oregon Beekeepers Association is holding a one-day Beginning Beekeeping class on Saturday July 30, 2016 in the Medford area. Anyone who would like to attend can get more information at: <http://www.southernoregonbeekeepers.org/news-and-events/fall-bee-school>, Cost: \$35.

Registration deadline is July 29, 2016 and is limited to the first 100 people. Register by mail (before July 23)

Aug. 13 & 14

Pressure canner testing at the 'Croons, Nelson Family Farm, Redwood Highway, Cave Junction 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Aug. 20

Pressure canner testing at the "It's The Berries" 8 a.m.- 3 p.m., Inside the building, RCC Learn-

ing Center/Belt Building, Redwood Highway, Kerby

Sept. 11

Pressure canner testing at the Illinois Valley Grange, Holland Loop Rd, Cave Junction, 8-11 a.m., Sunday

Continuing

*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.

IVFC GARAGE SALE

Saturday July 16th, 2016

Please come with your unwanted items.
(Tables will be provided by IVFC for your use.)

Proceeds from the IVFC Garage Sale will be donated to the annual Back Packs for Kids campaign hosted here for local children K-12th.

Illinois Valley News

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4 P.M. FRIDAYS

AP

AP EXCHANGE

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