

## From the desk of the Mayor: by Carl Jacobson Jr.

This is a little late in coming but here it goes: I wish to thank all of those who helped get a flag put back on the pole at Laurel Cemetery. A special thank you to the members of Post 70 American Legion and American Legion Aux., the city of Cave Junction's crew, the members of the I.V. Fire Dept. Explorer Post and all the members that helped us put out over 270 flags on the veteran's graves.

We all owe those that have served and

gave their all for our freedom we enjoy today. It may not be perfect but it's a lot better than other countries.

Our thanks again to the men and women of the I.V. Fire Dept. who put their lives on the line almost every day and more on some days.

And a message to the community, please use a little common sense and don't start a fire that could damage everybody in our Valley. If you are cutting weeds down

use caution and sense to protect yourself and your neighbor's families.

We are going to have to close off the amphitheater at Jubilee Park to tear out the flooring and replace it with a concrete floor because the flooring was so rotten it has been declared unsafe. So with a little luck we can get it done and ready for the Labor Day Celebration.

A word to the wise please be careful out there.

Our thanks to the Chamber of Commerce for the Concerts in the Park, the season just ended Aug. 4

The Farmers' Market is still going on Fridays from 4 – 7 p.m.

Hopefully you have had a nice summer. Remember school starts Sept. 6, so watch out for the children and school buses.

**Mayor Jacobson Jr.**

## What readers think:

*Should the city of Cave Junction drop their marijuana lawsuit against the state of Oregon?*



**Don Moore**

"Yes, the city is just throwing their money away; CJ doesn't have the resources to do this lawsuit... should use money for law enforcement."



**Gene Merrill**

"Yes, lots of people need marijuana."



**Hope Roll**

"No, I agree with the city; marijuana has brought about undesirable changes..."



**Tim Leyba**

"Yes, stop immediately; wasting city's money!"



**De Spellman**

"Yes, it's a state law, we voted to make it legal. Why can't the city see that cannabis revenue will bring what they need for the sheriff's dept.?"



**William Franz**

"Yes, revenue from marijuana will take care of issues we need help with."

## We count on the mail: by Chip Hutcheson

I got the mail today.

A couple of bills. A greeting card. Some catalogs. A newspaper. One package that my wife grabbed right away. (Wonder what that was?)

Lately, it occurs to me how completely I take for granted that I will get the mail tomorrow.

I've had my share of gripes about the mail. As president of the National Newspaper Association, I have fielded our community newspaper members' postal concerns all year. The mail is slower than it used to be. The U.S. Postal Service slowed it down by a day, at least, because of financial problems. Newspaper subscribers are unhappy because too often their papers are arriving late. Some local businesses have had problems with cash flow because of late mail.

Still, I get the mail every day but Sunday. Bet you do, too.

If you follow the news, you

know the U.S. Postal Service is in trouble. Because so many people and businesses use the internet, there isn't as much mail to deliver. But we still expect the mail to come. At my newspaper, we look for it on Saturdays, too, because weekend mail is extremely important in small towns. (Congress considered ending Saturday mail, but thankfully it has dropped that idea for now.)

Beneath the surface, however, we see seismic, economy-rattling changes ahead unless Congress can pass legislation to lower the Postal Service's cost of doing business. It carries more than \$50 billion of debt on its balance sheet. Fortunately, there are bills by Reps. Jason Chaffetz, R-UT, and Elijah Cummings, D-MD, and several other House members, and by Sens. Tom Carper, D-DE, Claire McCaskill, D-MO, Mark Warner, D-VA, Roy Blunt, R-MO, Jerry Moran, R-KS,

and Susan Collins, R-ME, that would do the job. Passing these bills is easier said than done. You may have noticed Congress is having a hard time these days getting anything passed.

This is what the bills have to fix.

A 2006 law imposed a requirement to put advance funding into a federal retirement health plan for postal workers. Other agencies don't do advance funding. They are on a pay-as-you-go system. That requirement began to cripple USPS within a year or two after its passage. What the 2006 law didn't do was relieve USPS of also contributing to Medicare for the same workers, which many do not use. So there are two plans for many workers, when only one is used. USPS has to double-pay, which is another way of saying you double-pay every time you buy stamps—for a total

of about \$29 billion now paid into the Federal Treasury. The Chaffetz-Cummings and Carper bills would end the double-payment. Retirees would go onto Medicare like the rest of us do, and the other plan would provide supplemental coverage. The Postal Service would be relieved of the debt it is carrying from the 2006 law because the funding will be complete.

Sounds so reasonable, right? Why hasn't it passed? Because Uncle Sam likes keeping half of that double payment. Somehow, some think tanks inside the Beltway (and I say "think" with my tongue in cheek) believe by ending the double payment, USPS would be getting a bailout. But it isn't a bailout. This is stopping your postage money from being unfairly collected and relieving a financial burden USPS did not deserve if Medicare was used as intended.

Saving this money may not mean much to you at a few pennies a pop, but to businesses, it is big money that could be used to create jobs instead of lining the federal treasury. Did you know that the mail is responsible for 7.5 million jobs and \$1.2 trillion in the U.S. economy?

Mail is important. But it has to be reliable and on time. Unless this legislation gets through, mail will get slower and eventually, we won't be able to take it for granted.

If you get a chance this summer, e-mail your members of Congress a note asking them to pass these bills. Or better yet, send a letter by mail. Bet Congress takes that mail for granted every day, too.

*Chip Hutcheson is the president of the National Newspaper Association and publisher of the Times Leader, Princeton, KY*

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### Dolores Ruth Sambrana

**Noble** died Aug. 2, 2016. Her service will be held Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2016 at 11 a.m. at St. Patrick's of the Forest Catholic Church in Cave Junction. Reception to follow.

### Caryl Anne Walmsley

**Thompson, 73**, of O'Brien left this world Saturday, July 30, 2016 after entering it in Las Cruces, N.M. in 1943.

## Obituaries

She was an accomplished occupational therapist with an active practice in Cave Junction. She developed the Washburn Technique for non-invasive intervention for chronic pain and dysfunction and designed the patent for hands and arms. Caryl was preceded in death by her mother and father and three brothers. She is survived by two brothers, Larry Davis of Calif. and James Walmsley of Cave Junction; one sister, Kitty Bertlin; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was

preceded in death by her husband, J.R. Thompson. She was much loved and will be greatly missed. A memorial service is planned at a later date.

### James Alan Walmsley of

Cave Junction passed away Aug. 1, 2016 at Royal Gardens in Grants Pass. He is survived by a son, one granddaughter and one sister. No public services planned.

# ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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## Save the date

### Aug. 13

Illinois Valley Grange at 3763 Holland Loop Rd. Aug. 13 will have an outdoor garage sale from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Come see our goodies.

### Aug. 13

BINGO at the Illinois Valley Grange on the second Saturday of each month from 1 – 4 p.m. 3763 Holland Loop Rd. Snack bar available 50 cents a hard card. Everyone welcome!

### Aug. 13

On Monday, Aug. 13, at Fire Station 1 – 681 Caves Hwy., at 5:30 p.m. there will be a presentation on

The Concept, application and Historical Practice of the "Committee of Safety." These committees, via assemblies of the people by their representatives were used during the American Revolution to create their local compacts, state charters, the U.S. Constitution and the federal Government. Many rural communities and cities in states across the nation are forming these committees to keep watch, address mismanagement, the accountability of officials, and issuing government reform to better serve the safety and the welfare of their citizens. See: <http://www.hccommitteeofsafety.org>, con-

tact Guenter at 541-415-1929, email [gunny@cavnet.com](mailto:gunny@cavnet.com) for an information packet.

### Aug. 13 & 14

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

### Aug. 14

New Guild Show opens Aug. 14 in the Guild Gallery at the Kerby Belt Building. Theme is "e-ART-h" or Earth Art. Hours: 5-7 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres, music, wine tasting, and presentation on lantern-making by

Michael River Rusich. \$5 admission includes ticket for drawing.

### Aug. 19

You are invited: celebrate five years of Healthy U and our mission promoting health for the minds, bodies, and hearts of Illinois Valley residents. Join us Friday, Aug. 19 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Healthy U (535 E. River St. Cave Junction, in the back of the Family Coalition Building). Light snacks provided. Learn more about us at [www.healthyucenter.org](http://www.healthyucenter.org).

### Aug. 20

Pressure canner testing at the "It's The Berries" 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., Inside the building, RCC Learning Center/Belt Building, Redwood Highway, Kerby

### Sept. 3 - 5

I.V. Lions 44th annual Labor Day Festival at Jubilee Park.

### Sept. 11

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

## Illinois Valley News

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