

Healthy U News: by Nicole Rensenbrink

Have you seen any of the "Caring Community" fliers around town and wondered what they're about? The Caring Community was formed this year by a group which met during a community strategic planning session that focused on families. Those of us who showed up (anyone could've come) talked about the challenges faced by families in our geographically isolated, rural community. We decided to see if there was any way we could work together to promote local wellness. We have all heard a lot of negativity about the Illinois Valley, from both within and without, and want to do something to offset that by increasing an atmosphere of caring and kindness in the Valley, especially for our young families and children. Some of the people who have joined this effort are from agencies like Illinois Valley Safe House Alliance, the Illinois Valley Coalition, Head Start, Project Baby Check, Adult and Family Services, Healthy U as well as other interested individuals. We can't solve a lot of things, but together, we can promote and support some positive changes, and work collectively to foster kindness and caring by simply posting our Caring Community fliers with various health messages that will change every month. We're posting them around town and on the Cave Junction and Illinois Valley Facebook page. We have a

Facebook page of our own as well (please 'like' us!). We also want to support family-friendly activities in our area. We'll put out free things for young children to do on our agency tables at the Labor Day Festival (if you host a table, please join our effort) and participate at the Pet Parade. We hope to support a "Local Legends" night at Lorna Byrne this fall. It will highlight displays of local loved ones who've passed on. (In a small town, there aren't many famous people, but we're all famous to those we leave behind.) Last, we'd like to increase local parent education. One of our ideas is to see that a class is offered for high school students before they become parents themselves. Parenting is one of the most important jobs anyone can do and, for many of us, the skills needed to do it well don't come automatically. The Caring Community doesn't expect to radically change anything, but we hope that one step at a time, we can add to the warm, inviting, healthy elements of the Illinois Valley. We can promote the value of caring. If you care too, come join us at 8:30 a.m., the first Wednesday of the month, at the I.V. Family Resource Center (Coalition). *The staff and volunteers of Healthy U present this column as part of their mission to promote health in the Illinois Valley.*

Stereotyping Is Never A Good Idea: by Glenn Mollette

We often hear about the crimes and homicides that take place in Chicago and in particular the south side of Chicago. The murder and overall crime rate is frightening. I wouldn't want to walk around the streets of Roseland, Englewood or a number of Chicago neighborhoods at night. Actually, I don't think I would want to walk around them during the day. However, that is not to say that all or even a large number of people in South Chicago are hoodlums. I think just the opposite; most of the people are good and decent. Last Sunday, I spoke at a church in Roseland and spent almost five hours with a group of very sweet, kind people who live in this neighborhood and 99.9 percent of the group was African-American. My wife and I had a beautiful time with these people. I asked the pastor who lives in the neighborhood if he felt safe and he replied no. He went on to tell me that he never lets his grandchild out alone to play in his own

yard. He occasionally hears shots in his neighborhood and even had some bullet holes in his car some months back. He went on to tell me I was in one of the most violent neighborhoods in Chicago. Sadly, there is horrific violence on the Southside of Chicago. Tragically, there are criminals and hoodlums in this incredible city. However, most of the people living on the Southside are not bad people. They are good people trying to survive and overcome the minority of criminals, hoodlums and gang members who make their community scary. I was raised in Martin County, Kentucky. President Lyndon Johnson began his campaign on poverty in our hometown in 1964. He visited Tom Fletcher about three miles down the road from our family. The Fletcher family became the poster family for Johnson's war on poverty. We didn't appreciate the stereotyping of all Martin County people as poor, ignorant hillbillies. I'm sure the Fletcher family didn't appreciate it either. However, with the history of the Hatfields and the McCoys along with television programs like The Dukes of Hazzard, many of us got the media's drift about how

they viewed Appalachian people. Yes, just like Chicago, Appalachia has enough ignorance and poverty. President Johnson's war on poverty just created more poor people. However, lots of people from Appalachia complete college or conduct successful businesses, work hard and meaningful jobs and pay lots of taxes, just like many people do in Chicago. Like all the people on the Southside of Chicago we don't like to be stereotyped either. We stereotype in a multitude of other ways. Stereotypes freeze us into time. They limit our ability to communicate, understand and move forward. When we stereotype we make a generalization that limits productivity and success. I'm so grateful I got to spend a Sunday on the Southside of Chicago. The next time I hear about a Chicago crime, murder or other violent acts I will have some lovely people on my mind and I will be praying and thinking with them about how we all need to work together to rise above the stereotypes and the problems and make this world better. *Glenn Mollette is an American syndicated columnist, speaker and author.*

TALES

Continued from A-7

*11:58 a.m. a guy was taking out his aggressions by smashing a board on a table during an argument with his spouse. He was last seen walking down Lakeshore Drive towards Hwy. 199. *Investigation continued at 1:38 p.m. at 110 Deer Creek Road. *JCSO conducted an interview in the 200 block of W. River Street at 2:02 p.m. *No one was arrested, but two women were served with restraining orders and supervised by JCSO while they were moving out from the 23600 block of Redwood Hwy. at 2:45 p.m. *At 3:17 p.m., a fellow was lying in a patch of poison oak on the

trail behind Jubilee Park. A passerby saw his leg and hand move, but he did not respond when she called to him. The deputy was unable to locate him a short while later. (Try the Tecnu aisle of the pharmacy.) **Outside the Valley** *Fourteen incidents. **Friday, Aug. 19** *A 911 hang-up call came in at 10:49 a.m. When the dispatcher called back, the woman who answered seemed a little evasive and claimed that a nine-year-old made the call. She became agitated when the dispatcher wondered if the child knew what 911 was for. *JCSO patrolled Eight Dollar Road all the way to Babyfoot Lake Trailhead, beginning at 12:54 p.m. and returning at 4:20 p.m. *Ten or 11 thugs armed with baseball bats, a crowbar and a BB-

gun were threatening a woman and three children in the 23600 block of Redwood Hwy. They broke into the residence at 3:36 p.m., saying they were moving in, and the family had 15 minutes to get out. The bullies left the room once they heard law enforcement on the speaker phone, but they threw something through the door and hit one of the children. Six or seven people left in a silver-blue colored mini-van. A probation officer detained Luke Sawyer. Charges will be filed for first-degree burglary, first-degree trespassing, and menacing. A grandfather who also resides at this address was advised of his options regarding a landlord/tenant issue. *At 5:18 p.m. a fellow phoned 911 from the 38500 block of Redwood Hwy. He thought his truck was being stolen, but it was just his wife.

Outside the Valley *Twelve listings.

Saturday, Aug. 20

*A vehicle with no license plates was towed from 112 S. Redwood Hwy. at 11:10 a.m. Oregon State Police issued citations. *Eight Dollar Road was patrolled at 12:04 p.m. *JCSO did an area check of Illinois River Road at 12:45 p.m. *At 2:31 p.m. several vehicles were cited at Divers Hole, off Illinois River Road. *Background noise heard during a 911-call was just employees pounding out Perfect Pizzas in the 200 block of N. Redwood Hwy. at 5:18 p.m.

Outside the Valley *Eighteen log items.

Sunday, Aug. 21

*Justin Taylor was messing around with the fountain in front of 202 S. Redwood Hwy. at noon. He left his belongings behind when he moved along up the road. *Justin Taylor, 28, graduated from fountains to hassling customers at 1:07 p.m. This earned him an arrest on charges of post-prison sanction and possession of meth. He was detained at Josephine County Jail. *Someone was riding a gas-powered go-cart on the dirt track at Evergreen Elementary School at 1:27 p.m. *A travel trailer was burglarized in the 42000 block of Redwood Hwy. at 2:40 p.m. The thieves stole clothing, a TV, alcohol, parts to a barbecue and a toolbox. **Outside the Valley** *Seventeen items.

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