

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 The letter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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 gives props to softball tournament

I was reading the paper last week about the Lions Club Labor Day Festival which is always a huge success for the Illinois Valley. The annual event has had a softball tournament since 1978 which is a very intricate part of the Lions Club Labor Day Festival success. As a former baseball player for many years I know that it attracts lots of teams from Cave Junction, Medford, Grants Pass and Crescent City (usually about 12 teams

play in it). A lot of people show up for the tournament and stay here for the Festival and support all the businesses in Cave Junction. I want to tell you who won the tournament: R.I.P. from Cave Junction won first place, and I also want to give special thanks to Pat Sherier who ran and coordinated the tournament and did a great job! And I would like to give special thanks to the Lions Club for supporting the tournament every year.

Gary Krinsky
Cave Junction

Your Chamber Needs You!

My name is Sonny Moore, president of the Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce. I have been asked the question;

"What does my membership with the Chamber do for my business?"

Please allow me to share the answer to that question.

First the Chamber is here to strengthen the identity and enhance the image of the Illinois Valley businesses and our community.

We are dedicated in helping you grow and prosper by serving as a unified voice and providing services to you our members. We will explore all avenues to promote your business. This is why we have launched our "Buy in the Valley" campaign, to encourage commerce, to

promote and inform our citizens of the diversity of products grown and made right here. We want to celebrate our natural resources that are rich and unique to our valley, from the Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve to the vast wildernesses within our Rogue River Siskiyou National Forest that draws hundreds of thousands of visitors every year. To utilize all our resources in promoting and encouraging our visitors to stay and spend their money here in the Illinois Valley.

Finally, we are all too aware of the bad element which has crawled out of the cesspool in the attempt to vandalize and trash our businesses in the community, this must stop! We as the Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce are committed to all efforts in support of cleaning up our valley community and to make it a safer place for our business owners, employees, visitors and citizens. To bring back a sense of pride that resides in the hearts of all those who love this valley. As one unified voice we can achieve these goals.

Our membership dues are tailored for your business. Let me encourage you and say, "Every dollar you invest in your Chamber will be an investment into your business." It has been said, "We may not have it all together but together we have it all." Join with us, let us build together a thriving, successful and vibrant business community, let us serve and grow your business and this community will be a shining star on the

map for all to experience.

Warmest Regards,

Sonny Moore
President Illinois Valley
Chamber of Commerce
Our office is in the heart of Cave Junction
at the visitor's center.
201 Caves Hwy. 541-592-3326
illinoisvalleycc@gmail.com

Does commerce go where it's invited and stay where it's appreciated?

What is unique about our valley? Why do people visit the valley? Beginning with a fresh coat of paint, does it and will it say welcome?

Do our valley businesses portray an attitude of servicing their client first? Are the Valley's guests, including your regular customers, treated well and with respect when they patronize your business?

It takes courage to step out of a comfort zone for change. IT SOUNDS LIKE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL OF US.

Cary Riley
I.V. Trophy
Cave Junction

Letters of Thanks

Golf Tournament

The Illinois Valley Twilight League played Monday, Sept. 12 and Wednesday, Sept. 14. Fourteen golf teams competed from the Illinois Valley. Monday night was the winner and scored 8-6. The Monday night's finals were first place going to Taylor's Country Store; second, Perfect Pizza;

third, U.L. Miller Construction; and fourth, Wilber Stained Glass. The winners from Wednesday night were first place, Dwight's Knights; second, Cascade Auto; third, Precision Glass; and fourth, Kerby Electric. The following businesses are sponsors of the golf tournament: New Leaf Lawn & Garden, Flying Carpet Cleaning, Sportsman Tavern, Coffee Heaven, 420

Landscaping, Cascade Auto, Washington Federal, Robco Inc., Precision Glass, U.L. Miller Construction, Studio G, Kerby Electric, Taylor's Country Store, Perfect Pizza, Kerby Electric, Musil Property MGT., Bridgeway Vineyards, Taylor's Sausage, True Value Hardware, Wilber Stained Glass, Valley Muffler, Land & Mineral Development Group, Grow Greene,

Crab Manufacturing, Dr. Joe's Pet Hospital, Paul Bodeving Real Estate Appraisal, Jerry's AAA Towing and Vistas.

We would like to thank all the volunteers who did such a wonderful job.

TO: Labor Day 50/50 Raffle Crew 2016

"You Rock!"

Becky Newstead, Lena Christson, Terry Lyons, Kim Rentz, Julia Thomes, Janis Sommers, Marty Cooke, Amy Milner, Alisha Thornhill, Shauna Roten Kopko, Isabella Idoine, Richard Crow, Joy Taylor and Gary Bell, Thank you all,

Zorro

Obituaries

John Meengs, 73, long-time resident of Takilma died at home Sept. 11. There will be a public memorial celebration for him at Forks Park Saturday, Oct. 1 from 1 – 3 p.m. More information to follow in next week's paper.

What readers think:

How do you feel about the panhandlers in front of our store fronts?



Josh Bowers

"I would like to see a designated place for it with a limited amount of people allowed."



Lindsey Gillette

"Although I understand the need for it, I would prefer they be referred to the proper agencies."



Bryce Galland

"These people are not the homeless I care about. We need to be rude to panhandlers to get them out of town."



Steve Lyons

"Please don't feed the bums or they become dependent; it's a bad impression of our town."



Gary Krinsky

"I feel bad for their position, but there are jobs available. It makes me want to park in other areas so I don't have to deal with them."



Renea CooperSmith

"I feel sorry for them but it gives bad impressions of our town to people that are driving through."

ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Save the date

Sept. 24

Agnes Pilgrim Birthday Party Benefit, book signing, and gathering, Saturday, Sept. 24, Takilma Community Center, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Everyone invited, get her book "GrandMa Says: Wake-up World!" Pledge your support, help organizing needed, call/email for info., or if you wish to participate or perform, Guenter 541-415-1929 or cmec@cavenet.com.

Oct. 1

Southern Oregon Smoked Salmon Fest has a brand new location: Downtown Medford's Pear Blossom Park. The event will be held on Saturday, Oct. 1 from 1-6 p.m., and is an annual benefit for Maslow Project – a local nonprofit organization that provides advocacy and support services to homeless youth and families throughout Jackson and Josephine counties

Oct. 1

Fall has fallen on our area! Saturday, October 1st, come and salute that time of the year with a good old country breakfast! The I.V. Senior Center at 520 E. River St. in CJ will be serving up a hot breakfast. For \$6 we will fill you up with all you can eat and get you ready for the season. Starting at 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. our cooks will be working away. Bring neighbors, family, friends, in-laws and out-laws, we'll be here waiting for you.

Oct. 8

9th annual ACORN FESTIVAL Saturday, Oct. 8, 2016 at the Selma Community Center on Hwy 199 in Selma 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. This Indoor/Outdoor Free event includes: Hands-On workshops on acorns and their processing • Yurok acorn cooking basket demonstration, Lena Hurd • Historic photos of traditional acorn processing • IRVAC free nature crafts table for all ages • Fun and educational activities all day long • Vendors and oak related displays • Scarecrow contest with \$100 prize.

5 p.m. Potluck includes traditional dishes as well as innovative new recipes made with acorns. Bring a side dish, all are welcome. Rain or shine!

Come enjoy the food and festivities as we

celebrate the nutritious and delicious acorn!

Come join CEEN as we celebrate oaks & acorns.

For more information contact Suzanne Vautier 541-291-8860.

Brought to you by the Cultural & Ecological Enhancement Network (CEEN).

Oct. 10

10th annual Empty Bowls Project which will be held at Parkway Christian Center on Monday, Oct. 10 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Oct. 14

This Place: Cannabis and Community Conversation

By exploring how the cannabis industry is shaping and reshaping our valley, local residents can begin to think together about how to engage meaningfully with our places and communities going forward.

When: Friday, October 14, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Where: Healthy U: 535 E. River St., Cave Junction.

This program is free and open to all.

To learn more, contact Healthy U at 541-592-4888 or www.healthyucenter.org.

Continuing

Have some spare time? The Illinois Valley Senior Thrift Store is looking for volunteers. If sorting, cleaning, staging is what you do, we could use your skills. Earn a free breakfast and a store gift card while you volunteer. Join the crew, make new friends, you do not need to be a member or a senior citizen to volunteer. Call the store at 541-592-6630 or visit us during store hours.

*The C.J. Substation hours are changed. We are now open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays (closed Wednesdays) from 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 Substation.

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