

‘Trimigrants’ congregate outside Shop Smart

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It’s that time of the year when ‘trimigrants’ flock to the Illinois Valley hoping to scoop up a share of the green gold-rush and Shop Smart general manager Jessica Clark, who has worked at the store for 26 years, deals constantly with the seasonal barrage of transient humanity that gathers nearby.

“There’s a lot of them and we watch them closely because they’re panhandling,” Clark said. “They’re parking their rigs in our parking lot, so we’re having to chase them off. It’s about the same as in past years, I don’t really notice much difference [since recreational marijuana was legalized]. Maybe there’s a slight increase in numbers, but it’s about the same behavior as in past years.”

Clark says customers express concerns about their safety and some complain that store managers aren’t doing enough - yet both Clark and assistant store manager Sonny Hughey say they’re doing their best to cope with the scene outside their store.

“We’re trying to keep control of the situation,” Hughey said.

“Anyone who is out there for more than an hour, we’re going to ask them to move along. We don’t discriminate.” Clark added that “six times a day we’re kicking them off, and we’re the only cops in town who are monitoring this parking lot. We’re going above and beyond - more than any other business in town - but all I can do is chase them to the sidewalk.”

“We’re not cops,” Hughey added. “I’ve worked here for 20 years and when you go to work at a store, you shouldn’t have to do that, but it’s a bummer when people think that we’re not trying, because we are.” He also said he understands customers’ concerns: “This is a family store and we have a lot of children in the store.”

Asked if store management distinguishes between the Valley’s traditional homeless population and the trimigrants, Clark responded that she sees no difference between the two groups. “Right now, honestly, I would say they’re all homeless when their traveling through with their backpacks.”

“What’s common is groups of six to eight people looking for trimming work,” she added. “They

have their signs. And it’s not that they’re all bad people, the problem is that they just hang out on the street. They’re littering and their dogs are defecating and we have to clean all that up. A lot of them are kind of dirty people who don’t clean up after themselves.”

Ironically, Clark doesn’t believe that many trimigrants are finding local jobs.

“What person would really want to pick people up off the street and take them to their house and show them what they have and where they live?” she asks. “I don’t know of any of our local growers picking up strangers - I think they’re using people they already know and trust. These trimigrants are desperate, they’re panhandling, looking for anything they can get, surviving any way they can. Why these people keep showing up year after year hoping they’re going to get something is beyond me. I don’t see them getting much.”

Clark also notes an increase of shoplifting in the store. “That always happens during trim season, and also, when some of the seasonal events happen that bring different people into our community.”

Clark said she has no problem with response from local law enforcement. “They’re doing what they can do. With their lack of manpower, I feel sorry for them sometimes, they have more important things to deal with and they have no budget. That’s why store owners have to chase transients off.” She added that she doesn’t get much lip back from the trimigrants: “I just tell them to move on. They leave, then they come back and we tell them to leave again.”

Clark also feels that the state of Oregon has done a poor job of preparing communities for impacts from the growing cannabis industry.

“If Oregon would have passed laws in the beginning, along the lines of what Colorado did after marijuana was legalized, then we’d have money for law enforcement and schools, etc.,” she said. “So the state let this go legal, which is fine, but they did not develop laws or policies ahead of it. Now, the state needs to get off their butt and work this out and get the tax money where it needs to go. It’s been a whole year. Colorado had all their ducks in a row before it was legalized. Oregon state government seems a little

lackadaisical about getting their stuff done.”

Josephine County Sheriff Dave Daniel agrees with Clark’s analysis.

“The state hasn’t done a very good job of monitoring or dealing with recreational marijuana, it’s absolutely true,” Daniel said. “One of our county commissioners just wrote a letter to Governor Brown, asking her to reallocate money to help law enforcement deal with the decriminalization of marijuana. It’s an unfunded mandate, and these three counties, JoCo, Jackson and Clackamas counties are growing the majority of the product, yet the money is going to the populated counties. Overall, I don’t like what it’s doing to our county. It’s changing who we are. And this is just the beginning - there’s going to be more. It’s tough being in a county where we were struggling before and this all just adds onto the difficulty.”

Daniel added that he is dealing “with a lot of crime and disturbances” stemming from changes in the marijuana industry. “There’s more people in town, I was out on Friday night and about half the plates I saw were from out of state.”

To the citizens of Cave Junction,

We will be voting on several issues Nov. 8. First of all I’m not a candidate for Mayor of Cave Junction, however I will accept write in votes for another two years. With this lawsuit I can’t understand what they are afraid of, perhaps the Truth.

I have been your mayor for the last six years; I have fought hard to keep from going into debt. We are in good shape we have spent our monies wisely. Our water and sewer treatment plants are 20 years old and in need of upgrading. We have a master plan in place and it should help us in acquiring grants for upgrading them. We have some good employees working for us and they do a good job in keeping us running. There are purchases that we have made that we have spent money on buying good used equipment. The following are some of the things that have been purchased: Used street sweeper, track hoe, dump truck and trailer and utility quad. We have made changes at the entrance to our treatment plants as in automatic gates, overhead rollup doors for the shop, garage and sewer shop. We have had help in getting grants for the playground equipment, and also with the skateboard park. We recently bought 27 acres of land for future expansion of our storage capacity.

So if you would like for me to stay as your mayor please write my name in for Cave Junction Mayor. If you would also vote for Margaret Miller for Council 2. And Mark Dillinger for Council 4. I thank you ahead of time for your vote of confidence in electing me your mayor.

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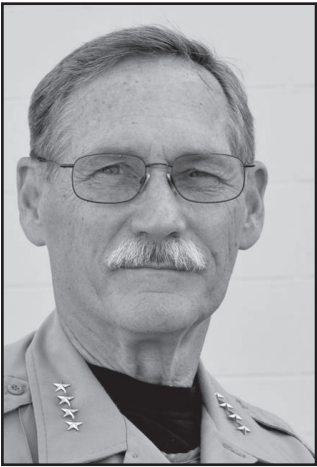
As many of you may recall, Don Moore served as Mayor of Cave Junction, in past years. He is currently running as a candidate for that Office.

Prior to and during my tenure as Sheriff we shared many hours discussing and developing strategic plans to deal with public safety issues. One of

which, successfully included our former Undersheriff Don Fasching and myself walking nightly beats within the City. It is no secret; today you lack adequate public safety in Cave Junction. Don is a forward thinking individual. I found Don’s integrity, honesty, and open mindfulness refreshing.

I feel honored to have the opportunity of recommending; and, proudly endorse Donald Moore for the Office of Mayor in Cave Junction. I sincerely hope all the good people turn out to support him. He truly cares about you!

Respectfully,
Gil Gilbertson



I endorse Don Moore for Mayor of Cave Junction because of all he accomplished during his last tenure as Mayor of Cave Junction. The City never ran better than during that time.

Dwight Ellis
Former Josephine County Commissioner



Setting the record straight

Some unfortunate misrepresentations about Don Moore perpetrated by Daniel Dalegowski:

A Quick Fact-Check of Dalegowski’s Misinformation to Discredit Former Mayor Don Moore to the Voters of Cave Junction

Don Moore was involved in a lot of good things during his 2-year time as mayor of Cave Junction and he HAS truthfully portrayed himself in a positive light to the voters. However, his opponent Daniel Dalegowski, has convoluted the details in his attempt to create misrepresentations about Don Moore.

Please read on.

Misrepresentation #1: Mr. Moore could not have performed as Public Works Director.

Answer: He stands by his candidate statement because it is factual and the people who knows his leadership can attest to it. During the time of Tony Paulson the position of Public Works Director was already vacant so when he became the mayor the burden of the work was already there. He did not hire someone for the position but instead rolled up his sleeve to assume responsibility and his certified crew did the hands-on job.

Dalegowski said that the position for Public Works Director is a union job. As Mayor, he doesn’t answer to Unions. He only answers to the citizens of this city who elected him for the job. If that position was so important, the state, the DEQ and

the Union would have called the attention of the Mayor to fill up the position. But they have not intervened since Paulson’s time and until the current administration. What matters is that he did the work well without receiving compensation.

There is no stand-alone department at City Hall. As mayor, he had the quasi power to oversee, manage and inspect everything most especially the sewer and water plant. He has the knowledge and skills to know if his crew were doing the job correctly. Probably Tony Paulson did not understand that he had such responsibility so did Carl Jacobson who signed a falsified certification with DEQ and got caught. They are the kind of public officials who endorse Dalegowski.

Misrepresentation #2: Mr. Moore could not have coordinated and approved the Kerby Water District.

Answer: Mr. Don Moore is not privy to the contract signed by then CJ Mayor and the KWD Board Chairman on May 23, 2005. Just ask the people of Kerby if they had city water supply back in 2005. Kerby District started to have city water supply when Don Moore was already the Mayor of Cave Junction.

Mr. Clem Singer, one of the USDA officials, was getting frustrated with the matter because it had been five years and yet they had no solution to their problem. For years, even if the Kerby Water District has the money funded by the USDA to put the infrastructure, its operation never came

to fulfillment because the former Cave Junction administration at that time did not approve of giving and supplying water to Kerby.

Don Moore was the one who coordinated with the stakeholders and approved the much-needed water supply. He was there during the dedication of the KWD to speak during the ceremony. It was not Tony Paulson who was given the privilege to speak and got a token of appreciation.

Misrepresentation #3: Mr. Moore did not save money through the establishment of in-house backflow device testing to hire a second deputy. In-house back flow device testing was researched, proposed, and implemented by city staff, allowing the city to obtain more timely, accurate, and verifiable test results.

Answer: The water back flow testing is outsourced from a contractor. Don Moore brought in the water back flow testing to the city water department because he had the authority to do it. By that we saved taxpayers money because the contractor was raising the price and could not perform the job in a timely manner.

Misrepresentation #4: Mr. Moore did not coordinate with ODOT to put up a traffic light at River St and Highway 199.

Answer: During his term the Southern Oregon Department of Transportation Director came to his office

and said that they will make Redwood Highway a 2 - way lane and he took the opportunity to discuss the needed traffic light on 199 and River streets. It was not a priority at that time though it was in ODOT’s 20 - year plan. But because of his representation they installed the traffic lights way ahead of its planned schedule.

NOW LET’S HAVE A QUICK FACT-CHECK ON DANIEL DALEGOWSKI’S BACKGROUND

Mr. Dalegowski left this city for South Korea and when things did not go well for him there; he comes back with this pathetic excuse – “I realized how very special my home was—how pristine and beautiful and clean. There are trees in my yard taller than any I saw in South Korea. Our air is amazing—our water is amazing.” He suddenly had an epiphany when his experience didn’t match his expectations. I wonder if he would have the same realization had he experienced otherwise. Would he still think about this amazing city and its people?

His experience from being a council member didn’t give him much because he is offering you a run-of-the-mill platform. I can attribute that from getting too much insights from Tony Paulson and Carl Jacobson. Though it is true that everything else after his 2 – point agenda is icing on the cake, but the problem is HE HAS NO CAKE! He beats around the bush to get voters to think that he has a lot to offer, but his agenda is a copycat of what Don Moore has already done and had been saying in

his candidacy. Basically, these are just the two things he is offering: 1) Land development for subdivisions and houses cannot be stopped, so he can only shape to some degree how the city develops and expands. (You don’t have work for this because there are state and federal laws that already controls this type of development add to it the private property laws that exist.) 2) Get revenues from cannabis related businesses and obtain grants to fund adequate law enforcement service. (Don Moore had started adequate law enforcement to this city and he even passed a city ordinance for no open container. Thanks to the administration that you were part of, it was totally scrapped, neglected and ignored.)

His stay in the City Council for six long years wasn’t productive either. “In my time on the council, the main thing I’ve learned, and what I bring as a candidate for mayor of the city is a perspective...” Give him credit for that! He’s got nothing but perspective, because he had no accomplishments in those six years and it is only on an election campaign season that he is heralding his a-dozen-for-a-dime “plans” for this city.

As a final word to Mr. Daniel Dalegowski – A mayor’s job is not just asking for grants and going to the City Hall to sit down and sign checks. Those are the reasons why Tony Paulson and Carl Jacobson had failed leadership and failed administrations.

Paid for by the committee to elect Don Moore