



(Photo by Laura Mancuso, Illinois Valley News)

Commander Robert Soria (left), Douglas “Max” Holleman and chaplain Marvin Porter from Glenn Morrison American Legion Post No. 70 performing the flag-folding ceremony at City Hall for Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 11.



(Courtesy photo for The Illinois Valley News)

An amazing sunset captured by Michelle Melton on Redwood Hwy. Thursday, Nov. 3.

RESULTS . . .

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Though victory was had for Gillette, during the race it was far from certain. When asked about why she thought she won Gillette stated, “Honestly it was a complete surprise, I have no idea really. Perhaps people wanted to see some kind of change or give someone else a chance.” Continuing on about the unusual circumstances of this round of elections and what she spent on the race Gillette said, “I don’t think its representative of the people who live in the city of Cave Junction to spend outrageous amounts of money on something that’s a volunteer position.” Unlike the mayoral candidates who embarked on a rather fierce campaign she spent \$0.

When asked what her first order of business will be when she is sworn in she replied, “For me it’s to learn, I’m coming into this very new and while I have ideas about how I would like to par-

ticipate I do feel like I need to learn more about how things are done.” However, she would like to say to the people of Cave Junction that she’s glad to be given the chance to make a difference.

Mark Dillinger, the second new member of the city council, has been in the area for six years and previously was living in Southern California. He ran against John Gardiner and has no prior experience in politics.

“There’s some things I’d like to see done,” Dillinger stated about his motivation to jump into local politics before continuing, “I think the reason I want to be there is to create innovative and creative alternatives to things. I don’t think there’s been a whole lot of action and I think that the residents of the city want to see more action than just talk once a month and let it go from there till next month.” Furthermore he stated, “The day-to-day deterioration of the city goes by a lot faster than that month to month meeting. If we don’t jump on it, then it’s just going to continue.”

Dillinger, perhaps with a great deal of wisdom, philosophized that, “The whole country has

forgotten that there should be compromise. I see compromise as a thing of the past and it’s either one way or not at all. I think I will bring compromise.” One of the things Dillinger plans on accomplishing during his term is a change to the city charter which will redefine term lengths. Currently, the terms are four years for mayor and two for the city council. Dillinger would like to make a change so that the mayor and city council both have two year terms or, if this is not agreed upon, the council will serve two years and the mayor will serve four. “I don’t agree with four years for the council members ... I think we become complacent after a while and that it’s a good thing we got a little new blood on the council so that they can bring new ideas.” Regarding his stance on shortening his own office’s term Dillinger stated, “If I don’t do something within two years then I think it’s the responsibility of the residents to replace me.”

When asked about his first order of business Dillinger said, “We need to replace Dan because Dan is not going to have his seat; he’s going to be

the mayor which means that the council has to replace him.” When the first meeting occurs in January, Dan will nominate someone and the council will either agree or not agree. If they do not agree then he must submit someone else and the process will continue until the seat is filled.

“I’m into transparency,” Dillinger stated, when asked about what was in store for the future, “that’s a buzz word that everyone talks about but I have never seen and I don’t know why. Do I get into politics and then find out, ‘Oh now I see?’” After a laugh he continued, “Everybody wants to be transparent but when they finally get their job they’re not transparent.” Another one of Dillinger’s plans, based on transparency, will be to initiate a system to recap points that were proposed during the last city council session and give a summary on the progress or lack of progress that has been made on the issue instead of just “nodding heads and forgetting about it.” Dillinger further elaborated, “People will actually know that what they said was heard, instead of being summarily dismissed.”

JOCO . . .

Continued from A-1

After JoCo’s longtime county clerk Art Harvey took a job with Jackson County in December, the county board appointed Trisha Myers as acting county clerk. Now her role is official. She nailed down the top job with 22,603 votes, which represented 69 percent; defeating James Rafferty, who received 9,849 votes, or 30 percent.

“I feel blessed to be elected to continue to serve the people of Josephine County,” Myers said.

Asked about how her department is functioning during this time of fiscal challenge for the county, she said: “The clerk’s office is continuing to run smoothly. We continue to provide the service that we do with the limited resources that we have.”

She explained that it helps that her staff have all been on board for a long time. “We have one gentleman who has worked here 20 years. Everyone is very knowledgeable. Our four employees have backgrounds either in title companies or they worked in the mortgage industry. And with elections, that’s something you have to learn on the job,” she said. “We’ve all kept up on how elections are conducted. Everyone’s doing a fantastic job.”

Incumbent country treasurer Eva Arce ran unopposed, capturing her re-election bid for a second term with 98 percent of the vote - earning 24,252 votes.

Arce first become involved in JoCo county government in 1995, taking a job as a tax clerk. She went on to hold every position within the treasurer’s office, becoming chief administrative supervisor in 2006. She then ran successfully for her first term when former treasurer John Harelson retired in 2012.

“Thank you for your support,” Arce said. “I always enjoy seeing I.V. residents in my office. Now I’m looking forward to another four years and I love it when I can provide the customer service our citizens deserve.”

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