



Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO,
Publisher

You know the old adage, "Think globally, act locally"? Well, it appears Simon Hare is thinking nationally and acting locally with a similar behavior as the obstructionists in D.C.

Like the Republican Congress and their refusal to allow President Obama to appoint a Supreme Court Justice, Hare is not allowing the lame ducks Cheryl Walker and Keith Heck to do the job they are being paid to do.

Hare's condescending attitude and comments in the Dec. 8 administration meeting were jaw dropping. It was reminiscent of the old Hare before his drunken strip club escapade in Eugene. After that event last December, Hare seemed to keep his head down and pay his dues. Now it seems he feels he has paid the full penance of his poor behavior and is back in the saddle.

Now, Hare has another bite at the apple when two new

commissioners start in January. Dan DeYoung and Lily Morgan would be well served to remember what Hare did in 2013 when Heck and Walker came into office. He ended up handing them the failed solid waste ordinance. Oddly, in the end, it cost county attorney Steve Rich his job while Hare got re-elected.

I urge commissioners DeYoung and Morgan to draw straws to choose which one of them they will vote to be the chair and co-chair in 2017, skipping Hare. As you remember, Hare was jumped over last year following his big night out.

I'll leave you with a bit of wisdom from philosopher George Santayana found in his book "The Life of Reason": "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

Thank you for picking up this week's paper, enjoy! ~ djm

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 The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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.)

Neighbors watching neighbors

At the I.V. Grange, right after Thanksgiving on Monday, Nov. 28 we discovered that someone stole a blue Star residential propane tank about 4 ½ feet tall with about 50 percent of the propane from the yard. Now we have to scramble to get propane for

our next Sunday breakfast and rental.

Neighbors, please see who required a small blue Star tank with moss on its side. It would take a lift on a truck to take this tank. Please report it or have them return it. No questions asked. You know the Grange members have worked hard to fill that tank.

You know that one day this thief will steal from his neighbors. Speak up for the good of the community in which you live and for the

I.V. Grange who just fed the hungry for free from the sweat of their brow.

Tammie Phillips Cave Junction

Reader asks for support

It's scary and also amusing that white supremacists claim and hold a 19th century belief justifying the white European conquest of America. This far-right

belief system is prevalent now in both American and Europe. Their claim that they were here "first" is truly astonishing.

In this era when we are just recovering from this election campaign based on hatred and bigotry, it is worth offering appreciation to the Native American Council reported in the Daily Current on Dec. 12, 2015. They can be lauded for offering in 2015 partial amnesty to 220 million illegal undocumented white immigrants.

In making this offer, the Council indicated that White people have the option of staying on the continent legally and applying for citizenship if they pay any outstanding taxes and return all stolen land.

It seems we could learn much wisdom from our Native American brothers and sisters. Support the Standing Rock protesters.

Trisha Vigil
Talent, OR

Obituaries

Leroy Hugh Clouser

Leroy Hugh Clouser died Dec. 2, 2016.

Leroy was born March 19, 1935 in Topeka, Kan. to Forrest and Mary Clouser. Leroy was the oldest of five siblings.

He graduated in 1953 from Paso Robles High School where he excelled in football as a four-year varsity letterman. He joined the United States Air Force after high school and was stationed at Chanute Air Force Base in Ill. Leroy served in the Air Force for four years operating a flight simulator. He began training in the sport of boxing and became a Golden Gloves Champion on Chanute Air Force Base. After leaving the Air Force he continued to box semi-professionally and also participated on the rodeo circuit as an accomplished bull rider.

Leroy married Charlene in 1957 and they had three sons; Daniel, Norman and Jamie. Charlene passed away from a rare disease in 1973. Leroy married Sharon Westcott in 1986. Leroy and Sharon had many adventure filled years together. Although they divorced, they

remained close friends until Sharon's death in 2011.

Leroy worked in the shipyards in Portland as a welder and mechanic after his time in the Air Force. He moved to Selma in the early 1960s. He worked in the logging industry for Cross and Kauffman and Don Beard Logging as a mechanic. As a young man Leroy had worked for a water well drilling and pump company in Paso Robles. He was still interested in the water business and in 1971 started Clouser Drilling in Selma. He was known as a hard worker and if you went to work with Leroy you could plan on a long, hard day's work. Leroy retired from the water well drilling business in the early 1990s to pursue the next phase of life's adventures.

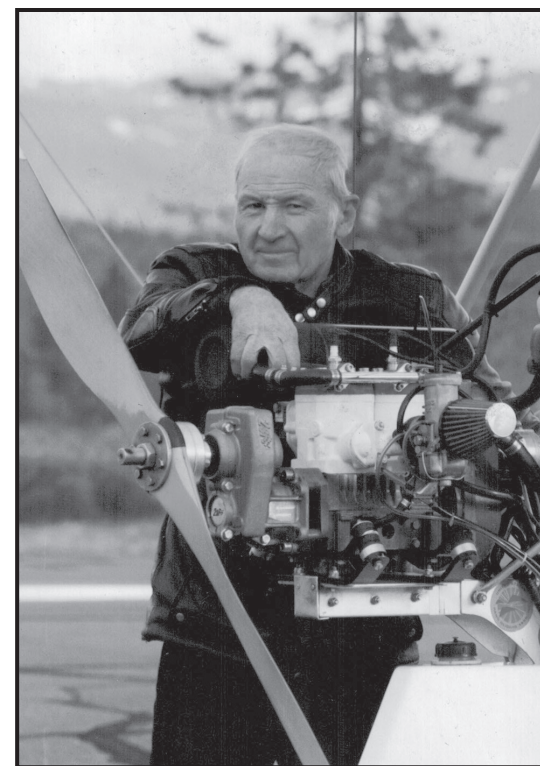
Leroy was a trend setter and was credited with bringing the off and on road motorcycle movement to the Illinois Valley in the early 1960s. He rode his motorcycles everywhere and for everything including to his wedding with Sharon. He logged over 1 million street miles on motorcycles in any kind of weather with a big smile. He also enjoyed ultra light

aircraft, mining, mountain biking, aerial photography, hunting and target shooting (competitive). He was an avid reader of books and magazines.

He was preceded in death by his brothers, Forrest (Bud) and Jimmy; wives, Charlene and Sharon; sons, Daniel, Norman and Jamie and his grandson, Aaron. He is survived by his brother, Jerry Clouser of Placerville, Calif. and sister, Carol Gill of Cave Junction.

Leroy enjoyed his many friendships and the next adventure. He was a one of a kind personality and known by many to be "the toughest person they ever met." You will be missed Leroy - rest in peace.

A celebration of life will be held at the Wild River Pizza in Cave Junction on Saturday, Dec. 17 from 3-5 p.m. A private graveside service will be held at Deer Creek Cemetery in Selma on a future date.



ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Save the date

Dec. 15

IVHS girls' varsity basketball game at Prospect High School at 5:30 p.m.

Dec. 16

Boys and Girls Club is holding a family night Friday, Dec. 16, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Evergreen Elementary in the cafeteria. A dinner will be provided and family activities afterwards in the gym. For more information contact Jenna during Club hours at 541-244-8490.

Dec. 16

IVHS boys' varsity wrestling tournament at Grants Pass High School at 11 a.m.

Dec. 17

IVHS boys' varsity tournament at Butte Falls High School - time to be announced

IVHS boys' varsity wrestling tournament at Grants Pass High School at 10 a.m.

Dec. 19

Neighborhood Watch Leadership and Training Meeting, Monday - Dec.

19, 5 - 6 p.m. at Wild Rivers Pizza.

To all leadership in the Illinois Valley and neighborhood watch groups, and to those that wish to advance your neighborhood in helping them form a Watch Group. We are doing training on communications, radios, networking and surveillance skills to track criminal activity. Develop a means to share information and resources between all groups. We will be organizing ourselves, our information, and to get it to the appropriate authorities. Can you please help us by spreading the word of these meeting? They will be conducted weekly, on Mondays, 5 p.m. at Wild Rivers Pizza. Contact me, Guenter - 541-415-1929 or Dennis Hoke, at 541-287-0021.

Dec. 20

I.V. B & G Torch Club will be holding a bake sale on Tuesday, Dec. 20 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Dutch Bros. parking lot.

Dec. 22

Healing Hearts & Hooves: Volunteers, donors, students and family

"Thank You Pizza Party", 6 p.m. @ Wild River Brewing, Cave Junction, RSVP to 541-659-1798.

Dec. 25

Traditional Christmas Day Dinner Free to everyone, Noon - 3 p.m. Christmas Day (Dec. 25) Come for the sing-a-long. Co-hosted by Illinois Valley Baptist Church & Master Food Preserver Volunteers at the County Building (102 S. Redwood Hwy). Desserts and volunteers still needed. Please call 541-592-9268.

Feb. 11

Child Care Business Class-a FREE introductory class Feb. 11 from 10 a.m. -Noon
Illinois Valley Library: 209 Palmer St., Cave Junction, call to register: 541-956-7400. Become a paid child care provider. Learn the legal rules, listen to successful care providers, get business skills and low interest loans. This introductory class is free. Some of the next-step classes such as infant CPR, have fees. Help with costs is available.

Continuing

*The I.V. Senior Thrift Store is under NEW MANAGEMENT and is looking for new volunteers. Join the crew and make new friends. You don't need to be a senior citizen to join the store. Call us at 541-592-6630. Open Monday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

*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.

*The Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance (SHIBA) program will be offering free assistance with Medicare Open Enrollment at the Illinois Valley Family Coalition every Monday from Nov. 7 to Dec. 5. You can add, drop or change how you receive your Medicare benefits. Call 541-956-4472. Be sure to specify that you are calling for an appointment in Cave Junction.

*Cave Junction Patrol, LLC is looking for volunteers. CJ Patrol is a private citizen volunteer organization dedicated to effectively addressing heretofore-unchecked property crime in our city and neighborhoods. The primary mission of CJ Patrol is to prevent, interrupt, report and decrease property crime in the city of Cave Junction. Call 541-592-9665, cjpatrol.org. Monthly meetings are first Thursday at 6 p.m. at Wild River Pizza, 249

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