

# Year in Review: February

•ICANN, a cannabis pharmaceutical company wanted to set up shop in Cave Junction, but it quickly fizzled due to land use issues and the city's lawsuit with the state regarding marijuana.

•Chief Dennis Hoke announced that Illinois Valley Fire District completed 1,318 responses during 2015. He presented awards for three lifesaving events, and a unit citation to the rehab team. CERT Member of the Year award went to Sue Williams; Support Member of the Year was Lt. Kris Ismaili; Rookie of the Year was firefighter Brian Pingree; Firefighter of the Year was Dan Johnson; Officer of the Year was Lt. Joe Latva; and special Chief's Awards went to Kris Ismaili, Jamie Paul and Robin Paulson.

•Due to soaring crime rates because of the public funding crises in JoCo, increasing numbers of residents are moving on, seeking safer and more prosperous waters. Yet the real estate market is hopping again - and others are moving in. Valley realtors said that a substantial percentage of recent real estate sales are connected to the cannabis industry.

•The Illinois Valley's "Clampers" officially known as the Umpqua Joe Chapter 1859 of E. Clampus Vitus, recently raised \$929 to help buy badly-needed new uniforms for the Lorna Byrne Middle School's football team by hosting a "gumbo-feed" on Super Bowl Sunday at the Sportsman Tavern.

•The list of Cave Junction businesses, churches and schools that have been robbed or vandalized in the past few months is no longer than the list of those who haven't - and many of these locations have been hit more than once. Both Evergreen Elementary and Illinois Valley High School (IVHS) were burglarized. This was the second incident this week at IVHS. Recent break-ins also occurred at Dollar General, Junction Realty, CJ Coffee, Tropical Island Tans, Wright's World Emporium and two incidents went down at Dutch Bros.

•Illinois Valley resident Raymond Smith joined a crowded field of candidates - there was 10 people running for Josephine County Commissioner, Position 3 previously occupied by Cheryl Walker. Smith,

52, was born in Illinois, and as a child, moved with his family to the Willamette Valley. He then moved to the Illinois Valley 14 years ago. Together with his wife, Michelle, he owns and operates Smith Farrier Service.

•The Illinois Valley branch of Josephine Community Libraries was robbed and vandalized Feb. 23. Among the stolen goods included the special collection of rocks on display at the library that was loaned by the Kerbyville Museum and one large gemstone valued at \$800. Estimated cost of damages caused by this senseless rampage is \$5,000.

•On Feb. 27 the body of Daniel Clausser was recovered near Store Gulch about 10 miles north of Selma on the Illinois River.

•Over the past months, residents have been organizing to fight back against the Valley's crime wave; and while the newly formed "CJ Patrol" group is growing, the criminal element has also taken to tagging local businesses with graffiti. Cascade Auto, Subway and Taylor's Country Store have all been marked up recently.

•On Feb. 21, the I.V. Little

League building at Jubilee Park was vandalized. The crooks didn't take much, but they trashed the place thoroughly. The I.V. Little League building was also robbed last summer.

•Fernando Dominguez Jr., 43, suspected in a number of local car thefts, was arrested at 4501 Holland Loop Road Feb. 24, on outstanding warrants from 2014. According to the JoCo Sheriff's Office, this arrest was accomplished with assistance from Oregon State Police, Parole and Probation, and the U.S. Marshal's office. Additional charges of unlawful possession of methamphetamine, felon in possession of weapon/restricted firearm and menacing have also been leveled against Dominguez.

•Officials from Rough & Ready Lumber Mill announced they were closing down due to a lack of readily available federal timber, for the second time in three years. Nineteen employees were laid off last week, and according to mill co-owner Jennifer Phillippi, another 45 employees have jobs for another six-to-seven weeks while the operation processes lumber it currently has,

and then will likely be laid off as well.

•Evergreen Federal Bank announced plans to close its Cave Junction Branch located at 130 N. Redwood Hwy. May 2. The decision was influenced by an increase in customers doing business online, a decline of foot traffic and limited opportunities for growth.

•The former I.V. Medical Center buildings located on Caves Highway at South Junction Avenue were sold to Options for Southern Oregon. The rear building, a former location for Siskiyou Community Health Center will become the new Options location and the building closest to Caves Highway will continue to house current tenants.

•The "20/20 Vision" Strategic Planning process was moving forward. Community leaders from a wide spectrum of Illinois Valley organizations gathered at the I.V. Senior Center Feb. 12 to exchange ideas for improving the quality of life we all share. It was found that 28 general interest areas were identified, based on initial community gatherings, interviews and the first online survey.

# Year in Review: March

•March started off with the disappointing end to a fabulous season for the Illinois Valley High School (IVHS) Lady Cougars who ended the season in the first round of the 3A Basketball State Playoffs with a double overtime 59-57 loss against the Portland Christian Royals. Six Cougar varsity players earned All Conference Awards in the Southern Cascade League. Senior Primeau was voted Player of the Year; and both Primeau and junior point guard Miller received First Team honors. Senior Nordan was voted Second Team All Conference. Seniors Neville and Savannah Baez and junior Johnson received All Conference Honorable Mention. Barry was voted Coach of the Year.

•The campaign to recall Josephine County Commissioner Simon Hare, which never seemed to gain traction, crashed and burned with a quiet thud. Last December chief petitioner Mark Kelsey filed a recall petition with the JoCo County Clerk's office and started a Facebook group titled

"Citizens to Recall Simon Hare" - but that group only attracted 181 members and no actual petitions were ever made available in the Illinois Valley.

•Nine candidates made the ballot to run against Keith Heck, facing off in the May 17 primary election for Position 2: Dan DeYoung, Dale Mathews Harriet Harris, Joseph Rice, Mark E. Kelsey, Nathaniel Duarte, Paul Walter, former JoCo Commissioner Sandra Cassinelli and Toni Webb.

•Eight candidates vied for Position 3 on the Josephine County Board, previously occupied by Cheryl Walker, who chose not to seek re-election: Raymond Smith, Mark Seligman, Ron Smith, Shayne Christen, David Martin, Charles "Bill" Ertel, William Hunker and Lily Morgan

•CJ Patrol ramped up to work with other neighborhood watch groups throughout the Valley. Some of the groups have volunteers with former police and military experience. Jimmy Evans said they can use more people with that kind

of background. Contact him at 541-592-2407 to get involved.

•Oregon Representative Carl Wilson (R-Grants Pass) sponsored House Bill 4060 which was "crafted with the intent of coexistence of hemp and marijuana," said Michelle Binker, Wilson's chief of staff. The Industrial Hemp Bill had a lot of bi-partisan support and is now waiting for the governor's signature. Approval of this measure allows hemp to be grown in ways that would allow starts to be sexed, with male plants identified and destroyed before they cross pollinate valuable female plants. Previously law prohibited hemp growers from doing so. "These expanded cultivation options are meant to promote coexistence by allowing hemp farmers to isolate or eliminate pollen-bearing plants and to focus production on high-value products," explained Binker. "The point of the bill is so the hemp growers and the legal marijuana growers can coexist as neighbors."

•Jerry Miller, 78, Illinois Valley civic leader died March 10 following a 9-year battle

with lymphoma that few were even aware of. During a joy filled Celebration of Life March 26, at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, which Miller helped build; his family shared fond memories of the dynamic patriarch and co-owner of Wild River Brewing and Pizza. Bertha, his wife of 58 years said, "Jerry's life was the epitome of the 'American Dream.' He was hard working and made a success of his life. He was passionate about pizza, beer and friendships."

•Rural Development Initiatives (RDI) Interim Director Heidi Khokhar presented a midterm report on the on-going 20/20 Community Visioning process at a March 14 Cave Junction City Council workshop. The overall strategic planning process has now involved two online surveys and a "Community Snapshot" involving various censuses and other statistical data about the Valley and the region was researched by RDI staff and presented.

•Oregon State Police (OSP) received a report of a

motor vehicle crash on Waldo Road near the intersection of Takilma Road in Cave Junction March 24 at 3:20 a.m. The investigation revealed that a 2007 Ford Escape was traveling west on Waldo Road when it left the roadway, rolled several times coming to rest on the north side of Waldo Road. The two passengers in the vehicle were ejected. The driver fled from the scene before the arrival of law enforcement. The front passenger, a 16-year-old male, was transported to Three Rivers Medical Center for treatment. The rear passenger, 18-year-old Trevor Praszek of Cave Junction was pronounced deceased on scene by medical personnel. The release also stated that March 24, 2016, detectives from the OSP Criminal Investigation Division arrested Dennis Knight, 23, of Cave Junction, on the following charges: criminally negligent homicide and failure to perform duties of a driver to an injured person -- felony (2 counts).

•Rogue Community College asked voters to pass measure 17-69 on

the upcoming May ballot, a proposed 20-year bond levy for Rogue Community College (RCC) of 5 cents per thousand of assessed value for property owners.

•Josephine County officials continued to try to find solutions to the thorny problem of how to fund public safety, following the defeat of four proposed levies over the past four years. On March 30 the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC) held a special session at the county Community Corrections conference room to appeal for help from the state, but the exchange seemed to end in a stalemate. Informally called House Bill 3453, State Law 753 would allow Governor Kate Brown to declare a "state of fiscal emergency" in a county. Two weeks ago the advisory board agreed unanimously that a local public safety fiscal emergency exists, or is expected to occur June 30, 2017, when federal "county payments" end altogether.



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Real Food Market

Garden of Life  
**22 oz. Raw Organic Vanilla Protein**  
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Herb Pharms Kids  
**Assorted Tinctures**  
**\$8.39** ea.  
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**Smart Organic Whole Chicken**  
A Non GMO Chicken. A free range bird. Great for baking in the oven.  
**\$3.29** lb.  
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**Grilled Cheese Sandwich w/sm. Soup**  
**\$4.99** ea.  
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**Woodstock Cranberries**  
Jellied & Whole  
**\$3.49** ea.  
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**20 ct. (small size) Avocados**  
**69¢** ea.  
Reg. 89¢ each

**Asstd. Flavors Imagine Broths**  
Reg. \$4.19 **\$2.59** ea.

**Westbrae Veggies Corn & Green Beans**  
Reg. \$2.79 **\$2.19** ea.

**Bob's Red Mill Organic Flour**  
**\$5.89** ea. Reg. \$7.89

**R.W. Knudsen Sparkling Juices**  
**\$2.19** ea. Reg. \$5.19

**Gooseberry Delight Grill Menu**  
Sourdough Bread, Rst. Turkey, Havarti Cheese, Bacon plus Pesto Mayo  
**\$7.49** ea.  
Reg. \$7.99

**Salad Case Orzo Salad**  
Orzo Pasta, Green Onion, Sundried Tomatoes, Olives, & Feta Cheese  
**\$4.09** lb.  
Reg. \$4.59

**Grab-N-Go Assorted Flax Muffin Packages**  
Blueberry, Pineapple, Chocolate Chip & Chocolate  
**\$6.49** ea.  
Reg. \$6.99

**Breakfast Menu Breakfast Muffin**  
One egg, your choice meat & cheese  
**\$2.19** ea.  
Reg. \$2.69

**Bulk**

**Pinto Beans** ..... **\$2.29** lb.  
Reg. \$2.99 lb.

**Roasted No Salt Cashews** ..... **\$8.99** lb.  
Reg. \$10.19 lb.

**Equal Exchange Chocolate** ..... **\$15.99** lb.  
Reg. \$19.29 lb.

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★ ★ ★ **NOTICE** ★ ★ ★

**Southern Oregon Sanitation Inc.**

## Holiday Schedules

Southern Oregon Sanitation would like to express our thanks to our many patrons and wish you the best throughout the holidays and into the new year.

**COLLECTIONS NOTICE:**  
Routes will be running as normal the week following Christmas and New Year's. If your regular collection day is on Monday, please be sure to **set your cart out the night before** as we may be running earlier than normal.

**Enjoy Yourself During The Holiday Season!**

Refer to our website for varying schedules of holiday hours for office, transfer stations and recycling depots.

[www.sosanitation.com](http://www.sosanitation.com)