



Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO,
Publisher

After last weekend's snow, I am officially done with winter. Having spent most of my life in Illinois and Wyoming I am no stranger to snow

and cold. My time on the Olympic Peninsula was spent living with constant rain and occasional "sun breaks." The winters in Cave Junction have been pretty mild compared to my past locales, but with this winter, I have had it.

2017 has been a stinker so far, but I still plan to make things better. In 2016 Laura and I made great strides in the day-to-day operations of the paper. The production days have had less stress which makes for a better paper. And less stress also helps us notice how we can improve.

Our goals for this year are to finish the year averaging 14 pages a week instead of the 12 pages of years past. The industry generally works with a 50-65 percent advertising to editorial ratio. Most of our papers are in the 50-55 percent range.

In order to achieve this goal, two things must happen. First, I need to get off my butt and sell

more advertising. Over the years I have become complacent and have not pushed hard enough to bring more revenue into the paper. Secondly, we will need more news content. Our current news contributors are doing well, but a couple of them would like to slow down. So if you want to be a reporter, we need you.

Newspapers are a three-legged stool: readers, advertisers and reporters. Readers enable us to charge for advertisements. Advertisements pay for reporters, and reporters bring in readers. If any leg of the stool falls short, the whole thing comes down.

We look forward to serving you in the upcoming year. 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 The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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.

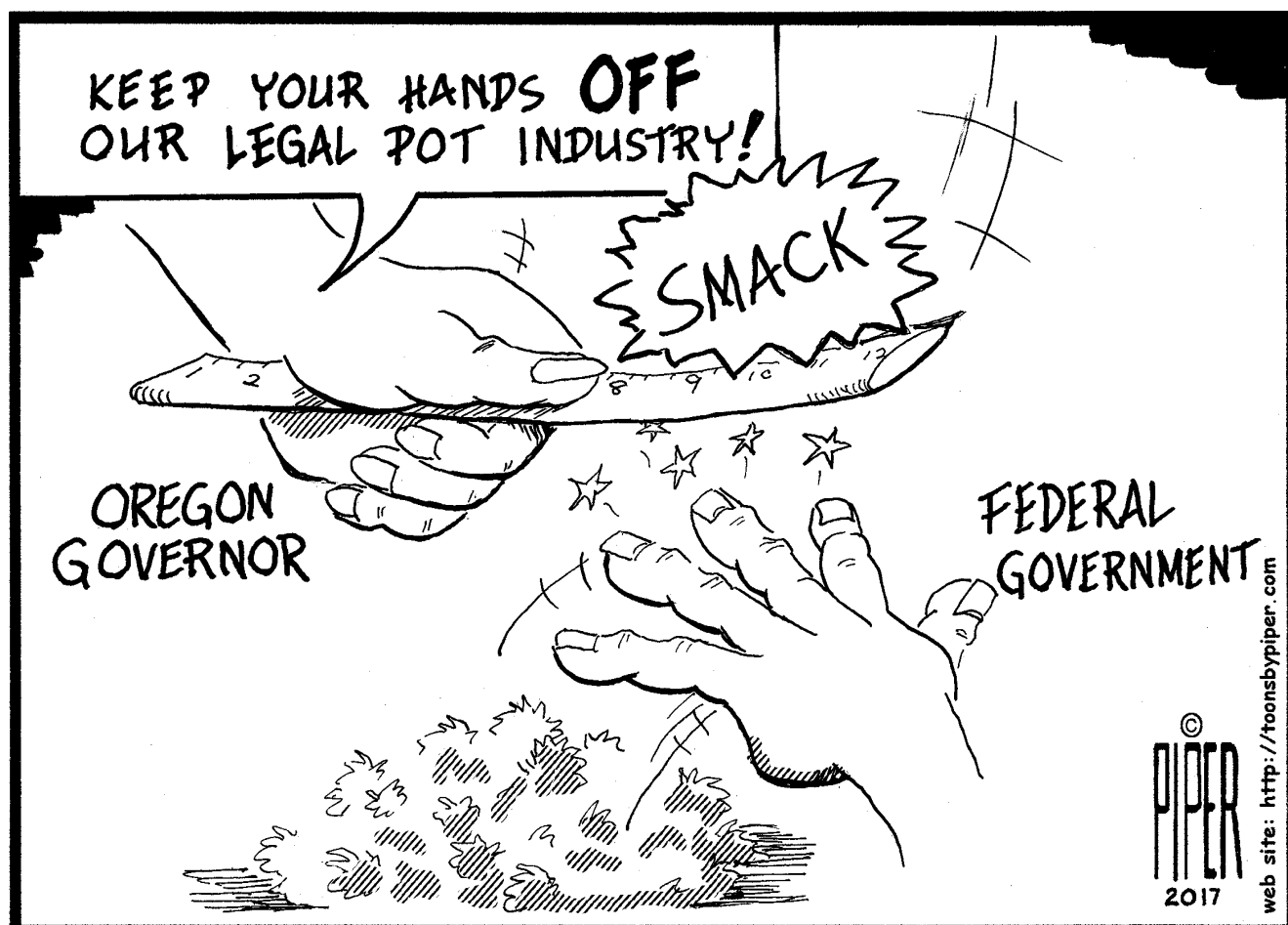
(Editor's Note: Views and commentary, including statements made as fact are strictly those of the letter writers.)

I'M FOR IT

I want to thank Robert Hirning for his suggestion regarding law enforcement in the Illinois Valley. I only wish more people would take the time to voice their solutions to enhancing law enforcement. Someday someone will indeed come up with the right plan. Unfortunately "two police officers, stationed in Cave Junction 24/7 patrolling streets..." is probably

not something that would be community supported. It would be necessary to have 10 officers in order to cover those 42 eight hour shifts per week 24/7. 6 officers would have 5-day-a-week work schedules, 2 would have 4-day-a-week work schedules, and 2 would have 2-day-a-week work schedules. Those 10 officers would indeed be able to cover each others' vacations and paid time off. At a current rate of approximately \$1100 per officer that would be \$1,100,000. As far as I know that will not, however, cover the costs of beds, prosecution, nor judgement. I am impressed that Mr. Hirning has offered that we only need a cost factor for the community to come together and fund it. I for one would only be too happy to chip in my share to make this happen. I would love it if the answer was this simple. We could reduce costs by eliminating certain shifts, or reducing the coverage down to one officer at non-peak times utilizing volunteer enforcement personnel to help cover. Keep them cards and letters coming folks.....

Mark Dillinger
Cave Junction



ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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541-592-4110

Save the date

March 8 – April 5

Workshop Scheduled for Cave Junction-Living Well with Chronic Pain, March 1 – April 5. Meets once a week on Wednesdays from 2 – 4:30 p.m. Call for more information and registration required. Learn new ways to control pain and improve activity; learn better ways to talk to your doctor and family about your health; solve problems and get the support you need. Sign up Now: Call Living Well Southern Oregon 541-864-9611 or Pre-Register online at www.sohealthyoregon.org.

March 11

I.V. Little League's annual Chili Feed & Cook-Off, with silent auction and live dessert auction. Live band the Holland Loopers, fun for the entire family Saturday, March 11 at the County Building from 5:30-8 p.m.

Ready-Set-Go! Cave Junction. Be prepared for an emergency by attending free public meeting. CJ Library, Saturday, March 11, 4-5 p.m. Learn what to have in your "go-bag"; shelter in-place or leave - necessary home supplies; evacuation assembly locations; and more. Meeting conducted by IVFD Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members.

Illinois Valley Grange will have Bingo, second Saturday of every month – starting March 11 from 1-4 p.m. 3763 Holland Loop Rd. Everyone welcome. For information call 541-295-7579.

March 13

Eight-week Depression and Anxiety Program starts. Meet on Mondays, March 13 at 5:30 after that Mondays at 6 p.m. Call Kathy for more information at 541-291-7016.

March 17

Chili Cook-Off, Cave Junction Farmers' Market and KXCJ Benefit Dinner Friday, March 17, 6 p.m. Kerby Belt Building, 24353 Redwood Highway, Kerby

The Chili Cook-Off is a test of the best chili as tasted by the people. For a donation of \$5-20, you may eat all the chili and cornbread you want and vote for your favorites. Local wines and craft beers will be sold. Entertainment will include Irish tunes played by the Oregon Wood-pickers and folk music by Southbound. Come party on St. Patrick's Day and support our Farmers Market and Local Radio Station, KXCJ. If you would like to enter chili in the contest or volunteer, please call Sarah at 541-415-0434 or email to cjfarmersmarketinfo@gmail.com.

March 18

The Rotary Club of the Illinois Valley will be holding a clean up day. Interested parties will meet at the Illinois Valley Family Resource Center located at 535 River St. from 8:45 to 11 a.m. Bring your own gloves, bags will be supplied. Contact Nicole at 541-660-2419.

March 18

Ready-Set-Go! Selma. Be prepared for an emergency by attending one of these free public meetings. Selma Fire Station, Saturday, March 18, 10 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. Learn what to have in your "go-bag"; shelter in-place or leave - necessary home supplies; evacuation assembly locations; and more. Meetings conducted by IVFD Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members.

March 23

Local Legends, Thursday, March 23, 5:30 – 7 p.m., Lorna Byrne Middle School (LBMS), A

free community event highlighting: Dinner provided by LBMS, displays by LBMS students about local loved ones who've died, IVHS students and community members and presentation: "Coping with Loss through Support, Education, Music and Movement." Anyone is invited to put together a display honoring his or her lost loved one. Displays will be shown on school cafeteria tables and are limited to the width of a three-fold with a small area in front where a notebook, memory box, and/or some small items can be placed. Contact Nicole at Healthy U to participate at 541-592-4888.

March 24

Hailing from Denver, CO, Ferdinand the Magnificent, created and performed by Nick Trotter, will be playing at Healthy U in Cave Junction, Friday March 24, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets: Sliding scale, \$8-infinity!

March 25

"Beatles Tribute" is the theme for annual Arts Council fundraiser at Selma Community Center, 18255 Redwood Hwy. Doors open 5:30 p.m. March 25. Dinner, dancing and live music by the Love Band. Silent and live auctions. Cash bar. Tickets: \$27 per person on sale at C.J. Umpqua Bank. Proceeds benefit arts program in public schools. www.irvac.com.

March 29

The Grants Pass Vet Center will be participating in a national celebration to welcome home Vietnam Veterans. The event will be held at the same venue as last year. Riverside Park Trevillian Pavillion 304 SE Park Street, Grants Pass, OR 97527. The event will start at 10 a.m. and conclude around 2 p.m. A BBQ lunch, service providers and guest speakers will be at the event. Please

come and show your support. All are welcome!

March 31 & April 1

IVHS 2017 All night safe and sober graduation party fundraising event: Bagging Groceries at Shop Smart from 4-7 p.m. Friday, March 31 and from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. Saturday, April 1

April 1 & 2

Josephine County Fairgrounds and Event Center Home and Recreation Show for 2017. Spring is here, and that means two things...Home Improvements and Outdoor Recreation! The Home and Recreation Show at the Josephine County Fairgrounds and Event Center in Grants Pass has something for everyone! Products and services for your home, inside and out, plus RVs, boats and more to help you enjoy the great outdoors. Admission is FREE, so bring the whole family and enjoy all the demonstrations. Gates open Saturday, April 1, 9 a.m. -5 p.m. and Sunday, April 2, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Special demonstrations daily Saturday and Sunday by the Southern Oregon Fly Tiers and other vendors.

April 8

Ready-Set-Go! O'Brien. Be prepared for an emergency by attending one of these free public meetings. O'Brien Fire Station, Saturday, April 8, 10 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. Learn what to have in your "go-bag"; shelter in-place or leave - necessary home supplies; evacuation assembly locations; and more. Meetings conducted by IVFD Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members.

April 29 & 30

The 2017 Spring Fling Art and Garden Show will be held on April 29 & 30 from 10am – 4pm at the Josephine County Fairgrounds. Featured are a variety of vendors with

plants, art, crafts and food in addition to educational exhibits. Enjoy a fun community event that benefits our Josephine County Fairgrounds. For vendor information, call Event Coordinator Sherry Young 541-778-5186. Admission is free!

Continuing

*The I.V. Senior Thrift Store: Join the crew and make new friends. You don't need to be a senior citizen to volunteer at the store. Call us at 541-592-6630. Open Monday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

*The C.J. Substation hours are changed. Open hours are now Monday and Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The phone number for the substation is 541-592-5151.

Volunteers are needed to expand support service hours to the public. Applications are available at the substation or on-line at <http://www.co.josephine.or.us/Files/Volunteer%20Application.Mar%202014.pdf>.

*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 Redwood Hwy.

* Committee Meeting STATE OF JEFFERSON Josephine County 1st Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. Black Forest Restaurant, Grants Pass and 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m., Wild River Pizza in Cave Junction.

Illinois Valley News

Published weekly by
W.H. Alltheway, LLC
Daniel J. Mancuso, Publisher

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to P.O. Box 1370, Cave Junction, OR 97523

Illinois Valley News is published at 221 S. Redwood Hwy., Cave Junction, OR 97523 Telephone (541) 592-2541

Since 1937 periodicals postage paid at Cave Junction, OR 97523 P.O. Box 1370 USPS 258-820

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One year in Josephine County - \$35
One year in Jackson and Douglas counties - \$36
One year in all other Oregon counties and out-of-state - \$43.00

Illinois Valley News does not refund subscriptions. Remainder of subscription will be donated to the charity of your choice.

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DEADLINES:
News, Classified and Display Ads, Announcement and Letters
4 P.M. FRIDAYS

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