

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 The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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

Reader says yes and no

I completely support the IVFD levy coming up on our May ballots, but the Law Enforcement/Safety Levy is just another simmered down mess of blatant money-grabbing by our county commissioners. The articles in

the I.V. News from Raymond Smith (3/22/17) and Bob Schmidt (3/29/17) gave a lot of important information about both of the proposed levies, so I encourage readers to go back and read those again; you don't need to see all it repeated here.

The fire department levy was brilliantly written 5 years ago, and will be the same if passed successfully in May, as an individual line item on property owners' tax bills and thereby legally kept beyond reach of the commissioners. The new levy is truly just a 25 cent per thousand dollar of assessed value increase over what we have been giving solely to IVFD for the last 5 years. It is exciting to read about their plans for the money. I have been at every IVFD budget meeting for years and I completely agree with Mr. Schmidt because the IVFD is incredibly frugal, concerned with every penny we put at their disposal. They get the funds

directly from the county tax office as it's paid by property owners.

However, the Law Enforcement/Safety levy is far from perfect, becoming immediate income for our commissioner's offices (they get 10%) because the tax money goes into the General Fund. The commissioners have not allowed the levy to be written any other way. They are desirous of a fresh influx of money for their offices, salary increases and cash to dole out as they deem worthy. Each year the commissioners spend thousands and thousands of dollars putting a new version of the levy on the ballots, but after property owners really look at costs, etc., they're voted down. I think about the commissioner's history of gifts, major expenses and the sheriff's budget that never seems to get the priority it deserves. Donations to libraries, the fairgrounds and costs for studies and lawyers - \$500,000 changes to an approved budget

for Sheriff Gilbertson a couple of years ago that took away any hope of matching funds from Salem (so blatant). There is a superb argument for paying taxes to help infuse Law Enforcement and Safety, but let's not put our hard-earned money into the hands of commissioners who often act too benevolent and "change their minds" about campaign promises.

**Marilyn Arnold
O'Brien**

Not stepping away

First, thank you to the I.V. News and Jason McMillen for the article highlighting the 100 year anniversary of Lions International, and the declining membership in charitable and fraternal organizations, who have done so much for their communities. Our club has given many people glasses, hearing aids, scholarships (\$5,000.00/yr), made

donations to the Devers Clinic for eye operations and loaned hospital equipment to those in need. I am proud to be associated with such a fine organization, and members. The main purpose of my letter is to clarify one line in paragraph 6 stating I was "distancing myself" from the club due to other engagements. While I have also become a member of Kerby Belt Masonic Lodge #18, nothing could be further from the truth. What I said was that I was stepping back from the leadership roles, encouraging some of the younger members to step up. I intend to continue to be a Lion and Mason for the rest of my life. I am deeply involved in the motorcycle raffle, scholarships, flag day for first graders and the Labor Day Festival. We look forward to the continued support from this great community. Thank you,
**Steve Lyons
Cave Junction**

Obituaries

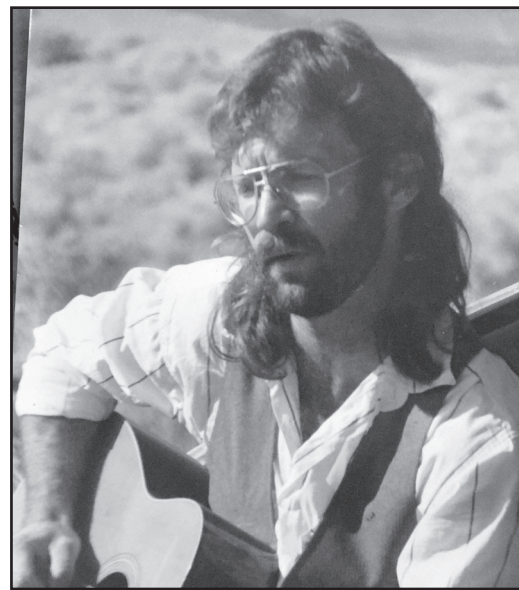
Morgan Ray Jones died peacefully in his sleep during the early hours of March 30, 2017. Morgan was born on Sept. 7, 1960 to Rocky and Sara Jones in Grants Pass, Oregon. He graduated from Illinois Valley High School in 1978. In 1981 he married Finny Straley and together they raised 3 children, Carly, Brad and Erica.

Morgan was a jack of all trades who enjoyed working in the logging industry, masonry, landscaping and even sold insurance for a short time. He loved to fish and was a pillar of the Cave Junction city softball league. Morgan had a deep love for the music of Paul McCartney, The Beatles, and The Grateful Dead. He also had a true knack for metaphors, and could make anyone laugh with his stories, whether true or not.

Morgan is survived by his parents, Rocky and Sara Jones, Cave Junction; his sister, Tresa Kelly Apke (Greg), Carlton, Ore.; his daughters, Carly Jones-Maurer (Brandon) Wasilla, Ark. and Erica Jones-Gutierrez (Elijah) Eagle River, Ark.; and son, Bradly Jones (Lyndsay) of Cashmere, Wash.; as well as his grandchildren, Kingston and Austin Maurer, London and Roman Gutierrez, Rayce and Dashyl Jones. Mor-

gan was a man with a huge heart who loved and raised other's children as his own including Shea Mather, Summer, Alycia, Haylee, Cody and Brandi. He is also survived by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and many, many close friends.

Morgan leaves a legacy easily observed in his children through their love of music, sports and witty humor.



Adam L. Chapman, 38, of Cave Junction, died March 18, 2017 in Cave Junction.

Illinois Valley Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

Celebration of life

The community is invited to come celebrate the life of **Dulcie Moore** with the family Saturday, April 8 at 1 p.m.

Bridgeview Community Church, 5181 Holland Loop Rd. Cave Junction, OR 97523

Come and share stories and memories with the family.

Food will be served after the service please bring a dish to share.

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ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Save the date

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 12, 13 & 17

Public Safety Levy Forums
Sheriff Dave Daniel and Fire Chief Dennis Hoke will explain the proposed levy budgets, the state of the Sheriff's Department and the Fire District, and answer residents' questions.

Wednesday, April 12, 6 p.m. Takilma Community Building If you can, please bring \$1 per person for room rental.

Thursday, April 13, 6 p.m. Selma Community Center

Monday, April 17, 6 p.m. Bridgeview Community Church

Hosted by the Illinois Valley Public Safety Task Force under the 20/20 Strategic Plan. Call Kate at 541-787-5283 for directions and more information.

April 14 & 15

RiverStars Performing Arts presents: CAVETOWN UNDERGROUND-a modern retelling of the tale of Orpheus and Eurydice set in the Illinois Valley.

April 14 and 15, 7 p.m. Lorna Byrne Middle School 101 S. Junction Ave., Cave Junction

Pay what you can. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Join us for Post Show activities:

April 14th: for a gratitude reception and cake to thank our partners, donors, and parents.

April 15th: for a conversation with the performers.

Questions? Call 541- 649-2333 or email IV.RiverStars@gmail.com.

April 15

I.V. Emergency Prepare Fair, Saturday, April 15, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at I.V. High School. Let the experts teach you how to prepare for a disaster. Free admission and emergency supplies, booths, presentations, planning tools, kids' activities, and concession stand open. Sponsored by I.V. Fire District, IVCDO & CERT. Call 541-294-1598, email IVPrepareFair@yahoo.com or visit Facebook page at IVPrepareFair.

April 29 & 30

The 2017 Spring Fling Art and Garden Show will be held on April 29 & 30 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. 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!

April 29

IVHS Safe and Sober Graduation Party Fundraising event: Saturday, April 29, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Fun Run/Walk/Bike To a New Adventure at Lake Selmac.

May 6

Illinois Valley Children's Fair & Pet Parade Saturday, May 6, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jubilee Park Free activities, resources, hot dogs, snacks, drinks and prizes.

Pet Parade registration starts at 10 a.m. Parade starts at 11:30 a.m.

May 7

Sunday, May 7, - Sustainable Cannabis Fair, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. in Jubilee Park. Co-hosted by the Illinois Valley Soil and Water Conservation District and Cave Junction Farmers' Market. Enjoy food, music, and door prizes while learning techniques to grow cannabis in tune with the earth; family, fish, and field friendly.

May 12

IVHS Safe and Sober Graduation Party Fundraising event: Friday, May 12, 5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. "Show your Spirit; paint the night Red and White" Dinner and Silent and Live Auction at the Selma Center.

May 21

IVHS Safe and Sober Graduation Party Fundraising event: Sunday, May 21 at 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Cave Junction Car wash.

May 27

Saturday, May 27, - Public lands clean up at Waldo-Takilma, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Join KS Wild as a public lands steward on some of the most beautiful and also threatened places in the Klamath-Siskiyou. Stronger together: We will work together with the BLM, Illinois Valley residents, the Illinois Valley Soil and Water Conservation District to clean this place up - just in time for the finalizing of its designation as an official "Area of Critical Environmental Concern." RSVP for carpool information and other details: call 541-488-578, or e-mail jeanine@kswild.org.

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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