

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 The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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 labels letter hate speech

As a faithful reader of the *I.V. News*, I appreciate the wide range of viewpoints and topics the paper covers in both factual articles and opinion content. The letters column keeps me in touch with ideas and points of view that are sometimes close to my own, and at other times quite a revelation ... The single letter published in last week's

paper, however, struck me as dangerously close to "hate speech" if not actually over the line. The writer did not advance coherent arguments in competent English, but his tone was obviously that of a frustrated, angry person venting. I wish that in the future, if you have only one letter available to publish and it is this awful, you will simply publish a section of clean white space with an invitation to your readers to fill it with colored drawings at home. That would be more creative, fulfilling, and perhaps even educational. Any more content as ugly as the letter from last week could provoke me to cancel my long-standing subscription. I'll be watching for an explanation of what you were thinking when you decided to publish it, especially as it appeared to be from someone 2/3 of the way across the country, with no obvious connection to the Illinois Valley. What gives?

Sincerely,

**Patricia Mersman,
Takilma**

Publishers's note: "Our forum welcomes all points of view, including views that are unwelcome to some."

Reader wants no restrictions on weed

This week county commissioners are issuing a board order that could very well ban recreational growing on RR 5. It is important to note that complaints on legal rec growers are minimal if at all. State law gives the county the right to regulate cannabis regarding time, lace and manner. The state is also making it more difficult for medical growers to grow more than 12 plants by tracking, tagging and storage requirements. Medical growers would be able to sell up to 20 lbs. into the legal market. It is possible that county officials might view this as commercial and stop this as an unintended consequence of this board order. In a convoluted twist this will prevent many from complying and only aid the unregulated market. It should be noted these efforts by county officials are a result of a small minority of bad neighbors. Why make laws that hurt people that are doing nothing wrong? Prohibitionist thinking is nothing new to Commissioners DeYoung

and Morgan, as city councilors in Grants Pass they banned outdoor medical grows. Commissioner Hare has profited as a grower on exclusive farm land where there are no restrictions. The economic improvement of the valley and county is a direct result of the cannabis industry. There are many that will suffer financially if this cannabis ban happens. The county officials wanted to raise taxes and did and now they wish to hurt people economically. I am not talking only about growers and patients but all the businesses that are suppliers. Please come to a town hall event that will be put on by citizens not county officials to discuss a response. For further info call 541-660-1505.

**Mark Seligman
Selma**

Wisdom from Wisconsin

This letter is to thank reader Jack Faust for maintaining a subscription to the *Illinois Valley News*, and for sharing his opinion in a recent letter to the editor, I am amazed at the interest he has shown in our local communities

and the changing economy structure here in southern Oregon. I can't imagine that Madison Wisconsin is such a boring place that a brother like him finds a need to direct his voyeuristic attentions to a community over 2,000 miles from his own. Perhaps he could try socializing a bit more with the abundant wealth of educated people who surround him in his University laden city...

In his recent letter to the editor in the July 12, 2017 edition of *I.V. News*, his enthusiasm for showing readers his OCLD (Obsessive Caps Lock Disorder) and it's sardonic use as a tool to convey his fervent, quasi-emoive ranting proved truly amusing. Us folks living out here in the sticks can sure use a good "I told you so" from a city dweller who likely couldn't even grow mold on a piece of bread.

I would like to thank people like Mr Faust for moving so far away from southern Oregon. Our little corner of the Earth here is fine without you

**Sunrise Ocean
Cave Junction**

PUT SOME OF YOUR GAS SAVINGS MONEY BACK INTO OUR ECONOMY TO FURTHER BRIGHTEN OREGON'S FINANCIAL OUTLOOK.



Obituaries

Tara Suzanne Whitney, 54, died May 29, 2017 in Selma. Tara was born September 5, 1962 in Carlisle, Pa. to Army medic George Whitney and Susan Palmer Whitney. She moved to Cave Junction in 1978 and graduated from Illinois Valley High School in 1980. Tara joined the U.S. Coast Guard and served from 1980 - 1984. She received a B.A. from the University of Alaska in Fairbanks. She accumulated numerous certificates and awards from gymnastics in high school to Morse code in the military. She traveled and has lived all over the U.S. and even lived in Cozumel, Mexico for two years. She sold diamonds while living there. She also was in the banking industry for 25 years in the Rogue and Illinois valleys and she was a notary. She had the chance to own her own business called Tara's Tropical Plants and Maintenance Services.

Tara raised three bright and beautiful girls in Grants Pass. She divorced her spouse and never remarried.

Her hobbies included gardening, tropical house plants, and photography with a 35 mm camera, going to the river and escaping to the tropics.

Tara was preceded in death by her parents George Whitney and Susan Palmer Whitney. She is survived by her sister, Andrea Whitney Jones (Steven); her daughters, Ashlie Hammers of Phoenix, Ore., Kelsey Johnsrud Whitney of Selma and Taylor Hammers Whitney of Selma; and three grandsons.

There will be a potluck memorial for Tara at Griffin Park in Grants Pass Aug. 26 from noon - 6 p.m.



ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS
WWW.SINCE1928HULL.COM 541-592-4110

Save the date

July 19

"Stay at Home & Beat the Heat" Fundraiser for the Illinois Valley Family Coalition July 19 at 12:30. We will have the drawing Live on Facebook. If people in the valley like the page they'll be able to see them announce the drawings of the winners. See Facebook.com/Illinoisvalleyfamilycoalition.

July 20

Circle of Stone will play the Concerts in the Park. FREE ADMISSION! Sponsored by the I.V. Chamber of Commerce. 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday Evening at Jubilee Park, CJ.

July 24

7 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 222 W. Lister Street, Cave Junction, Oregon, the Common Council of the City of Cave Junction will meet in a regular session.

Aug. 3

I.V. by Candlelight Walk after Concerts in the Park (6 - 8 p.m.)

Bring your candles and show community support for public safety.

Continuing

Summer Reading Program sign ups are still happening at the Illinois Valley library! Our free program runs through Saturday, Aug. 5. Join us on Saturdays from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. for crafts sponsored by Illinois River Valley Arts Council. For more information contact Roberta Lee at 541-592-4778. I.V. Branch, Josephine Community Libraries, 209 W Palmer St, C.J.

Concerts in the Park - Summer 2017 FREE ADMISSION! Sponsored by the I.V. Chamber of Commerce 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday Evenings at Jubilee Park, CJ:

July 27, Dale and Sharon Hopper - old-time country classics;

Aug 3, Kelly Thibodeaux & Etouffee - rhythm and blues and Southern rock;

Aug 10, Fire Your Boss - post-Apocalyptic folk core.

Please bring your own seating.

Nachos, Hot Dogs and more available at Softball Concession Stand.

*Illinois Valley Community Watch Meeting every Monday from 5 - 6 p.m. at Wild River Pizza, 249 Redwood Hwy. - Cave Junction. A Public Safety Outreach Campaign effort with all I.V. Neighborhood Watch Groups - representatives, including businesses and churches, and support for anyone wishing to start a neighborhood watch. Includes a 2-way hand held radio program briefing from 4:20 - 4:50 p.m. Contact Guenther - 541-415-1929 / ivwatch541@gmail.com.

*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 or visit cjp patrol.org.

*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.

*Come join the Cave Junction Lions Club at River Valley Restaurant, at 6 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. We are a co-ed club and are always looking for community minded people that are dedicated, hard working, whether physically limited or not and most of all, like to have fun.

We host the Classic Car Show in late June and Turkey Bingo in early November. So if you like to have fun and like to help make great things happen, to provide glasses, hearing aids, scholarships and support for our community and so much more.

Come by and see what we do or give us a call, 541-592-9243 Nina Horsley, vice president or 541-295-7579 Sherry Overstreet, president.

First and third Mondays of the month, 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 222 W. Lister Street, Cave Junction, Oregon, the Common Council of the City of Cave Junction will meet in a regular session.

**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.

News - Dan Mancuso
dan@illinois-valley-news.com

Editor - Laura Mancuso
laura@illinois-valley-news.com

Classified Ads - Laura Mancuso
laura@illinois-valley-news.com

Circulation - Laura Mancuso
laura@illinois-valley-news.com

Advertising / Composition - Dan Mancuso
dan@illinois-valley-news.com

Mailroom - Millie Watkins

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

AP AP EXCHANGE

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.