

## Guest Opinoin: by Anita Savio

Wow! This past weekend I had the chance to participate in a great American institution - meeting with like-minded citizens to agree on our party's political platform. The occasion was the Oregon Democratic Party Platform Convention in Salem, and the purpose of the convention was to come to agreement on the platform planks and a list of legislative action items. (The planks are the "what;" the legislative action items are the "how.") The proceedings were pure democracy in action.

The first thing that impressed me was

how the proceedings followed strict rules of order: We had motions, proposed amendments to motions, proposed amendments to an amendment, pro and con discussion on each motion or amendment, motions to call the question and votes on those motions, voice votes, standing votes when the voice vote was close, and votes tabulated by county when the standing vote was close. We even voted on motions to suspend the rules on motions.

Whew! The strict rules-governed procedures were a little overwhelming at first, but after a while I could see how they ensured

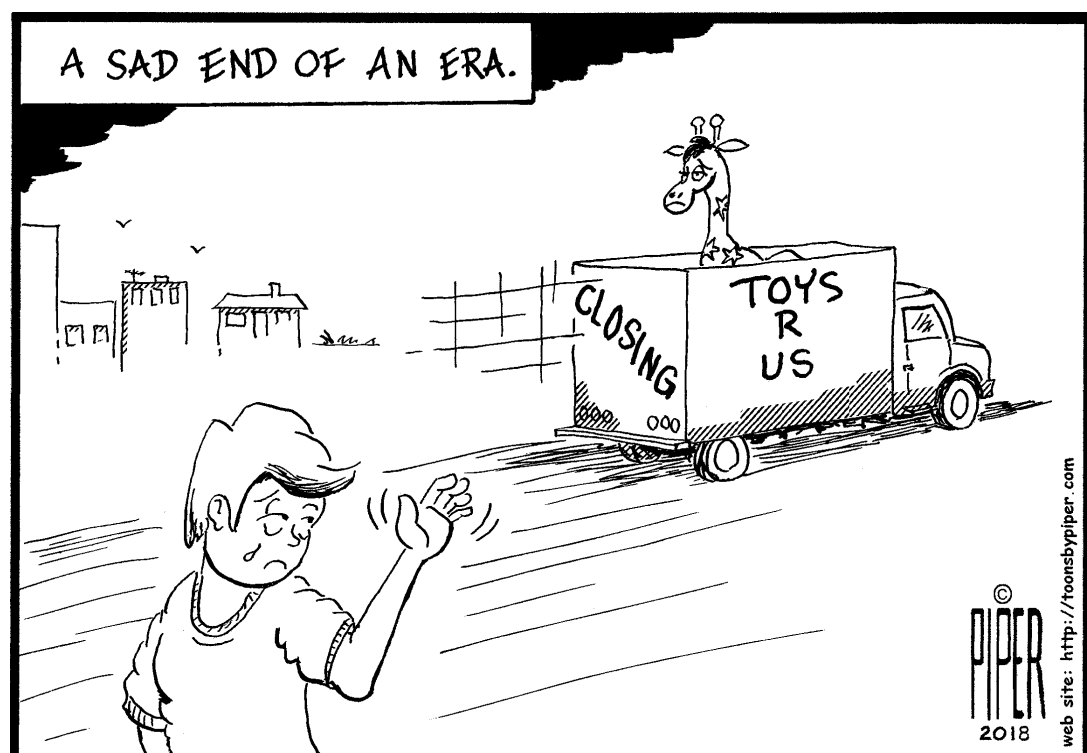
a democratic decision process.

Among the most rewarding parts of the experience for me, personally, were the several times I had the opportunity -- and found the courage -- to stand up at the microphone and present my own point of view! I was particularly proud when one of my personal amendments was adopted by the Criminal Justice work group.

But if I have to choose the very best part, it was this: After I stood up to argue against the wording of a particular motion, the convention chair encouraged several of us, representing

the pro and con sides, to huddle together to see if we could arrive at consensus. We huddled, we listened, we respected ... and found that consensus. Our solution was subsequently validated by the resounding "aye" votes of the convention delegates.

Did I agree with every decision made at the convention? No. There were some majority decisions where I was in the minority. But that's not the point. The point is the wonderful and empowering democratic (with a small "d") process that made me so proud and happy to be an American!



## 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.

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

**Reader not a friend of Democrats**  
This is in response to the Illinois Valley Democrats

- they will do anything to destroy Donald Trump. They will fight him anyway possible to stop him from making America great again. This is about all they care about. They can beg all they want for votes, people aren't stupid.

**John Hubbard**  
Cave Junction

## Obituaries

**Robert (Bob) Eckert** passed away peacefully Feb. 24, 2018. He was born in New York State, the youngest of 12 children, in 1928. When he was 17 he joined the Navy, and spent four years as a clerk, while also driving the ship's captain to various meetings.

After service, he met and married the love of his life, Florence Stone. She had three children from a previous marriage, who welcomed

him as their new dad. Bob and Florence had many happy years together. They enjoyed boating, traveling to exotic places, they loved getting together with family for evenings of comraderie, playing games, and especially poker games.

The family moved from New York to Santa Barbara California in 1958, where Bob took a job as a plumber. He worked there many years, and upon retirement, he and

Flo decided to move to Oregon to be closer to their family. They shared many years together in Grants Pass and Cave Junction before Florence passed away in 1999.

Bob will be missed by his children, grandchildren and many good friends. His family will celebrate and honor his life at a get together this summer.

## ~Letter of Thanks~

We would like to thank the *I.V. News* (Dan the paper man Mancuso) for the wonderful article on Carl. Also a huge THANKS to American Legion Post 70. Masonic Lodge # 18 and Easter Star for everything. And Slyvianne Irons for playing for me. Also the love and support of the city and our friends and family from all over. For a while the only thing holding us up was love and prayers. They still are but we'll get better at it. We're a strong community and we appreciate the support. Thank God for everyone. God bless you all.

**The Jacobson/Korrell family**  
Betty, Carla, David, Jacob and Harpo.

**ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS**  
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## Save the date

### March 21

IVHS girls' varsity softball game at home versus Butte Falls High School at 3 and 5 p.m.

### March 23

IVHS boys' varsity baseball game at home versus Glendale High School at 3 and 5 p.m.

IVHS girls' varsity softball game at home versus Glendale High School at 3 and 5 p.m.

### March 24

Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Upper Table Rock

Catch a Rainbow! Celebrate spring break with Molly Allen, BLM Environmental Education Specialist, on a general information hike to the top of the Rock that's suitable for the whole family. It's a wonderful introduction to wildflower identification, ethnobotany, geology, wildlife, ecology, and cultural history at the Upper Table Rock.

Meet at the trailhead at 9 a.m. for the 2.5-4.5 mile round trip hike up 800 feet along a moderate grade trail. Dress for the weather and terrain; bring water and snacks since hikes to the top may last 3-5 hours. Restrooms are available only at the trailhead; there is no drinking water. To help protect this special place, no dogs or vehicles are allowed on the trail.

The hike is free but reservations are required as space is limited. Information about

the hikes and online reservations: <https://TableRockHikes2018.eventbrite.com>. For information, contact the Medford District BLM at 541.618.2200, M-F, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### April 1

Please join Illinois Valley Baptist Church on Easter Sunday, April 1, for the first service in our new building! 329 Caves Highway in CJ at 10:30 am.

### April 8

Democracy at Risk 2: Real News, Fake News & Freedom of the Press, A nonpartisan panel and community dialogue. Sunday, April 8, from 3 -5 p.m. at the Kerby Belt Building. Free admission and refreshments. Informed citizens are the lifeblood of democracy. But how do we figure out what information is truthful, and which news sources are reliable? For questions call 541-761-4746 or email [IllinoisValleyIndivisible@gmail.com](mailto:IllinoisValleyIndivisible@gmail.com).

### Continuing

\*Evergreen Elementary school is looking for SMART (Start Making A Reader Today) volunteers. The program will run Tuesdays through Thursdays and volunteers are asked to come to Evergreen around 11:30 a.m. and will be out at 12:45 p.m. To learn more about the SMART program you can call 541-734-5628 or visit the website at [www.getSMARToregon.org](http://www.getSMARToregon.org).

\*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.

Illinois Valley Democrats meet the 2nd Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the I.V. Family Coalition, 535 E. River St. in Cave Junction. Join with like-minded people for camaraderie and to plan actions in support of the Democratic agenda. Call Anita 541-592-3073 to confirm meeting days. Check us out on FB!

Public Health Clinic- Location: I.V. Family Coalition, 535, E. River St., CJ, 1st Thursday of every Month services offered STI Testing/Treatment, Women's Health Exams (Annuals/Problem Visits), Birth Control (All Methods Available), Pregnancy Testing, Pre-pregnancy counseling. 3rd Thursday of every Month: STI testing/treatment, birth control counseling (methods limited), Pregnancy Testing, Immunizations. Call 541-474-5329 for an appointment, and make sure to tell the receptionist to schedule you in CJ. Walk-ins welcome! Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

\*The Sheriff's Office Substation in Cave Junction is now open on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, 10 to 2. Volunteers are still needed to staff additional days. Applications are available at the substation or on line at <http://www.co.josephine.or.us/Files/Volunteer%20Application.Mar%202014.pdf>.

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\*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](http://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.

\*Illinois Valley Indivisible, a grassroots community dedicated to the nonviolent defense of our democratic system and basic human rights, meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. at the I.V. Family Coalition, 535 E. River Street in Cave Junction. More info at [www.facebook.com/I.V.Indivisible](http://www.facebook.com/I.V.Indivisible).

\*Your public library has activities happening every week! Storytime reader, Melanie, has crafts and stories for kids of all ages Saturdays from 12-1:30 p.m. For more information contact Roberta Lee at 541-592-4770. IV Branch, Josephine Community Libraries, 209 W Palmer St, CJ

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News - Dan Mancuso  
[dan@illinois-valley-news.com](mailto:dan@illinois-valley-news.com)

Editor - Laura Mancuso  
[laura@illinois-valley-news.com](mailto:laura@illinois-valley-news.com)

Classified Ads - Laura Mancuso  
[laura@illinois-valley-news.com](mailto:laura@illinois-valley-news.com)

Circulation - Laura Mancuso  
[laura@illinois-valley-news.com](mailto:laura@illinois-valley-news.com)

Advertising / Composition - Dan Mancuso  
[dan@illinois-valley-news.com](mailto:dan@illinois-valley-news.com)

Mailroom - Millie Watkins

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