



Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO,
Publisher

The city has two councilor seats up for election and the mayor position as well. I understand the current mayor is not running again and one councilor has said they intend to seek another term, leaving the second seat holder still uncommitted either way. Elections are like spring, they bring new faces and new ideas and hopefully some follow through.

I have to say Mayor Dalegowski, to no

one's surprise handled the task in the same polite, methodical and thoughtful way he had proven himself to be as a councilor. So what's the problem Mancuso you ask? Well when he first took office he told a tale of the proverbial "shining city on the hill," made famous in a speech by Ronald Reagan. He got my hopes up and in the end little happened.

Now I cannot pin this all on him, no way was he alone in this. Four other people sit atop the dais along with him. Even then, I cannot pin this all on them. This also lays at the feet of all 1,064 (as of the 2016 election) registered voters in the city of Cave Junction.

In a typical election in the city of Cave Junction, only around 400 make the effort to vote. Now I realize that as a newspaper reader you are more civically minded and politically active and are not the people I am referring to here. Then why sing to the choir you

wonder? Because we need to get our friends and neighbors to get out and participate. They don't have to be mayor, but at the very minimum they could educate themselves and vote.

Going to city council meetings can be dreadfully boring at times, I get that. But if you want our leadership in the city to follow through on some amazing ideas for the future of Cave Junction, we need to hold them accountable. Or better yet, elect people that don't just put on a good show and in the end do little more than look as bored as I am watching them accomplish nothing.

I know you probably don't want to know what I would like to see in our next city leaders but you are going to get it anyway. I want leaders that not only share their hope with us, but have the ability and willingness to get the job done. Leading by consensus is not

leading, it's called following.

I want leaders that speak and give me hope; hopes that are filled with deliverables, deadlines and not just "wants and ifs." I want leaders that see a future that is different from the same old status quo. I want leaders that will give me hope that the city will actually accomplish something, and move it toward a vibrant economic future. I want leaders that will give a speech filled with more than good intentions and in the end, false hope. Lastly, I want leaders that are going to do something and not get bogged down in the little things; come into the race with a plausible idea and a plan to accomplish it - then go do it.

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 letter 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 not a friend of GOP

Conservatives are abandoning ship. In the March Atlantic, two senior fellows at the Brookings Institute, Jonathan Rauch and Benjamin Wittes, known for their conservative views, urge conservatives to vote a straight Democratic Party ticket to save the Nation and the Republican party from Trumpism.

They offered a simple logical syllogism:

"(1) The GOP has become the party of Trumpism.

"(2) Trumpism is a threat to democratic values and the rule of law.

"(3) The Republican Party is a threat to democratic values and the rule of law."

Their thesis, essentially, is that Trumpism poses such a severe threat to the Republican Party and the Nation that it

must be thwarted. And the only way to achieve this is to reject Republican candidates throughout the ticket.

Republican candidates are therefore on notice that they are not only running against Democrats, whether Progressive, Liberal, or Moderate, but are also running against Conservatives. The implication is clear: any Republican candidate in 2018 is assumed to be running as a Trumpist and comes with the entire assembly of baggage that Trump presents - from racism through sexism, xenophobia, science denial, anti-environmentalism to exploitation of public lands and workers for the benefit of the wealthy.

Trisha Vigil
Medford, OR

ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

WWW.SINCE1928HULL.COM 541-592-4110

Save the date

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 7 & 8

Saturday, April 7, 9:00 a.m., LOWER TABLE ROCK

Wildflowers Abound: Barbara Mumblo, botanist emerita with the U.S. Forest Service Siskiyou Mountains Ranger District and member of the Native Plant Society of Oregon, will lead a hike to discover the dazzling array of wildflowers found on the Table Rocks.

Sunday, April 8, 9:00 a.m., UPPER TABLE ROCK

Layers of Time: Jad D'Allura, Southern Oregon University professor emeritus of geology, and Joni Brazier, U.S. Forest Service soil specialist, will discuss the formation of the Table Rocks and the unique geological features and soils along a hike to the top of this ancient lava flow.

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 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.

April 14

Rough & Ready Wildflower Hike is Saturday, April 14, at 10 a.m. Meet in the parking area at Rough & Ready Botanical Wayside south of Cave Junction on Hwy. 199 at mile marker 34. This is a short hike on rocky, but relatively level ground with lots of beautiful wildflowers to see, many of them are rare or of limited range. A portion of the hike will be along a wheelchair accessible path so folks of limited mobility can come out and enjoy the wildflowers too. Be prepared, bring water, dress in layers and wear comfortable shoes. Bring lunch if you like, there's a picnic table overlooking Rough & Ready Creek. For more information call Suzanne Vautier at 541-291-8860. Sponsored by Cultural & Ecological Enhancement Network (CEEN) and the Native Plant Society

Continuing

*Evergreen Elementary school is look-

ing 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.

*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>.

*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.

*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.

*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



Don't much like quitters, son.

GRIT
#PassItOn

VALUES.COM THE FOUNDATION FOR A BETTER LIFE

Illinois Valley News

Published weekly by
I.V. News 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 letter 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.