



Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO,
Publisher

Election season is here and I am about to make many of you unhappy. I don't run letters to the editor that endorse candidates or knock down others. It has been my policy

Illinois Valley News, Cave Junction, Ore. Wednesday, April 25, 2018

since 2008 when Cynthia Lummis won Wyoming's U.S. Congressional seat by hardly spending a dime in newspaper advertising but had one hell of a letter writing campaign.

Lummis purchased one 2x2 ad through the state's newspaper association that was placed in all 38 newspapers in Wyoming at the cost of \$480. But, what was in every newspaper across the state in each issue were multiple letters to the editor praising the virtues of Ms. Lummis. Now, while you may feel you want to help support candidates by writing letters to the local papers, why should I have to pay the cost of your support? That is what you are doing, and I am subsidizing your candidate. If you think Joe will make a better dog catcher than Jane, buy him an advertisement.

Feel free to argue with me all you want, but you will be wasting your breath.

In other news about your newspaper... I am still looking for more writers. We really could use someone to cover City

Hall. As for the *Illinois Valley News* you may have noticed some new things that I picked up from the *Upper Rogue Independent*. If you see something you like, speak up. If you see something you don't like, do the same. Don't worry, I have thick skin.

With Laura as the skipper, there may even be a slight change in what we call "news judgment." As each week passes she takes on a larger role in distributing assignments and managing the writers. Certainly her view on the community will show differently than mine.

We are about to wrap up this year's *Valley Visitor*, and we still have a few spaces left for advertisers so if you are interested, give us a call or stop by.

And, finally, this week is the second and final issue of the 2017/2018 school year Dome School Times. I hope you enjoy the work the children produced.

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
laura@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 The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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 questions school board member facts

It seems as though people like Three Rivers School Board Member Kate Dwyer like to play fast and loose with the truth. A recent article in all places the *New York Times* discusses how draining the Oregon PERS is the reason to local government taking away funding for local services like law enforcement. Dwyer uses this fact skillfully to shade the truth. She is quoted in the article as blaming

a slow law enforcement response on this funding matter. She claims it took 2 hrs. for a police response. This was not deemed a danger by law enforcement.

Gunshots on school grounds at the Takilma Dome School in October 2016 she claims as the reason for a slow police response. There were gunshots in the woods near the school. That is a big difference. Gunshots in the woods happen all the time. I strongly object Kate Dwyer manipulating the facts to boost her pro tax agenda. It is a shame when a local school board member does this in a nationwide publication. It simply isn't so. Go ask the Josephine County Sheriff about this incident. Is this proper for a school board member, I think not. As taxpayers do you want more taxes because the government has created a PERS debt issue? Why should you foot the bill for government excess. Kate Dwyer wants you to do just that.

Is this the kind of person you want on your local school board making decision for your children. This article casts the Illinois Valley in a negative light. Gunshots on school property REALLY?

Mark Seligman
Selma

Reader wants good water

Global water security agencies estimate that in 12 years the world's population will require 40% more fresh water than is available. Two-thirds of the world's population will be living in water-stressed regions with five times the current amount of land under extreme drought conditions.

EPA records show that in the last three years, 41 out of 50 states reported "Action Level Exceedances," meaning that communities are facing unacceptable drinking water. At least eight states are facing serious drought conditions this year.

We as communities and individuals must focus on protection, preservation and conservation of our existing fresh water supplies now.

Our local environment is under constant assault by the after effects of forest canopy removal. Annual wildfires also decimate our last remaining watersheds and riparian areas. These forces expose the earth's soil to increasingly record-high temperatures. Water sources under these conditions dwindle.

This is no longer a partisan political issue; it isn't about whether you support industry or nature, because nature supports industry.

There is no city or township, no residence, business, factory, church, farm, school, retreat, hospital, park or wildland that can continue to be without clean water.

Please participate and be heard. Make life precedent over profits.

Contact our local legislators, community leaders, politicians, CEO's, action groups and neighbors. Let's not make terrible, obvious and genocidal mistakes out of greed or lack of foresight.

Push for Protection, preservation, restoration and conservation of our Josephine County watersheds. Protect rivers, streams, springs, lakes, wells, wetlands, riparian areas and the lands around them from deforestation and development. Living here today is pretty good – let's have some water to live and keep it good for our kids and theirs.

Patricia Bloom
Selma

Reader says have a heart

I read Glenn Mollette's column in last week's *I.V. News* with dismay. Yes, Tijuana suffers from a great deal of crime and human desperation: drugs and drug violence, prostitution, drunkenness, etc. Of course most of this crime is

in service to Americans who visit the place to satisfy their low needs, and Americans who buy the drugs from cartels that exist to serve the immense U.S. market.

Yet where Mollette saw only ugliness, I see there is hope and love, too. According to the Centro Mexicano de Filantropía (Mexican Center for Philanthropy), there are 711 registered nonprofit organizations in Tijuana that provide a variety of caring services to Tijuana residents.

My paternal grandparents immigrated to the U.S. from Sicily due to their simple yearning to provide a better life for their families. Every year, hundreds of immigrants risk their lives in a dangerous border crossing for the same reason.

Mr. Mollette, I ask you to cast out the ugly mote that is within your heart, and find it within yourself to sympathize with the human yearnings of people who are just like us.

Anita Savio
Cave Junction

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Save the date

May 3

Public Lands Clean up and Weed Pull: Thursday, May 3 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Carpool from Coffee Heaven at 8:45 a.m., Bring a sack lunch, water and sun protection. A partnership effort with the BLM, Illinois Valley Conservation District, KS Wild and students from IVHS to assess, pull invasive weeds, install fencing where illegal OHV activity has occurred and clean up this newly designated "area of critical concern" by the BLM. A plant identification walk and perspectives on the ACEC from an archaeologist and recreation specialist will also be weaved into this day as an educational component for everyone to benefit from. We hope you join us on this third consecutive year of collective effort in the beautiful Illinois Valley. See you there!

May 5

I.V. Children's Fair and Pet Parade: Saturday, May 5, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Jubilee Park. Free activities – beading, face painting, seed planting, children's books, hands-on science activities, child I.D. art activities, bike helmets, resources – Siskiyou Community Health Center Dental CareVan, Oregon Caves Tent, Pacifica Caterpillar Bus, Rogue River, Siskiyou National Forest Salmon Tent, hot dogs, snacks, drinks, prizes – win a free Kindle. Pet Parade registration 10 – 11:15 a.m. and the Parade is 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

May 5 and 6

The Coast Guard Auxiliary has just two more GPS and NAUTICAL CHART classes scheduled for this year on the weekends of April 21 -22 and May 5 – 6.

Saturday you will learn to read, use and plot courses on nautical charts with latitude and longitude with the tools provided for your use.

Sunday you can use our GPS units focusing on how the systems work, the dif-

ferent functions while navigating between screens and actually creating waypoint and routes that you can follow outside.

The course offered by the Coast Guard Auxiliary at the Southwestern Community College Curry Campus at Brookings is from 12:30 to 4:30. April 21-22 and May 5-6. Space is limited so please reserve your spot. 208-863-8386, 541-469-8757, 805-350-0642

May 5

Join us for a Fiesta Luncheon Celebration on Saturday, May 5 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Bridgeview Community Church at 5181 Holland Loop Road, Cave Junction, Oregon. We'll serve Mexican food and have a silent auction to raise proceeds to benefit the Pregnancy Center of the Illinois Valley.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Please call us at 541-592-6058 for details and to purchase tickets.

May 6

3 RIVERS CHORALE presents "To Carnegie Hall and Back", the music of Ola Gjeilo for chorus, piano and string orchestra on Sunday, May 6, at 3 p.m. at Bethany Presbyterian Church in Grants Pass. Tickets are \$15 and available at Oregon Books and at the door. The Chorale is directed by Kate Campbell and Janet O'Donovan is the pianist.

The concert will also be presented on Saturday May 5, 3 p.m. at Immanuel United Methodist Church in Cave Junction with a more limited orchestra.

Admission to the Saturday event will be by donation.

Visit www.3riverschorale.org for more information or phone 541-592-2981.

May 12

Mother's Day Spa for Women, Saturday, May 12, 1-4 p.m. Cost: \$30-50 Sliding Scale, choose three 15 minute treatments, chat with friends, snacks and beverages

provided. Location: Frog Farm Octagon, 9044 Takilma Road, Cave Junction, OR 97523. Support the nonprofit work of Spiral Living Center while being pampered with your choice of three 15-minute treatments including massage, herbal foot soaks, foot reflexology, tea and treats, Tarot reading and more ... Event will take place in the Octagon at the Frog Farm. Soak in the healing of this natural building while you relax with your women friends! For more info or to RSVP, contact spiral@spiralliving.org, 541-592-3386 or pre-pay via Paypal <http://www.spiralliving.org> contact name: Debbie Lukas phone: 541-592-3386 address: 9044 Takilma Road Cave Junction 97523 website www.spiralliving.org email spiral@spiralliving.org

June 2

Rotary Club of I.V. Clean Up CJ, Saturday, June 2 from 8:45 a.m. – 11 a.m. meet at the I.V. Family Coalition, 535 E. River St., CJ

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.

*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 online at <http://www.co.josephine.or.us/Files/Volunteer>. For information call 541-474-5123.

*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 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.

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

AP

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