



Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO, Publisher

After reading Cary Riley’s letter to the editor calling out the Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce, I started to think about the chamber, where it is now, and where it might be headed.

Illinois Valley News, Cave Junction, Ore. Wednesday, May 9, 2018

During my tenure with the chamber we had our share of ups and downs. A few years back we found ourselves facing financial insolvency. Most of us rolled up our sleeves and went to work scrutinizing the books looking for ways to cut costs and raise funds. Our secretary even volunteered to get laid off and was willing to work as a volunteer until we could get our feet back on the ground.

Through hard work from the board and some active members, 2015 found the chamber in a good place. Our secretary was able to come back in a limited paid role and we saved up the \$6,300 needed to reproduce the “Experience the Illinois Valley” billboards. Jay, the original artist, was available and ready to get started.

I left the board in the spring of 2016 and to the best of my knowledge, the money for the signs was still there. The chamber board had decided to look at another way to reproduce the signs and that was the last I heard about it.

Since that time, the chamber has given away the Siskiyou Bluegrass Festival which brought between \$3,000 and \$5,000

into the chamber coffers each year for as long as it was held. In addition to the Bluegrass going goodbye it seems the flower baskets went along with it. Do you remember the beautiful flower baskets that members of the I. V. Gardening Club volunteered to water for the chamber?

The chamber used to award citizen and business of the year at an annual event. Who won last year? Don’t worry, I don’t know either. In years past it was always in your newspaper, but I suppose it didn’t happen. Maybe it did. Who knows? I certainly don’t.

So, my questions are: Where is the chamber? Who are the business owners that are on the board? Where are the flowers? Where is the new sign? What happened to the “E” on the sign on the north end of the Valley? Where is the \$6,300 that was raised specifically for the new signs? Inquiring minds want to know.

If you have not done so already, get out and vote. Thank you for picking up this week’s paper. Enjoy!
~djm



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Letters to the editor

Illinois Valley News welcomes letters to the editor. Please e-mail them to laura@illinois-valley-news.com

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‘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.)

Fellow American Patriots:

Honor Flight of Oregon is scheduling a flight to Washington DC on September 14-16, 2018 to take World War 2 and Korean

War vets to see their memorials. It has been a life-changing event for many of our past veterans who have participated. The cost to send a vet portal to portal is approximately \$1000. The Guardians who accompany these vets plus the nurses and staff that accompany them to ensure their medical needs are met, pay their own way.

This notification is being sent in hopes that readers consider making contributions to help southern Oregon veterans make this trip while they’re still able. Our WW2 vets are over age 90; The Korean War vets typically in their late 80’s. The majority of the Board of Directors for Honor Flight of Oregon are Non Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA) members from the Rogue Chapter. Honor Flight of Oregon is one of the charities we will be supporting with our 5K fun run in October. That will help us for next year, but we need to pay for this flight in August of 2018.

Every little bit helps, so if you

have a soft spot in your heart for our older veterans, please consider a donation. Make a check out to Rogue Chapter NCOA and put “Honor Flight “in the comment section. (100% of your donation will help a vet get to Washington DC.) Kindly mail your donation to Rogue Chapter #1260 NCOA, PO Box 5597, Central Point, OR 97502.

Thank you in advance for your compassionate consideration.

Terry M. Haines, NCOA Chairman, Rogue Chapter #1260

Reader is thankful for volunteers

Now that the Illinois Valley Golf Course is moving forward with new plans and some new faces I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers who have devoted their time to keeping the golf course operating over the last 10 years. Thanks to them the course remained open, the grounds

maintained and equipment was repaired. Due to their thankless efforts, the Valley was able to retain an important asset.

Whether you were there for one day or one decade your participation in this effort is greatly appreciated and will not be forgotten. Thank you very much!

Gary Noleroth, Former President of the Illinois Valley Golf Course Cave Junction

Reader laments war on poor

Wonder why there is so much homelessness and high cost housing and rents? Look no further than the Josephine County government and the Building and Planning Department’s ordinances, regulations, rules, codes and permits. Josephine County’s endless war on the poor has been going on since 1973.

When Josephine County

hippies made *Life* magazine and the county commissioners decided to run them out for public health and safety. It did not work but they were able to raise taxes and their salaries. As they say, anything not in the code is against the code therefore illegal; requiring a fine, fee and permit-Tyranny of the few at the expense of the many.

Now they say we want gun control so we have single shots and the police full automatic and tanks. We need an endless war on terror and the poor. We need illegal immigrants because we can’t afford homeless Americans taking up space and low paying jobs. It’s the new undemocratic way.

Do not question climate change, inflation or high taxes. High rent and expensive housing is a sign of a good economy. Just say yes to nuclear war and no to drugs. Just believe fake news and propaganda will set us all free!

Mark Wichers Cave Junction

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

Save the date

May 12

I.V. Garden Club Spring Plant Sale
Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 12th, 9 a.m. at Western Plaza, next to True Value Hardware, in Cave Junction. There will be lots of plants, baked goods, and gift items for those last minute Mother’s Day shoppers. There will also be a table with freshly made bouquets.

This is a fundraiser for I.V. High School Scholarships. Come out and support your community.

May 14

FIRE SEASON PREPAREDNESS & Crime Watch Meeting - Monday, May 14, from 5 – 6 p.m., at Wild River Pizza, in Cave Junction. The Illinois Valley Community Watch group (IVCW) will host their Monthly Meeting for all Neighborhood crime watch leadership and neighbors seeking support for their neighborhood. IVCW will specifically be focusing on WILD FIRE PREPAREDNESS. Each year fire events escalate in frequency and severity. The Ken Rose / 199 Neighborhood south of Cave Junction (120 homes) were evacuated in August 2015 due to the Krauss Fire, burning 55 acres. Luckily with a watch organized and their emergency phone tree it provided fire updates and neighbor assistance in mobilize the neighborhood.

If it wasn’t for the slow moving fire and the air team many of those properties would be toast today. We have expanded our tool chest, since then, to better cope with fire events like a Local Immediate Alert Notification System, a two way radio program, and citizen first responder coordination. But this takes an active community and some people in your neighborhood to participate. You can be that person or send someone to join us. Our lives and properties hang in the balance. We will also be planning a General Public Meeting on the topic for late May or early June. All are welcome. We’ll help your neighborhood get started... Let’s not wait till the emergency is upon us. Contact Guenter 541-415-1929 or ivwatch541@gmail.com. Join us at 4:30.p.m. for 2 way radio training.

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

Saturday, June 2, 2018: IV Senior Center is holding its Annual Flea Market! 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For only \$10 you get a 20’ x 20’ space to sell those old treasures you’ve had hidden away. Come by to sign up at 520 E. River Street or call Rich at 541-592-6888.

We are also having our Country Breakfast so we should have a great crowd. Lunch will also be sold starting at noon and we’ll have a bake sale. Good time for all!

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.getSMART-oregon.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.

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