

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 The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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.)

No Spray Valley

I wrote the newspaper about my cat poisoned by the roundup sprayed by the county on the ditch in front of my house. A woman sent a reply telling me about the county program to give no spray signs and I would pull the weeds on the front side of the ditch instead. Thank you.

I dream of a no spray valley where every ditch has signs. Mercy for the cats,

dogs, raccoons, squirrels, opossums, gophers, deer, birds, foxes, fish and children who could suffer from the horrible affects of poisoning. With the money saved not buying expensive chemicals we could hire crews or day labor to help keep the ditches clean while not poisoning the earth. Call JoCo Works 541-474-5460 for the no spray program and explain what you think.

Mrs. Peno
Cave Junction

Fowler off is off base

Thanks I.V. News for your meet the candidates Josephine County commissioners article July 4 edition, very informative. After reading what Mr. Fowler said about Page Mountain Snow Park I wondered if he knew the snow park is on the national forest and controlled and managed by the Siskiyou National Forest not the county? Also wondered where all this ample property for bike, horseback riding and hiking trails is, are

we talking private property or National Forest lands? And if I remember right there has been a few attempts to bring business to the I.V. airport, Erickson Helicopter wanted to do training at the airport, this was not wanted by residents. I'm all for economic and business development for our airports but what is going to be acceptable to people living in the I.V.? What a hear from Fowler is tax, tax and tax. Tax growing marijuana tax selling marijuana will he advocate a tax on growing or selling hemp, corn or hay? Maybe

he will propose a gas tax or a sales tax next! I believe in less government, low taxes and less regulations more freedom and liberty for the people. This is not what I hear coming from Mr. Fowler more and bigger government more taxes seems to be his mantra. Although it was refreshing to hear him finally speak of forest and O & C Act and their importance to our county that was new.

Mac Violette
Grants Pass

First safety meeting held about fuel reduction and other safety tips

On July 2, the Illinois Valley fire season planning session presented the latest updates on the fire season conditions. There was discussion on nearby fires, fuels and fire ecology and building local resources and networking. Due to an exceptionally long, dry "windy" season that is unfolding, it is prudent to be proactive for the community and neighborhoods to tip the scale away from a runaway fire event.

The following topics were presented: I.V. Fire Department (IVFD) and Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) updates, Forest Service's "Era of MegaFires" - via youtube (Google it), followed by plans to network with neighborhoods. Important neighborhood issues included: Defendable space, home ignition zone, mapping your neighborhood, emergency phone tree, CERT

(Community Emergency Response Team), local incident alert notifications, 2-way radios, and listening to KXCJ for updates.

It was also discussed that it is essential to prepare for lightning storms with multi-strike points that will overwhelm the resources of ODF and IVFD. According to authorities from IVFD it is important to spot, report, coordinate neighborhood resources and

address small fires until agency first responders can engage.

You can subscribe to the I.V. Immediate Alert Notification System - text group. The independent two-way 'long distance (8 miles) Baofeng radios with a scanner cost \$40 and includes I.V. radio communications programs and guides. This allows you to listen to IVFD to protect your neighborhood. Come by and share your

plan with us or let us help you get started by attending Fire Safety meetings Mondays at 5:30 p.m. in the backroom of Wild River Pizza in Cave Junction.

You can email Guenter Ambron at ivwatch541@gmail.com or call 541-415-1929 to sign up for local information, updates, and a free and simple emergency preparedness packet.

SAFETY ...

Continued from A-1

The issue of adopting the Paris Climate Agreement goals took up the "Lion's share" of the 2 1/2 hour meeting. Gary Ebbe, who represented a group of 300 people who signed a petition asking for the city to pledge its support, described the importance of the petition as follows: "1. Strengthening relationships around the world to protect the planet from devastating climate risks; 2. Local actions such as town cleanup days, zero waste initiatives and preserving national forests; and 3. Partnering with local city and community

development organizations to create a yearly Energy Day, prioritizing the development of environmentally renewable energy resources, clean-air transportation options, and reductions of all forms of pollutants; and creating clean energy jobs."

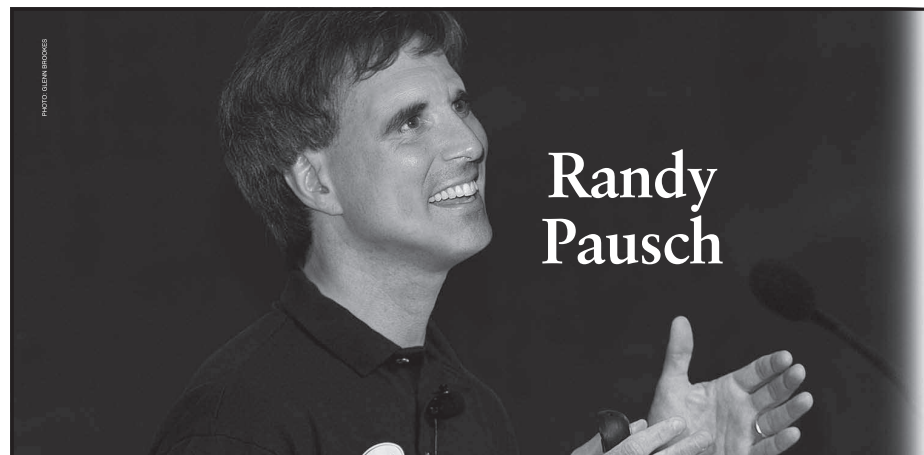
Councilor Bosch, while agreeing in principle, vehemently disagreed with the wording of the document stating the city was not in a financial position to meet the spirit of the agreement and felt it could put the city in a legal bind. While Councilor Mark Dillinger agreed, he stated that this should go to a vote as he knew it would end up in a 3-2 vote with the issue passing. The vote was taken and it passed 3-2 with Bosch and Dillinger dissenting.

Kenny Houck representing the Illinois Valley Community Development Organization (IVCDO) discussed the development and acceptance of a Memorandum of Understanding between the IVCDO and the city to work on a downtown lighting, surveillance and beautification project funded in part by proceeds from the sale of the county building and a grant from the city of Cave Junction of \$20,000.

The topic was tabled after Councilor Bosch argued that the city needs to be able to control the project, plus own and maintain the lighting and camera equipment. Mayor Daniel Dalegowski ended the topic stating the process will continue after the council has time to respond to some of Councilor Bosch's

concerns. After the meeting ended, both Bosch and Dillinger pondered where the \$20,000 was going to come from as it was not in the budget that was recently approved.

A less contentious issue was brought to the council by Gina Lo Preste asking for a letter on behalf of RiverStars to the National Endowment for Humanities in support of the "Our Town 2019" grant. The grant funds will support projects that integrate arts, culture and design activities into efforts that strengthen communities. Councilor Jones announced a conflict of interest and recused herself from voting. However, as a teacher for the RiverStars program she expounded the virtues of the program. The council voted 4-0 to send a letter of support.



Randy Pausch

Wrote book on living while dying.

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Save the date

Summer Reminders

*I.V. Library's Summer Reading Program 2018, June 23 thru August 4. Sign-ups begin Saturday, June 23 and continue throughout the 6 week program ending on Saturday, August 4 with our musical storytime puppet show, wrap-up party and prize giveaway! Weekly Craft & Storytime, Saturdays 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Free Lunch Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays at 12:00 pm for children 18 and under beginning June 21. Josephine Community Library District, I.V. Branch, 209 W Palmer St, CJ, 541-592-4778.
*Kids Eat Free: Three Rivers School District Summer meal sites for 2018. Meals are available at no charge for all children 1-18 years.

Cave Junction Area:

Evergreen Elementary June 18 - August 17, 2018 (closed July 4th) 520 West River Street, Cave Junction, Oregon 97523, Breakfast 10 - 10:30 a.m., Supper 3 - 3:30 p.m., Monday - Friday
Jubilee Park June 18 - August 17, 2018

(closed July 4th) 302 South Junction Avenue, Cave Junction, Oregon 97523 Lunch 11 - 11:30, Monday - Friday

SFI July 9-13, 24-31, August 1-3. 1241 Illinois River Rd., Selma, Oregon 97538. Breakfast 9-9:30. Lunch 11:30-12:00 Monday-Friday

*You could win \$500, \$300 or \$200 for creative recycling of "junk." Spend your summer making a piece of furniture out of junk to enter in the third annual Upcycle Furniture contest sponsored by the Southern Oregon Guild. Judging will be Friday, Sept. 28, 3:30 p.m. at the CJ Farmer's Market at Jubilee Park. Your work will be judged on CREATIVITY!!! So have fun making it! For more information pick up a flyer at the community booth at the CJ Farmers' Market Friday afternoons 4-7 p.m.

*Concerts in the Park, Thursdays from 6 - 8 p.m.
July 12 - Dale and Sharon Hopper

July 19 - Lonesome road
July 26 Circle of Stone
Aug. 2 - Silas Wolf
Aug. 9 - Sun Rose

*Couples nights starts at the Golf Course Friday, 5:30 p.m. and will continue every Friday until August 31. Call the golf course for more info. at 541-592-3151

Continuing

*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.

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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News, Classified and Display Ads, Announcement and Letters
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