

We are not fake, we are real and certainly, we are not the enemy:

by Dan Mancuso

"If you can make citizens believe that journalists can't be trusted, that established mainstream media outlets are hopelessly biased, you accomplish the same thing as censorship, arrests, closures. A discredited journalist or news outlet no longer has the authority or ability to inform the public."

Terry Smith
Athens (Ohio) NEWS Editor

The *Illinois Valley News* is participating in a national campaign spearheaded by *The Boston Globe* to respond forcefully to President Donald Trump's continued attacks on the free press, including his recent characterization of journalists as "real enemies of the people." We are among 100s of newspapers across the country that are running editorials and columns this week countering the president's attacks on the press.

It is the opinion of the *Illinois Valley News* that President Trump's

assault on the media is harmful to the pursuit of truth and to American decency itself.

I once had a government employee tell me they don't want us (newspaper reporters) to attend executive sessions. It made her feel like they were not trusted. I chuckled and said, "We are not supposed to trust you; we are the watch dog for the people. This is the reason that media personnel are allowed into executive session, to keep you on the up and up."

Because our founding fathers were so wise, they included the freedom of the press for the sole purpose of watching over government to alert people about possible danger and deter those elected with bad intentions from carrying out their evil deeds.

I hate to break the news to some of you who trade in conspiracy theories; there is no secret star chamber of liberal media elites. I have worked in large media corporations, there are no hidden protocols or shadowy figures pulling stories or changing them to manipulate the message.

While there is one company that is known for favoring a particular elected official, the day to day news judgment in media companies is not controlled by corporate, it's local. Writers, editors and the thousands of other professionals, who work in the media, speak with their own voices and ask their own questions. Yes, many of us have our own opinions and embrace the labels of conservatives, liberals and moderates and others avoid any political label that would tarnish their objectivity. Main stream media are about one thing, and one thing only, sales. But when it comes to community newspapers, how exactly do you think they could spin a story about the city council purchasing new patrol cars or Friday night football games? That has about as much basis in reality as Sasquatch, leprechauns or even an Oregon Duck NCAA Football National Championship.

Some say President Donald Trump doesn't like the news media. I see it differently. Just Monday, in a tweet, Trump was referring to former White House employee, Omarosa Newman, "I told him [Chief of Staff

John Kelly] to try working it out, if possible, because she only said GREAT things about me."

In my opinion, it's not the media that Trump doesn't like; it's anyone who doesn't say nice things about him. When any one points out his faux pas, it's fake news.

The people in our industry that follow an editorial process don't ask for your praise. However, we do ask that you not diminish our work because it reflects poorly on your leader.

This is not about party affiliation. It is not about positions on policy, taxes, health care, Supreme Court nominees, tariffs or immigration. It's not about whether you're a moderate, conservative or a liberal.

It is about how we function as a free society. A free flow of information is at the heart of a democracy. When a person holding the highest elected position in the land constantly calls those who are providing this information "the enemy of the people," American citizens are in trouble.

It gets worse. Last week, in a

speech at the Veterans of Foreign Wars annual convention in Kansas City, the president said, "Stick with us. Don't believe the crap you see from these people, the fake news ... What you're seeing and what you're reading is not what's happening."

When the president is asking the American people to believe that what is being reported is not the truth, and they believe him, we are in serious trouble as a nation.

The problem as I see it, Trump's rhetoric is trickling down to local papers. Just a few weeks back in a city council meeting a constituent lambasted me as fake news because we printed a tax revenue number that happened to be attributed to the mayor and was way off base. Because the mayor's math was wrong, I am fake news. Gee, wonder where he learned that line.

At the end of the day we really don't care who we report on, Democrats or Republicans, a dirty deed is a dirty deed.

Thank you for picking up this week's paper, enjoy! ~ djm

Obituaries

Former Cave Junction resident, **Joanna Greer, 93**, of Grants Pass, died Aug. 6, 2018 at Redwood Terrace.

Arrangements are pending with Illinois Valley Funeral Directors.

Elaine Marilyn Stein (née Greenberg) was born in Portland, Oregon, on Sept. 5, 1936, to Benjamin and Sadie Greenberg. Elaine traveled to all 50 states before she turned five. Her family settled in the Richmond District of San Francisco and she had fond memories of playing in Golden Gate Park. She grew up with many uncles and aunts and enjoyed spending the holidays at her Grandma Anna Greenberg and Aunt Fannie Figenbaum's place in the city.

Elaine excelled in athletics and started roller-skating at age 10. She turned her talent into a real love of the sport and developed her skills into skate racing, speed skating, and skate dancing. She was also captain of her high school volleyball team.

As a young mom, Elaine worked as a bookkeeper,

and as a cocktail waitress on Broadway Street, at the world famous Hungry i club. She bought her first home in Mill Valley, Calif., when she was just 30. She later moved to Healdsburg, Calif., and finally to Reno, Nev., where, in 1982, she met her future husband, Larry Stein, while they both were employed as card dealers.

They married soon thereafter and were rarely apart for the rest of their lives. Together they traveled to and frequently won regional poker tournaments. While on one of their trips they discovered Cave Junction, Ore. It was where they retired and where Elaine was able to pursue her love of dogs and gardening.

Early on the morning of July 6, 2018, Elaine and Larry died in an accidental fire in their home in Cave Junction. Elaine had a gift for bringing out the best in every situation, and was the kind of person who truly made friends with everyone she met. She left behind close friends who will miss her sense of humor, sense of fun, and loving nature.

She is survived by her

two children, Ellie Shattuck from her first marriage to Gene Shattuck, and David Cesena from her second marriage to David Cesena; from her marriage to Larry: Joe Dines, Jennifer Castanet, and son-in-law, Craig, along with five grandchildren: Ben Dines, Mitchell Castanet, Sam Dines, Julia Castanet, and Damien Cesena, along with his wife, Falcia Cesena and their son – her great-grandson – Robert Cesena; and former daughter-in-law Eva Austin.

Laurence Abraham Stein, "Larry" to his friends and family, was born in Weehawken, New Jersey, in 1934. With his parents, Morris and Estelle Stein, and Larry Arthur, he moved to Jersey City, New Jersey, when he was a teenager. Larry grew to be 6-foot-5 but even as a youngster he excelled at sports and basketball was his favorite game. He had happy memories of being a camp counselor as a teenager. As a young man he attended Columbia Prep School in New York City, Syracuse

University, and Harvard. Over the years he lived in towns on both the East and West Coasts and on St. Thomas, in the Virgin Islands, where he developed a love of sailing. Thanks to his friends in Cave Junction, Larry became a dedicated mountain biker and remained an active cyclist until his last years.

In 1982 Larry met his future wife, the former Elaine Marilyn Greenberg, while both worked as card dealers in Reno, Nev. They became inseparable. They discovered their ideal environment in Cave Junction, Ore., while looking for a quiet place in the woods. They retired there and called it home for the rest of their lives. They led a generally quiet life but stayed in excellent shape through daily workouts and walks with their dog, Jake. Always planned with care, their trips abroad, card-playing vacations up and down the West Coast, and visits to their grandkids were recorded in their photo albums and on the walls of their home.

Larry was an original person and collected a wide variety of experiences in his

84 years. Many of his friends and family members will remember Larry as a tireless raconteur. He was liberal by nature and, aware of his own missteps, he expressed a wide acceptance of others. Besides being an excellent poker player, Larry was a voracious reader all his life, and was miles ahead of his peers in his adoption of technology. He was an active volunteer in the Illinois Valley public schools and library and also took a great interest in both local and state politics; he was proud that several of his letters to the editor were published in various papers over the years.

Larry and Elaine were married for 35 years in a relationship that brought them stability, vitality, contentment, and adventure. It would have been hard to imagine one surviving the other. Together they developed close and loving friendships with some of the good people in their corner of the world.

Early on the morning of July 6, 2018, Larry and Elaine died in an accidental fire in their home in Cave Junction.

He is survived by two children from his

first marriage to Joan née Schneckenburger: Joe Dines and Jennifer Castanet; son-in-law, Craig Castanet; five grandchildren: Ben Dines, Mitchell Castanet, Sam Dines, Julia Castanet, and Damien Cesena; daughter-in-law, Falcia Cesena; and one great-grandson, Robert Cesena.



Larry and Elaine Stein

ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Save the date

Aug. 18

New program developed by cohorts of the Ford Family Foundation: Food Security Free Trading Post Aug. 18 at 9 a.m. at Jubilee Park in Cave Junction to trade food such as fruits and vegetables fresh from the garden. All gardeners who have extra fruit and vegetables, please join us and share your crop with your neighbors in Cave Junction. Any leftovers will be donated to a local church and the food bank. Please call Kim at 541-415-1125 for any questions. All are welcome to receive the blessings of our harvest. There are also Food Security Free Trading Posts scheduled for Sept. 22 and Oct. 20 at 10 a.m.

Aug. 21 – Sept. 30

Native Plant Sale: Online Pre-orders Aug. 21– Sept. 30, 2018, Wildflowers – Shrubs – Trees – Bulbs Order Online: Rogue Native Plants.org. Plant Pickups: Oct 6, 2018, Cave Junction & Medford, Rogue Native Plant Partnership & Illinois Valley Conservation District

Sept. 6

KXCJ Concert: Freddy and Francine! Thursday, Sept. 6, 6 – 10 p.m. Dinner 6 p.m. Concert 7:30 p.m. Catch the Nashville-

based duo Freddy and Francine as they swing through town on their way to the Sisters Folk Festival. Not quite folk, not quite pop or Americana or vaudeville –and yet a mix of all these things –the word "authenticity" is probably the best way to describe Freddy and Francine. But wait, there's more! It's outdoors! Mediterranean dinner will be served! Adult beverages, desserts, and more! Did we mention it's a benefit for KXCJ-LP 105.7, our local community radio station? All ages welcome. Costumes encouraged (because ... why not?). <http://kxcj.org/>, info@kxcj.org 541-592-4112 <https://www.freddyandfrancine.com/> Takilma Community Building, 9367 Takilma Road, CJ

Sept. 11 – Nov. 3

Land Steward Short Course, Fall 2018 for Josephine County, Learn how to manage your property's natural resources more effectively with this new course blending online and field instruction. Brought to you by Oregon State University (OSU) and OSU Extension. Questions? Contact: Max Bennett, Forestry & Natural Resources, OSU Extension, 541-776-7371, max.bennett@oregonstate.edu. Class details: Classroom: Tuesday, Sept. 11, 6-9 p.m., OSU Extension,

215, Ringuette Street, Grants Pass; Weekly online lessons (self-paced) beginning Sept. 17; First field session: Saturday, Oct. 13, 9 a.m. -4 p.m.; and Second field session: Saturday, Nov. 3, 9 a.m. -4 p.m. Course Fee -Early bird registration by Aug. 17: \$125; By Sept. 7 registration deadline: \$150; Scholarships and payment plans available by arrangement; and for online registration visit: <https://pace.oregonstate.edu/catalog/land-steward-short-course>.

Sept. 22

IVHS football fundraiser changed to Sept. 22 due to smoke. See ad on page 5.

Sept. 30

"Making Your Vote Count," the third event in IV Indivisible's Democracy at Risk series, will take place on Sunday, Sept. 30, 3-5 p.m. at Wild River Pizza. Short presentations interspersed with video and theater will illuminate the many reasons voting is more crucial than ever, despite increased threats to our election system on several fronts. We'll also hear about those threats and possible ways to remedy them, as well as numerous other voting-related topics. Community dialogue will follow. Admission

is free. For more information or to help, call 541-761-4746, or email dwyer@cavenet.com.

Continuing

*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!

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

*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.

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

'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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