

Dave Garcia - building a community

Tina Casey Jones
IVN Contributing Writer

Dave Garcia may have only lived in the Illinois Valley for four years, but in that time he has made a considerable impact in his choice for his forever-home.

But let's back up a bit, who was (and where was) Mr. Garcia before he landed here in our beautiful valley? He achieved his business savvy by devoting 30 years to the high-tech industry in the San Francisco Bay area, and spent his spare time on several boards, including Sister Cities International, partnering with cities in Japan and the Bay Area California School's Development Board.

After visiting the Illinois Valley with his wife Nancy, they fell in love with the "green-ness" of the mountains, crystal clear waters, the wonderful small town atmosphere and friendly residents, so they decided to leave "corporate life" behind and embrace the breath of fresh air that is the Illinois Valley!

After becoming an Oregon Realtor, Garcia quickly became aware of the shortage of housing in the Valley and wanted to find a way to do something about it. He

felt that a major key to promoting growth in the I.V. was for residents to become homeowners and have a larger vested interest in their community. In August 2017 the Garcias bought 40 acres adjacent to the I.V. Golf Course with the mission of building affordable houses for the residents of the area. Garcia obtained his Oregon Developer's license and began the process of developing the land for the eventual construction of approximately 60 homes in the Siskiyou Pines at Cave Junction Development. After almost two years of hard work, Siskiyou Pines at Cave Junction has gotten all necessary approvals to break ground. The goal of the project is to use LOCAL labor and talent wherever possible to construct the new homes. Preorders are already being taken and Garcia (in partnership with Keller Williams Realty Southern Oregon) will be hosting the second First-Time Homebuyers Seminar Sat, Dec. 8 at 2 p.m., located at the Family Coalition Center.

One of the first local organizations he joined was the I.V. Chamber of Commerce. Garcia could see an opportunity to revamp commerce in the Illinois Valley by promoting the local businesses and the artistic community, improving

the tourism climate to bring more visitors to the I.V. and encourage the entire community to be more involved in local events. When the former president of the I.V. Chamber of Commerce, Menno Kraai, said that he would be retiring, Garcia indicated he was interested in the position and after sharing his vision of the future for the chamber was unanimously voted in as the new president. Since July 2017, when he was voted into office, Garcia has revamped the Chamber of Commerce website, increased chamber membership by 50 percent, sponsored and promoted the 2018 Holiday Tree Lighting Festival, and is facilitating the planning of an event in May 2019 (tentatively) called the Sasquatch Festival. A major goal is to create an identity for Cave Junction and the entire Illinois Valley as a vital community to visit as well as live.

In addition, the "Siskiyou Pines" business came into being almost by accident. The Garcias hired 24-hour security for their development to ensure none of the expensive heavy equipment was "liberated" from the worksite. Local residents and business owners approached Dave and Nancy to see if they'd be willing to let the

security team patrol their homes and businesses, and Siskiyou Pines Patrol was born! They have already provided security/crowd control for two local festivals as well as nightly patrol in the valley. All security team members are certified, have undergone background checks and are licensed by the state of Oregon. Siskiyou Pines Patrol is endorsed by

Sheriff Dave Daniel as well as I.V. Fire District Chief Dennis Hoke.

Dave and Nancy, believe that Cave Junction and the Illinois Valley are at a critical and exciting point for the business and residential communities, and "building a community" is what it's all about!



Dave Garcia and his granddaughter Lorelai, Monday, Aug. 20

Bottle deposit donation program is making music

Music students at Lorna Byrne Middle School (LBMS) are going to new lows these days, that is, a whole new range of low notes on their new bass clarinet. The instrument was purchased with funds derived from donated bottles and cans, as well as a match from a community donor.

Using a start up grant from The Carpenter Foundation, the Illinois Valley Community Development Organization (IVCanDO) established a permanent collection site for

deposit containers at the big blue cargo container behind Oregon Caves Chevron. The public can donate clean bottles and cans with an Oregon 10¢ deposit value every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"The addition of a bass clarinet to the advanced band brings a timbre (tone color) that we have been missing," said Sean McKee, LBMS music director. "As few middle school students are willing to tackle a heavy tuba, this

new instrument will provide the foundation that creates a more full, balanced sound to the ensemble. Having a bass clarinet at LBMS also provides advanced woodwind players an opportunity to expand their skills on an instrument they most likely could not afford to purchase."

The bottle donation project

took two years to get organized but it's really humming along now. Partners include IVCanDO, Oregon Caves Chevron, Shop Smart Food Warehouse, Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative, and Southern Oregon Sanitation. It is a project of the IV 20/20 Strategic Plan.

Bottle deposits collected

so far have also funded the I.V. wrestling club, RiverStars Performing Arts, and the Evergreen Elementary School fiddle program with Kelly Thibodeaux. Groups can apply to "host" a collection day to raise funds for their programs by contacting Malcolm Voyager at Malcolm@ivcdo.org.


Kight's Krafts
Year End Sale
Gifts for all! **10-50% off ALL ITEMS** Stocking Stuffers!
Check with us before going to Grants Pass!
2027 Deer Creek Rd.

Bear Images
Unique Clothing Gifts & Jewelry
Christmas Bargains
25% off All Clothing
25% off All Jewelry
Open Sunday Dec. 23 & Monday Dec. 24
10 am to 4 pm
Tue through Sat 10 am - 5pm
123 N Redwood Hwy
Downtown Cave Junction
541-592-2802

WOODDUCK
CUSTOM COATINGS

NATHAN PAIGE 541-291-2591
LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED
CCB# 220904
20+ YEARS EXPERIENCE
"PREMIUM PAINTING COMPANY"
• DECKS
• CABINETS
• LOG HOMES
• STAINED HOMES
• INTERIOR PAINT SPECIALS
• ALL INTERIOR & EXTERIOR PAINTING

Celebrating 33 Years of Service!

Oregon Caves Chevron
409 S. Redwood Highway • 541-592-3080 • aaa.com/repair
• Auto & Truck Repair
• Tires • Alignment
• Towing • Propane

Approved Auto Repair

H&R Block Business Services
■ Bookkeeping
■ Payroll
■ Tax Preparation
■ Advice
H&R Block Business Services can help your business go farther.
Contact your local H&R Block office for more information.
H&R Block
210 W. Lister St.
Cave Junction
592-3667
Ted Crocker, LTC
Bob Litak, LTC
Licensed Tax Consultants B14914
 **H&R BLOCK** | business services

ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST OR ORDER OFF THE MENU AT THE IV GRANGE

FIRST THREE SUNDAYS OF THE MONTH: 8 AM - 12 PM
3763 Holland Loop
541-659-3781 or 541-415-1819

The SPOT
KARAOKE w/ Jammer
1st & 3rd Wednesdays 8-midnight
OPEN MIC w/ B
Thursdays @ 7

STEVE BERG
Friday, Dec. 7 @ 5:30
from
Taylor's Country Store

Wild River
HANDCRAFTED FOOD & ALE
Tim Mitchell
Saturday the 8th @ 6 PM
Every Wednesday
Open MIC Night 6 - 9 p.m.
J. Barley
Friday night @ 6

Karaoke w/ Mark
Fridays @ 9 pm
Saturday Pool Tourney @ 8
Sportsman Tavern

Art's Red Garter
Food Specials & Football
Thurs - Mon

B w/ Johnny
Fri, Dec. 7 9PM, \$3
@
McGrew's!