



Life in the Valley of Riches

By DAN MANCUSO, Publisher

I have spent most of my adult life outside of cities. I find the rural life more pleasing -I get to see the stars better, shoot a turkey while sitting on my deck, or just enjoy the peaceful

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scenery. Rural folks understand that living outside of town has its downfalls - gun shots, smells and lack of access to the store. I can’t tell you how many times I have purchased lighter fluid because I didn’t want to get home to find I was out. Currently, I have three containers of lighter fluid. I have no less than five gas cans because I often get into town and realize I left my gas can at home. It’s cheaper for me to buy a new one than drive back home to get it.

Also, services take longer when you live in rural areas. If you live further from the police or fire, it takes them longer to get to your home. Rural folks get that and accept that there are trade-offs.

Many people who live in rural areas are what I call “rugged individualists” who don’t want the interference of others telling them how to use their land. They say, “Leave me alone and I will do the same.”

One of the other downsides of living outside of a city is we have no say in how the city is run; we get and accept that.

We are not taxed, therefore we have no representation. That’s a trade off most rural folks are comfortable with.

Many of us who remember fifth grade civics understand that the residents of a city elect who they want to govern them. They pay the taxes the city uses on services that the elected officials think they need. If they don’t like how their elected officials spend their money, they elect new ones. Sometime people even recall them, but it’s the voters, i.e. tax payers who get to vote, not the people living outside of their city. So if you choose to live in O’Brien or Selma, you live in a rural area and do not get to call the shots in the city of Cave Junction. You made that choice when you chose to live in a rural area.

For some reason here in Southern Oregon there is a large contingent that believes they should have a say in areas they are not taxed or reside in. You don’t have to like it but that’s just a cold hard fact of life.

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.)

Reader says well done

Kudos to the Illinois Valley Boys And Girls Club fourth-grade boys basketball team who played so well this season that they made it to the final playoff game in Grants Pass on Saturday. Only a few points kept them from victory, but the game was close and exciting for all. Great job, Coaches Matt Stone and Marcus Tincher! And thanks to all you spirited super-players: David Allman,

Jesse Connell, Jeremiah Izzo, Mason Richardson, Myles Stone, Jackson Tincher, and Josh Wood. You make the Illinois Valley proud!

Tina Wright, Selma

Reader says panhandling is legal

The Grants Pass board of county commissioners have done it again. Morgan Fowler and Deyoung will enact another ordinance this one illegally

making pan handling a crime punishment of \$175 for pedestrians and drivers on any public street in the county.

Taxes fees and regulations is what this board is all about just like they were as city councilors. We need a person who represents county residents priorities instead and dont want excessive government. What would Jesus have said. These commissioners are criminalizing kindness and the homeless.

The new assistant county counsel feels he isnt beholden to the taxpayers and has authored this unconstitutional ordinances Jackson county judge and the ACLU have ruled panhandling is legal ... I am alarmed at the cavalier attitude of this assistant legal counsel as we should all be. Wake up and stop this madness of government. Sincerely, **Mark Seligman Selma**

Celebration of life

A Celebration of Life for Ron Shaeffer will be at the I. V. Senior Center at Sunday March 31 at 2 p.m. Everyone that knew Ron is welcome.

ComParrot
by Bonnie J. Malcolm

Can you spot 12 differences between these pictures?

www.comparrotz.com © 2019 Bonnie J. Malcolm

Solution: 1. Corner of sack is hidden. 2. Part of label on sack is missing. 3. Extra leaf on plant. 4. Corner of farmer's coat appears. 5. Rooster's tail feather is missing. 6. Bush behind barn is colored in. 7. Hay appears in barn loft. 8. Extra flower appears on bush. 9. Rooster's wing has moved. 10. Cord on lawnmower has moved. 11. Plant in garden is taller. 12. Fuddle behind farmer is larger.

ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Save the date

March 20
*IVHS boys’ and girls’ golf: 9 a.m. Cascade Christian Centennial Golf Course Leave 6:45 a.m. return 3 p.m.
*IVHS Band Festival 9 a.m. Roseburg HS
*IVHS softball varsity 4:30 p.m. At home against Lost River.

March 21
*IVHS baseball varsity 4:30 p.m. At home against Lost River.

March 22
*IVHS softball varsity 4 p.m. At home against coquille.

March 29
*On March 29 a national celebration will be held to welcome home all veterans who served during the period of the Vietnam War. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Riverside Park Trevillian Pavilion 304 SE Park Street Grants Pass, A BBQ lunch, service providers and guest speakers will be at the event. Please come and show your support. All are welcome!

March 30
GIRLS CAN DO! Saturday, March 30, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Takilma Community Building, 937 Takilma Rd, CJ. Dinner provided. Please bring a brown bag lunch. Please Pre-register, The event is free but space is limited. Call 541-287-0172. Leave your name and call back number. Girls learn building skills, share a meal and take part in a Women & Girls Circle event. Presented by Rusk Ranch Nautre Center, Zonta ~ Soroptimist and Takilma Community Building & Dome School.

April 20
Rough & Ready wildflower hike Saturday, April 20.
10 a.m. meet in the parking area at Rough & Ready Botanical Wayside south of Cave Junction on Hwy. 199 at mile marker 34.

The walk through the Rough & Ready Wayside is geared for plant enthusiasts and novices alike. This is a great opportunity for folks to come out and enjoy the spring wildflowers no matter what your skill level on plant identifications might be.

This is a short hike on rocky, but relatively level ground, with lots of beautiful wildflowers to see, many of them are rare or of limited range.

A portion of the hike will be along a wheel chair accessible path so folks of limited mobility can come out and enjoy the wildflowers too.

Bring water, dress in layers and wear comfortable shoes. Bring lunch if you like, there’s a picnic table overlooking Rough & Ready Creek. For more information: Call Suzanne Vautier at 541-659-7407.

Sponsored by: Cultural & Ecological Enhancement Network (CEEN) the Southern Oregon Native Plant Society and KS Wild.

Ongoing
Cave Junction Homeless Alliance (CJHA) Meeting Sunday, 4-6 p.m., St. Patrick of the Forest, W. River St. St. Patrick Soup Kitchen Sunday is a new weekly soup and bread feed held in conjunction with CJHA meetings. The event is sponsored by Street Services, supported by a caring community, and serves those who are hungry. NOTE: If you are interested in providing a soup, bread, beverage, or volunteering for this weekly community service please contact: Jimmy Evans E-Mail: jevans@cjhomeless.org Phone: 541.592.2407 (Message) PM: Messenger
*CJ NEX (Needle Exchange) Mondays from 12-3 at the Immanuel United Methodist Church across from Shop Smart. Free HIV and Hepatitis C testing as well as needle exchange, overdose response and naloxone training.
*Weekly Community Watch meetings are every Monday, 5:30 p.m., at Wild River Piz-

za, CJ. We help you build your neighborhood watch, fire emergency preparedness program, Immediate Alert Notification system (smart phone), 2-way radio service. Contact Guenter 541-415-1929 or ivwatch541@gmail.com.

*Line dancing in Cave Junction, Free, for more information call 541-415-1410. Wednesday beginners line dancing group from 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. meets at the Church of Latter Day Saints, 207 South Junction Ave. Entrance and parking in the back. Friday beginners line dancing group meets at Wild River Pizza, 249 Redwood Hwy. Line dancing practice from 5 -6 p.m. and dancing from 6-7 p.m. to live music from Jay Barley. Saturday beginners group meets at the Healthy U, 535 E. River St. beginners 11 a.m. – noon and more advanced noon – 1 p.m.

*GET YOUR TAX RETURN FILED FOR FREE! The Josephine County Tax-Aide program offers free federal and Oregon state tax preparation to low and moderate income taxpayers, with special attention to those 60 and older. We are trained volunteers certified by the IRS.

We will be offering our free service to Illinois Valley residents at the Illinois Valley Family Coalition, 535 E. River St., on Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., beginning Feb. 2. Please call 541-592-6139 to make an appointment.

*Evergreen Elementary School is looking for **SMART (Start Making A Reader Today) volunteers**. Come read with children for an hour a week and change a life. Currently the program is on Wednesdays, but with enough readers, we’d like to expand to Tuesdays and Thursdays also. Volunteers are asked to arrive about 11:35 and will be finished reading by 12:45. To learn more about SMART you can call 541-734-5628 or visit the website at www.getSMARToregon.org.

*The Sheriff’s Office Substation in Cave Junction is now open Mondays, Tuesdays,

Thursdays and Fridays from 10 to 2. Volunteers are still needed to staff another day and expand hours. Applications are available at the substation or online at http://www.co.josephine.or.us/Files/Volunteer. For information call 541-474-5123.

*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 Illinois Valley Democrats meet quarterly at the I.V. Family Coalition. Join with like-minded people Saturday 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!

*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. 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m., Wild River Pizza in Cave Junction.

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