

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, not libelous or scurrilous and do not exceed 400 words. 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 The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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.)

Southern Oregon Woodlands - Great Program!

I am compelled to write concerning your front page story in the April 17 issue on the Southern Oregon Woodlands project. As a property owner in O'Brien, I am constantly aware of the dangers of wild-

fire. I do what I can to keep my home and my property as defensible as possible. Last month, when I saw the offer from the Southern Oregon Woodlands project, I contacted them immediately. Early this month, I had two Woodland Neighborhood Network Peer Mentors visit my property. They were terrific! We walked the property and they pointed out things that I was doing well and things that I could begin to do or do even better. Their knowledge and expertise were both validating and encouraging of my efforts. Combined, they had a wide variety of experience to draw from and gave great suggestions. I urge all property owners to contact the Southern Oregon Woodlands project and schedule a visit to your property. You won't be sorry! You might even be eligible for some grant money or a cost share arrangement to hire out the work. Contact them at info@my-southernoregonwoodlands.org to find out what is available to you and to schedule a visit.

Cheryl Johnson O'Brien

Obituaries

Thomas D. Pope, 62, of Selma, died March 26, 2019 at Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center. Tom was born April 4, 1956 at Tripler Army Hospital in Honolulu, Hawaii to Carl and Agnes Pope. He was raised in Selma and attended Illinois Valley schools graduating from Illinois Valley High School, class of 1975. After graduation, Tom worked in the logging industry with his father. For a short period of time, Tom also worked in Alaska in the logging industry. After returning to the lower 48, he moved to Bend,

Ore., where he worked at several of the mills, before finding his true passion in home construction, specializing in quartz and granite work. He operated his own business and was contracted by major businesses in the area. Tom took pride in his work and his work lives on in the million-dollar homes that he worked on. Due to his illness, Tom returned to Selma to be near his family. Tom never married, but enjoyed his bachelor life to the fullest. Tom enjoyed going to antique car shows, hunting and fishing. He loved going camping at the high

lakes in Bend with his friends and staying at the coast with them. Tom was an avid bicycle rider. He loved riding in the mountains and going on long distance treks. He is survived by his mother Agnes Pope of Selma; brother Jimmy (Julie) Pope, Sr; sister Sandra (Lonnie) Box, Sr; nephews Jimmy Pope Jr, Jonathan (Jaime) Pope, Joshua Pope, Jeremy Pope and Lonnie (Jasmine) Box, Jr; niece Vanessa (Edward) Middleton; and great-nephews and great-nieces, Jage, Joslynn, Jessame, Jaron, Jacey, Jovie, Makyla, Ethan, Lonnie III, Hunnter

and Ariana. He was preceded in death by his father Carl A. Pope and nephew Lonnie Box, Jr. A graveside memorial service will be at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 27, 2019 at Deer Creek Cemetery in Selma. Please visit the obituary and sign the family guest book at www.since1928hull.com. Hazel McBriety, 79, of Cave Junction, died April 14, 2019 at her home. Hazel was born Sept. 23, 1939

against pesticide damage lawsuits. If you authorize the use of these chemicals, or sell them to others, you may be sued and your insurance may likely leave you to bear the burden of cost alone. This could bankrupt public entities and cripple businesses. Now, you can no longer say, "we didn't know". Now you know. Now that you know, you must make a choice. Stop the purchase and authorizing the use of these chemicals and stop selling them. We will be contacting your insurers and every public entity to put them all on notice. These chemicals cause cancer and death. Be smart; protect lives, protect assets. Stop using pesticides. Make the change now. Christine Perala Gardiner Cave Junction

SEE LETTERS ON A-8

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

Save the date

April 24 Well Water Safety Workshop and testing opportunity. Is your well water healthy and safe? This free workshop will explain well water safety information - Wednesday, April 24 from 6-7:30 p.m at the Kerby Belt Building in Kerby. Participants will be able to look up registered wells on the state well log to get accurate information, learn about causes of well water contamination, and receive greatly discounted well water testing for arsenic, nitrates, e.Coli and general coliforms. If problems are discovered there will be next-step support for correcting them. This water test retails for \$113 but will be available through this workshop for as little as \$10 on a sliding scale. Participants must RSVP to Joshua Daley at JDaley@co.josephine.or.us. This state-funded grant project is a partnership between Josephine County Public Health and the Illinois Valley Community Development Organization and is a project under the IV 20/20 Strategic Plan.

April 27 *Grants Pass Garden Club will have a variety of plants, garden-themed gifts, and baked goods for sale Saturday, April 27, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Credit and Debit cards will be accepted. For more information, call 541-218-3453. *Soil Testing for Gardens and Home Landscapes Thursday, April 25, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. OSU Extension Auditorium, 569 Hanley Rd in Central Point. Get set for an interactive class in taking a soil sample and interpreting results to improve your garden or home landscape. OSU Extension's agriculture expert, Dr. Gordon Jones, joins OSU Master Gardener Program Coordinator, Erika Szonntag in evaluating the soil sample you bring—from advance soil sample collection instructions. Cost: \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door (\$5 discount for Master Gardeners & other Extension volunteers). Register: Online at http://bit.ly/JacksonMGWorkshops or call 541-776-7371 for info. *Water Bath Canning: Community Bible Church is hosting food preservation classes for parents and students. These will be taught by a Master Food Preserver who is a certified teacher for such classes. The second class in this series will be held Saturday, April 27, at 10 a.m. in the CBC dining room

and kitchen. This class will cover the basics of using a water bath canner to process food. Please contact Tracey Raggi at bixxylizzy51@gmail.com if you plan to attend. All classes are hands on, so it is helpful to know how many people are coming. Children are welcome to attend with a parent. April 28 A Climate Change Series: Risks, Hazards, and Solutions: Part One: Climate and Wildfires, Living in Southern Oregon's Fire-Adapted Ecosystem. Sunday, April 28, 5-7 p.m., free admission Wild River Pizza and Brewing, Cave Junction, Expert speakers will discuss global climate change effects, local alternatives to current fire management, plus inspiring videos, Q&A. Please arrive early if ordering food. Sponsored by Illinois Valley Indivisible. For more info contact ivindivisible@cavenet.com, 541-761-4746

April 29 *Come hear the STATE OF THE VALLEY community forum, Monday, April 29 at I.V. High School, 5:30-7 p.m. Local and county leaders will present current efforts, goals and challenges. Presenters will include Josephine County Sheriff Dave Daniel, Three Rivers School District Superintendent Dave Valenzuela, I.V. Fire District Chief Dennis Hoke, Josephine Community Library District Director Kate Lasky, and representatives from Illinois Valley Airport, Josephine County Parks, and Josephine County Emergency Planning. There will also be an overview of the ongoing implementation of the Illinois Valley 20/20 Community Vision and Strategic Plan. The forum will be free and open to all. Keeeth Withries of KXCJ-LP FM Community Radio will moderate. May 4 I.V. Children's Fair & Pet Parade, Saturday, May 4 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Jubilee Park, free activities, resources, hot dogs, snacks, drinks, prizes, Pet Parade Registration 10 -11:15 a.m. Parade 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Win a free bike or Kindle.

May 4 & 5 *Sasquatch Wine, Art & Golf Festival May 4 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. May 5 10 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. Music, art, wine vendors 25320 Redwood Highway, Cave Junction, Oregon 97523 Free entry *Stomping Out Cancer in the I.V. Ponytail Donation 8" Min. (Must be clean & dry) 2 - 4 p.m. "Lisa from Reflections will

be cutting" Fun & prizes for the kids at the Sasquatch Festival Booth #83 May 11 *"Spring Wine Stroll" Saturday, May 11, 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. downtown Grants Pass Calling all wine lovers- Tickets are now on sale for the Annual Spring Wine Stroll. The Wine Stroll is hosted by the Grants Pass & Josephine County Chamber of Commerce. For over 20 years this special event has been held in beautiful Downtown Grants Pass. Participants stroll from location to location sampling amazing wine and delicious food. The Stroll is on May 11 2-6 p.m. Tickets are \$30 Pre-Sale and \$35 Day-Of. Tickets are available for purchase at Blind Georges, Frank N Stene's, the Chamber and online www.grantspasschamber.org. Check in and glass pick up is 12 - 4 p.m. the day of the event in front of Blind Georges. Host locations and wineries will be released at a later date. Please note this is a 21 and over event and each participant must personally check in with a valid ID. OLCC regulations also stipulate that children may not accompany adults attending this event.

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 Pizza, 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. *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 cjpatriol.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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4 P.M. FRIDAYS

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