

County commissioner race #2 candidates speak out: by Annette McGee Rasch

Commissioner **Dan DeYoung** wants a second term as Josephine County commissioner.

“There’s so many things we’ve been working on for the last three years, and I want to help follow through and finish, to see these efforts come to fruition,” DeYoung said. “There’s some really big stuff coming up for Josephine County.”

Born in Grants Pass, DeYoung graduated from Grants Pass High School before serving in the U.S. Navy; where he learned his trade. Returning home, DeYoung worked for a large HVAC company before starting All Seasons Heating and Air Conditioning, which he owned and operated for 35 years, until 2014.

DeYoung, a conservative, first held

public office in 2009 when he was elected to the Grants Pass City Council, a position he held for six years, including two years as council president. He was then elected to county board in 2016 and served as the board’s chairperson in 2018.

“As a resident of Josephine County I just wanted to move forward after serving on the city council and wrap my arms around the entire county,” he said. “I have no aspiration to go on to state government; I just want to keep working for JoCo.”

DeYoung is the county board’s liaison to the Illinois Valley Airport board, where development of an industrial park on airport grounds is still being pursued.

SEE DEYOUNG ON A-8

Daniel Mancuso, who owns and publishes the *Illinois Valley News* along with his wife Laura Mancuso, has tossed his hat into the ring for position 2 on the Josephine County board.

As someone who owns a business and has to manage a budget while juggling employee issues, Mancuso feels he has a leg up over some of the other candidates. “It’s been a tough go of things for the past 10 years since I invested in the community with the purchase of the paper.

Finding qualified people in this tight labor pool hasn’t made it any easier; I don’t know what I would do without Laura.”

As for his qualifications Mancuso feels his work has prepared him for the job. “For 10 years I’ve covered the Josephine County Board of Commissioners and have dealt with 11 individual commissioners,” Mancuso said. “I’ve seen what’s been done wrong and I’ve noted their successes.

“Not only do I fully understand the job, I have working relationships with

most county departments, as well as relationships with ODOT, OLCC, OMMP and ODF. I’d be ready day one to hit the ground running.” Mancuso says 60% of Josephine County residents live in rural areas, but notes how all the current commissioners live in the city of Grants Pass. “The majority of their decisions have little impact on them at home. Certainly JoCo’s voters agree that having a rural voice in making rural decisions is a good idea.”

SEE MANCUSO ON A-8

After running for a seat on the Josephine County board several times, this time longtime Selma resident **Mark Seligman** has additional motivation - to unseat incumbent Dan DeYoung, due to “many differences” on tax-related issues and more.

“I oppose property tax levies, especially when the county votes for additional PERS burdens; and I oppose costing taxpayers more money with frivolous law suits against the cannabis

industry, which is a catalyst to prosperity. We cannot be taxed into prosperity - but we can be taxed into further poverty.”

On the topic of taxes, due to the coronavirus pandemic, Seligman thinks what’s needed is a “tax holiday” for homeowners and commercial real estate owners for one year - and he recommends cutting out permitting fees as well.

“Our survival is at stake, so services on a county level must be cut back. We cannot

afford bureaucrats taxing and over regulating the citizens of Josephine County. If we don’t lessen economic burdens, there’ll be additional crime and homelessness. And, we must show compassion without judgment, because any one of us could become homeless due to COVID-19 and its aftermath.

SEE SELIGMAN ON A-8

Former Illinois Valley resident **Ron Smith** is also running again for a seat on the county board. Smith said he’s looking forward to “representing all the people. I’m a real team player, not a politician. Once in office, I’d never forget that I work for the people.

“I would diligently seek out long-term funding solutions for the sheriff’s office,” Smith said. “I strongly supports the sheriff’s efforts to reduce crime and the drug epidemic in our communities. And I would work tirelessly to alleviate the serious housing shortage in our county by doing everything possible to simplify the permitting process, reduce

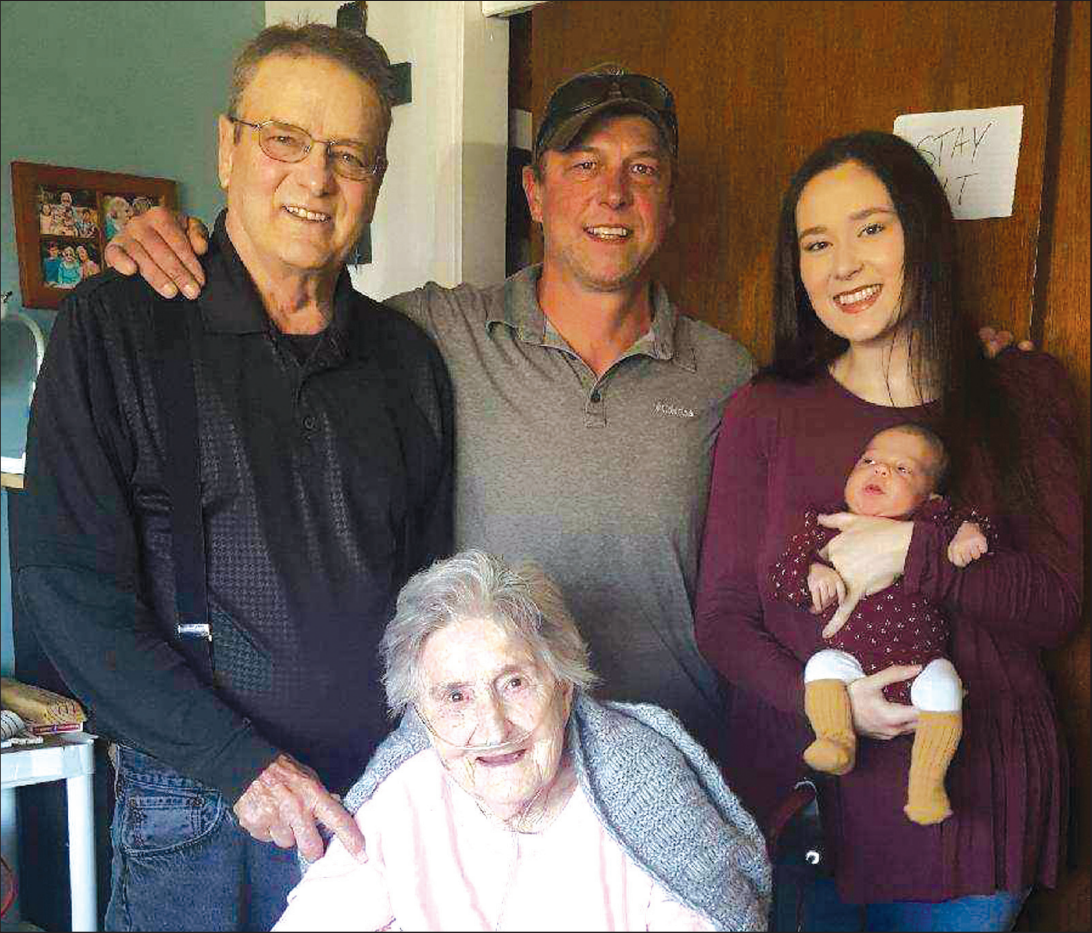
regulation and lower costs associated with building reasonably priced housing.”

Smith said a “three-pronged approach of affordable housing, drug and alcohol treatment and law enforcement will greatly reduce the tragedy of our county’s homeless population.” He added how he “positively supports” the county’s community organizations that help people end their substance addictions.

“I’m also a strong supporter of business, both small and large, and I’ll do everything possible to reduce regulations and streamline developments that create jobs.”

SEE SMITH ON A-8

Five generations of Millers!





Write In!

MICHELLE BINKER

State Representative District 3

Principled, Steadfast Leadership
Reliable, Responsive Representation



Paid for by Friends of Michelle Binker 560A NE F St. #516 GP, OR 97526 michellebinker.com

Audrey F. Miller along with her late husband Ursal L. Miller had 13 children resulting in 63 grandchildren, 114 great-grandchildren and now six great-great-grandchildren.

Baby Octavia R. Sao is the daughter of Amanda R. Miller.

Pictured is the proud grandfather Ursal J. Miller (left) Jimmy J Miller, Amanda Miller, Octavia Sao and Audrey Miller (bottom center).

(Photo and caption were submitted as a courtesy to the *Illinois Valley News*)



WILL STAY OPEN!
TO GO ORDERS ONLY
Curbside carry out

Regular Hours
Carlos's 11 am - 9 pm
CJ Coffee 7 am - 7 pm



The **HOLE IN "1" Cafe**

Fresh Soups made daily
Homemade pies by order
Daily Specials
Take out only

Winter Hours
Tuesday - Sunday
8 am - 3 pm
(Closed Monday)

I.V. Golf Club
541-592-3525
25320 Redwood Hwy

Open to Public

Sportsman Tavern

145 Redwood Hwy, Cave Junction, OR 97523
(541) 592-6663



While Sportsman Tavern is closed we are taking the opportunity to deep clean and remodel.

Thank you
to all of our loyal customers!

The SPOT

Closed until further notice

541-592-5220

No LIVE MUSIC

DELI IS OPEN

CURBSIDE SERVICE
AVAILABLE FOR
TAKEOUT
CALL

541-592-5358

Taylor's Country Store



No live music
NO DINING
TAKEOUT ONLY

Call 541-592-3556

Sportsman Tavern

CLOSED FOR NOW

BUSY
DEEP CLEANING
&
REMODELING
FOR OUR LOYAL
CUSTOMERS

KXCJ
105.7 FM
Valley News & Views
Tuesdays
6 - 7 p.m.

streaming at www.kxcj.org

Closed until further notice

@ McGrew's!

Call
541-596-2202