

From the mayor’s desk: by Meadow Martell



City of Cave Junction update:

I’d like to start with a big “shout out” to everyone who helped make the free mask give away at the I.V. Family Coalition successful: Emily Ring, County Emergency Management; Karen Yanase and Hazel Griffith, I.V. Family Coalition; Kenny Houck, IVCDO; and Joe Latva, Garrett Goo and Chief John Holmes, I.V. Fire District. In two hours, about 5,000 KN95 masks were distributed during the well-organized drive-by hand out. It was a smooth, safe operation and a great example of our community working together.

In other corona virus related items, the city of Cave Junction continues to explore safe ways to open the Jubilee Park playground. Parks and Recreation Commission Chair John Miles has identified a safe, easily applied option for cleaning playground equipment. Now we need to purchase equipment and find the right person to do this twice a day, as required by the Oregon guidelines. The city is also exploring whether other

cities have safely implemented youth sports, such as Little League, and what guidelines they are using.

Other city news: The process for purchasing the golf course property is moving along. Under bankruptcy laws it is a slower, more complicated process. The street upgrade project for this year- new gutters, sidewalk, curbs and overlay at South and North Caves Avenue, is completed. The water plant is finishing an upgrade to a new ultraviolet disinfection system. The Rockydale wells project is inching forward. It is a slower, more complicated process than we anticipated.

The city was not successful in its application for a RARE Americorps position that would have jumpstarted a downtown revitalization program. We are regrouping and restarting implementation plans for the county/city public safety partnership agreement. This match program will provide outside lighting and cameras for down-

town businesses. Stay tuned for more information. The mayor is also looking for businesses interested in starting a Mainstreet Oregon program.

Hot, dry days and fire season is upon us. Power equipment shutdown starts at 10 a.m. and no debris burning. Pay attention and let us keep our community green and safe from fire.

Josephine County, Oregon and the United States are now seeing the impact of what happens when we pretend everything is back to normal in our communities. It clearly is not and will not be soon. Remember, heroes wear masks.

We are a resilient and creative community. I am interested in hearing how you are finding creative ways in these “new” times to safely experience fun, joy, happiness and connection. Please take a moment to share. Email me at meadow.martell@cavejunctionoregon.us.



Life in the Valley of Riches

by Dan Mancuso, publisher

A letter written to a soldier in January 1919 was brought into the newspaper office by a resident. The interesting part to me, other than trying to read cursive writing for the first time in awhile, was that she mentioned schools opening during the Spanish Flu pandemic.

Ness City which is in west central Kansas is about the size of Cave Junction.

The letter states that nearly 60 children contracted the virus when the school reopened. So what, you may ask? Well, it seems we are at a similar crossroad today.

Anyway, I hope you find it interesting. Thank you for picking up this week’s paper, enjoy! ~ djm

Ness City Kans
Jan. 5, 1919
Dear Perry,
Your letters are sure interesting and we were glad to know just where you were. It doesn’t seem possible you are so far away. I hardly realize that you are farther away than Ness for

he has never written quite as often as you. I imagine you will be thinking of coming home if they do let the men have their choice. I hear from Carrie real often she was “all OK” she said in her last letter. I wrote to her twice this week. Papa is getting a little better I think. He sleeps better and the pain is not so bad til toward morning so he rests better. Lea made him a crutch so he can get around the house that way. Nearly four weeks since the rheumatism was so bad has not been out of the house but twice in that time but could be more if the weather was warm and no snow.

Sunday evening

Lots warmer today and the snow is melting off some – Lea and Maude and the children were down for dinner and to visit while Lea and Cal husked corn out of the fodder field so he could feed fodder to the cattle a while – Papa walked over to the barn and back and is eating at the table again. So you see he is better. Begun taking Five Drops. A patent medicine that several people claimed had helped them.

Cal is trying to shoot rabbits this eve they are just about to take this country and everyone is killing them too. They are worth 11 cents at the butcher shop.

The Flu has started up again in Ness City they started the schools in town last Mon. and by Friday there was more than 60 cases they claimed mostly school children (I’m getting sleepy). Our school didn’t begin we were a little to afraid and the roads were so bad I don’t think Lena could get there if she tried for the drifts... We need a letter from Ness -last week he is at Camp Dix N.J. now Edna is at Utica - came home to spend Christmas with her folks. Ness said it made him homesick because he was so far away he didn’t have time to come so he volunteered to stay and let some of the men whose homes were closer go. His address is Lt. Ness J. Maranville 1st Bar 50th Infantry, Camp Dix, N.J.

Did you get your Christmas box? Our mail carrier hasn’t been out on the route for a couple of weeks the roads are so bad and no trains too for about a week at a time I got several Christmas presents Jacks sent me a strap purse Ness and apron and handkerchief. Carrie sent me a doily Grandma sent a plate Harry a vase Lena gave me a box of Perfume.

Our Christmas was just like other days this year. Lea brot Mable. I haven’t sent my letter yet so will write a little more - - There was a train due in Ness City today. It was to leave Great Bend at 3:30 p.m. But I think it hasn’t come yet - - I am glad you have plenty of warm clothes and blankets so you will be comfortable for I try to never think you might be otherwise. There has been some awfully cold weather here several days below zero. I never wrote anything about Rose and baby. At first I didn’t know whether Carrie would or not come of course later I didn’t know much until Aunt Mary came home. But Carrie said she was not a bit like Rose was. I believe everything will be all right and I am expecting everyday to hear it is over with. We had planned to visit them the week they went to Okla. Then the first week in Dec. we made arrangements to go but in two or three days there was so much Flu we gave it up again. And then Papa got sick, if he keeps on getting better I may get to go later on.

A couple of trains came in last night and Calvin is going to town horseback for the mail...Did you get the pictures Lena sent? I knew you wouldn’t get them at Christmas time.

Well Goodbye
With Love,
Mamma
Envelope addressed to
Hosp. Sgt. Perry G. Maranville
Avae. Hosp. #16
American Exprd – Forees

Letters to the editor

Illinois Valley News welcomes letters to the editor.
Please e-mail them to dan@illinois-valley-news.com

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‘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.)

Elected Officials and Use of Masks

In a front page article in the Grants Pass *Daily Courier* from Tuesday, July 14th

we find an article entitled “Brown Urges Elected Officials to Set Good Example on Masks.” Reading down through a continuation page, the article goes on to report on the Commissioners’ Board meeting where the use of masks was further discussed. I want to commend Commissioner Darin Fowler for his quoted statement on the subject which, although qualified, gives support to wearing them. He said, “So if wearing a mask will slow [the spread of COVID-19] down even 10% that’s enough for me to say ‘Well let’s just try that for awhile’”.

Thank you Commissioner Fowler for a science based answer. Unfortunately your colleague, Dan DeYoung, who is running for reelection, seems to care more about politics than science.

Robert Hirling Takilma



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Let’s pitch in and help preserve and maintain the historical integrity and beauty of the Laurel Cemetery.

Donations can be made outright, a bequest, or in the honor or memory of a friend or family members.

Call 541-592-5028 or email just.laurel.cemetery@gmail.com PO Box 424 Cave Junction OR 97523

Save the date

Sundays, July 19 - Aug. 30
Spiral Living Center is excited to share our latest summer offering, a Virtual Skillshare Series! Over the next 7 weeks we will be sharing short classes filmed by Spiral Living Staff and local mentors from in and around the Illinois Valley. Topics covered will be range from permaculture basics to rural living skills and crafts, as always promoting sustainability in its many forms.

Tune in every Sunday at 6 p.m. PST from July 19-Aug. 30 on our public Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/spiralcenter) for a link to view the latest film. Classes are free and will be posted for later viewing. We encourage you to follow up with our teachers and support their work. While we miss seeing your smiling faces at our events, we hope that this series provides newfound connection &

inspiration until we can meet again!

Spiral Living Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization promoting sustainable and rural living skills in the Illinois Valley since 2006. We currently maintain a wide spectrum of community-reliance programs devoted to food security, alternative housing, energy, medicine, labor, transportation, and communication. We have insights and talents to share so please join us in celebrating our diverse, creative community! www.spiralliving.org

Oct. 9
****The 5th annual Upcycle Art & Furniture Cotnest:** Time to get busy. Judging for the 5th annual Upcycle Art & Furniture Ccontest is Oct. 9 at 3:30 p.m. at the Farmers’ Market. Remember – use junk – make something really cool; furniture must be sturdy. Judging

and awards will be given at 5 p.m. You can sell your piece if you would like. Judging will be on creativity. You could win \$500 for 1st place, \$300 for second or \$200 for third.

****JOE’s Place Cave Junction is Open!** NEW LOCATION: On Tuesday May 19, 2020 we will be at our new location behind River Valley Restaurant on Hwy 199 at East River St from 3 - 5 p.m. for youth ages 12 - 20 years old. We cannot use the school district property until they reopen. Any questions, please email roger@joesplaceministries.org.

Ongoing
ATTENTION: The Selma Center Food Pantry is moving to Saturday from 9-10:30 a.m. starting: July 18th.**If you are a volunteer or client, please help us spread the word!

***The Food Bank at Doug Hoskins’ Resource Center/ Assembly of God Church** is still open at 481 S. Junction Ave. in Cave Junction Mondays from 2-4 p.m. **Closed July 27**

***The Illinois Valley Safe House Alliance** after-hours Crisis Line can be reached at 541-415-9367. The new local crisis line will be answered any hours the Safe House is closed. The line will be answered by an advocate who will be able to respond locally, also recognizing the barriers that may come up due to our rural location. For more information contact the Illinois Valley Safe House Alliance 541-592-2515.

Illinois Valley News

Published weekly by I.V. News LLC
Daniel J. and Laura M. Mancuso, co-publishers

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to P.O. Box 1370, Cave Junction, OR 97523

Illinois Valley News is published weekly except the first week of January at 221 S. Redwood Hwy., Cave Junction, OR 97523 Telephone 541-592-2541

Since 1937 periodicals postage paid at Cave Junction, OR 97523 P.O. Box 1370 USPS 258-820

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One year in Josephine County - \$35

One year in Jackson and Douglas counties - \$36

One year in all other Oregon counties and out-of-state - \$43.00

Illinois Valley News does not refund subscriptions. Remainder of subscription will be donated to the charity of your choice.

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

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