

From the mayor’s desk: by Meadow Martell



A reminder about campaign signs, in case you missed any or forgot where they were put. All campaign signs are supposed to be removed within 10 days following an election. This is in accordance with Municipal Code 17.32.040 c (3).

The University of Oregon has contacted the city of Cave Junction about using Jubilee Park for COVID-19 testing. With any luck, we will be hearing from them soon about dates. For people in Group 1A, I hope you took advantage of the vaccination clinics at the Grants Pass Fairgrounds and the Illinois Valley High School this week.

In a press conference, Jan. 22 (www.oregonlive.com), Governor Kate Brown, along with OHA staff, Kaiser Permanente, schoolteachers, and a student from South Medford High School, outlined Oregon’s vaccination program roll out, vaccination schedule and the difficult decision to

prioritize getting our children back to school. Because the current vaccine supply does not meet the current demand, there are no easy answers, just difficult decisions I really appreciate the open information sharing from the Governor and the Oregon Health Authority. The recording of the one hour “live” presentation is worth watching if you want to hear firsthand about Oregon’s approach, not second or thirdhand or Facebook.

A third person in Oregon has tested positive with the variant COVID-19 virus strain originally detected in the United Kingdom. The person has a known travel history outside of the United States during their exposure period. This strain is known to be more contagious. It cannot be stressed enough how important it is that we all continue following COVID safety protocols. The case numbers that determine when Josephine County can move to a lower restriction category are completely in our local hands.

January is Safety Month at City Hall. Steven Bethke, our Public Works Coordinator, is updating safety manuals and scheduling safety trainings for all city staff. Classes, such as fire extinguisher training, falling safety, bloodborn pathogens and handling confined space accidents (for example falling in a hole), are happening.

In other updates, the city has started on the next stage of the Rockydale Wells Restoration Project. Staff is working on the steps necessary to apply for a Community Development Block Grant. This expensive, complicated project will provide another source of drinking water for the city. The Council recently passed an ordinance limiting the digging of new wells inside the city’s water resource protection area. There have been four new applications for construction of homes.

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 wants Bonnie and Clyde to return his trailer

To Floyd and Valerie: I’m beginning my move to Grand Junction, Colorado, soon. You still have my trailer by extortion and I need your Judge and the court Valerie referred to when she said “then I’ll see you in court.” After leaving my front of my house with Floyd in tow. Couldn’t see if you had him by the ear! So, your short period having my trailer as yours after you stole it by extortion a few weeks ago is

about to come to an end. I expect I will have to have the sheriff loan me a couple deputies to assist me to get it out the Bonnie & Clyde of Cave Junctions clutches. And as a bonus. You can pick up the stereo you loaned me when you Stole my Trailer. It has the old metal frame & wooden floored big single axel trailer it had when I retired about 35 years ago, to move to my little piece of paradise on 3080 Dick George Road In fact I happened to have ownership information for the judge why I didn’t a ticket for license plate passing

through a lakeside community at the edges of a large shallow Lake in northern Nevada at a bit over the posted limit of 55 & got stopped by one Nevada’s finest for speeding & an unlicensed trailer. “Gayle” at the DMV in Cave Junction made a copy of the jurisprudence of Nevada saying for my purposes the trailer did not require a license. The Nevada Judge forgave that part of the ticket. All is well that ends well, my longer term ownership of the trailer is established, so Valerie, apparently found not to be a good friend from

Florida, kicked them off the property off Garner and now how lived on another old timers place off Takilma road, another good friend of Floyds’ (like myself) offered hospitality to the two unlikely pair. One other thought came to mind, if the apron strings to get too tangled, the pair will split and Bonnie (Valorie) & Clyde of Cave Junction will be no more! In case anyone spots the big low, wooden floored trailer with a “huge steel, full tail gate, to load & unload small equipment heading to Dave’s for service or repair. Please

ask the person to return it to Dale Brain’s place at 3000 Dick George Road, and park it by the Burn pile out back, where it will be returned to it’s Too Old & Tired owner to play these games of turning day dreams into nightmares of extortion. But this old man to tell all my friends I’ve met in our Cave Junction community, I will love & cherish my memories of all of you (except one notable exception) until my peepers close for the last time!

**Gregory Anderson
Cave Junction**

Obituaries

Ryan P. Petersen, 42, Virgil Blake “Jr” Guess, 51, of Cave Junction, died Jan. 17, 2021 at his home. Illinois Valley Funeral Directors in charge of arrangements.

Richard Eugene Foren, 91, of Cave Junction, died Jan. 21, 2021 at Asante Three Rivers Medical Center. Southern Oregon Cremation Services is in charge of arrangements.

Sebastiana (Betty) Horton Sept. 24, 1925 – Jan. 23, 2021 Betty started life in Manhattan’s Little

Italy as Sebastiana Candela, Sept. 22,1925. She became a seamstress and dressmaker who worked in the garment sweatshops of Brooklyn. Betty married Frank Horton and they raised two boys in Canarsie. She took pride in her service to the garment workers union as a Shop Steward. She enjoyed going to fairs and museums, taking care of her grandchildren and playing bingo. She lived a full life and was a beacon of light for all of her family and friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents Antonia and Salvatore Candela; brothers Charlie and Tony Candela; and sister Rose Paperella.

She is survived by her two sons Stephen

in Tennessee and Greg in Cave Junction.

Johnnie Dean Gibson was born Nov. 22, 1935 in Altus, Okla. to John Henry & Claudean Charlese Gibson. He graduated from Medford High School, class of 1953. In 1955 he married his high school sweetheart, Mary Therese Stewart. Together they moved to San Diego, Calif. where John drove truck as a route driver selling and stocking cookies in grocery stores. After returning to Medford, he worked for United Grocers at the warehouse and later the main office. In 1979 they moved to Cave Junction where he opened Jim’s Sentry Select Market and later Grants Pass Redwood Market, retiring in 2006.

John was a member of the Lions Club and Masonic Lodge both in Cave Junction. John enjoyed country music, movies, golfing, fishing from his boat and hunting. Survivors include son Tom Gibson and daughter Lori Fitzsimmon both of Cave Junction; three grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. He was preceded by his wife Mary Gibson in 2020. Please visit the obituary and sign the family guest book at www.since1928hull.com. Illinois Valley Funeral Directors in charge of arrangements.

Save the date

Feb. 14

****Please join Historic Laurel Cemetery Association for a Valentine’s Day box lunch and gift bag fundraiser. Hosted by Historic Laurel Cemetery Association Sunday, Feb. 14 from 1 – 4 p.m. bid online at the Historic Laurel Cemetery Association Facebook page or bid at the chapel , 1090 Laurel Rd.**

****Register for SUN School Winter and Spring sessions! Grades 1-8. Online. Free. Winter sessions are the four Fridays of February (Winter theme: Constellations!). Spring sessions are four Fridays in April (Spring theme: A Trip Around Our Natural Neighborhood). Visit our Facebook page for the registration links: facebook.com/SunSchoolinIV or contact the SUN School Coordinator, Kaci Elder: SUNSchooAtRusk@gmail.com, 541-363-8806. This is the sixth year of SUN School, a program of Rusk Ranch Nature Center in Cave Junction. Donations are always**

(greatly) appreciated.

Tuesdays

Food Pantry New Hours: Tuesdays 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Cave Junction Seventh Day Adventist Church Reopens its Dorcas/Community Services Center, 265 South Old Stage Road in Assistance to everyone, with no church attendance required. Due to COVID-19 precautions, all food will be pre-boxed. After this crisis, the food pantry staff hopes to return to a “shopping model,” where clients may select the foods they prefer. In the future the CJSDA Community Services Center will also offer clothing, houseware and hygiene items. People wishing to make contributions to this effort, as volunteers or in donations to feed local people, are encouraged to contact Patti Delk at patti47delk@gmail.com or to send a check to the Cave Junction Seventh Day Adventist Church marked “food pantry” to PO Box 330, Cave Junction, OR, 97523.

Wedensdays

****Community Grieving Circles** will be a weekly recurring gathering, every Wednesday starting at 4p.m. we hold space for eachother; to speak our grief and sorrows. We come together, via Zoom, innon-judgment and respect as we uniquely and authentically honor loss in itsmany shapes and forms. By gathering in community, we can make space for ourselves and each other to process and transform our individual grief, together. This will be co-lead by Angela and Michael Franklin, of Crossroads Community DeathCare. We will be utilizing various exercises incorporating meditation, story and ritual. If you would like to participate or have questions please email:crossroadsdeathcare@gmail.com. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81729740383?pwd=blhUSGV6SnhlQWpLZ1JzVFJVaWpJUT09MeetingID:81729740383,Passcode:508391>. Donations welcome, but not required.Paypal email: crossroadsdeathcare@gmail.com.

Ongoing

**** 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.

**** HIV Alliance** offers services in Cave Junction every Monday from noon – 3 p.m. at Immanuel United Methodist Church (across from ShopSmart). Services include: Free and confidential HIV and Hep C testing. Needle Exchange and drop box (all syringes welcome), and overdose response and Naloxone training.

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