

From the mayor’s desk: by Meadow Martell



I returned safe, sound and renewed after a six-day rafting trip on the Rogue River. It was as

beautiful as ever. I put my phone away, took off my watch and just enjoyed the thrills of rafting, the wild azaleas, visiting with old and new friends, setting up camp every night and eating great food. I was sad to hear about the fire at the Galice Resort and the loss of a historic icon on the Rogue River. It is a stark reminder that the element of fire shows no mercy. Please be extra careful this summer.

It is also good to be home. I am always struck with how beautiful it is here and I am excited about the improvements that are in Cave Junction’s future. With the help of

Representative Lily Morgan and the City’s American Rescue Plan funding it looks like the city will be able to expand the bulk water station from one to two stations and move it to a safer location. Cave Junction, and other cities smaller than 50,000, will not receive funding until 30 days after Oregon requests its funding. As of last Friday, Oregon had not yet requested its ARPA funds.

Last week, with the help of Control Systems Northwest, repairs to the water plant’s communication system are up and running again. There will be bugs to work out during the coming weeks but as of

right now we are feeling confident and excited about the work that was done. Also, I would like to give a big shout out to the citizens of Cave Junction for curtailing their water use during the two days we were offline. We noticed a huge water savings during the time we asked everyone to conserve.

This week we are scheduling interview appointments with RARE AmeriCorps members. Candidates and communities will be interviewing each other June 21 -25. The RARE AmeriCorps staff facilitates the decision process. Placement decisions are made by

July 9. Then, Sept. 13 we will have a full-time person for 7 months to help us with: downtown revitalization; organizing a database to identify resources, organizations, agencies, and volunteers that can be matched to vulnerable populations not only for everyday use, but also in case of disasters or emergencies; and finally, work with the council and mayor to begin the process of reviewing and updating the City Charter.

Stay tuned for more information about the Jubilee Park Pavilion dedication during the alumni reunion during the Fourth of July weekend.

Letters to the editor

Illinois Valley News welcomes letters to the editor. Please e-mail them to laura@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.)

To Evergreen School and Three Rivers School District

What school district policy commands the school staff to spray the school playgrounds with carcinogenic herbicide; spraying with chemicals known to cause major illnesses?

Why does the school system continue to poison the children they are paid to care about? Who does not know someone personally who has either autism, cancer or diabetes? All of these illnesses and more are linked with herbicides, especially when exposed during early fetal and childhood development.

Whose interests are being served by the Public School poisoning the very ground where young children are required by law to play? There is nothing like

a good rain to bring up the smell of fresh herbicide.

**Christine Perala Gardiner
Cave Junction**

Reader points fingers

Have you forgotten what Lily Morgan said grow all the hemp you want?

What about the RR-5 ban, This is what drove many to hemp including you Chris Hall Cartels? That seems racist to me.

Whoever it is they are

spending money here

I guess you made your money and can pay the higher taxes you want.

How “questionable” of you. When will this community realize cannabis and hemp keep us financially afloat?

Sure there are a minority of bad apples

Blame the commissioners for their anti cannabis ordinances not the alleged Mexicans.

**Mark Seligman
Selma**

Obituaries

Ronald Lee Johnson, 73, or Cave Junction, died Monday, June 7, 2021 as the result of an automobile accident in Kerby, Oregon.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m., June 19, 2021 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 207 S. Junction Ave, Cave Junction OR 97523 with Military Funeral Honors by the United Air Force Honor Guard. Private interment will be at Eagle Point National Cemetery. Illinois Valley Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

He was born to J. Van Johnson and Jaqueline E. (Warren) Nov. 11, 1947 in Cow-

ley, Big Horn County, Wyo. He was very proud to have served as a missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Germany as a young man. His church service was a lifetime of faithful dedication. He loved music, sang in multiple church choirs, and enjoyed servicing as the choir director.

Having lived in Oregon the majority of his life, Ron graduated from Illinois Valley High School in Cave Junction and graduated in 1966. He loved fishing, camping, hunting and horses.

Ron was passionate about his career as a hearing aide specialist at his business “Senior

Hearing Care” in Grants Pass, and he especially loved his connection with all his clients.

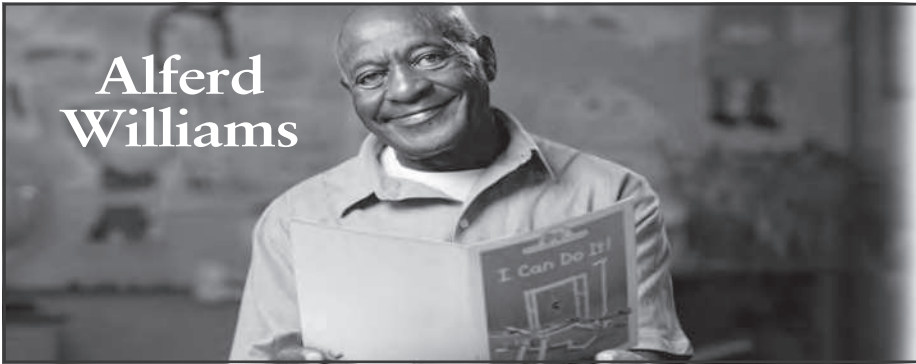
On June 23, 2007 in Cave Junction he married Lynn (Cadman) Boucher. Ron was a very dedicated family man and loved his wife, children and grandchildren.

Ron is survived by his wife Lynn Boucher-Johnson; children Brent Johnson of Tokyo, Japan, Brad Johnson of Springfield, Oregon , and Brian Johnson of Springfield, Oregon; brothers Mike Johnson of Albany, Oregon and Terry Johnson or Provo, Utah, sister Vanita “Vanny” Grundmann; and numerous grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Cave Junction Ward Missionary Fund of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints c/o PO Box 1131, Cave Junction OR 97523.

Memorial Service

There will be a Memorial Service for **Dennis H. Strayer** June 30, 11 a.m. at the Eagle Point National Cemetery. He will be remebered with military honors.



He couldn't read this. Until 70.

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Save the date

June 16

The Southern Oregon Guild of Artists & Artisans invites you to the latest summer class in our Creative Community Online Series. On Wednesdays, June 16 from 5-7 p.m. PDT on ZOOM. Fees are on a sliding scale from \$40 to \$60. Subsidized rate is \$25. Email guild@southernoregonguild.org to inquire about available scholarships. Hand-selected fabrics and banner pattern are provided and included in the price of the class. Materials Pick Up: Monday June 7, from 4-6 p.m. at the Southern Oregon Guild’s Gallery in Kerby, Ore. To register visit us online at www.southernoregonguild.org.

June 23

Math ART Fun (Oh Yes. It IS!). The Southern Oregon Guild invites you to come experiment with us on Wed., June 23, 5-6:30 p.m., to explore how math and art can be linked to enhance creativity. If you struggled with long division and solving word problems, do not let that discourage you! This workshop will help you discover some of the fun math that you typically do not learn in a school classroom but can be applied to many fields of art —notably with both Möbius strips and Mandalas. The event takes

place virtually over Zoom (link provided with registration), and so is open to everyone from ages 10 to 110, near and far. Math ART Fun will be facilitated by experienced teachers Donna Parrish and Ryan Forsythe, who provide the time, space and inspiration for you to find the inner mathematician you didn’t know was there. \$15-30 fee/\$10 for students. Learn more and register online at SouthernOregonGuild.org.

June 25

Dinner in the Vineyard, June 25 at 6 - 8 p.m. Hosted by Rock N R Ranch, 400 Brown Rd, O’Brien, \$40 per person includes dinner, wine and brew. This is a fundraiser benefitting and supporting the youth in the Illinois Vally for the Boys & Girls Club. For tickets please call Jenna Larkin at 541-244-8490 or 541-479-5258, Limited seats available dut to COVID .

SUN School, Rusk Ranch Nature Center’s child-centered experiential nature camp, returns for our 6th summer. We will continue to meet online for 2021, which makes it possible for children to join from outside the Illinois Valley. There are two age-based groups: Dragonfly Circle and Adventure Club.

Cost: Free. Registration is required and space is limited. Register at ruskranchnature-center.org.

Dragonfly Circle (for children entering grades 1-3 for the 2021-2022 school year)
July 6 - 29, Tuesdays & Thursdays 10-10:45a.m.
Online with Zoom

Adventure Club (for children entering grades 4-8 for the 2021-2022 school year)
July 9 - 30, Fridays 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Online with Zoom

Campers will receive a SUN School Box filled with nature and art supplies, a camper t-shirt, and curriculum materials. SUN School Boxes can be picked up Tuesday, June 29 from 12-2 p.m. at Rusk Ranch Nature Center, 27746 Redwood Highway in Cave Junction.

For questions, please contact the SUN School Coordinator, Kaci Elder, at SUN-SchoolAtRusk@gmail.com or 541-363-8806.

Ongoing

****APHOTOGRAPHY CLUB for teens** is forming in Cave Junction! We’ll start with socially-distanced outdoor hikes, to look for great photo opportunities. Future activities

will include indoor editing collaborations, guest speakers, and a photo show and contest. Please contact CJCameraClub@gmail.com if you might be interested in joining us!

****FOOD PANTRY Tuesdays 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.** Cave Junction Adventist/Community Services Food Distribution, 265 S. Old Stage Rd. Volunteers are needed to help stock, date check, sort food, pack boxes and handout food boxes, etc. to volunteer please email cavejunctionacs@gmail.com. **Contributions** can by made out to the CJ Seventh-day Adventist Church and identify that they are in support of the Community Service by writing “CJACS” in the memo section of your check. mail to: Cave Junction Seventh-day Adventist Church PO Box 330, Cave Junction, OR 97523

**** 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.

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