

From the mayor’s desk:

by Meadow Martell



A lot is happening behind the scenes at the Public Works Department. Here are some highlights. City water service has been installed to the golf course. Staff worked with Cameron Camp’s crew to bore a water line from our water main on the west side of Hwy. 199, underneath the highway to the golf course parking lot. The new pipe was connected to the city water main and to the club house. The well, which is not approved for drinking, is going to stay and be used for irrigation around the club house.

The sewer main at East Fork

Circle was accidentally damaged during a construction project and city staff was notified and immediately went to work to repair the break. It was successfully fixed that day.

Work has begun on a new stormwater catch basin and pipe at the end of Wells Drive. Wells Drive currently has only two stormwater catch basins at the beginning of the street. These catch basins only catch about half the streets runoff. This hasn’t been an issue in the past because the remaining runoff ran to the back of the street into the cul-de-sac and onto the empty lots. Now there is a house being built and this storm water would run right into the new construction. The plan is to install a catch basin at the low point in the street and run storm pipe through the backside of the property and into the storm ditch on South Junction Avenue.

The Water Treatment Plant has begun the process of updating the SCADA system (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition), which is a 23-year-old system. SCADA is our centralized system that monitors and

controls the entire process of water production, treatment, storage, and distribution. This is a major system upgrade. Staff and professional consultants are diligently working to make this upgrade as smooth as possible. Unfortunately, parts and equipment availability are an ongoing problem created by pandemic disruption. Fortunately, the city has competent, dedicated staff working on any communication errors between the water treatment plant and other remote sites to keep things running until the SCADA system is operating smoothly again.

The Splash Pad project is also experiencing supply line delays. New equipment for the Pavilion upgrade has been ordered, but delivery is still several weeks out.

Please be safe. Wear masks in indoor public places and get vaccinated. The Delta COVID variant, three times more contagious, is no joke. Josephine and Jackson County hospital beds are now maxed out and staff is stretched thin. A field hospital and National Guard help has been requested from the state.

Obituaries

Amanda Louise “Mand” Pizer, 41, of Grants Pass, died Aug. 8, 2021 at her home.

Hull & Hull Funeral Directors in charge of arrangements.

Sandra Lee Rapisarda, 67, of Kerby, died Aug. 6, 2021 at Mercy Medical Center. Hull & Hull Funeral Directors in charge of arrangements.

Norma “Jean” Beard, 89,



of Cave Junction, died Aug. 1, 2021, at Autumn House in Grants Pass. Jean was born Nov. 26, 1931, in Wilderville, Oregon in a cabin at a sawmill camp where her father worked by Slate Creek along Hwy. 199. When she was a small child her family moved to Cave Junction where her father went to work at the Oregon Caves Lumber Company. Jean went to grade school at the White School House on Caves Hwy. and then graduated in 1949 from Kerby Union High School, the last graduating class at Kerby High. That same year she married Don Beard, they were married 66 years

before his passing. In 1962 they purchased the property of Oregon Caves Lumber Company, where it all started for Jean in Cave Junction. To this day the property is still in the family. Jean was a lifelong resident of Josephine County. Jean is survived by four children, Jerry Beard of Roseburg, Janice Bruner of Cave Junction, Tom Beard of Grants Pass, Lorrie Beard of Cave Junction; 10 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by her husband Don; grandson Kevin DeMersseman; three brothers, Bob, Bill and Jim McKinnon; and one sister, Marge Brown. A Celebration of Life will be scheduled at a later date. A private burial will be held at Laurel Cemetery.

Carla Jacobson Korrell, 55, left this world June 21, 2021. Carla was born Feb. 27, 1966, in Memphis, Tenn. She moved with her family to Cave Junction in August 1972. She grew up in Cave Junction, moved to New Mexico then on to Memphis, Tenn. and finally back to Cave Junction in 1999. Carla married David Korrell. She is survived by her husband, David Korrell, her son Jacob Korrell and her mother, Betty Jacobson, all of Cave Junction. She was preceded in death by her father Carl Jacobson, Jr. A Celebration of Life for Carla will be held Aug. 21 at 5 p.m. at 303 E. Watkins, Cave Junction. Please, no alcohol or smoking. Thank you.

OBITS CONTINUED ON A-6

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.

Reader isn’t happy with commissioners

Josephine County COVID- 19 is now out of control. As county commissioners your failure to promote the vaccine is one of the reasons this virus continues to spread.

Don’t you feel some responsibility to save lives? Why do you not listen to your public health director? It is your responsibility to show leadership and you are failing.

The per capita COVID rate

is highest in Josephine county.

You should have immediately \shut the fair down.

You have that power until the Governor decides you don’t.

It is wrong to make a profit while jeopardizing the public’s health.

At the very least there should be mandatory mask requirements at all indoor events and or proof of vaccination.

Failure to safeguard the public will be like an albatross around your neck which the

voters will remember when first Fowler in 2022 and Baertschiger and Deyoung in 2024.

I ask all citizens to call the commissioners and urge them to listen to Michael Webber public health director.

The result of spiraling out of control covid cases will be a warranted shut down.

We will have no one to blame but ourselves and these elected officials.

Stay wise and be healthy.

Mark Seligman
Selma, Oregon

Save the date

Aug. 21

Saturday August 21, 9:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.

• **The Southern Oregon Guild of Artists & Artisans will be hosting a Watermedia Textures Painting Workshop** taught by award winning Southern Oregon watercolor artist & Guild member, Pam Haunschild. Beginner to advanced painters are welcome! Class fees are sliding scale \$55-\$75, with student rates and scholarship options available. Class will be held in person at our Guild Gallery & Art Center in the Kerby Belt Building at 24353 Redwood Hwy. Kerby, OR 97531. For more information and to register visit www.southernorenguild.org or call 541-659-3858.

Aug. 24

*Tuesday, Aug. 24: **Death Sovereignty/ Advance Healthcare Directives:** A workshop to understand how one can have autonomy through the end of life by utilizing legal documents to help appoint advocates and make healthcare wishes clear. This is especially important to those in the queer community and people estranged from family. 6pm at the Earth Scouts Sky Lodge, 9044 Takilma Rd Sliding Scale \$5-10 email: crossroadsdeathcare@gmail.com

Aug. 27

Friday, August 27 to Sunday 29 • **The Southern Oregon Guild of Artists & Artisans will be hosting a 3 session online weekend workshop on ZOOM,** Exploring the Unconscious Source of Creativity! IV local newcomer Sophie Traub and her long-time collaborator Lolo Haha, will be offering a playful, healing, and exploratory experience to help you re-discover your deepest

sources of creative energy and motivation. Though the workshop will draw on methods from depth psychology and performance techniques, you don’t need to be a performer, psychologist, or established artist to participate. This workshop is for artists of any medium, people who feel their creativity is dormant, those who want to try something new, who want to connect meaningfully with others, people seeking inspiration, people wanting to play and have fun, and performers interested in strengthening their performance tools. Class Fees are \$60-\$100, and only \$50 for IV residents! Work trade and scholarship options are available. For more information and to register visit www.southernorenguild.org or call 541-659-3858.

Sept. 4, 5 & 6

Lions Club Labor Day Festival Friday Sept. 4 - Monday, Sept. 6. Monday, Sept. 6 is the Labor Day Parade at 10 a.m.

Sept. 9

Campfire with the Caves: Winter Adaptations of Flora & Fauna, 6 – 7:30 p.m., free and family friendly, Join NPS Ranger Pam Conner at Siskiyou Field Institute, 1241 Illinois River Rd, Selma, to learn how life is preparing right now, and how these plans can set the stage for the renewal of spring.

Sept. 19

Historic Laurel Cemetery board meeting at the the Lions Club building Sunday, Sept. 19 at 3 p.m.

Sept. 25

Historic Laurel Cemetery Clean up Day is Saturday, Sept. 25 starts at 8 a.m. but can come a little later with a rake that fits your hand and gloves. There will be a Chicken BBQ

Oct. 8

***UPCYCLE ART:** Wondering what to do with all that junk? Instead of taking it to the landfill, consider making something special for the 6th Annual Upcycle Art and Furniture Contest! Prizes range from \$50 to \$500 (with categories for kids and adults) and will take place at 24100 Redwood Highway at the Farmers’ Market, October 8th. New this year, come join the trash fashion show! Furniture must be sturdy and clothing wearable. Judging is on creativity and not fine craftsmanship, so think outside the box and make something cool!

Ongoing
Ongoing / Through August 31
****Deadline extended**** Due to low submissions, Cobra Lily: a review of southwest oregon literature & art is again seeking work for the 7th annual issue. Cobra Lily is a print publication celebrating our region. Send fiction, poetry, memoir, essays, regional history, photography, paintings, illustration, and more (don’t feel the need to limit yourself to these genre categories). Deadline is August 31. Email cobralilyreview@gmail.com or visit leftforkbooks.com/cobralily for more information (but if we do not get enough submissions, we will not publish Cobra Lily this year and will reconsider whether we should solicit submissions next

year). *Note:* Past issues are available a the Southern Oregon Guild gallery in Kerby.

****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.

** **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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editor - Laura Mancuso

laura@illinois-valley-news.com

copy editor - C.J. Schatza

classified ads - Laura Mancuso
laura@illinois-valley-news.com

circulation - Laura Mancuso
laura@illinois-valley-news.com

advertising / composition - Dan Mancuso
dan@illinois-valley-news.com

mailroom - Kimberly Potter

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