



Life in the Valley of Riches

by Dan Mancuso,
publisher

Today, I received a phone call from a solicitor attempting to schedule an appointment with me for a security system installation. I politely told her I would take a pass, because I already have

a video surveillance system installed. After I hung up, I started to think about how a security system is only as good as your local law enforcement agency. If you have

no police to show up and no jail to house the bad guys, really, what good is an alarm or video system? How many of you remember 2012 when the Josephine County Sheriff’s Office was decimated by budget cuts? I do, and I don’t want to go back to anything even close to that. I don’t want to go back to the time when I had to take my office’s computer server home every night because downtown businesses were broken into on a regular basis. Do you remember when we didn’t have a post office as it was burned down and when there used to be more people on the sidewalks at 3 a.m. than at 3 p.m.?

Then, once the national media picked up on the lawless community, we became known as a refuge for wanted fugitives across the nation. At one point there was a white panel truck stealing from area homes during the light of day. To add insult to injury, the truck occupants were so brazen they painted a skull and cross bones on the side of the truck, along the lines of the Jolly Roger’s pirate flag. CJ Patrol was formed and private citizens were on the streets at night taking notes about who, what and when, only to provide the information to a sheriff’s office without the staff to follow up. Those were some dark times

here in the Valley, that I wish to never see again. Since the jail levy passed, things have changed like night and day. Sure, it took some time to ramp up and hire good employees, but Sheriff Daniel has done a bang-up job and overall, the public’s trust in the sheriff’s office has been restored. I am writing to ask you to vote “Yes!” on the upcoming renewal of the jail levy. I never want to go back to the pre-levy insanity. Thank you for picking up this week’s edition, enjoy! ~ djm

From the mayor’s desk: by Meadow Martell



I love the change of seasons from summer to fall - the dramatic color, putting summer projects to bed, and getting ready for more down time indoors. In the city we are transitioning from the water plant’s busy season to the wastewater treatment plant’s busy time of the year. Special kudos to the city’s street crew. With all the work being done by companies putting in fiber cable in Cave Junction, the crew has had to repair four breaks -- three water and one sewer. This is on top of one of their busy times of the year with back-flow testing. I am especially happy to welcome to Cave Junction, Rowan Fairfield, our RARE AmeriCorps member. For the next ten months, with the support of the city of Cave Junction and the Ford Family Foundation, Rowan will be working on projects that will help our city and community move forward.

Rowan brings a wealth of experience including a master’s degree from the University of Oregon school of planning, public policy and management, a Bachelor of Arts degree from Willamette University, Salem with a major in economics, and experience as a database analyst. Rowan, who grew up in a small ranching community near Reno, Nevada, has an appreciation for small towns and the wide-open spaces between them. In Rowan’s words, “My goal is to help a community realize its own best vision and version of itself, not impose my own.” The project Rowan is starting with is providing the support and framework for establishing an Oregon Mainstreet organization that will lead our downtown revitalization. The first step will be setting up a meeting in October of a core group of

people interested and willing to put the time in to developing an organization. Rowan is also starting the planning for an approach to setting up a volunteer database. If you are interested in either one of these projects, you can email Rowan at: rowan.fairfield@cavejunctionoregon.us. In a recent article in Business Oregon, Heidi Khokhar, executive director of Rural Development Initiatives, talks about how rural economies in our region have experienced relentless economic downturns and instabilities. COVID has been just one more thing that puts us further back in our recovery. It is time to understand the value of investing in our rural community, bridge our differences, and invest in our people, community, and Main Street businesses to build a strong, sustainable rural economy we can all be proud of.

Obituaries

Dorothy Lavone Bierbower, 1927-2021
On Sept. 27, 2021, Dorothy Lavone Bierbower, 93, went peacefully to sleep and woke up in the loving arms of Jesus. Dorothy was born in Abilene, Kansas Nov. 27, 1927 to Fred and Kathleen Buhler. As a child her family moved from Kansas to Downey, Calif. At the age of 17 she met, and then married, Carroll Bierbower July 5, 1945 when Carroll was serving in the Navy during WW2. After Carroll was discharged, they settled in Downey, Calif.. where her three daughters, Kathi, Elaine and Janet were born. She then moved to Delano, Calif. when her husband was transferred with So. Calif. Edison. There her son, James was born. With another transfer she moved to Newhall, Calif. where her daughter, Lois was born. The last transfer was to Quartz Hill, Calif. What she felt was one of her greatest accomplishments was when she went back to school and graduated

the LVN program at Antelope Valley College. She worked for a time at Kaiser Permanente in Lancaster, Calif., but had to give up nursing due to severe allergies and asthma. She spent many years traveling back and forth from Quartz Hill to Carpinteria, Calif. where she needed the damp air to help relieve her asthma. She eventually moved to Cave Junction to care for her mother. Dorothy loved the outdoors, especially the coast. She also enjoyed working with miniatures and made quite a few displays, including building a miniature house, which she was unable to finish due to illness. Painting was also one of her hobbies and many members of her family have one or more of her beautiful paintings displayed in their homes. Dorothy loved her family dearly, and was completely heartbroken when her only son, James,died in 2007 due to brain cancer. It was shortly after that she started to show early signs of Alzheimer’s disease. Dorothy was proceeded in death by her

son, James Ray Bierbower; her father, Fred Buhler; her mother, Kathleen Mucklow-Bryant; brothers, Irving Leigh Jr. (Laddie), and Robert Buhler; sisters, Diane Webb and Joan Trefethen. She is survived by her husband of 76 years, Carroll Ray Bierbower of Grants Pass; daughters, Kathi Johnson, Cave Junction, Elaine Moore, Grants Pass, Janet Boucher, Colorado, Lois Bierbower, Bakersfield, Calif.; grandchildren, Andrea Richards, Palmdale, Calif., Dan Richards, St. Cloud, Fla., Bryon Richards, Mesa, Ariz., Rick Bierbower, Quartz Hill, Calif., Tim Murphy, Boise, Idaho, Chris Weitz, Phoenix, Ariz., Rebecca Bierbower, Cave Junction and Christopher, who was adopted at birth. Also survived by 18 great-grandchildren and eight great-great-grandchildren, with the ninth due next year; sister, Delores Karns of Fresno, Calif. and numerous nieces and nephews. The family of Dorothy would like to thank the loving and caring staff of Applegate

Memory Care for the exceptional care that she has received for the last several years; also, Signature Hospice who have been with her in these last weeks of her life. A gravesite service was held at 1 p.m., Oct. 6, 2021 at Hillcrest Memorial Park, Grants Pass. Hull and Hull Mortuary of Grants Pass in charge of arrangements. Brother-in-law Don Bierbower officiating. The family will be planning a memorial/celebration of life at a later time. In lieu of flowers, if anyone so chooses, please donate to The Alzheimer’s Association in Dorothy’s name. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her. *Proverbs 31:26-28* **LETTERS ON A-3 & A-10**

Save the date

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!

Oct. 8 & 9
Book Sale Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the library. No set prices, donations welcome. Bring your tote bags, backpacks and wagons. Everything must go! For more information contact Roberta Lee at 541-592-4778. I.V. Branch, Josephine Community Libraries, 209 W Palmer St, CJ.
Oct. 10
***** Holland Roundup - Epic Fun Endurance Run, Sunday, Oct. 10.** Community gathering at the Holland Store!

At 10 a.m. the Epic Fun Endurance Run, followed by live music headlined by The Brothers Reed. The 11-mile run will loop through the woodlands above the Holland Store and gains almost 1,000 feet of elevation over the first half of the race. Cash prizes! Winners in three age divisions plus a raffle for all finishers! Free T-shirts for participants! Advance registration and more information: www.sasquatchwoodspeople.org. Proceeds go to the Sasquatch Woods People, helping to steward the public woodlands of the Holland area.

Fridays in October & November
Join Earth Scouts!, an educational program of Spiral Living Center, for their 10-week Fall Virtual Fermentation Festival featuring local Illinois Valley mentors sharing their knowledge on all things fermentation! Learn how to make your own probiotic drinks, kimchi, miso, wine, sourdough, sauces, cheese, and more! Each 30-minute episode will air weekly on the SLC website on Fridays at 4 p.m. PST from Oct. 1-Nov. 26, 2021. The series is \$5 per video or \$45 for the whole series. SLC members get

\$10 off! Every pre-recorded video comes with an educational PDF for at-home learning. Watch at your own pace and follow along in your own kitchen. Oct. 1: “Introduction to Fermentation” with Jerry Allen of Thistledown Orchards. Oct. 8: Miso with Midori Uehara. MORE TBA! For more information and to purchase the series, visit www.spiralliving.org. Questions? Email us at spirallivingcenter@gmail.com or call 541-450-9886.

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4 P.M. FRIDAYS

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