



Life in the Valley of Riches

by Dan Mancuso,
publisher

Last Friday, a couple of ECV club members (Clampers) and I set out

looking for the lost city of Althouse (near Brown Town in rural Cave

Junction in the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest), with a map in hand given to us by a newspaper reader.

During our expedition, after a long time passed, we began to think we missed the right road and turned around. When we got to the road we thought we wanted to follow, we encountered an old miner; he and his partner set us straight about where we went wrong. With daylight burning we decided to postpone our intended destination for another day. However, we did take a trek down to an old gold mine and a pretty neat old cabin with a wonderful swimming hole.

One can see that it might be easy to get lost on the old logging roads, but apparently if you want to lose

something it's the place to be.

Along the way, we encountered burnt up cars and trash galore. I counted about eight cars dumped in the woods. It was sad to see how some people care so little for our community and forest.

At the above-mentioned cabin, there was a stripped-out Toyota Camry, which, according to a letter in the glove box, at one time belonged to a man from Glendale. During the short trip downhill from the cabin toward a creek, we found a beautiful glen covered in trash. Old tents, water lines and trash cluttered up a piece of paradise.

Somehow, there was a relatively newer-looking travel trailer complete

with a woman and her dog living in it. She claimed she had no idea where all the trash came from. I was more amazed she was able to get a camper in its location, than by the fact she would have to be deaf, dumb and blind to not know how the trash got there.

I saw so many beautiful sights that day; I will always be in awe of the natural beauty we are surrounded by. I only wish my memories of the day were not clouded by the way members of our community trash our woods. Apparently, like how apples don't fall far from its tree, neither does trash.

Thank you for picking up this week's paper, Happy Hanukkah!
~ djm

From the mayor's desk: by Meadow Martell



I hope you had a satisfying Thanksgiving. Celebrations come in many forms. For me Thanksgiving has always meant family time. As someone with very little family left and no one remotely nearby, I am fortunate to have good friends who happily include me in their families. Sharing food with family, of any form, is an experience that satisfies more than just the belly.

Thanksgiving has always been a time for me to remember and give thanks for the many blessings in my life. I am grateful to be the mayor of a city whose public works operators and laborers diligently and meticulously work to keep vital city services running smoothly. The city of Cave Junction is also fortunate to have a competent administrative staff who keep the complicated and intricate gears of

city business running smoothly. It is not an easy job.

I am excited that in our community we have engaged and enthusiast volunteers willing to put time and effort into making our downtown a more vibrant and alive space for businesses, visitors, residents, and our valley. I am grateful and appreciate that I live in a beautiful part of Oregon that has so many things to do and places to see.

I am really excited about the recent news that the city of Cave Junction Community Development Block Grant for the Rockydale well restoration project was approved. This grant administered by Business Oregon (Oregon Business Development Department), provides grant funds to cities and counties to upgrade public infrastructure, develop community

facilities and provide essential services to the workforce and our citizens. Restoring the Rockydale wells will significantly add to the city's existing water rights, increase water availability, and provide a back up for emergencies. The city is very excited about this important upgrade and addition to our city public works infrastructure, and we could not have done it without this grant support.

By the time you read this, it will be December and a time for more celebrations, family and festivities. This December is also the last month of the year 2021. It has not been an easy year and many of us will be happy to see it go. We still have some serious issues that need to be dealt with. The city and our community continue to move forward step by step and inch by inch. That is best any of us can do.

ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Save the date

Dec. 2
Have you ever wondered what it would be like to walk across the Siskiyou Crest to the Pacific Ocean? You don't want to miss this exciting film showing event happening at **Siskiyou Field Institute!** Film: Sagebrush to Sea: A Journey Across the Siskiyou Crest, Selma, Oregon, Dec. 2, at 6 p.m., Siskiyou Field Institute's Deer Creek Center, 1241 Illinois River Road, Selma. Free and open to the public! *Masks Required* More information: <https://siskiyoucrest.com/> or Sagebrush to Sea: A Journey Across the Siskiyou Crest - Home | Facebook . For those who know and love the Siskiyou Crest, this film will give you a new appreciation for the beauty of the region, and for those who have yet to explore the wildest portions of our region, you will be surprised. There is truly no place like home!

Dec. 11
The Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce, with support from Oregon Caves Chevron, Illinois Valley Building Supply, Mary Reynolds Insurance and Grocery Outlet, is pleased to announce the 2021 Community Holiday Event. Bring your children out to see Santa and Mrs. Claus for pictures, goody bags, and gifts! Join us at the Illinois Valley Visitor Center, 201 Caves Highway Cave Junction, on Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021 from 4-7 p.m. and don't forget to have the kids bring their letters to Santa. The chamber does ask that you please practice social distancing during

this event. For more information call Megan at 541-592-3326 or email illinoisvalleycc@gmail.com.

Dec. 18
Illinois Valley Safe House Alliance. Our 2nd annual Christmas for Our Valley Youth event on: Dec. 18, 2021 from 12-4 p.m. All youth of the Illinois Valley, ages 18 and under are welcome. Every child will receive a gift from Santa!! If you would like to participate, please call our office at 541-592-2515 or stop by 103 S. Kerby Ave. to sign up (next to DMV). Signing up is encouraged and will end on Dec. 11 at 5 p.m. This event will be following COVID-19 social distancing guidelines for the health and safety of all who participate. Masks will be required.

Fridays ** 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 Thistle-down 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.

Ongoing
****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 be 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 Tuesday 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.

**** WeThePeopleUnited of Josephine County** will be hosting meetings every Tuesday afternoon @ 2pm in the back room at Wild River Pizza, Cave Junction. New members are welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information email: wethepeopleunitedjoco@protonmail.com

Country Breakfast

1st Saturday of every month
8 am to 11 am

ALL YOU CAN EAT!
Open to the public

\$9 - adults
\$4 - 12 & under

IV Senior Center
520 E River St Cave Junction

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