



Life in the Valley of Riches

by Dan Mancuso,
publisher

Well, here we are in 2022. It's been two years since COVID-19 reared its ugly head. I know a handful of people who died from the virus

and a few others dealing with the long-term effects. Fortunately, most of the people that I know that have had it seem to be doing fine. My wife,

Laura, and I have had both vaccines and the booster, and up until now we were doing well. But over the weekend Laura started to get a cold, which was nothing to worry about. Then, Monday morning comes along and Laura said she couldn't taste her coffee. Needless to say, she tested positive.

Our business has taken a financial beating during the pandemic, but we were both healthy for most of it. Currently, I have closed the news office to the public and I am working at the office alone and Laura is working from home. I am praying that my strict diet of red wine, red meat and peanut M&M's will cause a miracle to spring forth

and I stay healthy.

But let's not dwell on that, 2022 will bring great things to our community. Outside of the political divide that has seeped into the COVID debate, our community is coming together around a common enemy. The people who view cannabis as a miracle medicine and those who still believe it's the devil's lettuce can agree on something. To steal a line from Dr. Seuss, "Lorax, who speaks for the trees and the Once-ler, who causes environmental destruction" have a common enemy - illegal grows and water theft. Our sheriff has made this a priority and we all hope 2022 maintains the momentum of 2021.

In other positive news,

Mainstreet Cave Junction board has formed and will be working on creating a downtown that will attract travelers. The Red Garter is being repurposed into a family friendly and date night worthy location. Taylor's mystery plan will be revealed and create a positive impact on our town. The final piece will be a hotel. Word has it that the Junction Inn will be coming down this year, which will open up space for a hotel chain. As John Heywood put it, "I can see the forest for the trees."

Let's move into 2022 and look for great things. Ya never know, you might just get what you ask for.

Thank you for picking up this week's paper. Enjoy! ~djim

From the mayor's desk: by Meadow Martell



Welcome to 2022. And yes, we are in year three of the Coronavirus pandemic. Just when we thought we understood the basics about the coronavirus, the highly contagious Omicron variant has ushered in a new and disorienting phase. In just a matter of days, coronavirus case counts have shattered previous records in Oregon and hospitalization rates are up again. The good news, if we can call it that, although this variant is a faster spreader, it is less severe. Unfortunately, this might not be as true for the unvaccinated. The best thing we can do at this stage is upgrade our masks and think twice about taking risks.

These uncertain times are also an important reminder that it is family and friends who help support and sustain us. In support of that, I am going to take next week off to visit my only niece on the Martell side and her

new baby in Austin, Texas. I am also looking forward to seeing my brother and sister-in-law who also live in Texas. It has been over five years too long.

In addition to the day to day work the city does to provide and maintain services for residents, there are some exciting things happening in 2022. Thanks to Representative Lily Morgan's help the city has funding to move the bulk water station out of a residential area to a commercial area at the north end of the city. Community Development Block Grants are funding two big infrastructure projects which will begin in 2022- the Rockydale Well Restoration project which will bring the Rockydale wells back on-line to expand the city's drinking water options and decrease our reliance on our Illinois River water rights. The I.V. branch library

expansion will start this year and will include a community meeting space, teen area, safety and security enhancements, new furniture, energy-efficient fixtures, and more. Mainstreet Cave Junction is up and running. Concurrently, the IV Chamber of Commerce is one of eleven cities participating in a Travel Oregon, Destination Ready program. I expect we will see some positive changes in our community and downtown this year. Work has started on a review of the Cave Junction city charter, and we will be looking for a few city residents to participate in a charter review committee. There are other infrastructure projects in the works that I will talk about next time. I am looking forward to working with staff, council, and community members to meet whatever changes and challenges 2022 brings.

Obituaries

Josephine Sauer, 91, of Kerby, died Jan. 1, 2022 at her sister's home.

Arrangements with Hull & Hull Funeral Directors.

Jeraldine U. Nelsen, 91, of Kerby, died Jan. 3, 2022 at her home.

Arrangements with Hull & Hull Funeral Directors.

Betty Jean Heaton, 88, of Grants Pass, died Friday, Dec. 17, 2021 at her home.

She was born Betty Jean Chaffee Oct. 11, 1933 in Ontario, Calif. to William and Ruth (Aldridge) Chaffee. In 1968, Betty moved from California to Cave Junction where she was a line-cook at the Junction Inn and Mr. Bee's Family Restaurants for many years.

Betty loved living in the little community of Illinois Valley where she had many friends and lots of family.

After losing her vision, she moved to Grants Pass to be closer to her doctors and family. Up until six months ago Betty still lived on her own with family coming daily to help.

Betty loved gardening and tending to her yard. She enjoyed reading until she lost her vision, then she began listening to books on tape from the State Library for the Blind.

Survivors include Betty's children, Skip Farley, Stephana Clark, Norm Farley, Penny Martinho, Kevin "Sam" Farley, and Cyndy Farley; sister, Joan Hand of Coos Bay; brother, Rod Chaffee of Elgin; 13 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents; and brothers, Bill, Floyd, Ted and Lee Chaffee.

Betty was blessed with a big family in which all of them became her caregivers at the end of her life.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorial contributions to

the Commission for the Blind State Library or Bristol Hospice.

Former Selma resident, Mary E. Pope, age 91, of Grants Pass, died Dec. 10, 2021 at her home. Arrangements with Hull & Hull Funeral Directors

An avid fisherman and self-made craftsman, **Mark Sean Gilmore, 56**, died Dec. 26, 2021, peacefully in his sleep. Although a failing heart took him away from this world, he now is at peace with our Lord in heaven. Mark is gone from this earth, but his loving heart leaves a beacon of light in his family, friends and anyone who knew him.

Mark enjoyed fishing with his father in Brookings, Oregon for the elusive Chinook salmon. He also enjoyed building things with his hands and power tools; a trait he learned from his father. Many will remember him from the things Mark built but more will remember him for his smile, easy-going attitude and love for reggae music. As Mark would say from a Bobby McFerrin song, "Don't Worry, Be Happy!"

Mark is survived by his daughter, Sabrina Gilmore; grandchildren, Grayson and Zoey; father, David Gilmore Sr.; stepmother, Diane Gilmore; stepfather, James Havel; brothers, David Gilmore Jr. and Troy Gilmore; stepsister, Michelle Harris; half brother, Lance Havel and half sister, Lisa Havel-Matsuno. His cheerful attitude and bright smile will be missed by many more friends.

A celebration of life for Mark will be planned in the Spring.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Community Christian Academy, P.O. Box 127 Cave Junction, OR 97523 in memory of Mark Gilmore.

ComParrot by Bonnie J. Malcolm
Can you spot 12 differences between these pictures?



www.comparrotpuzzles.com © 2022 Bonnie J. Malcolm



Solution: 1. Stripe appears on boy's pants. 2. Snowman's pipe is different. 3. Snowman has extra button. 4. Stripe on boy's vest is colored in. 5. Boy's hat is colored in. 6. Puff of breath on snowman's scarf is different. 7. Bird's wing has moved. 8. Branch on tree has moved. 9. Fringe on snowman's scarf is different. 10. Boy's scarf is longer. 11. Carrot nose is shorter. 12. Snowman's hand is different.

Save the date

Jan. 16
"BRINGING ROSES THROUGH DRAFT & RANGE OF ROSE CLASSES", Janet Inada, Owner Rogue Valley Roses, Consulting Rosarian for American Rose Society
Tip of the Month - Mulching Roses, Trisha Kohut, Master Gardener
2 p.m. at Our Lady of the River Church, 3625 N. River Rd., Rogue River, OR. For more information, call Trisha Kohut, Program Chair, 541-450-1029 or CarolAnne Durante, President 541-471-7091 - Masks required.

Jan. 23
Illinois Valley Historic Laurel Cemetery special meeting Jan. 23, 1 p.m. at Lions Club to vote in new officers. We need everyone to attend.

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 again starting Tuesday,

Jan. 4 every Tuesday afternoon @ 2 p.m. at Ascension Art & Tea House located at 200 Lister Street in CJ. New members are welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information email: wethepeopleunitedjoco@protonmail.com.

**** JESUS PIZZA CLUB**
- Good News Club for Lorna Byrne Students every Thursday, last period, 3:03 - 4 p.m. Non-denominational. For information call Lyn at 541-660-6660 (This club is not part of the Lorna Byrne Middle School curriculum.)

Country Breakfast
Due to holiday Sat breakfast will be Jan. 8
8 am to 11 am
\$9 - adults
\$4 - under 12

ALL YOU CAN EAT!
Open to the public
IV Senior Center
520 E River St Cave Junction

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