

Letters to the editor

Illinois Valley News welcomes letters to the editor.
Please e-mail them to dan@illinois-valley-news.com

POLICY ON LETTERS:

‘Illinois Valley News’ encourages letters to the editor provided they are legible and not libelous or scurrilous. We will also not allow publishing of opinions which are not based in fact, defamatory, or intended solely to mislead and damage reputations. 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 The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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.)

All hate speech is evil.
Is hate speech against Russia any different? Is daily coverage of the civil war in the Ukraine radicalizing true capitalistic mass killing genocide propaganda that is leading to nuclear WWII? Being promoted by mass media propaganda and the leaders of this country. Are we going to have gun control the right to protect your own body is God given. Should we not train all children in self defense not sex to prevent school shootings? Should

we not ban political prisoners, torture and assassination? Banning full auto rifles, tanks, bombs, artillery, missiles and all nuclear weapons to control true government mass killing of thousands and millions of children, women and men! Americans are tired of forever wars and hate propaganda promoted by our leaders radicalizing capitalist mass genocide. We all need a big dose of peace and love even more so, hope! We all want to be proud of our country.

Mark Wichers O’Brien
Dear Editor,
I just wanted to let you know that unfortunately my husband, Ken’s lung cancer has metastasized to his

right lung, spleen and liver...but he is courageous and full of faith, hope and love.
The big Madrone in front of our house died and we had to take it down, but as a constant reminder of Ken’s hope and unconditional love for all, an artist friend James Roddy (photo to the right) carved the stump into a beautiful rugged cross.
Ken and I wanted to thank Illinois Valley Wellness Resources for all the support to those suffering from cancer and their families here in Cave Junction. Our helper Laura Mancuso is an angel, a blessing to us all.
**Kindest Regards,
Linda and Ken McDonald
Cave Junction**



Obituaries

Geraldine Lois Vaught, 81, of Cave Junction, died May 26, 2022 at home.
Arrangements with Illinois Valley Funeral Directors.

Gary Lee Martens, resident of Selma, died at the home he loved after a lengthy illness on May 20, 2022. Gary moved to Selma, Oregon from Lodi, California in 2002.
Gary was born in Lodi, California on February 16, 1949 to Henry Harm Martens and Barbara Elaine Martens. He graduated from Lodi High School in 1967 and was married to Freda Louise Johnson the same year. After graduating high School, Gary entered the Boilermaker Apprenticeship Program attaining Journeyman level in 1974. He worked at locations throughout California until his retirement as a veteran Journeyman Boilermaker. He worked on countless water towers, power plants, and boilers with notable projects such as the New Melones Dam and Rancho Seco Nuclear Power Plant. He was conscientious and respected in his career field. Gary was captured by Oregon’s beauty and people. He was a member of the National Rifleman’s Association, Boilermakers Union Local 549, and the Good Shepherd Church of the Illinois Valley. His hobbies included shooting, camping, trail riding, hunting, NASCAR, reading western novels, BBQ Gatherings (4th of July and at the church), and wood/metal fabrication. Gary was active in the church and loved helping elderly local residents. He assisted with donating and transporting food from the church food bank to local residents in need on a regular basis.
His survived by Freda Martens and sons, Gary Lewis Martens of Galt, California and Gregory Wade Martens of Webster, Massachusetts; grandsons, Marshall Lee Martens and Wade Lewis Martens, both of Galt, California; sisters, Joyce Taylor and Doreen Bean, both of Stockton, California; and brother, Henry Martens of Lodi, California. He is preceded in death by both parents and sisters Doris Ann Martens, Judy Martens, and Betty Lou Martens.
A memorial service was held May 28, 2022 at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of the Illinois Valley. A memorial gathering for Gary’s friends and family residing near Lodi, California will be announced in the near future. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that donations in Gary’s name be made to your local food bank.

~ Poets Portion ~

GUNS IN AMERICA
Our people of America staunchly defend
Their right to bear arms... no need to pretend!
Open your eyes and you will see
Our country is increasingly being riddled by bullets
An ongoing tragedy!

Mass shootings proliferate,
In our schools, workplaces, malls and highways...
From sea to shining sea... people and children being shot
indiscriminately,
as anger
Greed and rage stalk our city streets!
Media reports nearly every day
Another mass shooting, cop killing, mall assault
School attack, nightclub blood bath... Movie theater
massacre...

Copy cat killings
And on and on... it continues!

Watch your back!
We are all under attack.
This senseless violence repeats
Day after day, week after week, month after month
But people will not give up their guns-
Their right to defend
Or constitutionally amend...
To put in place sensible regulation
Protecting everyone
In our brave Nation.

How can we allow this?
We stand idly by while it continues...
Argue and debate
Until you
Just have to wonder and ask – when will enough be enough
And when does the violence and bloodshed end??
2/16/2019
Lori Wright

Cave Junction DMV to close for unspecified time

Staff shortages at Oregon DMV offices are forcing the agency to temporarily reduce business hours at 10 of its 60 field offices and temporarily close six smaller offices.
“As we enter DMV’s busiest time of year with a severe staff shortage, we recommend going online to DMV2U more than ever,” DMV Administrator Amy Joyce said. “Every time you need a DMV service, see if you can get it done at DMV2U.Oregon.gov. We’ve added over two dozen services in the past three years.”
Some services, like adding the Real ID option to your license, must be done in person. Before you go to DMV, make sure your local office is open by visiting the office’s page at OregonDMV.com.
May 31, DMV temporarily closed these offices so that remaining staff can reinforce larger nearby offices:

- Ashland
- Cave Junction
- Lebanon
- Redmond
- Sandy
- Stayton

“We’re preparing for the busiest time of year for DMV by temporarily redeploying staff to fewer offices,” Joyce said. “Lately we’ve been closing offices – without notice – across the state when we don’t have enough staff that day. We need to stabilize the staffing so customers can know ahead of time which offices are open. As we recruit and train new employees, we will work to reopen offices and restore full business hours, and that will take several months at least.”
Drive tests in particular are in high demand in the summer as many teens get a license for the first time. Drive test appointments fill up fast at

DMV, so please consider an approved Oregon testing company. It costs more than a drive test at DMV, but you likely will get an appointment sooner – and maybe on an evening or weekend.
DMV keeps a list of approved third-party test providers here.
DMV Job openings in your area
“DMV has been experiencing the same shortage of applicants for job openings as other employers statewide and nationwide,” Joyce said. “The people working at your local DMV live in your community – and could use your help.”
Apply for a job at ODOT today at www.odotjobs.com - select “Department of Transportation” under the Company menu.
“In the meantime, please be kind and patient to your local DMV staff – they are your neighbors, friends and maybe even family.”

ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS
WWW.SINCE1928HULL.COM
541-592-4110

Save the date

June 4
The Rogue Valley Rose Society will hold its Annual Rose Festival again this year!
Saturday, June 4, 2022, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Josephine County Fairgrounds, Floral Building, Grants PassFREE ADMISSION!
The public is encouraged to bring rose entries between 9 and 10 a.m.for display.Lovely roses to see and smell, vendors offering rose-related items for sale, and experts on hand to answer your rose questions. Join the fun and vote for your favorite roses and arrangements! Raffle prizes announced throughout the day! Check Rogue Valley Rose Society on Facebook for any updates.

****ANNUAL FLEA MARKET SCHEDULED**
The Illinois Valley Senior Center (IVSC) will be holding its yearly Flea Market this year on Saturday, June 4. If you wish to reserve a space (available for \$15.00/1 space or \$20.00/2 spaces), contact the IVSC at 541-592-6888 between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. and ask for Richard Crow who is coordinating set-up. If there is no answer leave a message and Richard will return your call.
June 10 and 11
Dancefarm Oregon & RiverStars Performing Arts present “The Last Feather:” a family friendly, whimsical story for our times told through dance. This performance offers new avenues

of engaging and inspiring our communities to take action. Catch the show Friday, June 10th at OSF’s Green Show in Ashland and Saturday June 11th at the Takilma Community Building. Both performances are at 6:30 PM and are open to the public, no ticket required! Donations are welcome. Read more about the show on Dancefarm’s Facebook page @ dancefarmoregon.
June 18
****Recycled Raft Race at Hathkapasuta River Celebration**
June 18 at Illinois River Forks State Park. Categories include: Fastest, Most Creative, Funniest and more! This event is about ingenuity, creativity and FUN! Free and open to the public Call Jill Talise at 541-

415-6699 for more information Hosted by the CEEN.
****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

**** 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.
**** 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.

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