

From the mayor’s desk: by Meadow Martell



It’s been a busy summer with family, friends, meeting new people, and catching up with old friends not often seen.

Inevitably one of the first questions I get asked is “What is it like being mayor and why do you do it?” My first response, “It’s interesting” and the second response, “It’s challenging, and I like a good challenge.”

Mayors have been around since 14th Century England. All 241 incorporated cities in Oregon have a mayor, from the largest Portland (pop. 668,773) to the smallest Greenhorn (pop. 3). The mayor is the primary spokesperson for the city, elected by the people, and its most visible image. As the leader in the community the mayor shares and portrays the culture, style, ideas, what the city is – and more

importantly what it wants to be.

On a practical level the mayor presides over the elected city council conducting city business including making the city’s laws and regulations. Mayors in Oregon work together and coordinate with leadership of other cities, counties, and the State of Oregon through such organizations as the Oregon Mayors Association and the League of Oregon Cities. The work is important and can be time-consuming. Almost all mayors and their councils in Oregon serve their communities as unpaid volunteers.

The bottom line for me is the mayor is a busy person, an

important person, but important and busy only in the service of the citizens of the community. As well as the many other volunteers and organizations in the community, mayors bring ideas, energy, and wisdom together at the top to make their communities a better place to live, better for all.

Cities are important in our modern world. They are geographic spaces dense with legal, commercial, financial, and even cultural expertise. They allow large populations of individual who do not know each other to live and interact with one another in relative harmony. City government maintains city facilities such as parks, streets and

lights and provides services such as water, sewer, runoff collection, addresses zoning and building regulations, and works with law enforcement agencies.

It is distressing and detrimental to our community when people put out “fake news” about the city of Cave Junction. The latest one I heard is the city was responsible for SOFCU leaving because we wouldn’t allow them to expand. This is patently false and if you participated in the community call with the SOFCU Chairman of the Board you would know that it is not even remotely true.

Please stay cool during hot days and have a good week.

Obituaries Letters to the editor

Antione Hess, age 47, of Cave Junction, died July 11, 2022 at his home. A Celebration of Life will be at 11 a.m., Aug. 6, 2022 at the Family Home, 1836 Laurel Road, Cave Junction. Arrangements with Illinois Valley Funeral Directors.

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

(Editor’s Note: Views and commentary, including statements made as fact are strictly those of the letter writers.)

Dear Editor:
Just wanted to thank you for printing my letter against further taxation.

It’s unfortunate your reporter called my speech”,long-winded”. She makes no attempt to state the reasons I am opposed to additional taxation. If anyone is

“longwinded it clearly was Dan Deyoung who went far beyond my time speaking in favor of more taxes to fund law enforcement.

No mention by the reporter of inflation and seniors on fixed income having an even more difficult time surviving

One can only surmise the reporter is

pro taxation whether it be a sales tax doomed to fail or a taxing district that is permanent.

Let’s not tax ourselves into prosperity.

Let’s vote no and not yield to the scare tactics by local government Cave Junction or the county.

Finally since the cj city councilors want to raise your taxes let’s find willing replacements to truly represent the many near the poverty line and vote the entire board out at the upcoming election.

I am currently gathering a list of those that represent the

seniors, low income etc. so we can have a new council that cares

Please call Mark Seligman _5416601505 or email mseligman1505@gmail.com

Thank you!
Mark Seligman Selma

ComParrot
by Bonnie J. Malcolm

Can you spot 12 differences between these pictures?

Solution: 1. Leaf from tree on book cover is missing. 2. Wheel on chair is missing. 3. Book in pile is colored in. 4. Pen on floor has moved. 5. Note on bulletin board has moved. 6. Crest on hat is different. 7. Hand on book has moved. 8. Window frame has moved. 9. Bottom of shirt is different. 10. Crest on book cover is missing. 11. Stripe on flower pot is different. 12. Book in pile is wider.

ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Save the date

Aug. 14
Illinois Valley Historic Laurel Cemetery
Next board meeting will be Sunday, Aug. 14, 1 p.m. in the chapel.

Oct. 14
Mark your calendar now! The CJ Farmers’ Market and Southern Oregon Guild presents the 7th Annual Upcycle Art and Furniture Contest with Trash Fashion show! First place \$500 plus more cash prizes for all ages! Reuse and repurpose found objects to make a piece of art, sturdy piece of furniture or clothing item! Bring your finished piece to display at the Cave Junction Farmers’ Market Friday, Oct. 14 at 3:30 p.m.. Judging and awards will be given at 5 p.m. Questions?

Contact cjfarmersmarketinfo@gmail.com

Tuesdays
****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** are hosting meetings at Wild River Pizza in Cave Junction, every 2nd Tuesday of the month, from 6-8pm. Our next meeting is August 9th @ 6pm. We are currently running a GMRS Radio net on Monday’s @ 7pm and starting a Ham Radio Group for the Illinois Valley. New members are welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information please 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 Shop Smart). Services include: Free and confidential HIV

and Hep C testing. Needle Exchange and drop box (all syringes welcome), and overdose response and Naloxone training.

Wednesdays
****GAME ON!** Grab a friend, drop in, and Game On at your local public library. Try your hand at a variety of games, including chess, Pictionary, Uno, cards, and BUILDZI, the fast-paced block-stacking game!
Every Wednesday from 4:30-5:30 p.m.209 W Palmer St, Cave Junction. For more information call 541-592-4770.

Thursdays
****Starting July 7** and running every Thursday through August 25, at Jubilee Park Music is on from 6

p.m.- 8 p.m.. The next concerts are 7/14: Circle of Stone (Traditional, Original, & Contemporary Celtic music); & 7/21: Dale & Sharon Hopper- Country Western/Americana

Saturdays
****Take your bottles and cans** to IVCaDo’s Cans for Kids behind the Chevron Station 10 - 2.

Volunteer Opportunities
****Adopt-A-Senior** Volunteers wanted to assist senior and disabled residents in their home with light duty activities and to drive residents to doctor or grocery store. Gift cards are provided for volunteers. Background check and references required call 541-592-9781 or email ivwellnessresources@gmail.com.

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'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.

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