



Life in the Valley of Riches

by Dan Mancuso, publisher

I just had a guy, maybe 40, come in and ask why we were stopping the print product. While he smelled the paper. He said, “You

can’t get this smell from a computer screen.” I laughed and replied, “You can’t swat a fly with a computer either.” Over the past month,

I have been asked if we are stopping our print product, due to social media rumors over our new digital platform. The answer to that is “NO!” We have no plans to quit printing on paper. We will stop printing when a press, ink and paper are no longer available. I repeat, “WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE THE PRINT PRODUCT!”

The reason we added the digital platform to our table was that many younger people like to read on their phone. Also, the business

model of reoccurring monthly subscription payment options seems to be the trend that works well for the up and coming generations.

To be honest it’s something I have fought against tooth and nail against for decades in our industry. When radio came, they said it would kill newspapers. When TV came, they said it would kill radio and newspapers. When the internet came, they said it would kill all three. I am happy to say that all are alive

and well.

But times change and technology forces us to reevaluate things. While the day may come when we don’t print on paper, we will still be disseminating the news. News that has an editorial process, news that is far more accurate than your sister’s boyfriend’s cousin’s mom heard a white tiger on Westside Road last night. And no, there is not a white tiger on the loose. I’m sure they appreciate the free advertising but please don’t call the cat park to ask.

I will end with this: I am very happy many of you were sad, even angry that the print paper was going away; I too am glad it’s just a social media rumor. Trust me, no one will be as unhappy as me when that day comes. But until then, keep reading, swatting flies, lining bird cages, wrapping fish, lighting wood stoves, heck, even house train a puppy. I don’t suggest you try doing any of that with your computer.

Thank you for getting your news from us, no matter what format, enjoy! ~ djm

From the mayor’s desk: by Meadow Martell



For the past 10 months the city of Cave Junction and Main Street Cave Junction have had the good fortune to work

with Rowan Fairfield, a RARE Americorps member. This program, administered through the University of Oregon’s Institute for Policy Research and Engagement, links the skills, expertise, and innovation of higher education with the economic development and environmental needs of communities and regions in the state of Oregon.

Rowan worked with me to get our Main Street Oregon organization, MSCJ, up and running. Just a few of Rowan’s accomplishments: developed an MSCJ website; set up the organization’s goggle docs; acted as the organization’s secretary; walked our downtown main street meeting businesses and keeping them

informed; wrote a grant for MSCJ; participated in the downtown flower planting project; and took the lead on the Oak-Art Transformation project.

In addition to downtown revitalization, Rowan was instrumental in kicking off the review of the city charter. Rowan did a comprehensive comparison of our charter with a League of Oregon Cities model charter. This document was of significant help to the Charter Review Committee. Rowan also designed and painted a beautiful mural on the side of the storage building in the City Hall parking lot.

Rowan will finish the RARE Americorps obligation around

Aug. 12 and is looking for a job that will utilize their master’s degree in community and regional planning. Rowan’s expertise and help has had a significant impact in our community. I will personally miss working with Rowan. If you would like to thank Rowan, their city phone number is 541-415-6767 and email is rowan.fairfield@cavejunctionoregon.us.

The ADA accessibility project is near completion. Cave Junction now has five more intersections with ADA accessible crossings on both sides.

Last weekend I attended the Healing Hearts and Hooves fundraiser at Augustino’s Vineyard with my friend Mo Connolly. It

was a fun time and it felt good to be helping a local nonprofit organization. We have a lot of organizations in this valley doing good work. They can use all the help you give them.

The serious forest fires in Siskiyou County, California close to the Oregon border, are a grim reminder that fire season is upon us. My heart goes out to all the people affected. Please be safe and careful with fire. A disaster could happen here, and it is not too soon to have a plan for you and your family. The website <https://www.grantspassoregon.gov/227/Emergency-Preparedness> has a very helpful “Emergency Preparedness Handbook” you can use.

Letters to the editor

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.)

Price increases

I am writing to inform folks of yet another price increase in our daily lives. As a person living on a fixed-income I feel quite overwhelmed by these changes and have made adjustments to offset some of these new expenses. However, I am concerned about the effects of Southern Oregon Sanitation’s rate increase at the Kerby Transfer Station. While the personnel at the station had to deal with triple the amount of waste due to Marijuana growing over the last couple of years (I am sure they are very pleased to see a decrease in this due to 40% less growing this year) I suspect there will be a rise in illegal dumping due to an almost 100% rise in disposal costs. The people who use the transfer station use it because of

lower costs.

Lets do a comparison. A 65 gallon garbage can which can hold 5, 13 gallon bags, is \$43.80 a month for two pick-ups. I recently paid \$17.50 for 4, 65 gallon cans but I used to pay \$2.50 per can or \$10.00 before the new July 2022 price hike. Last month an 8 foot bed of yard waste in 11 cans with garbage bags on the side cost 18.50. The next week it cost 35.90. In fact, I used to be able to recycle 75% of my garbage before China decided our recyclables were too contaminated (the wrong items recycled) to process. Why is it that American companies do not recycle on a scale that matters? There is profit to be made.

I began burning paper to reduce my garbage load- not good for the air. Some of my yard waste, those items with seeds, used to go to the Kerby Transfer Station. Burning these items did not work. I just ended up seeding my yard waste burn pile. Composting attracts critters. What is a gal to do? More precisely what will other folks do when they encounter the new pricing? Perhaps

unsightly farm garbage will not be disposed of. Perhaps people will have to figure out a budget for cleaning up messes left by others. Southern Oregon Sanitation’s Kerby Transfer Station has a handy-dandy take-home pricing card of the new rates to help you make decisions! You have been forewarned.

**Elizabeth Morris,
Cave Junction**

To the Editor:

I’d like to thank ODOT for visiting our valley Tues Jul 26th at the Belt Building. ODOT presented their study to engage us, the Public, about the safety of Hwy 199. The staff gave us an excellent presentation with displays, showing us some of the complexities of the transportation planning process.

I’m glad to learn that ODOT has now become a “multi-modal transportation agency”. A Senior Transportation Engineer explained to me that this means ODOT now has a policy to provide for non-motorized transportation. Bicycles and pedestrians are important to our

local economy, and also to the State economy.

Perhaps now we can begin to envision being able safely to get around the I.V. on foot or by bicycle, instead of risking our lives, as we do today? Our roads were designed to serve only motor vehicles, not people walking or cycling without an engine.

In 2015, ODOT created for the City of Cave Junction the ‘Transportation Master Plan Update’, which was adopted by the City Council. In 2022, the City has yet to implement the Bike/ Pedestrian trail map that is already approved by ODOT, since they mapped it for us. Now would be an excellent time for the City to revive plans to build the complete Bike/ Ped trail system inside the City.

Perhaps the escalating price of fuel has brought the time when our road system can now make room for people walking and cycling?

Did you know that Hwy 199 is the 13th most dangerous highway in the USA, according to the crash severity/ fatality data? Every

solution to our lethal road system must find new ways to slow down the existing traffic patterns. Sorry, roadsters.

Thanks ODOT, for making our lethal highway your priority. Thank you ODOT, for including public opinion in the process. Let’s make sure that our County Commissioners hear from us about supporting this ODOT process, as it cannot compete for funding without their support.

There is still time to learn about this study, which is not yet complete. The comment period extends until Aug 31. Know that your opinion does matter, so I hope you’ll tap into this process, and share your views about the details presented on the website.

Their web site for your comments is: <https://www.oregon.gov/odot/projects/pages/project-details.aspx?project=R3-P006>

**Christine Perala Gardiner,
PhD
Cave Junction**

ILLINOIS VALLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

WWW.SINCE1928HULL.COM

541-592-4110

Save the date

Aug. 6

Jerry Lamb is turing 80! stop by and wish him well Aug. 6 ffrom noon to 5 p.m.1424 Rockydale Rd.

Aug. 8

Aug. 8 from 3-6pm: The Southern Oregon Guild and the the Hearth present an interactive workshop, “How Stories Can Save Us” with local author Mark Yaconelli on August 8 from 3-6pm at the Guild Gallery & Art Center in Kerby. Learn how to access the power of personal storytelling for creating bridges toward greater healing, understanding, and compassion. Join Mark for this second stop on his Stories on the

Road Book Tour, and receive a signed copy of his new book, Between the Listening & the Telling. For more info and registration, call 541-592-5019 or visit www.SouthernOregonGuild.org.

Aug. 8 & 15

Aglow Monday Aug 8., Angels Responding to Prayer. Monday Aug. 15 Guest Speaker Skip Tyler 10:30 at Fountain of Life, 451 S Junction Ave. C. J.

Aug. 9

WeThePeopleUnited of Josephine County are hosting meetings at Wild River Pizza in Cave Junction, every 2nd Tuesday

of the month, from 6-8 p.m.. At our next meeting, Aug 9th, we will be discussing the UN’s Sustainable Development 17 goals implementing Agenda 2030 and ODF’s wildfire risk assessment map. We are currently running a GMRS Radio net on Monday’s @ 7 p.m. 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.

**Aug. 14
Illinois Valley Historic Laurel Cemetery**

Next board meeting will be

Sunday, Aug. 14, 1 p.m. in the chapel.

Aug. 22-26

Join us for Avalanche Ranch VBS! August 22-26 from 9:00-12:00. Registration 8:30-9:00 FREE Community Bible Church 113 S. Caves Ave. 541-592-3896 8.24p

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.

Illinois Valley News

Published weekly by I.V. News LLC
Daniel J. and Laura M. Mancuso, co-publishers

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to P.O. Box 1370, Cave Junction, OR 97523

Illinois Valley News is published weekly except the first week of January at 219 S. Redwood Hwy., Cave Junction, OR 97523
Telephone 541-592-2541

Since 1937 periodicals postage paid at Cave Junction, OR 97523
P.O. Box 1370 USPS 258-820

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One year in Josephine County - \$40

One year in Jackson and Douglas counties - \$41

One year in all other Oregon counties and out-of-state - \$48.00

editor -Laura Mancuso

laura@illinois-valley-news.com

copy editor - C.J. Schatza

classified ads - Laura Mancuso
laura@illinois-valley-news.com

circulation - Laura Mancuso
laura@illinois-valley-news.com

advertising / composition - Dan Mancuso
dan@itheivnews.com

POLICY ON LETTERS:

‘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.

AP

AP EXCHANGE