

## Bob's Corner

### National Organization of Proper English (NOPE)

MEMO TO: Chief Wordsmith/Moon Base 'Challenger'  
FROM: Field Agent AR-88, Pacific Northwest Sector

Sir: Following is the latest sector monthly report on citations issued for violations under Federal Statute 92-VR --

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\*Based on satellite-based microphones and long-distance photos, we have cited 35,607 persons for saying, "Where's it at?" or uttering similar statements with words including "ain't" for "isn't"; "orientated" instead of "oriented," and not knowing that media and criteria are plural words. A total of 14 municipal officials were cited for not knowing the definition of "et al." or for saying or writing "and etc.," the latter being a violation of the Redundancy Act.

\*Using uniformed NOPE officers of the retail store division, 659 businesses were fined for having signs reading, "In-store specials," listed as Class-B infractions under the "Doesn't Make Sense Ordinance," or for placing apostrophes in plural words. In addition, 1,584 businesses were fined because officers were forced to explain that plurals do not take apostrophes, but are used only to denote possession, or in certain abbreviations or contractions.

\*In the "Miscellaneous Category," we have cited 81,346 persons for not knowing the difference between "expect" and "anticipate," "medium" and "median," and for overuse of "impact" instead of "affect."

\*Plainclothes officers are working diligently to eradicate the problem of people not using proper tenses, mixing singular nouns with plural verbs, and vice versa. (Note: We have fined 677 persons for saying or writing "vice-a-versa.")

It is our hope that by continued efforts, we at NOPE will be able to curtail our efforts. We suggest that grammar instruction at all grade levels be strengthened, and that those not in school classes be directed to undergo remedial education and then have to pass a competency test.

Yours for Good Grammar: *Agent AR-88*

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*Jo Anne Stone, M.S., L. Ac.*

## Illinois Valley News

An Independent Weekly Newspaper Co-owned and published by Robert R. (Bob) and Jan Rodriguez  
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Announcements & Letters  
**3 P.M. FRIDAY**  
(Classified ads will be accepted until  
Noon, Monday with an additional charge.)

**POLICY ON LETTERS:** 'Illinois Valley News' welcomes letters to the editor provided they are of general interest, in good taste, legible and not libelous. All letters must be signed, using complete name, and contain the writer's 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. One letter per person per month. Letters are used at the discretion of the publisher. Unpublished letters are neither acknowledged nor returned. A prepaid charge may be levied if a letter is inordinately long in the editor's opinion.

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## Letters to the Editor

(Editor's Note: Views and commentary expressed in letters to the editor are strictly those of the letter-writers.)

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**Typed, double-spaced letters are acceptable for consideration. Hand-written letters that are double-spaced and highly legible also can be considered for publication. Cards of thanks are not accepted as letters.)**

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### 'Pornography what?' From Mike Motley Cave Junction

Recently in the mail I received what I call my first "Hate Mail." The caption read, "Pornography, The Road To Hell."

I was amazed at this person's view on life. They obviously don't know me well.

It was a three-page letter on Internet computer pornography and how all us "men" were evil, no-good sinners.

The purpose of my response is this. First, I am not one of your "Internet Porn Surfers" and never have I paid one dime for such items on the computer.

Many years ago, when I first got my computer I followed a few pop-ups, etc., but never bought any of the so-called "free memberships."

Now I believe that the "person" who sent this "no return address" letter has a misunderstanding of a business that my partner and I are putting in the valley.

We propose to open an adult novelty and gift shop -- not a porno shop.

There will not now, or ever, be so-called "porno booths" or "porno movie viewing" in our business.

I know there will be people upset about it, and there will be people who are not. I would like to point out when you read the local paper there are many things happening in this valley that people don't like.

We are a fairly small community, but we manage to fill up a whole page of "Police Blotter" every week.

We are not out to hurt anyone. I would think that with all the businesses opening and closing all over town that someone starting a business would get a little support. After all this is America, and just because you do not support my choices does not mean that other's choices too should be condemned.

Freedom of independent private sexual expression in one's own home is not a crime, nor should it be treated as such.

I would like to point out the availability of sexual aids is already in Medford and Merlin. I would also point out that people who think "adult sex or lovemaking" is a crime should wonder where they came from, and where their children came from?

I would guess it was between two consenting adults in most cases.

I hope this helps clear up my issues and the "issue" of "us men" being, or should I say, me, being an "Internet Porn King."

### 'Women in Black' From Lee Paxton Cave Junction

I have never written a letter to a newspaper before, but today was the day.

Recently I was in Downtown Cave Junction and I saw some people dressed in black standing on the corner of Lister Street and Hwy. 199. I was told it is a group of women who stand there in silence with placards and signs. I was also told that their

goal is to protest the decisions that our current government is making in regard to the deployment of U.S. troops to the Middle East and the possibility of war with Iraq.

Having served in the U.S. Army and been deployed a couple of times myself into countries that are far less habitable than ours and having been in situations far less comfortable than we find here in Southern Oregon, I wondered what would prompt such bizarre behavior? It made me angry to see what those people were doing and why. What perspective of the world, and the way our United States compares to that world, do they have?

Don't they know what selfish actions such as protests against our government and our way of life do to the morale of the military, not to mention our citizens and communities?

Don't they understand that their protest weakens our country's resolve and undermines our standing in the international community. At the same time it strengthens our enemy's (the terrorists) resolve and standing.

Don't they understand that now is the time for us to support our government and military through prayer, words and deeds?

I have two sons in the U.S. Army. My oldest son is a sergeant E-7 deployed twice, once to Grenada with the 82nd Airborne at Ft. Bragg and once to the Gulf War.

My youngest son is a 1st lieutenant, who just returned to Ft. Bragg in May from a six-month deployment to a lovely place: Afghanistan.

When I returned home last week a call came from my youngest son (he had been on a 24-hour standby), saying that he would be leaving in a couple of hours for (you guess where, 'cause he couldn't say). He had just come home to say good-bye to his wife and children and give us a call.

I told him about the Women in Black and how angry I felt. His reply was, "Yeah, I know dad, but don't be mad. That's what we do, it's our duty to protect their safety and freedom to protest."

I guess I'd forgotten that, but it reminded me of something that my older son had told me when I asked him why he was going to leave a good job and re-enlist in the Army. His answer was, "In the Army every day I train with men

(Continued on page 3)



**THEATER NO MORE** - The former Ivy Theater, operated by Jack Goldwasser, in Downtown Cave Junction closed for business approximately 20 years ago. The building now is owned by Mike Murphy, who is refacing the front for a simpler look. Murphy plans to use his building for storing various items that he owns.

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**Thursday - April 3**  
**Friday - April 4**  
**4:30 & 7:30 p.m.**  
**Josephine County Fairgrounds Grants Pass**

Josephine County Shrine Club thanks Associated Publishers for their help in printing the Souvenir Program and conducting the solicitation of our 51st annual fund-raiser. The Shrine Club is guaranteed 55% of the gross proceeds. Payments and donations are not deductible as charitable donations.

## Calling all Artisans

Oregon Caves Outfitters invites you to submit your work for jury,

### Sunday, March 30

Jury will take place at the  
**Josephine County Building**  
102 S. Redwood Highway,  
Cave Junction

Pick up jury forms at:  
200 C Lister Street  
Cave Junction  
For more information call 592-2838

Submissions are open to all Illinois River Valley residents. All types of handcrafted products will be considered for consignment, including packaged food items prepared in certified kitchens. All products must be original and produced by the artisan. Products will be selected based on quality of craft, innovation, and suitability for sales at the Oregon Caves Gift Gallery.

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