

# Here, There & Everywhere

**GOLF PRO** - Michael Day is the new golf pro at Illinois Valley Golf Course. He is a class A member of PGA of America and has 43 years of golfing experience. Day's goal is to bring the quality of play back to where it was in past years. He is hoping to have a Pro-Am scheduled within the next two years. For more information or to make an appointment to meet Day phone 592-3525.

**MASTER GARDENER** - The Master Gardener Association will hold its 27th annual Spring Fair on Saturday and Sunday, April 26 and 27 at the Jackson County Expo & Fairgrounds. The association will also hold a fruit tree grafting class on Saturday, March 29 from 10 a.m. to noon at the OSU Extension Auditorium, 215 Ringuette St., Grants Pass. For more information phone (541) 476-6613.

**EQUINE MANAGEMENT** - A free equine management workshop and tour will be held on Thursday, March 27 at Anne Basker Auditorium, 500 N.W. Sixth St., Grants Pass, at 6:30 p.m. Participants will receive useful information about conservation management practices to enhance their livestock's health and land's value. Sign-in will begin at 6 p.m. To register or for more information, phone 734-3143. Register by Tuesday, March 25.

**FLOWER POWER** - OSU Extension Service is offering a workshop, "Growing Cut Flowers," on Wednesday, April 2, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the OSU Extension Auditorium, 215 Ringuette St, Grants Pass. There is a fee per individual or couple. Registration is appreciated. Phone (541) 476-6613.

**GIVING CARE** - Lovejoy Hospice will hold a "Caregiver 101" workshop on Saturday, April 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 939 S.E. Eighth St., Grants Pass. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. Pre-registration is required by Friday, March 28. Phone Lovejoy Hospice at 474-1193.

**KIDS COALITION** - Coalition for Kids is offering a "Becoming a Love and Logic Parent," class on Mondays starting April 7 to May 12 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The classes will be held at Coalition for Kids, 233 S.E. "M" St. in Grants Pass. To register or for more information phone (541) 476-4996.

**SWEETHEART'S BANQUET** - The Takilma Bible Church Youth will host an evening fund-raiser of fine dining, relaxation and entertainment on Saturday, April 12 at 6 p.m. at Takilma Bible Church. For more information and to purchase tickets, phone Rachel at 592-5180

**SPRING BAZAAR** - A Spring Bazaar will be held at Illinois Valley Senior Center on Friday and Saturday, April 11-12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be crafts, candy, candles, dolls, minerals, beadwork and much more. Tables are available. Phone 592-6888 for more information.

**PRIME TIME** - Men's Twilite Leagues at Illinois Valley Golf Club will begin Monday, April 21 and Wednesday, April 23. Those interested in participating need a partner and sponsor and can sign up at the course. Phone 592-3151 for more information.

**GYM DANDY** - Help is sought for gymnast Megan Kanig, 13, an eighth-grader at Lorna Byrne Middle School, who will leave on Monday, March 31 for regional championships in Honolulu, Oahu. Megan, daughter of Jerry and Sherry Kanig, qualified for the U.S. Association of Gymnasts Region II championships during state competition in Portland. She's been a gymnast for four years and has won numerous awards, including placing 14th overall in state competition last year. For her and fellow gymnast Shayna Slate, 15, a sophomore at North Valley High School, to reach the Level 8 contest leading to the regional event is considered exceptional. They are members of the Grants Pass Family YMCA gymnast team, coached by Kevin Tebokey. The Honolulu event will run from April 4-6. The family needs help to send Megan to the competition. Donations can be left at the "Illinois Valley News" office, or phone 592-2497.

**NOTEPAD: Lovejoy Hospice is looking** for volunteer chaplains interested in providing spiritual support to seriously ill patients and their families. Volunteers are trained in such areas as hospice philosophy and working as a team, communication, listening skills and the spiritual issues of death and dying. For more information, phone 474-1193...

**2003 Drug and Alcohol Free Grad Night Party Committee** will meet on Tuesday, April 1 at 5 p.m. in the IVHS library. The next fund-raiser for the Grad Night Party will be a dinner/fashion show/silent auction on Saturday, May 3 at 6 p.m. For more information phone Janie at 592-2116... **J&M Hobbies and Crafts** is moving to the former Four Square Church building in O'Brien. Owner/operator Jeanine Thompson states that all types of classes will be offered. For more information phone 596-2426.

# Letters to the Editor

(Continued from page 2)

They tell us Saddam Hussein may use chemical or biological weapons when we've littered their troops and ours with depleted uranium. They mention words like "terrorism" and "al-Qaeda" in articles about Iraq when no connection between Osama bin Laden and Saddam Hussein has been found; this helps to confuse people who don't read much.

Our leaders warn us of Saddam's weapons of mass destruction when we have the most weapons of all.

Of course we know what he used to have. We sold it all to him. Any credible source says that most of those weapons have actually been destroyed.

Hussein was a much bigger threat in the first Persian Gulf War. And while we pound Iraq, every other country that thinks it might be next on our list is buying up all the weapons it can lay hands on. Better to be North Korea than Iraq.

The fact that Dick Cheney's company in civilian life, Halliburton, got the contract to rebuild Iraq after the first Persian Gulf War, and paid him \$43 million for it, isn't important or newsworthy. And this is the man that was the defense secretary during the first Persian Gulf War.

Oh, but of course, it's not about oil. By the way, have you met the new president of Afghanistan? His last job was as a consultant for an oil company.

Here's a "War: the Movie" trivia question for you. What do Saddam Hussein, Osama bin Laden, the Taliban, and Timothy McVeigh all have in common? Answer: They were all at one time trained and armed by the U.S. government. How many murderers are we going to prop up and then take out again?

And of course, the war on American people by our government of the rich goes on. George and his buddies keep finding ways to rip off the American people and plunge our government deep into debt that we all sacrificed so much to erase over the years.

The rest of us are supposed to get by on wages that have to be supplemented with food stamps because they're so low. Meanwhile, the American infrastructure is slowly falling apart as the money to prop it up is yanked away. How come the rich aren't required to be patriotic and help support the country instead of asking for handouts they don't need? How fortunate for them that we're all too busy watching "War: the Movie" to notice.

I'm also tired of right-wing letters to the editor and Internet postings telling us how grateful we should be to be free to protest and then insinuating that we should leave the country.

Well, I'm glad they're free to say that. I'm also glad that I'm free to say, "Huh! Some freedom!"

What kind of freedom is it when you're only free to agree with what you're told?

**'We're patriots'**  
From Gloria Fiorini  
Cave Junction

As a proud Woman in Black, I read Lee Paxton's letter ("Illinois Valley News" March 19) with great interest. I was particularly bemused by his statement that we know nothing about the military and are doing a disservice to American servicemen.

This belief insults not only us, but millions of American women speaking out for peace, and for the lives

and health of American troops.

Who are we? Personally, I'm a veteran like both my parents, both my grandfathers, and all of my uncles. The father of my children is a veteran, as was his late father. So Paxton can't tell me that I don't understand the military.

(By the way, he should check out an organization called "Veterans for Common Sense." He'll discover that thousands of American veterans, just like me, disagree with this war, because they, too, know the military.)

Who are the rest of us? We're the mothers, grandmothers, wives, and widows of servicemen. We're the daughters, aunts, nieces, teachers, friends and lovers of soldiers, sailors and airmen.

We're the women who put candles in windows and pray in daily, desperate agony for the safe return of our loved ones. We're the women who live out our lives in grief and pride and rage when they don't make it back.

We're the women who take care of veterans when they return to us with their bodies and souls shattered by their war experiences. We listen to their horror stories and grieve with them over the buddies who didn't make it back. We stand beside them as they battle the Dept. of Veterans Affairs over Agent Orange and Gulf War Syndrome. Trust me, we know the military. Sometimes we wish we didn't.

Why are we out there standing vigil? To quote Geoffrey O'Gara and Dan Whipple, writing in the Casper (Wyoming) "Star Tribune," "When you see the nation about to make a big mistake, it seems incumbent upon patriots to at least point it out."

That's right, we're patriots. We love this country, and we see that our government is making a ghastly mistake that will have tragic consequences for all Americans, military and civilian alike.

We're out there because, quite frankly, we believe Iraqi petroleum is not worth the lives of American soldiers like Paxton's sons. We stand vigil because we believe that getting Mr. Bush reelected is not

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**SUPER STUDENTS** - Tom Hewkin, vice principal of Lorna Byrne Middle School stands by March's Students of the Month (rear from left) Spencer Kendall and Elizabeth Bullock, eighth grade and (front from left) Alexis Norriss, sixth grade and Alex Miller, seventh grade. (Not pictured Charlotte Cleary, seventh grade and Robert Warden, sixth grade.)

**Make your home fire safe before the next fire season!**

**Fire Fuel Reduction Land Clearing Thinning Forestry**

**592-3143**

\*Guess who's going to be a 'pair of 4's' March 29?

**Happy Birthday #1 Son!**

*Tony Paulsen*

**ART'S RED GARTER STEAKHOUSE & SALOON**

126 S. Redwood Hwy.  
Restaurant - 592-2892  
Bar - 592-4222  
Dining Room open Fridays & Saturdays 5 to 9 p.m.

Parking in Rear

**TAYLOR'S Sausage COUNTRY STORE**

202 S. Redwood Hwy. 592-5358

**Fresh Pork Dinner Links - \$1.69 lb.**  
**Ham Hocks - .99 lb.**  
**Lamb Shanks - \$1.99 lb.**

**\*\*\*\*\*March Events\*\*\*\*\***

**\*Friday, March 28 - From Seattle on Tour Grace Hearn & Michael Savage - 6 to 9 p.m. Dinner Special: Sushi - \$5 per roll & Satay Chicken \$1 per stick**

**\*Saturday, March 29 - Michael Quate from Crescent City - 12 string guitar - 6 to 9 p.m.**

**\*\*\*\*\*April Events\*\*\*\*\***

**\*Friday & Saturday, April 4 and 5 Dale & the Siskiyou Mountain Boys**

**\*Friday, April 11 - Encore Performance - Mike Selfridge**

**\*Friday, April 18 - Common Ground Christian Rock on Good Friday**

**\*Thursday UBA-Star open mic with Jake Thompson**

**\*DINNERS SERVED\***  
**Thursday, Friday & Saturday - 5 p.m. Prepared by Chef Michael Smith**

**SERVING BEER AND WINE ESPRESSO Open for breakfast 6 a.m.**