Bob's Corner

Continuing with last week's abbreviated story of Bob's Excellent Nostalgia Adventure in San Diego, we find El Jefe sweating and strolling along Tamarack Beach in Carlsbad, thoroughly enjoying the shore birds dashing in jagged formations along the edge of the foaming surf lines. And I had to stop picking up shells and rocks because the weight in my left jacket pocket was causing me to list to port.

I had planned to wear shorts to the beach, but discovered that my white Oregon legs would have blinded everyone, and so wore a light sweat suit instead. Besides lots of sea birds looking for lunch, there were many surfers of many ages, all wearing black wet suits. Close up the surfers all have burned noses, salt water eyes and excellent biceps.

One highlight of my five-day outing (Jan stayed home to take care of our menagerie) was taking my mother out for Mother's Day with daughter Vicki, son-in-law Matt and seriously teething granddaughter, Natalie Emma, coming right up on the 9-month-old mark. We had a good time at brunch, plus I got to visit my mom every day that I was in San Diego, except the day I left.

On my arrival Vicki and Natalie picked me up at San Diego International Lindbergh Field, and we immediately drove to my desired location: Cabrillo National Monument, past the always-impressive Fort Rosecrans National Cemeterv at the end of Point Loma with its ordered rows and rows of white crosses.

Although I was "joking" last week, it's possible that Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, credited with being the first European to set foot on what's now the West Coast of the United States on Sept. 28, 1542, is a relative. I mean, it could be? Right? Right. Anyway, as a young child and even into my 20s I spent many hours at the old Point Loma lighthouse, which still stands, although it's no longer possible to climb the winding staircase to the top from the inside.

The view from the visitor center there, added several years ago below the lighthouse, provides a wonderful view of the San Diego skyline, North Island Naval Station, Coronado and the Silver Strand, and the mighty Pacific Ocean, which lived up to its peaceful name the day I was there.

Another addition, besides the visitor center, is a display in a separate building, providing a look at the men of the 19th Coast Artillery, who staffed Fort Rosecrans from 1936 through '47. There were fears of the coast being attacked, and so two 16-inch guns and a fire control bunker were installed on the seaward side of Point Loma. I remember seeing the concrete and metal enclosures in the hillsides as a boy. But I never knew that those guns could lob their shells nearly 30 miles.

The fort also included a number of 155mm guns, and several guns protecting the mouth of the harbor. The latter weapons consisted of 37mm cannon each with two .50caliber machine guns mounted below. I was glad to finally gain new knowledge about items I had wondered about for the past 50-plus years. The display also included information about camouflage netting that was placed over Pacific Hwy. at the aircraft plants during World War II. I knew about that, as my late dad had worked in one of them, but again it was an eye-opener to read more detailed info.

After getting my fill of the military display, I headed for Vicki's car, where she was feeding Natalie. As I started down the trail to the parking lot, the red-and-gold banner of the 19th Coast Artillery was flapping strongly in the breeze at the top of its pole. I took a long look at my hometown San Diego, recalling many memories, and stopped. Then I stood at attention, faced the banner, and gave it a sharp salute.

(Next week: Bob continues to stumble around his old haunts.)

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Bob Rodriguez, Editor El Jefe

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> **DEADLINES:** News, Classified & Display Ads, **Announcements & Letters**

> > 3 P.M. FRIDAY

(Classified ads & uncomplicated display ads can 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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One year in Josephine County - \$20.80

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letter is inordinately long in the editor's opinion.

published by Robert R. (Bob) and Jan Rodriguez

Letters to the Editor

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

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

> 'No spray' **From Janet Hill Cave Junction**

As a resident of Illinois Valley, I was concerned when I found out recently that there may soon be herbicide spraying on wildlands near Babyfoot Lake.

Apparently there is a spot of spotted knapweed along a U.S. Forest Service road in the

The \$107.5 million budget

Approximately \$31 mil-

However, because of ris-

The majority of funding

Community corrections

for Josephine County was ap-

proved by the county's budget

lion will be allocated for the

general fund when the fiscal

ing personnel costs and a

smaller general fund the

county will face a \$1.8 million

from the discretionary revenue

in the budget was allocated to

the sheriff's office, which re-

received 13.2 percent. The

district attorney was allocated

9.4 percent and the planning

dept. received 8.4 percent.

Public health received 5 per-

year begins July 1.

ceived 48 percent.

deficit.

committee Tuesday, May 13.

JoCo sets initial budget

Onion Camp area, and after the Biscuit Fire, conditions are right for it to spread rapidly and threaten many area wildflowers and rare plants.

The forest service is working on a management program to eradicate the knapweed which includes the possibility of using herbicides (picloram or glyphosate).

I eat area produce and drink well water as do many others in the valley. I know many wonderful families who are raising children here. And of course there is wildlife and fish to be considered. The herbicide situation seems like a frightening threat to the health and safety of myself and my friends.

As I thought further about the situation, my worry gave way to excitement. What a great opportunity to build community. People around here care about their land and

mental departments did not

get any extra funding they

requested during the two day

hearing before the committee.

\$200,000 allocated from the

county's contingency fund to pay for repairs to the Dim-

the building's roof will give

public health employees a new

home after two years of plan-

ning to make the move from a

vices programs were com-

pletely absent from general

Parks and community ser-

The budget passed by a 5-

The final budget is ex-

pected to be adopted by the

end of June after going to the

county commissioners for fi-

neighboring building.

fund allocations.

mick Bldg. in Grants Pass.

The lone exception was

The emergency repairs to

water; it shouldn't be too hard for folks to get together and find a local, grass-roots, nontoxic solution to the knapweed problem. Spotted knapweed has been pulled by hand with great success in many places,

including the valley. If enough people are willing to volunteer, and it wouldn't take a lot, we can offer the forest service a viable alternative to spraying. Isn't our water, health and communities worth a little of our time?

'New beginning' From Mary Lefner, Living Alternatives director **Cave Junction**

Spring is a time when we

see a revitalization of life; the flowers are blooming, we can see baby animals in the fields, and we talk about the kind of garden we're going to grow this summer.

Life is thriving all around

One of our pregnant women has begun labor, and a new life is about to be introduced.

Some days, the most precious sound is a baby's laughter and the most beautiful sight is a baby's smile.

It's great to be part of the welcoming committee -- the joys that are in store for this family and community are immeasurable.

CONE TEN POTTERY



Decorative Tile Making Workshop starts June 4 **Summer Classes start June 24**

> **Clay and Pottery Tools for Sale** 360 Caves Highway 592-4646

The I.V. Lions Club wishes to thank James Zeigler, owner/operator of A thru Z Land Improvements & More and David Potticary for the great job they did in removing a stump for the club. The I.V. Lions recommends you give A thru Z and their new stump grinder a try

Cash strapped governnal approval. JOINT busts GP meth lab

Josephine Interagency Narcotics Team (JOINT) detectives made a dent in Grants Pass' methamphetamine production last week.

JOINT detectives served a search warrant on Thursday, May 15, at the home of Rowen Allen Grisham, 53, of 1761 Rogue River Hwy. unit No. 2 in Grants Pass.

According to JOINT, investigators located and seized clandestine lab equipment and precursor chemicals inside three vehicles owned by Grisham.

A small quantity of methamphetamine was also found in Grisham's apartment.

Grisham was arrested and cited on charges of manufacturing/possession/delivery of a controlled substance, possession of precursors and endangering the welfare of a minor.

JOINT had received and developed citizen information that Grisham had been involved in the manufacture, sales and delivery of methamphetamine which lead to the issuance of the search warrant.

Also living at the location was Grisham's 17-year-old daughter, and wife.

The wife's involvement to this case is being investigated and may result in additional

A special thank you to all who attended the memorial for

and shared their thoughts of her. Thank you to everyone for the flowers, cards, love and support you have all shown me. A special thank you to my daughter, Kathy, for all she has done.

> Sincerely, Ray Buckley

Jan Miles



Know how to do good a little at a time, and often.

ASVAB TEST PREP for entering military Kerby Belt Building 592-2103

Rogue Community College

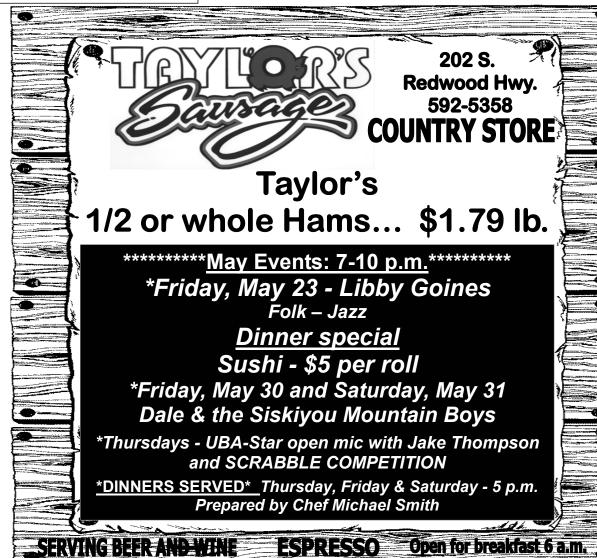


592-3556 Cave Jct. 469-7545 Brookings/

MONDAY, MAY 26 *No classes **TUESDAY, MAY 27** Room 14

THURSDAY, MAY 22 Scholarship Awards Night 6:30 p.m. FRIDAY, MAY 23 *District track at SOSU 11 a.m. **SATURDAY, MAY 24** *District track at SOSU

*Key Club meeting - lunch **WEDNESDAY, MAY 21** *Spring Sports Award Night - 6:30 p.m. *OSSOM meeting - ROTC Lunch



Illinois Valley Blackberry Festival Committee meeting Friday, May 23 - 6 p.m. **Cave Junction County Building**