

Bob's Corner

We talk and write funny.

And I don't mean the use of "goes" instead of "says" although I wish that would go away. What I'm referring to are the sometimes silly, redundant and often incorrect usages of the language we call English:

Use of criteria in the singular. Actually, criteria are plural.

Use of media in the singular. Actually, media are plural too. (And cornbread are square).

Saying or writing that someone needs "orientating." (The word is "orienting." Or depending on the intent: orient or orientation.)

Pronouncing nuclear (new-clear) as nuke-lear. (Nuke-lear is a plot to bomb a play by Shakespeare).

Descriptions such as "long hours." Are there hours longer than 60 minutes? (I understand that the meaning is to convey many hours or numerous, boring hours, but why not say that instead of "long"?)

And what about descriptions including:

*"She threw her hands in the air." (I didn't know that hands were removable.)

*"The team exploded on the field." (BATF should have been called, and it must have been a mess to clean up.)

*"It was a physical game." (Duh.)

*"He had his car stolen." (You mean that his car was stolen because of bad luck, or did he actually have it arranged? Same for people having their homes broken into, or having their legs broken.)

*"It was only just a little tiny bit." (Redundancy is thy name!)

*"The accident occurred north of town." (How far north? Alaska maybe?)

*"An autopsy will be conducted to determine the cause of death." (Why else?)

*"It was a heavy rain." (How heavy was it? More than a pound? Or do we really mean to say that there was lots of rain?)

*"The robber was dark complected." (No such word! "The robber had a dark complexion" is correct.)

*"She was killed in the accident." (Unless someone murdered her during the accident, she actually died in the accident.)

*"A large crowd was expected." (Maybe not. Probably a large crowd was anticipated. And there is a definite difference between expectation and anticipation.)

OK, I'll stop already. Just watch your language. And remember effect vs. impact, etc.

P.S. Have you noticed that members of the media are the only ones who use the word "embattled"? Most everyone else has no use for the word. You'll never hear someone asking a friend how his wife is doing, and hear the friend say, "Oh, she's embattled."

Letter to the Editor

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

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.

'Right to travel'

From Don Schwarz
Stoughton, Mass.

It was lawful to travel upon the public rights-of-way during the time of the Pilgrims.

It was lawful to travel upon the public rights-of-way during the time of the Revolutionary War.

It was lawful to travel upon the public rights-of-way during the time of the Civil War.

It was lawful to travel upon the public rights-of-way during the time of the Spanish American War.

Cave Junction resident Raymond Ronald Karczewski was denied his constitutional right to travel upon the public rights-of-way, even though he paid the very excise tax used specifically to fund the very road he was on.

Am I to believe, that if you pay a "use tax" such as are excise taxes used to fund road construction and maintenance, that you can be denied the use of that which you paid the tax upon, based upon some arbitrary and unproven "license" statute which negates the very tax which has been collected to secure the right of travel?

Pay the use "excise tax," be denied that which the tax you paid was collected so you could use it.

"Oh we're sorry Mr. Karczewski, even though you paid the 'use tax' on the very public right-of-way you are using as intended by the 'excise tax' which you paid on gasoline, oil and tires, you will be denied this right, unless you have purchased a commercial license to use that which you have a right to use under the Constitution and by the fact you paid the 'use tax' on same.

"You see, all users of the public rights-of-way will be considered 'commercial users' subject to licensing laws. Have a nice day."

When did it become unconstitutional and

unlawful, to travel upon the public rights-of-way for all constitutional purposes under the First Amendment right of assembly or by the right that all public rights-of-way exist at taxpayer expense for their use?

Show me the constitutional amendment which has now denied to the American people this right. I'm not speaking of licensing and registering commercial uses of the public rights-of-way for commercial gain, but only of an American's right to travel freely upon the public rights-of-way for all constitutional purposes.

When did the right of freedom of travel become a licensed privilege by a constitutional amendment?

'Final confrontation'

From Tony Corriera
Merlin

The final confrontation between the employees' union and the Josephine County Board of Commissioners will soon come to a head. It appears that our area government's logo "Proud to be the Best," is simply a symbol of a "wolf in sheep's clothing" and it will soon be exposed.

It appears the commissioners for years have been using cryptic ways of doing their budget to deceive the people, the taxpayers in Josephine County. But the recent disclosure of the high wages paid to the department heads and the \$94,118.76 paid to each of the three commissioners should bring it all to a halt.

The new proposed charter will eliminate the constant turmoil and inefficiencies in the spending of our tax dollars. An administrator will provide consistency and financial stability.

It seems we have no confirmation of what our board is doing, or where they are during working hours.

We have one commissioner who doesn't show up for work. He is listed in the week's agenda as having an appointment from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; that is an improper and wrongful act.

One of the other commissioners is listed as being in Salem most of the time.

When there is only one commissioner present in the office, there is no quorum, so there is no business. Something must be done to end the standoff.

(Continued on page 3)

I.V. Volunteer Firefighters to the Rescue

Monday, June 23
*7:06 a.m., 500 block Waldamar, medical assist.
*10:46 a.m., 100 block Airport Drive, med assist.
*10:46 a.m., 681 Caves Hwy. med standby.
*12:08 p.m., 500 block W. River, medical assist.
*12:12 p.m., 681 Caves Hwy., medical standby.
*9:59 p.m., 4200 block Lakeshore Drive, med assist.

Tuesday, June 24
*8:25 a.m., 24500 block Redwood Hwy., med assist.
*11:30 a.m., 10400 block Takilma Road, med assist.
*5:42 p.m., 4600 block Takilma Road, grass fire.
*9:03 p.m., 100 block Norman Road, med assist.

Wednesday, June 25
*10 p.m., 681 Caves Hwy. med standby
Thursday, June 26
*7:12 a.m., 400 block Old Stage Road, illegal open burn
*8:54 a.m., Jubilee Park, med assist.
*1:50 p.m., 37600 block Redwood Hwy., grass fire.

*2:53 p.m., 500 block Arrowhead Drive, med assist.
4:36 p.m., 100 block Twilight Lane, structure fire.

Friday, June 27
*8:25 a.m., 100 block Norman Road, power line problems.
*9:33 a.m., 600 block Crooks Creek, med assist.

Saturday, June 28
*9:02 p.m., Draper Valley/Conrad Drive, med assist.

Sunday, June 29
*6:31 a.m., 200 block Hayes Cut Off, med assist.
*2:42 p.m., 200 block Idlewild Drive, med assist.
*3:24 p.m., 100 block Kerby Mainline, med assist.

*3:42 p.m., 1000 block Daisy Hill Road, grass fire.
*3:54 p.m., 1100 block Waldo Road, grass fire.
*7:29 p.m., 33096 Redwood Hwy., smoke investigation.
*8:05 p.m., 30365 Redwood Hwy., motor vehicle accident.
*9:09 p.m., 222 Ollis Road, No. 26, med assist.
9:15 p.m., 222 Ollis Road No. 76, public assist.

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(Classified ads & uncomplicated display ads can be accepted until Noon, Monday with an additional charge.)
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- John Hassler -

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