

## Bob's Corner

For those unaware, I'm here to advise that besides lots of trees (45 percent of the Beaver State is classified as forestland), Oregon also has plenty of flat land.

Jan and I discovered this on a recent outing to Willamette Valley, during which we never really got lost, just temporarily disoriented. Our aim was to visit friends in Salem, then become tourists and visit outlying areas including Mt. Angel, Silverton, Scotts Mills, Turner and Independence. We also drove through some other communities, but other than signs listing the names and populations, there isn't much to let you know there's a town of sorts.

Of all the towns visited, we liked Mt. Angel best. Not only because of the really cool railroad station and the Mt. Angel Brewing Co. (Angel Beer and Ale Mary are two beverage choices), but because it just appealed to us. Mt. Angel also is the home of a large Catholic enclave, including a monastery and a convent; and a public school with the name St. Mary's.

And the Sunday brunch at the brewery was quite good. I estimate that on white tablecloth-clad tables there was at least 90 feet of food, maybe more. I couldn't eat a lot of it, so to speak, because of my low-fat diet, but there still were plenty of items to satisfy my Sunday appetite. And the root beer, served without ice for the purist in all of us, was excellent.

Sunday also included a Quaker Meeting in Scotts Mills, home of Laura's House of Peace. One of our friends, Peggy, was pastor there in September 1995 when a man used a shotgun to end the earthly lives of his wife and three daughters. It was our friend's task to provide spiritual and temporal guidance for the townspeople after that major emotional upheaval. Establishment of Laura's House of Peace for the abused is one spin-off from that tragedy.

Because of the "privileges" enjoyed by our talented pastor friend, who now ministers statewide, she rang the church bell. It had quite an appeal.

On Saturday we were at Peggy's house with our other good friend, Alivia, who is her ministry partner. The occasion was to help finish a studio for Alivia, who is a composer, singer, guitarist and artist in other fields as well. Then we enjoyed a barbecued meal, and were blessed with a too-brief performance of praise songs by Alivia and her friend, Virgil, on cello.

It was a terrific weekend.

As well, we had a good time at an RV campground behind what I think was a Home Depot near central Salem. Our camper van came in quite handy, and the cost for three nights was less than what we would have spent for one night in a motel or one of those suite places.

It was pleasant to visit friends and enjoy being away from the valley we call home. But as always, it's so good to return with fond memories of good times with our friends; not to mention Orville, Peggy's dad; David, her husband; and Laura, her teen-age daughter.

## 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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**'Heads up seniors'**  
From Lee Currier  
Cave Junction

Please take warning. Don't loan money to friends, because the bankruptcy officials seem to think it's altogether fitting and proper for a 92-year-old man to lose thousands of dollars of hard-earned retirement money.

In the old days, the court of justice would frown on that decision.

I loaned this money to friends to save three home foreclosures. After the loan they assured me that all three places were paid up to date.

Wow! Did I feel great. I saved three homes from being lost. Then, shortly thereafter I found out they declared bankruptcy and there was no equity in the homes. What happened to my money?

I will be happy if this letter will save a few senior citizens from making the big mistake that I made.

**'Library salaries'**  
From George Long  
Grants Pass

**(Editor's Note: The following letter, from Long to Josephine County Commissioners Harold Haugen, Jim Riddle and Jim Brock, was submitted for this column.)**

I live on Kokanee Lane, and have owned my own business for 20 years

on Rogue River Hwy.

I would like to address the fiscal 2003-04 budget. I am not upset about the amount of money budgeted for the library system. I have lived here long enough to see good and bad economic times.

I have seen an owl impoverish families in this county. The way the library director proposes to spend her budget will impoverish employees of this county, employees of the people.

Sue Luce, the director of the county library system, stated during budget hearings and again at the June 18 board of county commissioners meeting that she thought her plan is the fairest way to balance her budget.

Fair to whom? It's not fair to the public, and it certainly is not fair to the library staff.

During both the budget hearings and the commission meeting, Luce was asked if she and her managers were having their budgets cut. In addition, she was asked what their current salaries are.

She steadfastly refused to disclose the salaries. She did tell the budget committee that her managers would take a 10 percent pay cut, but never said anything about herself.

A cut of 10 percent in salary in Josephine County allows the employee to maintain all his or her benefits. Any cut greater than 10 percent causes a loss of all benefits to the employee.

So what are the salaries of the managers?

Luce is paid more than \$75,000 per year.

Dorothy Cook is paid more than \$53,900 per year.

Linda Garrick is paid more than \$53,900 per year.

Cessa Vichi is paid more than \$53,900 per year.

(Continued on page 3)



**FESTIVAL FUND-RAISER** - Geno Kompas (left) and John Bennett (right) lend a hand at a car wash held at CJ Video Mart & Radio Shack, at the corner of Redwood Hwy. and River Street on Thursday, July 3 to raise money for the 2003 Wild Blackberry Festival which will be held Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 9 and 10 in Downtown Cave Junction. There will also be a bingo fund-raiser on Friday, July 11 at 6 p.m. held at the I.V. Grange, 3781 Holland Loop. (Photo by Steve Fairchild)

Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce 5th annual

## CONCERTS IN THE PARK

'Around the Hearth'  
Celtic Band

Jubilee Park  
Thursday, July 10  
6:30 to 8 p.m.

Co-Sponsored by: First American Title,  
Evergreen Federal Bank, SOFCU,  
Lancaster Rolling Video, Century 21  
Harris & Taylor (Jim Frick & Steve Lyons),  
'I.V. News'

\*Next week: 'Salsa Salseros'  
Thursday, July 17 - 6:30 to 8 p.m.  
Jubilee Park

## I.V. Youth Soccer Club

Soccer sign-ups  
Saturday, July 12  
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Jubilee Park

Deadline to register is  
Saturday, July 12

COACHES NEEDED!!!

## MASSAGE THERAPY

Pain - Stress - Injuries  
Deep Massage - CranioSacral Therapy  
Tues. - Sat. by appointment  
Senior Discounts - Gift Certificates

Rachel Goodman, LMT 202 W. Lister - 592-6947

## Illinois Valley News

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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 letter is inordinately long in the editor's opinion.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One year in Josephine County - \$20.80  
One year in Jackson and Douglas Counties - \$24.40  
One year in all other Oregon counties and out-of-state - \$28

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

DOG & DRAFT - \$3

TAYLOR'S  
Sausages

5 to 8 p.m.  
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday  
ONLY!

Growing old isn't  
so bad when you  
consider the alternative.

- Maurice Chevalier -

Senior Nutrition Menu  
Sponsored by

True Value

592-3562

(541) 592-2126, 474-5440  
Meals are served in the  
CJ County Bldg.  
FRIDAY, JULY 11

\*Baked paprika chicken,  
whipped potatoes with  
gravy, glazed carrots,  
cracked wheat bread,  
lemon square

MONDAY, JULY 14  
\*Baked beef rigatoni,  
Italian vegetables,  
pickled beets, seven  
grain bread,  
cherry cobbler

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16  
\*Rotisserie-style  
chicken, Au gratin  
potatoes, seasoned  
carrots, French bread,  
fresh cantaloupe

## Thanks

On May 30, I wandered into the Kalmiopsis Wilderness and got totally lost.

I would like to sincerely thank:

Josephine County Search And Rescue  
Josephine County Sheriff's Office  
Curry County Search And Rescue  
Curry County Sheriff's Department  
Oregon National Guard  
American Red Cross  
Jackson and Lane Counties Canine Corps  
American Medical Response  
Josephine County ARES  
Josephine County Dive Team

I would also like to thank all the individuals who took their time and effort marching up and down those hills trying to find me.

Sincerely,  
One grateful, lucky person  
Tim 'Bob' Yost

