

Bob's Corner

What a difference a century makes. Here are the U.S. statistics for 1903, sent to the editor by his super daughter, Vicki Kaplan, from Carlsbad, Calif.

- *Average life expectancy in this country was 47.
 - *Only 14 percent of U.S. homes had bathtubs.
 - *Only 8 percent of homes had telephones.
 - *A three-minute call from Denver to New York City cost \$11.
 - *There were only 8,000 cars in the United States, and only 144 miles of paved roads.
 - *Most cities had speed limits of 10 mph.
 - *Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa and Tennessee were each more heavily populated than California. With a mere 1.4 million residents, California was only the 21st most populous state in the Union.
 - *The average U.S. worker was paid between \$200 and \$400 per year.
 - *A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2,000 per year; a dentist \$2,500 per year; a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000.
 - *More than 95 percent of all births in this country took place at home.
 - Sugar cost 4-cents a pound. Eggs were 14-cents a dozen. Coffee cost 15-cents a pound.
 - *Most women only washed their hair once a month and used borax or egg yolks for shampoo.
 - *Canada passed a law prohibiting poor people from entering the country for any reason.
 - *The five leading causes of death in the United States were: 1. Pneumonia and influenza. 2. Tuberculosis. 3. Diarrhea. 4. Heart disease. 5. Stroke.
 - *The U.S. flag had 45 stars. Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Hawaii and Alaska had yet to be admitted to the Union.
 - *The population of Las Vegas, Nev. was 30.
 - *Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented.
 - *Mother's Day and Father's Day didn't exist.
 - *One in 10 U.S. adults couldn't read or write.
 - *Only 6 percent of all U.S. residents had graduated from high school.
 - *Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at corner drugstores. According to one pharmacist, "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach and the bowels, and is a perfect guardian of health."
 - *One out of five U.S. households had at least one full-time servant or maid.
 - *Only approximately 230 murders were reported in the entire country.
- Just think what it will be like in another 100 years.

Letters 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.)

'Community comes through'

From Deb Riley
Cave Junction

We want our wonderful community to know, that the Chris Rotin College Fund-Raiser was a success.

We appreciate all the business and community support; especially when everyone is slammed with fund-raiser requests.

The Home Valley bank account will remain open for your continued support. Bless this valley.

'Wildfire'

From Siskiyou Regional Education Project
Cave Junction

The Senate Agriculture passed legislation on Friday, July 25 that guts environmental protections for destructive logging in national forests such as the Siskiyou and Rogue National forests.

The Senate is expected to vote on wildfire legislation, based on the Bush Administration's "Healthy Forests Legislation," in September.

The legislation does not provide fire risk reduction funding to protect communities like Cave Junction, which recently experienced a wildfire at the edge of town that burned several structures including two homes.

The bill (HR 1904) contains language to expand the area where destructive logging can take place without environmental review or oversight, stripping the right of the public to have a say in the management of National Forests.

If passed by Congress, the legislation could lead to an increase in logging of old growth forests on public land.

Bureaucrats in Washington seem to be coming up with excuse after excuse to log in our national forests.

What our communities really need is funding and resources to protect families and homes from wildfires. Backcountry logging will do nothing to help us.

Scientific studies have shown that the best way to protect communities is to thin small trees and brush near homes and buildings not by logging large, fire resistant trees deep in national forests miles away from where people live.

Once again our government seems intent on supporting a small sector of society at the expense of the rest of us. We need responsible governance, not a sell-out to special interests.

According to conservationists, the policy taken by the Bush Administration and many in Congress disregards popular will.

The public has clearly called for an end to excess logging on public lands.

Our forests deserve to be protected for future generations.

'Selma trees'

From Greg Putney
Selma
Early Sunday morning Don Scriven's Tree Service cut the oak trees on the parking lot of the Selma Post Office.

As a tree-care professional and a certified arborist, I am deeply saddened. It has been known for years in our profession that topping hurts trees, causing a future hazard and an immediate eyesore.

The large cuts will lead to rot cavities, and the sucker growth that grows back will be weakly attached to the tree. Ultimately, these trees will need to be removed.

I called Don Scriven and asked if he had ever read anything about arboriculture (the care of the trees). He said "No, he mostly just cut trees down." When I told him what he'd done was an insult to our profession, he told me "go do it yourself..."

Those who need the services of a tree-care professional should make sure they are professionals. ISA certification is a good indication that they are educated in their trade. Any advertisement listing topping as a service should be viewed as questionable. There is more to tree care than a chainsaw and a bucket truck. For more information, people can check www.isa-arbor.com.

'Taxpayer ire'

From Ellis Couron
Cave Junction
There have been continuing problems with Josephine County management and taxes dating back at least 30 years.

Most of the problems had to do with how, and to whom, the Oregon and California Railroad monies were distributed. Instead of looking ahead and really managing those funds, the money was wildly spent on everything and anything, especially salaries, as if there were no tomorrow.

Today we are struggling with the results of that mismanagement and the inability of current management to rectify the problems.

The taxpayers tried to address this problem with a vote to the people to change county management from three to seven commissioners.

Those very same public servants have apparently cried "foul" to Portland. To nobody's surprise

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GIVING LIFE - Tom Morrissey of Cave Junction (pictured in photo above with medical assistant Genevieve Wise) was one of approximately 40 Illinois Valley residents to donate blood on Thursday, July 25 during the American Red Cross blood drive at the I.V. Senior Center. (Photo by Britt Fairchild)

Frick questions CJ council on property prices, parking

Real estate broker Jim Frick has queried the Cave Junction City Council regarding prices set on surplus property, and what the city plans for off-street parking to accommodate visitors.

Frick, from Century 21 Harris & Taylor, addressed the council during its meeting on Monday night, July 28 in city hall.

Frick appeared upset because he submitted a bid of \$20,000 for 1.0 acres on West Schumacher Street, advertised by the council, and received a rejection without a notation as to who rejected it.

Frick asked if anyone other than Mayor Ed Faircloth had seen his bid. It appeared that the mayor took unilateral action.

Faircloth explained he felt that since Frick's bid was less than two-thirds of the asking price (\$30,600) based on assessed valuation, he had the right to turn it down.

Frick said he had expected not only to know who rejected his offer, but to receive a counter-proposal, and got neither "as a common courtesy."

Said Frick, "I felt as though it was thrown back in my face."

He told the council that based on prices of comparable adjoining properties he felt his bid was a good one. In addition, he noted, the recent Daisy Hill Fire burned through the property, and city sewer connection is not available.

After hearing Frick's position, the mayor stated that he and others are "in a learning curve" when it comes to handling some city business.

Frick complimented the council on its downtown beautification and revitalization efforts. But he added that perhaps the city should take a close

(Continued on page 5)

The Wild Blackberry Festival section will appear in the Aug. 6 of 'I.V. News.' Get your ad copy in by 3 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 1. Add an additional \$15 for spot color.

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(Classified ads & uncomplicated display ads can be accepted until Noon, Monday with an additional charge.)
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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
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AREA VENDORS

WANTED!
For the 22nd annual
Wild Blackberry Festival
Saturday & Sunday
Aug. 9 and 10



There will be a blackberry
scavenger hunt, blackberry
baking contest & blackberry hunt.
For more information phone

592-4920

You're invited
To a
20th Anniversary Rock Concert
featuring
Rock Robin and The Toasters
Saturday, August 9th, 8:30 p.m.
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Cave Junction
Dance the Night Away Under the Stars to 80's Rock and Roll!