

Bob's Corner

This was the week that the editor was going to talk about the time he didn't make a wrong turn in Albuquerque, but discovered that the '66 van he was driving at the time was falling apart.

We therefore spent some time and a considerable amount of money having the beast fixed in Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Cross Roads, N.M., as one-by-one, the poor thing lost all its lighting, exhaust system, and generator. But that was a long time ago.

This also was going to be the week that we were going to relate some of our adventures on the I-5 Raceway, as we have discovered some bad places and some good places. Fortunately, the good spots prevail.

However, it turns out that we had to take two of our three cats to our veterinarian on Monday, and that represented an Adventure of the Third Kind. At about the same time, a guy came to clean our carpets, and a gardener showed up to attack our weed patch.

We had all three cats in one bathroom to keep them away from the carpet cleaning. When I opened the door with the carry cage in one hand, they all ran out before I could yell, "Stop, dang it!" Or some other words to that effect. Jan and I managed to catch them all, put "Bubba" back in the bathroom; and dogs "Bingo" and "Rocky" in another bathroom so they also would be away from the carpet cleaning.

Meanwhile, you should know that "Grouchy Gracie" and "Mama Mau-Mau" aka "Maui," go together like hydrochloric acid and water. We had to put them in the same carry cage. It was pretty noisy for a while, then quiet, and we were fearful that maybe they had killed each other.

But no. They were OK. Once in the treatment room I had to hold "Gracie" on my chest and left shoulder, resulting in some interesting cat tracks in my delicate skin. I also had to hold her mouth closed, as she wanted to perhaps decapitate the vet or at least scar him a bit. She also growled a lot during the exam, inoculations and The Cutting of the Toenails Ordeal (for all of us). I got her back in the cage, and was going to retrieve her for an ear exam, but after she snagged my right hand, I wisely decided to leave her alone. For now.

"Maui" did pretty well for the same attention given "Gracie." And they both shed a bunch of hair, as cats do when they're upset.

Finally got them home. The carpet was clean, and weeds were flying left and right. Let the cats in the house, and one of them (we don't know which) went into the guest room and barfed all over the just-cleaned carpet. Gee, I love pets.

WORD OF THE WEEK
 Queue: 1. A braid of hair worn hanging down behind. 2. A file or line, esp. of people waiting their turn. 3. A sequence of items waiting in order for electronic action in a computer system. 4. To form in a line while waiting. 5. To arrange or organize into a queue.
 -Webster's Dictionary-

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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.) ***

'Home saved'
From John Imerti and family
Cave Junction

On Sept. 2, a brush fire started on my property. As I was leaving for work I discovered the fire and phoned 911.

A neighbor had already reported it, and by the time I got outside, a water tender and bulldozer from Rough & Ready Lumber Co. were arriving.

Ivan Cross and Bill Schierer from Rough & Ready had apparently seen the fire and responded.

Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD) and Oregon Dept. of Forestry (ODF) fire crews arrived shortly after them.

I ended up losing an outbuilding, but truly believe that the fast response and immediate work from Cross and Schierer, and the fast work by members of IVFD and ODF, saved our house.

We feel grateful to live in a community with people who are willing to help each other. My family and I give our heartfelt appreciation to Rough & Ready, IVFD, and ODF for their work.

'Sensory overload'
From B.C. Marston
Cave Junction

A little more than a year ago I returned to Cave Junction to retire.

I had owned a business here, but had to leave due to health problems. After returning to CJ, I convinced my sister to leave Southern California and move here.

We have been sharing a place on the edge of the city limits. Nice and quiet.

That all changed on a recent morning when the wooded area full of flora and fauna that borders the

property we are renting, was assaulted by heavy equipment clearing the area for the new I.V. High School Stadium and track.

There goes the quiet, the serenity, and the privacy.

Oh, they say that they will build a fence, but you know how high school kids are, that fence will be torn down and cut through to make a path.

The ones who skip school will not be stopped by fences or doors. There will be an incident. Someone will get hurt.

The expansion was a mistake, and the construction noise is an assault on the senses.

'Help for students'
From Les Lesiecki
Cave Junction

A new school year has begun and some students are looking forward to furthering their education.

No doubt a handful of parents are happy to pass on some of their responsibility to the schools.

The Junior Savings Program is happy to share and promote knowledge of saving and managing money with the younger generation. We have been doing this since 1991.

During school year 2002-03, children transacted savings to \$542. In school year 2003-04 our aims have expanded. We are now officially recognized by the IRS as a public service able to seek public support.

Our new name is Junior Savings Program and Education Trust Inc. The idea stemmed from the fact that not everyone is born with a natural gift of learning and some students must work in order to achieve a passing grade.

We believe it is necessary to extend a helping hand to this group as we desperately need good technicians and craftsmen.

Our appeal is to parents. If in the future they can't afford further education for their children we hope to be able to help with low-interest education loans.

The stipulation is that the loan applicant must participate in program for six or more years.

For more information, phone Les or Pat Lesiecki at 592-2999 or Ed or Theresa Zick at 596-2028.



HARLEY WINNER - A ticket purchased by Central Point resident Virginia Theis was the lucky one drawn from the revolving basket at this year's 31st annual Labor Day Festival and Parade held by the Illinois Valley Lions Club. Theis bought the winning ticket from an I.V. Lions representative during a shopping trip to Wal-Mart earlier this year. She was surprised to learn that her ticket had been drawn and exclaimed that she has never won anything before but always supports the Lions. She is now the proud owner of the centennial edition 2003 Harley Davidson FXDWG Dyna Wide Glide motorcycle that was raffled by the I.V. Lions Club.

(Photo courtesy of Blake Peterson)

Did you find it? The first person to find the 'hidden' palm tree in this issue and physically bring it to the office will receive a free potted shrub (a \$5 value) from Dillon's Nursery & Garden Center.

CONE TEN POTTERY
 FALL SESSION CLASSES (SEPTEMBER 15-OCTOBER 20)
Beginning Adult Kids Parent & Child
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Firing Techniques: Raku, Pitfire & More
 (kids & teens have new class times due to school hours)
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Saturday, Sept. 13 and watch Oscar De LaHoya vs. Shane Mosley beat the crap out of each other!

Medford hospital receives grant to improve facility

The Rogue Valley Medical Center (RVMC) Building On Our Promise fund-raising campaign received a large boost from the Kresge Foundation recently with a \$900,000 challenge grant to the RVMC Rebuild Project.

To meet this challenge, the Building On Our Promise campaign must reach its \$10 million fund-raising goal.

The Kresge Foundation is a private organization that awards grants for projects involving construction or renovation of facilities and major equipment.

RVMC's grant award is the culmination of an extensive application process.

For more information about the RVMC Rebuild, phone (888) 364-RVMC.

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