

## Bob's Corner

No sooner did I return home a week ago last Tuesday night at around midnight, when there were grape juice stains on the ceiling and a broken lamp on the floor.

Yes, it's another cat tale. One more true experience to put in my catalogue, this one because of "Gracie."

I had gotten home after covering the Cave Junction City Council meeting, and writing last issue's "Bob's Corner" and some other drivel. Being thirsty I got myself a glass of grape juice and put it on my nightstand with some books. I had just settled into bed and was reading one of the books (I think the title is "Anger") when Wham, Bam, Ala Kazam!

The lamp was on the floor with the shade knocked off. The bulb exploded on impact. The books were dumped into a huge state of disarray, and there was a large grape juice stain on the carpet next to my side of the bed.

Plus there were grape juice stains on one wall for a good 10 feet, plus stains on the ceiling: 11 feet up. I have no idea how such splashing occurred; you'd have to ask "Gracie."

As near as we can figure, the stupi ... er, energetic cat, leaped from the headboard onto the nightstand, resulting in a tremendous domino effect involving books, lamp and grape juice.

"Bubba" the cat climbed to a ledge from his carpeted cat crow's nest and was trying to "catch" the spots. I guess he thought they were bugs.

As for me, I got a sponge and wiped the walls. Then I got a ladder and cleaned the ceiling. Next I blotted and cleaned the carpet as best as I could. The stain is hardly noticeable now. Unless you know what happened.

Unbelievable. Anyone want a cat?

Moving away from cats (which is what I'd like to do) the recent major wildfire that destroyed so many homes and took lives in my hometown San Diego County stirred many memories.

Not only did I recall our own Biscuit Fire last year, but a similar, less destructive wildfire I covered in San Diego in the mid- to late-'60s. It also began in the Julian-Ramona area and burned for several days. The sky was orange and red during the days, and a creepy glowing shade at night.

We lived in Rattlesnake Canyon in Poway at the time. California Division (now department) of Forestry came by and told us to get our vehicles facing out, and to load them with essentials. We'd have less than 15 minutes to get out if the signal came, we were told. Pretty scary stuff.

In covering the fire, smoke was so thick sometimes that I literally couldn't see more than a car length ahead. I remember firefighters with neon red eyes, their faces streaked with soot. Wow. Glad that's over.

Attending wildfires is not high on my list of social events.

Friends and family in San Diego, including those in Carlsbad and Mission Hills, told us that because of the recent disastrous blazes there are lots of ashes on their houses and in their swimming pools.

We're prayerfully glad they were spared, and we are saddened at the huge losses of life and property there and other parts of Southern California.

## Letters to the Editor

### 'Killing the Messenger' From JoAnne Stone Kerby

I am writing on behalf of Marilyn Theodorff. I would encourage wholeheartedly that any and all charges pending against her be dropped immediately.

Marilyn has devoted 30 years to the welfare of our companion animals. To charge her with animal cruelty is like arresting Mother Teresa for practicing medicine without a license or shutting down a homeless shelter because the building is not to code.

Marilyn is not the enemy. Nor are hungry people or homeless animals. Don't seek to imprison those who attempt to correct the ills of our culture.

Yes, the problem of animal overpopulation is huge. Whose fault is that? The fault belongs to an uneducated, throw away culture and those who don't spay and neuter pets.

Marilyn has been trying for 30 years to correct the problem. What will the animals do without her? Euthanasia is not a solution. Nor is expecting someone else to take care of it, for instance, veterinarians. Most vets I know have done well over the quota of good Samaritan work.

Why is it glamorous and chic to "save the whales" and endangered wildlife? Who saves the starving kittens that are dropped at the animal shelter each day? Marilyn does with money from her own pocket.

Marilyn is an unsung hero to me. The conditions at the shelter may not be perfect. The problem of pet overpopulation is far from under control. Marilyn has brought awareness through her struggle. Let's not kill the messenger.

### 'To the polls' From Robert Reynolds Berkeley, Calif.

Sixteen-year-olds should be allowed to vote. We're at least as well informed as most of the adults I know, and if we can be sent to prison at 16, then we ought to be able to vote.

No one can represent a 16-year-old as well a 16-year-old. We go to school and experience budget cuts and know that our schools could be doing a lot better job of preparing us for life, and yet the adults don't seem all that motivated to do anything about it.

People my age and younger are being punished like adults, being on death row and being thrown into adult prisons. If teen-agers are punished like adults, we should also have the same rights as adults.

Some critics argue that 16-year-olds would vote the way their parents vote. This same argument was made when women wanted the vote. People said that women would vote the way their husbands vote. Has this turned out to be the case?

Even if that was a legitimate point, it should not deny people the right to vote. You cannot deny someone the right to vote just because you fear they might vote a certain way. When black people demanded the vote, the argument was made that the blacks were not smart enough to vote. This argument was based on racial stereotyping and social Darwinism.

In answer to the argument that we're not smart enough to vote, I suggest that it's lunacy to give the vote to the adult equivalent of the cartoon character

(Continued on page 4)

## Artist of the Month



Helen Pesterfield

Helen Pesterfield of Cave Junction is the Illinois Valley Artists Inc. October and November Featured Artist.

After a two-year absence, Helen and her husband, Martin, have returned to Illinois Valley.

Having spent the majority of the last two years in a small RV, Helen said she found it necessary to re-invent her hobby of oil and acrylic painting.

"I knew there was an answer to the 'not so practical' large canvases," she said. So painting miniature canvases became a hobby within a hobby. Helen said she enjoys the challenge of miniatures and says a 4 inch by 4 inch painting often takes as long to complete as a larger one.

Martin is an active member of the Brookings Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Helen and Martin are often in Brookings enjoying their sailboat.

"Fun to sleep on," Helen said. "But sailing is 'Mardi's' hobby. I stay ashore and paint my miniatures."

Helen's miniature paintings are on display at Klamath First Bank in Cave Junction through the end of November.

The I.V. Artists invite interested persons to visit them at the RCC Belt Building in Kerby, have a cup of coffee, and watch them at work. The group meets on Mondays from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Various projects include watercolors, oil and acrylic paintings, duck decoy carving, gourd art, scratchart and occasional soapstone carvings. For more information phone Sandy at 592-3949.

## MASSAGE THERAPY



**Pain - Stress - Injuries**  
**Deep Massage - CranioSacral Therapy**  
**Monday - Friday by appointment**  
**Senior Discounts - Gift Certificates**

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

## Corrections

A statement attributed in the Oct. 22 issue to Jeff Gavlik, interim fire chief for Illinois Valley Fire District, is disputed by Gavlik.

The statement in the page one article read, "Under regulations, all (district personnel) should wear a uniform. I feel it is appropriate for her to look" more like a district employee than she does in civilian dress. (Referring to Beth Beards, administrative assistant.)

Gavlik said that the statement actually was

made by Director Larrick Jones, and that he (Gavlik) feels exactly the opposite to the statement, as long as civilian attire is appropriate.

\*\*\*

In a Wednesday, Oct. 29 story about the Illinois Valley Safe House Alliance Kim Kemper's name was spelled incorrectly.

## Parent / Teacher Conferences

**Thursday, November 6**  
**8 a.m. - Noon**  
**1 p.m. - 5 p.m.**  
**6 p.m. - 8 p.m.**  
**Friday, November 7**  
**8 a.m. - Noon**

Please contact Linda Kent at 592-2163 to arrange an appointment. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## LORNA BYRNE MIDDLE SCHOOL

2003

## Illinois Valley News

An Independent Weekly Newspaper Co-owned and published by Robert R. (Bob) and Jan Rodriguez Bob Rodriguez, Editor El Jefe

Entered as second class matter June 11, 1937 at Post Office as Official Newspaper for Josephine County and Josephine County Three Rivers School District, published at 321 S. Redwood Hwy., Cave Junction, OR 97523 Periodicals postage paid at Cave Junction, OR 97523 Post Office Box 1370 USPS 258-820 Telephone (541) 592-2541, FAX (541) 592-4330

Volume 66, No. 33

Staff: Cindy Newton, Britt Fairchild, Chris Robertson, Steve Fairchild & Becky Loudon Member: Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association

**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

### Senior Nutrition Menu

Sponsored by

**True Value**  
592-3562

(541) 592-2126, 474-5440  
Meals are served in the CJ County Bldg.  
**FRIDAY, NOV. 7**

\*Turkey tetrazzini, green peas & onions, steamed carrots, herb roll, blueberry crisp  
**MONDAY, NOV. 10**  
\*Baked ham with mustard sauce, green beans, winter squash, whole wheat roll, frosted marble cake  
**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 12**  
\*Chicken a la king, whipped potatoes, brussel sprouts, honey bran bread, lemon pudding

### DO YOU HAVE A VISION FOR THE ILLINOIS VALLEY?

Come and work together with your neighbors on projects that can really make a difference. Turn your vision into reality!



Get involved in the

# IVCRT

Come and join us!



**Board Meetings (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of month):**

Board Meeting	County Building	7:00-9:00PM	11/06/03
Workshop Meeting	County Building	7:00-9:00PM	11/20/03

**Committee Meetings (Held throughout the month, subject to change):**

Quality of Life	Family Resource Center	5:30-6:30PM	Thur	11/6
Bus. Dev./Tourism	IVCRT	6:00-7:00PM	Wed	11/12
Coordinating Council	JoCo Court House	6:00-7:30PM	Tues	11/18
Education	Family Resource Center	5:00-6:00PM	Mon	11/24
Executive Committee	IVCRT Office	5:30-6:30PM	Tues	11/25
Infrastructure	IVCRT Office	5:00-6:00PM	Wed	11/26

The Illinois Valley Community Response Team (IVCRT) is a non-profit organization working to build community consensus around projects that aim to improve the quality of life and foster economic and community development in the Illinois Valley. Meetings are open to the public and Illinois Valley residents are encouraged to attend and participate.

Office hours are 8:30AM-5:00PM, Monday-Friday  
Please call 592-4440 for more information! Fax: 592-4106 TDD: 1-800-735-00

IVCRT is an Equal Opportunity Provider  
Assistance to individuals with handicaps is available upon request.