

Bob's Corner

Nicknames can hurt or they can be humorous, or just make someone feel stupid.

In my case, I've had a taste of them all. And so have my relatives and friends. Although I haven't had too many of the latter because of the nicknames I make up for them.

Probably most people don't know (or care) that the editor was called Robert for most of his natural-born days until he was in the seventh-grade, way back at St. Rita's School in San Diego. It was then that I became involved in organized sports, such as they are involving seventh- and eighth-graders.

Anyway, I was sort of a chunky kid and so was wanted for the school's flag football team. I played pretty well, except for that one game when a certain part of my anatomy ran smack into the raised knee of an opponent. Oh, the nickname I acquired, not because of the unfortunate collision, was Bob.

No one had called me Bob before that. My parents and other relatives always called me Robert. But in those mid-1950s I became Bob, or sometimes Bobby.

Later, at my first really good job, working as a copy boy at the former San Diego "Evening Tribune," I acquired the nickname "Bumps." It was bestowed by one of the sports writers because every time he entered the wire room, I was cutting copy and spiking the long sheets of news like a man possessed. So invariably I bumped into him or some other staff writer. The name "Bumps" stuck for about nine months until I became a reporter. Then I was called "Mr. Bumps."

No, just kidding. I became Bob Rodriguez, Evening Tribune Staff Writer. It felt good.

As a youngster, I had buck teeth, and was razzed a lot about that. The nickname dumped on me had something to do with a certain reindeer with a bright red nose. One guy left my presence with a bright red nose of his own after I finally became incensed enough.

My cousin Cliff was tormented with the nickname "Punchy" from about the time he was 6 until he was about 17. Good grief. The moniker stemmed from a time he was being held back by the top of his head by our older cousin, Dick (his nickname was "Dickie" thanks to his mother). Cliff was swinging his arms trying to hit "Dickie," but couldn't because of being held back. Hence the name "Punchy."

Cousin Frank lived with childhood nicknames including "Sonny" and "Frankie." Cousin Manuel Bringas Jr. had to contend with "Junior" for many years. To this day, my cousin Micheline, four years my junior, has the nickname "Mickey." But that's not such a bad name at all. I don't know where the original "Nick" got his nickname, although I suspect it's from Nicholas. And now you'll have to excuse me, as I'm feeling a little punchy without more sunny weather.

Letters to the Editor

‘Gallant effort’  
From the Valentine  
Family

**Cave Junction**

Our family appreciates the Josephine County Sheriff's Office, Illinois Valley Fire District and family and friends for trying to help rescue our horse "Yahtahay" on Wednesday, Nov. 5.

Even though he did not make it, we are appreciative of your efforts. A special appreciation to Bob Jones for making the effort and finding out horse.

‘Halloween success’  
From Elaine Wood  
Selma

Were you too scared to come to our first Children's Halloween Party at the new Selma Center? Well, you missed a grandly spooky event. Those who visited our game room, goodie room, "mad" scientist's laboratory and the haunted parlor are appreciated.

Chuck Jacobs, our "mad" scientist, took time away from his alien brain transfer to try to dissect the visitors' fingers.

The witch (Patty Downing), faceless spook

(Jan Walker) and grinning skeleton (Jack Walker) kept the audiences jumping in the haunted parlor.

Our own purple witch, Lynda Parker, guarded the scary entrance and soothed frightened visitors. Kay Nielsen was the candy sheriff.

We at the Selma Center appreciate our hard-working volunteers, cookie and candy donors, supporters and cleanup crew, the game room crowd, I.V. High School students and others who stepped in to help, and all the parents, guardians and grandparents who brought children to this safe Halloween event. We also couldn't have done it without Nelsen's Family Farm, Rising Suns, Home Valley Bank, Kerbyville Farms, and Shop Smart.

If you are interested in helping plan our second annual Children's Halloween Party contact me at 597-2880 or Bill at the Selma Community and Educational Center at 415-1000.

Look for our next events including a Pre-Holiday Swap Meet and Craft Bazaar on Dec. 6.



**RAISING AWARENESS - Nanette Martin, chapter president of Josephine County Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), gives a red ribbon to an Illinois Valley resident outside Shop Smart Food Warehouse on Saturday, Nov. 8. MADD's mission is to stop drunken driving, support victims of the crime and prevent underage drinking. According to Martin, between 35-40 percent of those who accepted ribbons gave donations - totaling \$53 - to the organization on Nov. 8. Similar red-ribbon events are scheduled in Grants Pass. With only a small handful of members in the valley, Martin noted a great need for more. 'We really, really need some active members,' she said. To join MADD phone (541) 479-8868. For statistics and other related information, visit MADD's national Web site, www.madd.org.**

(Photo by Sam Newton)

**Cave Junction Cares will be having its annual Thanksgiving Dinner again this year. Volunteers, food, donations and help are needed. Please phone Lynn at 592-6855 for more information or to volunteer.**

**GRAND OPENING!**

Tuesday - Saturday

11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Closed  
Sunday & Monday

592-3228  
355 Caves Hwy.

**Pietro's**  
Italian Restaurant  
TAKE OUT or DINE IN  
Lunch & Dinner

How to avoid winter flu

Oregon's influenza season is under way. To protect against it and avoid spreading it to others, the Oregon Dept. of Human Services offers these tips.

Get a flu shot. For the nearest location, phone (800) SAFENET.

Wash your hands frequently to get rid of germs contracted from other people, contaminated surfaces or other sources.

Always cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough to avoid spreading germs.

If you do become sick,

stay home from work or school.

Don't automatically expect your doctor to prescribe antibiotics.

Antivirals may be prescribed for flu and antibiotics for associated bacterial infections.

Influenza and pneumonia are now the eighth leading cause of death among Oregonians overall and the seventh leading cause of death for those age 65 and older.

Influenza and pneumonia kill 36,000 Americans every year.

**LIVING, DINING, FUTONS & MORE...**

We bring the world to you!

OPEN 7 DAYS

**GRANTS PASS SHOPPING CENTER**  
541-474-1060

**NEW WEST IMPORTS**  
& HOME FURNISHINGS

**ALSO in Medford and Roseburg too!**

Elementary Schools Menu  
Sponsored by

**‘Illinois Valley News’**  
321 S. Redwood Hwy.  
**592-2541**

**THURSDAY, NOV. 13**  
\*Cheese stix, cheeseburger, pepperoni pizza, super sub sandwich, fiesta salad  
**FRIDAY, NOV. 14**  
\*Chessy pretzel, hamburger, sausage pizza, turkey & cheese sandwich, chicken Caesar salad  
**MONDAY, NOV. 17**  
\*Rib-B-Que sandwich, hamburger, cheese pizza, peanut butter & jelly sandwich, chef salad  
**TUESDAY, NOV. 18**  
\*beef teriyaki dippers, cheeseburger, pepperoni pizza, ham & cheese sandwich, garden salad  
**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19**  
\*Hot diggity dog, hamburger, cheese pizza, poor boy sandwich, cobb salad

**Annual Holiday Parade**

**PARADE ENTRY FORM**  
Please mail or return to  
I.V. Chamber of Commerce

Name of Org. \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Entry (float, animal, band, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce

**CHRISTMAS PARADE**  
will be held on Saturday, Dec. 6  
(if rain) Saturday, Dec. 13  
Line up at 2 p.m.  
at Evergreen School  
Theme: "Peace on Earth"

**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. 34

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

**Thank You**

*All of us at Coffee Heaven would like to thank the many friendly customers, neighbors, and area businesses who have supported our efforts in replacing the Coffee Heaven Angel.*

*Your positive support, contributions, and encouragement made her replacement possible.*

*A special thanks to I.V Building Supply for the use of their forklift.*

Thanks,  
Marilyn & Kenny Houck