

## Bob's Corner

It's a dazzling time, this luminous holiday celebration season of Christmas, Hanukah and New Year's. Bright colored lights, elegant candles, sparkling decorations, religious observances, hopefully heartfelt gifts and greetings combine for a most special period of the year.

There's magic in the air, and it contains traces of peace and good will. People gain new perspectives on living and loving during these special days. Sharing and caring seem to come easier.

For some folks it's a good news/bad news time. They're pleased with the trappings of the season, but become stressed, worn out, irritable and just plain goofy from preparing for and then "doing their duty" during the holiday spell. The good news for them is that "it'll soon be over" and they can collapse and regroup for the first part of the new year. Not my idea of a good time, dreading the "drudgery" of what is a joyous scene.

I've been guilty of the Frantic Seasonal Syndrome, but not during the past few years. Of late, we've tried to be conscious of the observances, but avoid overdoing: eating and drinking to excess, spending too much on gifts of an impressively fake nature, and trying to please everyone (an impossible task). Instead we've striven to focus on family and close friends with the idea of "Good things come in small packages." Which reminds me of my eighth-grade teacher, a Catholic nun, who would add to that comment: "And so does poison."

For me, Christmas has always been a dazzling time. I have yesteryear black-and-white photos of myself as a young boy (some will remember those old-style shots with scalloped edges) standing by our decorated tree in a duplex on Hyatt Street in the Linda Vista section of San Diego. The tree is drenched in tinsel, and besides strings of colored bulbs that would die in their entirety if just one burned out, it had bubbling lights, always a favorite of mine. And shiny, quite breakable globes. I am grinning from ear-to-ear in these emulsified recollections; not only because of the warm, fuzzy feeling that was mine because of the season, but because of the wrapped gifts under the tree. I received lots more than I gave back then.

Through the years of working as a newspaper guy, I've seen some poignant homecomings: a little boy in oversized jammies and robe getting home on Christmas Eve after being cured of a blood disease that kept him hospitalized for five months; a U.S. Navy ship docking a few days before Dec. 25 after months of war zone deployment, bringing home hundreds of sailors to be greeted with hugs, kisses and tears of delight by family and friends; a long-lost son and brother landing at Lindbergh Field to be greeted by two sisters and the parents with unbridled emotions, just in time for a tremendous holiday celebration. Joy being the prevailing emotion.

Pure happiness at intense times of loving and being loved; at knowing the full force of Christmas blessing; of finding peace of mind and faith that good things happen; at feeling a Spirit beyond description. That there really is a Power for Good, and that such a being loves us beyond our comprehension.

If only we could retain such feelings more often. If we could remember the Spirit of sharing and caring year-round, not just at Christmas. If only we could derive more pleasure from giving than receiving.

If only ...

### CORRECTION:

Based on information provided by Josephine Interagency Narcotics Agency, an incorrect address was printed in a page 1 article in last week's issue. The address given for Freddie Tamayo, 5565 Westside Road, is not his address, according to the residents who live there.

## 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. 40

Staff: Cindy Newton, Britt Fairchild, Chris Robertson, Steve Fairchild, Becky Loudon & Kacy Clement

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. POLICY ON "HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE", DISPLAY & CLASSIFIED ADS & NOTICES: All submissions must be hand delivered, faxed or e-mailed to us for publication. Submissions must be resubmitted each week if the item is to run for more than one week.

### 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

## 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.)**

\*\*\*

### 'Real Story'

From Rick Meier  
Cave Junction

Saddam Hussein was captured on Saturday, Dec. 13 by U.S. forces outside his hometown of Tikrit. Television networks scrambled to get the story out. But in Baghdad, signs the size of billboards mounted on the rooftops and fronts of various buildings in the town square months before told the real story: one read AC DELCO, and another SAMSUNG.

### 'Tree project'

From Leeandra DiFuria  
Cave Junction

The Forestry Action Committee (FAC) has provided many services to Illinois Valley and one of its more popular programs is the Tree-Planting Project.

The Tree-Planting Project is beginning its 12th year and the staff, along with countless volunteers and landowners, have worked toward the goal of riparian restoration on privately owned land.

Riparian restoration in I.V. is beneficial to the water table in other locations as well, due to the connecting waterways. It provides healthy salmon runs, wildlife habitat, as well as water quality and quantity.

In the past we have provided and will continue to provide native seedlings at "no cost" to the landowners as an incentive to restore riparian and flood plain areas. Working together toward a common goal provides habitat for fish and wildlife along with improved water quality and supply.

The project also provides site consultations and educational tree planting presentations to schools and other organizations as well as Volunteer Tree-Planting Day.

This year we are having difficulty with our funding for the purchase of seedlings and are research-

ing alternative funding for next year.

However, this year the bottom line is we need money to purchase seedlings. We need to raise \$3,500 to add to our current funding in order to purchase native seedlings. Donations are tax deductible and will be used for the purchase of seedlings and other needed supplies.

It is our policy to purchase as many species as possible from area nurseries; this is a direct contribution to our local economy. A donation of \$1 purchases an average of two trees, so a little can go a long way.

Contact FAC for more information at 592-4098.

### 'No to terrorism'

From William Schneider  
Cave Junction

For the moment let's forget our differences of opinion, the politically correct cocktail party chit-chat, the Bush bashing and anti-United States rhetoric; and let's take a hard look at the situation in the world today concerning terrorism.

Aside from all the reasons about how we got into this tragic state of affairs, the fact remains that on Sept. 11, 2001, some 3,000 people were murdered in a matter of minutes by trained and financed suicidal religious fanatics. It seems that the rest of the world thought it was an attack on the United States instead of what it really was: an attack on the civilized world.

To get a better perspective, these terrorists would kill us a million a minute if they could. That is how very serious the world situation is from here to Iraq, from Istanbul to Bali, from Israel to Kenya, from Moscow to on and on if allowed.

These suicide bomber acts have nothing to do with Allah or Islam, but are instead the acts of mindless, brainwashed humans interested only in their reward in the afterlife as martyrs.

They show no interest in bettering the lives of their people in their homicidal venting. They are the most selfish, self-serving ignorance of humankind. Those who would assist

(Continued on page 3)



**SPIRITS RECALLED** -- Melanie Gayle and Anita Johnson with their mother, Joy Hoskins (not shown) provided inspirational music during the annual Light Up A Life program on Tuesday, Dec. 16 in Immanuel United Methodist Church. Some 60 persons attended the Lovejoy Hospice event to honor the dead.

OR License #231

## MASSAGE THERAPY

Relax, unwind, feel better during this holiday season!  
Massage makes a great gift too!  
1-hour \$35, 1/2-hour \$20, 1 1/2-hours \$45  
or see holiday special in the TV Section

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

**Century 21**

**J.C. Jones Realty**  
858 NW Sixth Street  
Grants Pass, OR 97526  
Phone: (541) 476-6502  
Toll free: (800) 460-6680

**H.D. PATTON JR. CONSTRUCTION**

**422 ADDISON**  
**NEW HOME - NEW SHOP**  
Stylish, 1,402 sq. ft.  
3-bedroom, 2-bath, one-level home.  
Large lot. Distinctive design  
by H.D. Patton Construction.  
Quiet area of Cave Junction.  
\$185,000. MLS#104241

**THE PETER GLEYSTEN TEAM**  
For 24-hour information:  
(800) 254-4760 AD#192

Senior Nutrition Menu  
Sponsored by

**True Value**  
592-3562

(541) 592-2126, 474-5440  
Meals are served in the  
CJ County Bldg.  
**FRIDAY, DEC. 26**

\*Porcupine meatballs,  
creamed potatoes,  
mixed vegetables,  
squash bread,  
tapioca pudding  
**MONDAY, DEC. 29**  
\*Tuna loaf with meat  
sauce, whipped  
potatoes with cream  
sauce, green peas,  
caraway rye bread,  
ranger cookie  
**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31**  
\*Roast beef with gravy,  
whipped potatoes with  
gravy, broccoli  
Normandy, onion bread,  
pink confetti  
New Year's cake

## AUTO REPAIR - TIRES - TOWING - PROPANE

**Happy Holidays**

**Corner of Redwood and Caves Hwys.**  
**592-3080**

Locally owned & operated for nearly 18 years by Jeff & Karen Stiles

**Oregon Caves Chevron**

We are your  
Hometown Station

Highways 199 & 46  
Cave Junction  
Jeff Stiles, Dealer



**NOW OPEN:**  
SUN. - THURS. 6 A.M. - 9 P.M.  
FRI. AND SAT. 6 A.M. - 10 P.M.  
592-3080