

## Bob's Corner

Now that I've passed the 60-year mark, being six decades and 1 week old, I am behooved (to mangle the language) to pass along valuable information and philosophical wandering. Such as the fact that there is no accounting as to why one week after purchasing a big-ticket item that devastates your checkbook and nearly kills your wallet, it will go on sale for at least 40 percent less than you paid.

Or the fact that when a husband nearly tears apart the house -- looking in, through or under every drawer, cabinet, closet and loose floorboard -- he will be unable to find whatever it is he's seeking. But his wife can open one drawer, or walk into a room, and find the missing item in plain sight.

Although this has never happened to me, I will swear on (or at) whatever book you desire that said item was not available 30 seconds earlier. This is apparently attributable to Pack Rat Trading Monsters who live in our walls and in the dark places behind our drawers. They take stuff away when I'm ... I mean when a hypothetical man ... looks for it; then replaces it when he storms away stomping his feet, making guttural noises coupled with harsh words, and generally acting like a spoiled 4-year-old.

I think that 60 nearly is a perfect time to be middle-aged. And it makes me feel good that the age of 60 goes hand-in-glove, or foot-in-mouth perhaps, with driving 60 mph. That's a perfect speed: 60 mph = 1 mile per minute. Way cool. A perfect age, and a perfect speed. Sixty is nifty.

Here are some other tidbits of incredible knowledge that have come my way during the past 21,900-plus days, or more or less 525,600 hours that have comprised my life so far:

\*Upon discovering while shaving that your razor isn't cutting it, or any beard even, check to be sure that the blade protector has been removed.

\*If electrical power to some part of your house abruptly stops; you've checked the circuit breakers, and there's still no juice; push the reset button on the appropriate outlet or appliance, if the latter is an offender. Could save you lots of time. This has never happened to me; I heard about it from some other guy.

\*When working on a carpentry or similar project around the house, and your drill is not making the holes you need, check to be sure there's a bit in the chuck. This also has never happened to me.

Now that I'm 60, it seems that more brevity is in order, and so I'm going to end this particular column.

But just a few more thoughts: To all who attended my birthday party on Jan. 20, or who telephoned or sent gifts or birthday cards -- thank you greatly. Your presence and your presents are much appreciated. You have improved my presence of mind. Muchas gracias!

And my grateful appreciation to my loving wife, Jan, who arranged for the tableful of terrific food from the valley's own Kate Dwyer Catering at my party. It was a delicious time.

## 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. Handwritten letters that are double-spaced and highly legible also can be considered for publication. Cards of thanks are not accepted as letters.)**

\*\*\*

### 'Yes on 30'

**From Laurie Prouty  
Cave Junction**

People should vote "yes" on Measure 30. The cost per individual is minimal - the gain for our schools, low-income seniors and mental health service is potentially of great magnitude.

Endless cuts to needed services not only hurt our valuable citizens; they also hurt our local economies due to loss of family wage jobs. The tax increase proposed does not hurt the low-income wage earner; if you earn \$20,000-\$30,000, your annual tax increase is just \$19 -- less than \$1.60 per month.

Here in Cave Junction there are already few organized events for our youth. If the measure does not pass and we cut school electives, sports, and the classrooms get so large any hope of individual attention is lost, many students will lose their incentive to attend school.

Something is dreadfully wrong with our society that we don't value our children's education more. If we are such a "progressive" nation, shouldn't we ensure our schools have adequate financial support to provide our future with well educated and skilled people?

When I went to high school 35 years ago, three foreign languages were taught through all four years. At Illinois Valley High, only Spanish I and II are offered. How does this help our global communication? We are going backwards in educating and providing for our youth.

### IVCRT Funds

**From Patricia Downing  
O'Brien**

The Illinois Valley Community Response Team (CRT) has served Illinois Valley for 10 years by implementing many needed services, creating jobs and helping the community develop.

Now the CRT has entered the last year as a federally funded community organization. In spring 2002, the board committed to sustaining the organization past the end of the federal grant funding. The board concluded that the CRT's mission of enhancing "long-term, self-directed community well-being" is too important to expire when the federal grant runs out.

To continue to be of service to the community, the CRT must now generate its own revenues for community projects and grants as well as its own operating costs. Winning the Oregon Caves concession contract was a huge step toward sustaining the mission and being able to continue helping the com-



**CELEBRATING SUPER SIXTY** - Old and new friends, including (from left) former longtime 'Noose' employee Virginia Gilliam, Jerry Lamb and Bob Gilliam, attended an open house at the 'Illinois Valley News' office on Tuesday, Jan. 20 to wish Bob Rodriguez ('El Jefe') a happy 60th birthday. The well-wishers enjoyed small talk and big stories as well as a multitude of delicious finger foods and a huge carrot birthday cake, all provided by Kate Dwyer Catering. (Photo by Sam Newton)

## Clubs & Organizations

### Knife and Fork Club

The Knife and Fork Club is hosting a meeting on Monday, Feb. 2 at 6 p.m. in the Riverside Convention Center.

The program will be, "An evening with Dave Frohnmayer." He is president of the University of Oregon at Eugene.

Frohnmayer also served 11 years as Ore-

gon's attorney general.

The doors will open at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:45 p.m.

For reservations or information, phone Norma Lane at (541) 470-6124.

### Forestry Action Committee

There will be a meeting at 1 p.m., on Thursday, Feb. 5, in the lower compound of the USFS Illinois

Valley Ranger District, 26568 Redwood Hwy.

There will be updates. This is the annual meeting, so new officers will be decided upon.

"FAC strives to bring community members together in a positive way. Together we can do a lot." Anyone can attend.

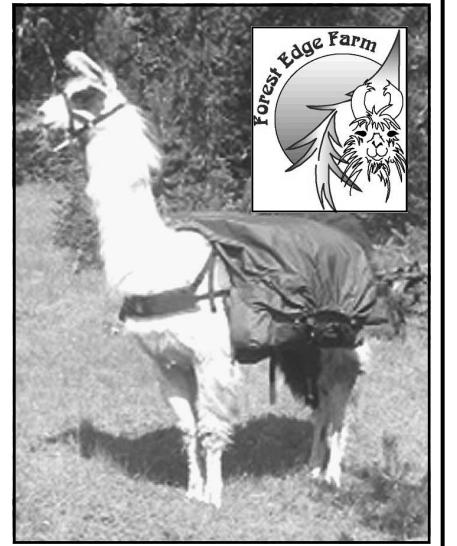
For more information, contact 592-4098.

## Forest Edge Farm

### Plan Ahead for...

- \* **Felt Hat-making Workshop**  
— Saturday, March 20, 2004  
Call for more information & sign up
- \* **Make a date to come by for a Ranch Tour**
- \* **Call for free mulch or pillow stuffing fiber**
- \* **Call & sign up for a Llama Packing Clinic**  
April 17th, 2004 — learn how llamas lighten your load on the trail.
- \* **Day Hike, Sunday, April 18**

Contact Joyce or Harry Abrams  
llamuz@forestededgefarm.com  
541-592-6078



## 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

Set up as an ideal the facing of reality as honestly and as cheerfully as possible. - Dr. Karl Menninger -

## 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. 45

Staff: Cindy Newton, Chris Robertson,  
Michelle Binker, Shane Welsh, 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

(Continued on page 3)

## FRONTIER DSL Maximum Speed Internet

**"click"** You're connected.



**frontier**  
A Citizens Communications Company

Frontier DSL is changing the way people connect to the Internet. No more drilling holes and running cables. Frontier DSL easily connects over your existing phone line and is just as dependable as your phone service. Plus, you can talk and surf at the same time. There's not another Internet connection available with a better combination of speed, reliability, security, and ease of installation.

Now just **\$39.95** a month. Save **\$60.**

©2004 Citizens Communications Company. Offer limited to new DSL customers and expires 2/20/04. Cannot be combined with any other offer. You must choose FrontierNet as your ISP to qualify for this 6-month FrontierNet promotional monthly rate. Applicable taxes and surcharges will be billed. Term commitment may be required and penalties for early termination may apply. Service EQUIPMENT BY subject to availability, line qualification, and Frontier's Acceptable Use Policy. Other restrictions and charges may apply. 4 **SIEMENS**

Call **1-866-900-9WEB** or visit [FrontierOnline.com](http://FrontierOnline.com)