

Bob's Corner

It sounded like an OK idea (not too much trouble, and I could make points by agreeing with my wife). The plan: switch home office rooms and revamp a closet in what would be Jan's new office at home.

Piece of cake, right? Well, maybe.

First problem: She has three bookcases jammed with books. Books are heavy. Second problem: Bob has loads of junk and stuff, including books, his Lone Ranger costume, and Star Trek memorabilia.

It's good exercise to move everything from two rooms to the living room or garage. That's what I kept telling my back and biceps. It was definitely exercise.

Third problem: Have a friend relocate bifold doors from our pantry to Jan's new closet (computer alcove) and install a desk-like shelf. And use the sliding doors from the former closet to the pantry. No problem, as this guy knows what he's doing and has the power tools to prove it.

Fourth problem: Move Bob's computer desk from his former office to his new office. We had assembled the thing inside the room, and it did not want to leave its birthplace. We huffed and puffed; removed the in-and-out doors to both offices; stood the desk this way and that way. Huffed and puffed some more. Prayed. Used our muscles and ingenuity (mostly Jan's). It worked! Mr. Desk was relocated with only minor damage to door jambs, hallway walls and my fingers.

Fifth problem: Retrieve the boxes and containers of removed stuff and place them in their new locales. Also, weed through stuff deemed unnecessary to the smooth functioning of a home office. Grit teeth at getting rid of precious items (such as my collection of broken shoestrings and old toothbrushes).

The idea that the project would be a piece of cake had deteriorated into a stale piece of pastry.

But we managed. As I subscribe to the theory of giving my wife what she needs, I gave up some of my furniture, including at least one bookcase. And it's working. We now have new offices at home. Mine, of course, is still a minefield of half-empty boxes, stacks of paperwork, and other impediments including my Elvis Presley CDs, income tax receipts and old shoes.

I'm still looking for the cake.

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). ***

Regarding schools From Richard Butler Selma

Re: the Feb. 11 "Illinois Valley News" article by Shane Welsh, "Schools in valley passing."

On the assumption that the 2003 school report cards refer to the 2003 school year, why are we hearing from school principals regarding flu season problems from this past fall?

Those problems would fall into the 2004 school year. Secondly, does Welsh really consider two schools which failed to meet the Federal Adequate Yearly Progress Rating as schools whose grades "look good?" Is that how these schools rate students who are failing?

Reading on, we find one principal who feels that meeting the standards isn't the criteria, it's whether local schools exceed the scores of other schools.

By that standard, a student who exceeds the marks of other students is doing well, regardless of

how that student scores relative to a fixed standard.

Last but not least, and a perennial favorite of educators, if you can't meet the standard or solve the problem, blame it on a lack of funding, as does the principal of Evergreen.

How about this: Fix your focus on solving the problem, not making excuses. Maybe the I.V. Citizen Patrol could assist with truancy issues; perhaps there are other resources, but since they weren't mentioned in the article by the reporter or the principals, we don't know.

All we know is that our local schools are not consistently meeting these standards.

The world is watching From Libby Goines Cave Junction

In response to Jody McElroy's outburst ("Illinois Valley News," Feb. 11) blaming Siskiyou Project and CRT for the mess in our forests and economy; not all residents of Illinois Valley have this perspective, one based on fear of change due to ignorance.

When my grandparents moved here in the 1930s, there were still a lot of trees everywhere.

But in the 1940s and '50s, there was an economic boom with approximately 100 operating mills on the valley floor. There were so many huge trees everywhere that nobody thought the supply might run out someday.

Our parents and grandparents prospered and took good care of their families with solid incomes earned from the harvest of the

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I.V. Fine Artists Inc. Artist of the Month



Micheila Drummond

By CASSANDRA NEWTON-MILLER
Micheila Drummond has been selected by Illinois Valley Fine Artists Inc. as featured artist for February and March.

Drummond, originally from Cleveland, Ohio, has resided in Cave Junction

for one year.

She began charcoal drawing and oil painting about six years ago, joining the I.V. Artists in April 2003.

Drummond was awarded a bronze medal in the art division of the Sen-

(Continued on page 8)

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Kitchen grease fire safety tips

Cooking oil, grease and frying fat can catch fire if they overheat.

Always cook in a ventilated room, and do not store oil and grease near ranges.

Have a small fire extinguisher mounted in the kitchen, on the wall opposite from the stove.

If a cooking fire occurs, use a potholder and immediately cover the pot with a metal lid. If a fire breaks out in an oven, shut the oven door and turn off the heat.

Always dial 911 after an oven fire, even if the flames seem to be completely extinguished.

Illinois Valley News

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DEADLINES:

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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.

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IVHS School Menu -
Sponsored by



THURSDAY, FEB. 26

*Chicken sandwich, cheeseburger, hamburger, turkey & cheese or ham & cheese sandwich; chef, Mandarin chicken or garden salad; Hawaiian, cheese or pepperoni pizza; beef soft tacos (pasta, meat & marinara sauce, breadstick)

FRIDAY, FEB. 27

*Chicken sandwich, cheeseburger, hamburger, turkey & cheese or Italian sandwich; chef, Mandarin chicken or chicken Caesar salad; vegetarian, supreme, sausage or pepperoni pizza; nachos supreme (corndog, hotdog, or Polish dog, potato wedges or tater tots)

MONDAY, MARCH 1

*Chicken sandwich, cheeseburger, hamburger, turkey & cheese or ham & cheese sub; chef, Mandarin chicken or fiesta salad; vegetarian, sausage or pepperoni pizza; beef & bean burrito (chicken nuggets with biscuit & dipping sauce)

TUESDAY, MARCH 2

*Chicken sandwich, cheeseburger, hamburger, turkey & cheese or roast beef sub; chef, Mandarin chicken or garden salad; cheese, supreme or pepperoni pizza; Chicken fajita (Rib-b-que, potato wedges)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

*Chicken sandwich, cheeseburger, hamburger, turkey & cheese or veggie sub; chef, Mandarin, chicken or Antipasto salad; sausage, supreme or pepperoni pizza, Taco salad (Rice bowls, chicken or beef, veggies & almonds)

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