

Bob's Corner

Took off for a few days daze last week to visit family living near Seattle. I drove; Jan flew. She had gone to San Diego earlier in the week to be with our daughter and her fam to celebrate her 60th birthday. (Jan's, not our daughter's).

The drive took me more than 6½ hours; Jan's flight less than three hours. I thought about this a lot while battling my way up Interstate 5 amid big trucks, small cars and errant motor homes. Also, it rained a lot, and there was strong wind. Sometimes the rain was so bad that I had to slow to 65 mph. And because of the wind, the van used a lot more fuel than usual.

I would have (should have) been in Covington in less time than it took me. But I managed to get temporarily misplaced, despite having written directions. Normally, Jan serves as my navigator. Without her, I am lost. In more ways than one.

My long-distance drive enabled me to listen to quite a few commercial radio talk shows and musical programs. Some of it began to drive me crazy, and so I would turn it off before my head exploded. Sometimes though, just when I was beginning to enjoy a talk show, the signal would fade. Very frustrating.

To soothe myself I managed to eat and drink (soft drinks) while driving. I was, of course, extremely careful because I am against bum steers. And going out of control and crashing. Meanwhile, I noticed that 12 out of 10 people on the road use cellular telephones while driving.

Granddaughter Kimberly taught me a new table game. It was a combination of bingo and a supermarket number and illustration contest, except that some of the parts were missing. This did not deter Kimberly, who dealt me my cards, and then hers, after which she proudly proclaimed that she had won. I said, "Oh, so you got a fribbitz." And she said, "Yes."

After the next hand, she won again, noting that she was coming up with the rules as we played. (This was no surprise to me.) After this victory I said, "Oh, so you got a malloyep." And she said, "Yes."

By the way, because of fading radio signals and overlapping stations, I believe that some of what I heard probably isn't correct. For example:

"My husband wants to bring his ex-wife for dinner to meet our children. What should I do?" *Screekkk* "It would be best to use a large wrench for this job, and don't forget the *Screekkk* bug spray or the rubber gloves."

"It seems that the Democrats and Republicans are facing a difficult battle as *Screekkk* puppy training can use up a lot of old newspapers and try your patience, but remember that *Screekkk* removal of such unsightly growths can be made easy with *Screekkk* these special knives and cheese graters."

I think I'd be better off with a fribbitz or a malloyep.

Babies don't need vacations, but I still see them at the beach. - Steven Wright -

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Illinois Valley News

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(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.

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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.

Missing the boat From C. Combs Cave Junction

This state is truly "missing the boat."

All the same-sex marriages should be taxed. Most have some college schooling, so they know the value of education. They should be willing to pay for educating our youth, since they will never procreate children of their own.

This special marriage tax would go toward compulsory education. Privileges are earned, not granted.

Stands with CJ Lions From Steve Lyons President, I.V. Lions Cave Junction

Illinois Valley Lions Club was chartered in 1948, the same year the city of Cave Junction was formed. Through the years we have worked to help the people of our valley, city residents included.

We have also worked extensively to improve Jubilee Park, with new playground equipment, park benches and repairs. Lions members built the pavilion where breakfast, bingo, Thanksgiving and Christmas meals are served. Most recently we paid for and constructed the open-air theater, which we donated to the park for residents of Illinois Valley.

Space doesn't allow me to list all the donations we make. However, here are a few: guide dogs and hearing dogs; camp for blind and deaf kids; Red Cross, American Cancer Society; Boys & Girls State; eyeglasses, eye operations and hearing aids; hospital equipment loans; annual fishing derby and Easter Egg Hunt; and scholarships.

Our main fund-raiser is the motorcycle raffle. We spend our weekends and holidays selling tickets at every fair and festival we can find in Northern California and Southern Oregon. It may seem like we "clean up" on this raffle. But factor in insurance, booth space fees, printing, etc., and we do "OK." The bike is given away at the end of our annual Labor Day Festival.

The Labor Day Festival has been held in Jubilee Park, at no charge to us, since 1972 with the blessing of Cave Junction city government.

We have a "dunk tank" at the festival, which the IVHS cheerleaders run, and they get to keep all the revenues.

The Masons use the pavilion to raise funds for their charitable endeavors. They're great breakfasts.

The American Legion then comes in with bingo to raise funds for similar projects. We salute them.

The softball tournament brings players from Grants Pass and beyond. Proceeds go to IVHS girls softball. They're awesome.

We have a Ferris wheel, which the I.V. Bik-

ers have run in the past to raise money for Christmas toys. Guess what happened? "Someone" took a color photo of it at last year's event, then complained to the state agency that regulates rides.

Now the state is requiring a permit to operate (\$125/year) and annual inspections (at least \$500/year) to operate a 25-cent-per-ride attraction which never took in much money. I appreciate the Bikers past efforts.

Entertainment, bands, talent show prizes, and D.J.s are all expenses, not income.

Attendees and vendors come from all over. Surely they buy gasoline, food, lodging. It's tourism.

Our proceeds benefit Illinois Valley. The festival is for the enjoyment of valley residents. We are but one spoke in the charitable organization wheel.

The city of Cave Junction is now demanding that "Charitable Organizations" pay for the use of the park.

We don't understand the animosity coming from city hall and stand in solidarity with the CJ Lions. Hopefully, the mayor and city council will reconsider their positions, as their actions affect the valley as a whole.

Supports forest plan From Charles Hurliman Tillamook County commissioner

Forest health is a principle behind Oregon's State Forests Management Plan (January 2001).

Forest health will always be important in the management of our forest. Swiss needle cast is a recent disturbance to the Tillamook Forest. Fire, windstorms, people, insects and diseases constantly disrupt forests.

These disturbances are natural and necessary processes of the forest ecosystem, creating the biodiversity needed for a healthy forest.

The Rainforest Coalition says that the Oregon State Forest Management Plan is too "extreme." Yet the coalition fails to talk about the science, years of planning and peer reviews that went into the Oregon State Forest Management Plan. Every segment of Oregon's population from industrial to environmental had input into the plan.

And the plan helps create the biodiversity needed by the people and creatures of Tillamook Forest. This plan includes all activities that people rely on, such as harvest, habitats, and recreation.

The coalition raises money in Portland to kill

(Continued on page 3)



WEDDING ANNOUNCED - Libby Goines and Don Smith were married on Friday, March 19, 2004 in Cave Junction. (Photo by 'Lisa M.')

Nude dude escapes capture

A case involving a disappearing "totally naked man" occurred in Cave Junction on Monday morning, March 29.

Many motorists saw the man, standing on the shoulder of Caves Hwy. near Illinois Valley Building Supply, at approximately 10 a.m.

Several telephone calls were received about the

man by the Josephine County Sheriff's Office Substation in CJ.

The nude was described as 5-8 to 5-10 with dark, shoulder-length hair. He was "in his late 20s or early 30s."

A suspect was identified tentatively, but no arrest was made. When a deputy arrived from Grants Pass, the man was gone.

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 - *David Hill - Southern Oregon Timber Industry
 - *Tom Link - U.S. Forest Service
 - *Dennis Odeon - Forest ecologist
 - *Kevin Preister - Community anthropologist
 - *Don Smith - Siskiyou Project
- Moderated by Ellen Crane
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THURSDAY APRIL 8

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

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