

Bob's Corner

When I was growing up (although I'm not quite finished), my family maintained an unwritten list of Rules for Living. In the interests of public education, and perhaps winning a prize for highly unusual commentary, here are some of the rules under which I managed to survive.

*Do not go swimming or enter any body of water for at least 30 minutes after eating. An hour would be even better. If this rule is not followed, you will immediately develop a cramp, sink like a lead weight, and never be seen again. Plus, your dad will be standing on the shoreline shouting, "I told you so!"

*Never venture outside with wet or even dampish hair. If this rule is not observed, the second you step out of the house you will be afflicted with the most miserable cold in the history of the known world. Besides, having a cold will not excuse you from skipping school because you know better than to go outside with wet hair.

*Immediately remove all splinters under penalty of death. According to my family's medical knowledge, splinters of any size, no matter whether they're nearly invisible or as big as a hot dog, have the capability of entering your blood stream. Thus, splinters left in a finger or toe, or other body parts, will travel directly to the heart, collide with it violently, and you will die. I am not making this up.

*Do not feed dogs beans. Guess why. Give up? Because: Beans drive dogs crazy. Actually, since getting older and having had several doggies, some of which have managed to scavenge beans, I have discovered that it's not beans that drive dogs nutsy. In fact, it's not even the dogs. The actual theorem turns out to be that humans are driven crazy by dogs who have eaten beans because of their effect on the atmosphere in a closed room.

*On Christmas Eve, go to bed early, like maybe 5 p.m. Otherwise, you could spoil the visit by Santa because if he sees you watching him he'll take off without leaving even one gift. And he will not be back that night, so you'll have a miserable Christmas. However, if you leave out a plate of cookies, you'll get more presents than you would otherwise. One mystery I never solved is the coincidence that chocolate chip cookies were the favorite of Santa and my dad. Imagine that.

*Drinking too much cold water will give you a sore throat. Strangely enough, this idea came from my maternal grandmother, who kept telling me to close the refrigerator door. Go figure.

That's it for this week. I've got to go and remove a splinter before it enters my bloodstream.

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.)

Bush dishonest?

From Robert H. Merrill Sr. O'Brien

This is in response to the Lou Chauvin letter "Bush dishonest," in the April 14 issue of "I.V. News."

Is this one man's opinion or just more of the rhetoric that has been floating around for weeks out of the mouths of partisan politicians? Talk about dishonesty.

What about Ted Kennedy and what happened at Chappaquidick? What about our glorious former leader Bill Clinton, who couldn't keep his tools in order? Of course they wouldn't lie, would they? How honest are they?

The 9-11 Commission is so partisan that nothing will be solved. I say it is a waste of taxpayer money.

And how about Richard Clark? He couldn't tell the truth if it was sitting on him.

Everybody has opinions. I mostly keep mine to myself.

I really like my autographed photo of G.W. and Laura and their 2003 Christmas card.

Loves library

From Thomas F. Carlisle Selma

I encourage voters to support the library levy, which will be on the May ballot.

The tax rate seems more than reasonable for the services our library provides the community.

Books, periodicals, research facilities, and Internet access are vital to the well-being of Josephine County. Public, private, and home-schooled children depend upon it.

Access to fiction and non-fiction not only enriches our individual lives, but broadens our understanding of current events and thereby enables us to make more thoughtful and well-rounded contributions to the community-at-large.

Whether our incomes are small, modest, or large, I believe all of us benefit from sharing the cost of such a vital institution. The library has proved a valuable asset in the past. There is no reason not to help our library prove its value in the future.

Community treasure

From Linda J. Naydol Cave Junction

There is within Illinois Valley a sparkling gem. This treasure marks our community apart from others as special and unique.

Not all small towns can boast a library of its own; Cave Junction can. What a wonderful gift of good fortune.

You say you don't use the library? So what's the fuss? Perhaps you buy your own best sellers, how-to books and encyclopedias. Perhaps you have your own computer. But someone you know and care about finds the library indispensable:

The senior citizen enjoying access to large print

books. The weekend hobbyist finding references for unlimited projects. The student finding access to the Internet for research.

The library is where ideas are born. Curiosity is sated. Problems are solved. Information is found. Friends and neighbors greet one another.

The library is the vibrant center of our community. Its very existence marks us as unique and enviable. By harboring a library within our community, we make a rock-solid statement of support for history, education, culture and the future.

Precious few things of value are free. A library must be nurtured so it may thrive and grow with the needs of its community. Our library needs help and commitment. We have the opportunity to do so. On Tuesday, May 18, we can vote "yes" for libraries.

Kucinich platform

From Joan Norman Cave Junction

If anyone out there still believes in peace, dialoging and negotiating with people who live in other nations, instead of killing them for their natural resources, there is something you can do. You can help Oregon make a difference in that direction.

Even though the Democratic Primary in Oregon isn't until Tuesday, May 18, and even though John Kerry has already wrapped up the Democratic nomination for the presidency, Dennis Kucinich is running for president to get delegates to the Democratic platform for Kerry to run on.

(Continued on page 3)

Lunch bunch crunch in county schools on menu for new year

By SHANE WELSH Staff Writer

Illinois Valley residents will be paying more for their children to eat in public schools.

A 10-cents per meal price increase for elementary and middle school students was approved unanimously by the Three Rivers School District Board of Directors during a meeting Wednesday night, April 21 at I.V. High

School.

According to Kathy Krouse, business manager, there was a decline in school enrollment for the district in 2003, with a 30 percent increase in lunch participation for elementary and middle schools.

Krouse said the last increase was enacted more than four years ago, due to inflation. The rise will go into effect at the start of the new school year.

Motorcyclist dies in collision

A Grants Pass man died of injuries when his motorcycle struck a utility truck so hard that it tore loose the truck's left-front tire, said Josephine County Sheriff's Office.

The victim was identified as William R. Burns, 54. He was driving a 2003 Harley Davidson motorcycle. It collided with a 1988 Ford F250 utility truck, said JCSO.

Francisco Lizarraga, 39, of rural GP, suffered minor injuries. He was

released after being examined at Three Rivers Community Hospital.

JCSO said that the accident occurred on Upper River Road when the motorcycle crossed onto the opposite lane.

Preliminary investigation does not indicate alcoholic beverage or drugs as a factor.

His death marks the fourth "vehicular homicide" since September 2003, said JCSO.

Country Breakfast I.V. Senior Center 520 E. River St.

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Miracles are all around, and inside each of us. Let's watch for them and continue to listen to the voice of God, and follow where S/He leads. Be encouraged. Count your blessings. Kick some evil ass, and keep on putting one foot in front of the other.

- Alivia Biko -

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(Classified ads & uncomplicated display ads can be accepted until Noon, Monday with an additional charge.)

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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 re-submitted each week if the item is to run for more than one week.

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