

Bob's Corner

Let's proceed to some favorite expressions and how using an inappropriate word changes the meaning. For most of us, the improper word will appear in the first example; the normal expression follows in parentheses.

- *Don't be stupid. (Don't be silly).
- *I'll be right above. (I'll be right over).
- *I'll call you elevated.. (I'll call you up).
- *That's moderately cold. (That's cool.)
- *That's very sugary. (That's very sweet).
- *He drives like an insane person. (He drives like a maniac).

*She drinks like a cold-blooded aquatic vertebrate. (She drinks like a fish).

*He eats like a young swine. (He eats like a pig).
Enough of those. Wanted to tell you that I've been sleeping like a baby. I cry all night and wet the bed.

I can tell that I'm getting old. The other day I walked by a cemetery, and two guys with shovels came out and started chasing me.

I told my doctor that I broke my left leg in two places. He told me to quit going to those places.

Here's my favorite reporter joke:

A cub reporter named Bob (strangely enough) is assigned one Saturday morning to cover a ship launching. His editor stresses that the deadline for the story to be phoned in is 9:30 a.m.; and that because it's Saturday, it will be the lead story on page 1.

Bob leaves the office. At 9 a.m. the editor starts worrying. At 9:20 he becomes frantic. Once it's 9:45, still without a call from the reporter, he is apoplectic. Finally at 10:15 the cub phones.

"Where the %&*# have you been?" shouts the editor, "and where is the story?" "Well," says the reporter, "they haven't launched the ship yet." "And why not?" asks his boss. "Well, there's a bunch of pickets protesting the launch," replies Bob.

"Why, that's a better story than the launching," says the editor. "Talk to those pickets and find out what's going on; why they're protesting."

"I can't," says Bob, "they're fighting with the police."

He hoped and prayed there wasn't an afterlife. Then he realized there was a contradiction involved here and merely hoped that there wasn't an afterlife.

- Douglas Adams -



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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.)

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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. Handwritten letters that are double-spaced and highly legible also can be considered for publication.

Cards of thanks are not accepted as letters.)

Raffenburg 'positive' From Scott Calhoun Grants Pass

In her Sept. 22 letter to the editor, "Backs Brock," Elaine Wood hopes that we "look beyond" brochures and other literature provided by Jim Raffenburg in his campaign to bring positive change to Josephine County government.

If we were to do this, we would remain ignorant of the severe financial crisis facing the county and of the specific solutions Jim Raffenburg is proposing. Ignorant of the fiscally irresponsible policies promulgated by Commissioner Brock.

Ignorant of Brock's failure to plan for and adjust spending in light of the impending 2006 loss of federal "safety net" money (despite his knowledge of that loss for the past five years). Ignorant of Brock's lack of planning for intelligent growth.

Ignorant of Brock's desire to cut back management vacations only to a still ridiculous 7.5 weeks per year after one year of service.

Ignorant of Brock's failure to set aside a single dollar of reserve funds despite his eight years in office. And ignorant of Brock's poor oversight of the Mental Health Dept., which allowed its head to set up a private non-profit competitor using county government funds and other resources (now under investigation by the district attorney).

Fellow citizens need to know that ignorance of these and other matters would certainly serve the purposes of Brock and his personal supporters, but not those of the rest of us.

We need to focus on Jim Raffenburg's campaign and become informed and involved.

We should vote to clean up the mess in the courthouse and send Brock permanently back to California.

'City sanctioned?' From Steve Lyons Cave Junction

I read in "Police Blotter" (Sept. 8, "Illinois Valley News") that, "At a transient camp in Jubilee Park, around 1 a.m., a highly intoxicated man suffered injury in an altercation over drugs and money. He was advised to settle in for the night and keep the noise down."

Is the city sanctioning this camp? Is it on city (park) property?

If not, whose property is it? It seems that the safest time to visit the park is the week when Illinois Valley Lions Club has its annual Labor Day Festival.

This is my personal opinion and observation. It is not expressed as my opinion of any organization I may belong to. Also, there is no intent to accuse anyone.

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Herbicide use

From Kari Aranzubia Cave Junction

I would like to share my appreciation to "Illinois Valley News" and staff writer Michelle Binker for the article, "Herbicide used to control foliage in rights-of-way" in last week's issue.

I appreciate "I.V. News" bringing awareness to our community of the Garlon-4 spraying being performed by Trees Inc. in the valley.

Although I found the article to be informative, left out is emotion, opinion, inconclusive studies, and retracted or unknown statements. I am compelled to share the left-out matters of Garlon-4 that go beyond the limits of a newspaper article.

Garlon-4 is the brand name for the herbicide triclopyr containing butoxyethyl ester. Laboratory tests show that triclopyr is damaging to kidneys and has caused a variety of reproductive problems. It also has caused an increase in the incidence of breast cancer, and an increase in a type of genetic damage known as dominant lethal

mutations.

The most common breakdown product of triclopyr in mammals, soil and water is 3, 5, 6-trichloro-2-pyridonol (TCP). The most significant concern identified with TCP is that it may be extremely hazardous to children.

In 1999, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) researchers found (through lab studies) that fetus, infant and child exposure to TCP inhibits neurons (nervous system cells) from undergoing normal growth and development.

According to EPA, triclopyr is "very mobile in soil. Triclopyr molecules are not strongly held by soil or sediment particles."

EPA "believes this chemical has the potential to leach to ground water."

There has been only "limited monitoring for triclopyr in ground water," but studies have found triclopyr contamination in wells in two states.

People should become informed about this chemical and its consequences. Trees Inc. is not going to fully inform you. They will

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