

Here, There & Everywhere

CANDIDATES FORUM - The four candidates seeking two seats on the Josephine County Board of Commissioners will show their stuff during a public forum in CJ on Wednesday, Oct. 20 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Lorna Byrne Middle School. There also will be opportunities for citizens to submit questions to the candidates: Jim Brock, Dwight Ellis, Jim Raffenburg and Cherryl Walker. See the ad in this issue for details about the forum, sponsored by "Illinois Valley News" and coordinated by Dave Toler.

SOCIAL STUFF - JoCo commissioners, during their Wednesday morning, Oct. 13 meeting in Grass Pants, were to consider several community items. They include a grant agreement with Family Friends for the Family Sense Program using a \$17,526 state grant. Also, commissioners were to consider using \$39,500 from the state Dept. of Human Services for a program by AIDS Support and Prevention for HIV prevention, intervention and support services.

IRAQ VIEW - "News from Iraq" is the theme for a free talk during an All-Congregations Evening Service on Sunday, Oct. 17 at Takilma Bible Church, 10343 Takilma Road. The speaker at 6 p.m. will be Janet Johnston. She's a former valley resident and Evergreen Elementary School teacher, who's been a missionary in Iraq for the past 10 years.

RECYCLEMANIA - Set for Saturday, Oct. 23 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Illinois Valley Visitor Center, the Fall Recycle Roundup will be an opportunity to recycle many items: cans, newspaper, magazines, phone books, catalogs, cardboard, paper bags, mixed paper, tin cans, aluminum foil, and plastics numbers 1-7 (opening smaller than base). Due to handling difficulties, no glass will be accepted. More than 4.3 tons of material were collected during the spring event.

NOTEPAD - Free, clean clothing will be available on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Takilma Bible Church, 10343 Takilma Road ... **"Crime Prevention for Seniors"** is the topic for a talk on Thursday, Oct. 16 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Washington Outpatient Center in GP, operated by Asante Health System ... **Designating the maximum load on the Sucker Creek Bridge on Holland Loop at milepost 1.5** was among agenda items for JoCo commissioners on Wednesday morning, Oct. 13 in GP ... **Salmon viewing** via a hike is set for Saturday, Oct. 30, leaving from the I.V. Visitor Center. For more info phone Siskiyou Project at 592-4459 ... **Two boll weevils** grew up in the Deep South. One went to Hollywood and became a famous actor. The other stayed behind and never amounted to much. The second one, naturally, became known as the lesser of two weevils.

LAST WORDS - Fulfilling our lives on Earth is not a 100-yard dash. It's a marathon.

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or reducing needed services at 11 of its sites.

One said that at least 572,000 veterans do not know that they are owed disability pensions for a variety of major injuries. No one has let them know.

They believe that there needs to be an improved national support system for National Guard and Reserve soldiers' families, who are fending for themselves, while their loved ones go to battle without needed body armor.

The U.S. Army provides support and service to the families of active-duty troops. The National Guard does not get the same support because it is supposed to be deployed in the U.S., where its members hold jobs to support their families.

And the reason they're called the National Guard is because they are supposed to be guarding our country, here at home.

Maybe Bill Reid is not concerned with all this. Or worse, he won't acknowledge what is happening in a country we are occupying, and we aren't allowed to see our beloved young people coming home in body bags.

This Bush guy was AWOL during his time to serve in a war that was wrong, as were Wolfowitz, Cheney, Rumsfeld and Ashcroft.

Bush has spent almost 40 percent of the time he was supposed to be president in Crawford, Texas. Maybe we should call that AWOL too.

I, for one, am in favor of sending him back to Crawford permanently.

Letters ...

'Rogue government' From Crystal Griffin Cave Junction

It can be said that America is the greatest power in the world. We used to be the greatest country as well.

People around the world emulate our culture. Many take great risks crossing our borders looking for a better life. We have so much. Maybe we aren't the smartest people in the world, but we do have a big heart.

Are you aware that in Cuba and Kuwait the government gives its people free health care? Yet in America we can't even get the truth.

I watched an Oprah Winfrey show during which a 30-year-old Iraqi journalist was featured. She stated that in Iraq women are afraid to go outside because of the lack of security.

They have electricity two hours, then off for four, then on for two. All the women own machine guns to protect themselves. They can buy over-the-counter tranquilizers, and many are addicted to them to dull the fear and pain. She said that they want the U.S. occupiers to go home and let them heal.

Because of the way the present administration treats John Kerry, a decorated war veteran, I wonder if this indicates how our young men and women in the military can expect to be treated; questioning his service, his medals, his compassion for our young people in the military.

Our young men and women are in Iraq. The

insurgents know exactly where they are. They are crossing the borders to kill our brothers, husbands, sons and friends.

People need to wake up. They need to listen to the experts in the government telling us that this administration has led us astray. We need to read the books telling us this government has tripled our national debt that our grandchildren will pay.

This administration is a rogue government.

They are not fiscally conservative, except when it comes to spending our money and stealing from Social Security. They continue to give tax breaks to companies that outsource jobs, but tax those that operate in America.

People should vote on Nov. 2, and I think that a vote for John Kerry is a vote for America.

'Hijacking catastrophe' From Catherine Austin Cave Junction

I appreciate the hundreds of people in Illinois valley who have contributed so generously of their time and money.

The showings of "Hijacking Catastrophe" have been well received by those who have seen it. Approximately 130 people saw it Oct. 2 in the Selma Center.

To borrow a phrase from our president, it has been "a catastrophic success." There are about 70 authorized copies of the documentary circulating in our valley, and the Varsity in Ashland and Southgate in Grants Pass plan to show it soon.

Libby Goines also plans to show it; phone 592-6484 for information. There may be showings in the Takilma Community Bldg; or visit www.hijackingcatastrophe.org to learn more.

"It is certain in any case that power combined with ignorance is the worst enemy justice can have." (James Baldwin).

"War doesn't decide who is right, just who is left." (Unknown).

It occurs to me that the human recognition of all human beings as wonderful gifts is being replaced by a monumental effort to dehumanize all of humanity by a contingency of Americans busy being "good Germans."

I cannot overstate the grave and dire predicament that we face at this point on a global scale. I have taken to the streets and asked Bush supporters why they support him, and the responses are often terrifying to me.

There is a lot of hatred, fear, intolerance, bigotry, religious superiority and zealotness.

The intolerance includes a willingness to give up our constitutional rights to fight terrorism.

A Bush supporter even went so far as to mail me an anonymous (cowardly) letter to attack me for questioning Bush on my car. He wrote that he saw my car on the freeway.

He then illegally used access via DMV, law enforcement or car dealership, to obtain DMV records to get all my personal info. And less than two days later I received a

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Forest Edge Farm's Fall Hat Workshop

Coming October 23rd
 Finished Hat Price \$120
 Make your own at our Workshop \$75
 Space is limited. Register early.
 Call or email for more information.

llamuz@forestedgefarm.com 592-6078

ELLIS FOR COMMISSIONER

- *Commissioners need to have a financial and managerial background. I have both the background and the backbone.
- *Public Safety: family wage jobs; planned growth; improved senior/disabled services; protecting taxpayers dollars; and adjusting the excessive salaries, vacation, managerial/staff ratios.
- *On water resources, I would save Savage Rapids Dam and complete Elk Creek Dam.

"Hard working, consistency, ethics... it is my pleasure to support my friend Dwight Ellis."

- Senator Jason A. Atkinson

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