

## Bob's Corner

Several topics floated to the surface for this issue: photography, bad grammar, and strange happenings.

It was a photo finish, but photography won. The other topics descended back into the mire, and could resurface for another issue.

For as long as I can recall, which goes back to my prekindergarten days, I've been interested in photography. As a young child I took photos with my dad's black box Kodak, most of which were only a tiny bit blurry. But as I took them at our extended family's gatherings, where the beverage of choice was beer, the family members themselves were blurry.

Reviewing a daily newspaper was a habit for me from an early age. First, of course, I only looked at the photos, but began reading the print even before I accomplished "See Dick," "See Jane." Apparently the technique of newspaper photography sank in. Although some might disagree.

Once I took a photo of myself with my Kodak Starflash, holding the thing at arm's length. It turned out less than desirable, being a trifle unfocused. And unfortunately it shows all too clearly my then-buck teeth, pimply face and greased-down pompadour. Ah, the good old days.

A few years later, I laid on our front lawn with my camera and had my best friend, Billy, hold our dog, "Taco," on the next yard. I wanted to get a shot of the dog running at me. However, "Taco" was poquito loco and ran smack into the camera, handily smashing it into my face. I got a cut on my nose and a sore eyeball. The photo did not turn out well either.

Another time I tried my hand at war photography in the backyard, using my plastic army. My cousin, Ed, threw dirt for effect, and I had a small fire going as well for smoke. Those photos didn't turn out well either, but I had fun trying, although emerged a bit dusty and smelling of smoke.

Through the years I've photographed a wide range of people, happenings, accidents, fire and events. Some were not meant to be seen, I'm sure. For example, the night of the Downtown Cave Junction Halloween riots, I had a new camera, and used the wrong setting. So none of the shots turned out.

The first year here, I photographed a firefighter emerging from a house carrying a baby who had died of smoke inhalation. That shot didn't turn out either.

Sometimes, I think, there's a reason for such occurrences. And now, our photo devices have changed, which means I have even more chances to mess up.

Nearly all our photos now are taken with digital cameras. I still prefer using a "film camera," but then, I resisted computers for years, just as I was reluctant to move into the digital age.

That's it for this week. Another photo finish.

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We don't see things as *they* are,  
we see them as *we* are.

- Anias Nin -

## Illinois Valley News

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DEADLINES:

News, Classified & Display Ads,  
Announcements & Letters  
3 P.M. FRIDAY

(Classified ads & uncomplicated display ads can be  
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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 letter 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,  
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submitted each week if the item is to run for more than one week.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One year in Josephine County - \$20.80  
One year in Jackson and Douglas Counties - \$24.40  
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## Letters to the Editor

(Editor's Note: Views and  
commentary, including  
statements made as fact, are strictly  
those of the letter-writers.)

\*\*\*

Typed, double-spaced  
letters written solely to this  
newspaper are considered for  
publication. Hand-written letters  
that are double-spaced and  
legible also can be considered.  
Cards of thanks are not  
accepted as letters.

\*\*\*

### 'Sierra Club complaint' From C. Combs Cave Junction

I'm so happy the election is over.

I have never been a supporter of the Sierra Club and what it has become. How they had the nerve to call me at least twice a day for more than a week, I'll never know.

Just a computer-generated call, to be sure, but so many times? Shows just how the organization is at loose ends; no management and no direction.

Yes, I did vote, long before the phone calls started interrupting the peace and tranquility of my home.

This should not be tolerated for any reason, as exit polls have not been proven correct and true.

### 'Pregnancy Center encouraging' From Mary Lefner Cave Junction

As director of Pregnancy Center of the Illinois Valley, I want to emphasize that one aspect we thrive on is encouragement.

When every day is a spiritual battle, uplifting words make all the difference in the world. A key verse for us is Hebrews 3:13, where we are called to "encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called 'Today,' so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin."

Encouragement does a lot for all of us. Just as the verse says, it can keep us from hardening our hearts and missing God's best for us. That's what we try to do each day.

Some days we see the victories; some days we

don't, yet we know victory will come ultimately.

We encourage each client who walks through our doors. He or she may be facing an unplanned pregnancy; the challenges of parenthood; trying to sort through relationship issues; suffering from post-abortion pain; or striving to remain abstinent until marriage, in a society that doesn't necessarily promote marriage any more.

Some of our clients come in just to talk. They know that the Father's love and a caring peer counselor can always be found.

During the next few months, the pregnancy center is going to be working toward increased visibility in Illinois Valley. We want people to think of us first when they begin to wonder if they're pregnant.

So often, the first words a person hears when facing a crisis makes all the difference. And we want to be there.

We are seeking support for our outreach efforts. We are located at 481 S. Junction Ave., and our mailing address is P.O. Box 993 in Cave Junction. Our telephone number is 592-6058.

### 'Christmas Basket Toy Give-Away' From Celia Siemer Cave Junction

It's that time of year when we must again ask for support of the Christmas Basket Toy Give-Away.

Last year, donations helped more than 500 families in Illinois Valley. Each year we help the children of Illinois Valley have something special under their tree on Christmas morning.

Contributions to the program will help hundreds of children have a joyful holiday. We help families with Christmas dinner, thanks to the Josephine County Christmas Basket food donations, as well as toys.

All donations are used for the program. Volunteers run it, and every dollar or toy goes directly to our Illinois Valley community. We have no operating

costs or overhead; everything associated with the program is donated to the I.V. community from the community.

Tax-deductible donations will support the children of our valley who desperately need help. Many I.V. families simply cannot afford to provide a little gift to their children at Christmas.

We want children to play, eat and be merry as all children should. We are striving harder than ever to provide the spirit of giving to all in need.

Our toy project will encourage family time,

outdoor activities and reading as part of the program gifts. We are buying and asking for donations to encourage these values.

We are striving to provide each child with a book, an outdoor toy, and a game the family can play together.

We can be reached at 592-4149, Ext. 232.

We also need volunteers to help organize food and toys for the day they are distributed to Illinois Valley residents in need.

Toys also can be left at our office at 535 E. River St., or we can pick them up if notified.

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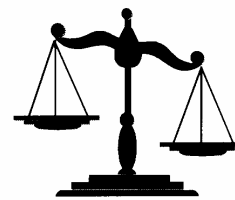
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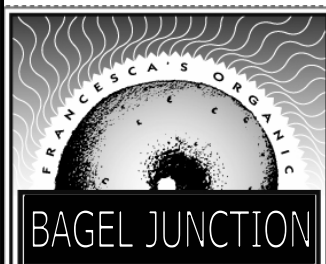
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