

Bob's Corner

Time again for the holiday, that dizzying time of tinsel, bright lights and wondering what we'll score. Actually that sounds like Las Vegas, Nev. But no, it's the season of Christmas for a lot of folks, as they recall the birth of Jesus Christ.

We happen to be among that group, and to prove it, we erected our Christmas tree two days after Thanksgiving. Last year we never got it out of the garage, but neither my wife nor I can remember why. If we went somewhere, we don't recall being there. Maybe we had too much eggnog.

Our happy holiday hoisting (of the tree, not the eggnog) last Saturday night was an experience of great significance. I say that because we decided to not file for a divorce despite some rough edges in our Yule happening. Like most men, I despise change.

First, before even bringing in our tree, we had to rearrange the living room. Had to move the four-piece couch, the monster hassock, a floor lamp, a small table, a heavy planter with a fake tree in it, and some other stuff, like a large stuffed bear. All during this activity, our two cats tried to assist us, as only cats can. Our two dogs just watched with wide eyes and nervous expressions. I think they were afraid we'd ask them to help.

In the cold garage I pulled our beautiful white tree with white lights away from the wall, and an ironing board fell and smacked the top of my head. I said a couple of not beautiful words. We managed to get our arms around the tree and stagger into the living room, only knocking off a few items from shelves.

After putting the tree in one corner of the room, we discovered it wasn't going to "work" there. So we had to rearrange the furniture again, and shift the dang tree to another location. Actually, it looks good there, although it seems to have trouble standing straight despite my pushing at strategic points at the direction of the Christmas Tree Queen.

When I plugged in the lights, the room glowed, and I felt better about the sweat and tears we had expended in this joyous holiday happening.

Seriously, the tree with its bright lights is a cheering sight, and I feel more like the Spirit of Christmas has arrived. Unfortunately, I still have to find several boxes and bags of Yule stuff that disappears each year, apparently in some sort of plot by evil elves.

But never fear, as soon as my headache from that ironing board bonking goes away, I'll find the stuff. For I have seen the light, and it is good.

Fire Log

Monday, Nov. 22

*5:18 p.m., medical assist with American Medical Response (AMR), 1700 block Laurel Road.

*5:24 p.m., districtwide medical standby for AMR.

Tuesday, Nov. 23

*10:31 a.m., medical assist, 1700 block Laurel Road.

*10:38 a.m., districtwide medical standby.

*12:06 p.m., motor vehicle accident (MVA), 700 block Lakeshore Drive.

*12:30 p.m., districtwide medical standby.

Wednesday, Nov. 24

*5:06 p.m., medical assist, Mesa Verde Drive.

*6:11 p.m., ADT fire alarm, 1200 block Lone Mountain Road.

Thursday, Nov. 25

*2:10 p.m., medical assist, Prottzman Way.

*6:44 p.m., medical assist, 900 block Caves Hwy.

Friday, Nov. 26

*12:12 p.m., medical assist, 100 block Hogue Drive.

*2:53 p.m., open burn, 17800 block Redwood Hwy.

*3:48 p.m., medical assist, W. Lister Street.

Saturday, Nov. 27

*11:18 p.m., medical assist, Mesa Verde Drive.

Sunday, Nov. 28

*9:55 a.m., medical assist, Ollis Road.

*12:18 p.m., MVA, Redwood Hwy. milepost 23.

*1:02 p.m., medical assist, 6600 block Rockydale Road.

*2:19 p.m., medical assist, Logan Cut.

*3:06 p.m., smoke investigation, 8800 block Deer Creek Road.

*3:52 p.m., MVA, 200 block N. Redwood Hwy.

*3:53 p.m., districtwide medical standby.

Monday, Nov. 29

*1:15 a.m., medical assist, 5200 block Dick George.

*8:05 a.m., medical assist, 17800 block Redwood Hwy.

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.

Love, mercy, truth From Zabriell Zadravetz O'Brien

Regarding all who voted for Bush because they thought they were doing the Christian thing, let's explore the true religion of Jesus.

Jesus demands righteousness that consists of love, mercy, and truth -- the sincere desire to do the will of the Father in Heaven.

Jesus said, "You shall return good for evil. My messengers must not strive with men, but be gentle towards all. Mercy always shall determine your judgments and love your conduct. By unselfish service lay up for yourselves treasures in Heaven, for where your treasures are, there will your heart be also."

Jesus never ceased to warn his disciples against the evil practice of retaliation; he made no allowance for revenge. Jesus said, "Love your enemies. Do good unto them."

A wrong is not righted by vengeance. We must not make the mistake of fighting evil with its own weapons. Jesus said, "Hate is the shadow of fear; revenge the mask of cowardice."

A practical method of discovering the degree to which we have yielded control of our soul-powers to

the teaching and guidance of the indwelling spirit of the Heavenly Father is the degree of our love for our fellow man.

If we are to live on a spiritual level we must attain a degree of spiritual insight and spiritual interpretation which impels us to recognize in this rule of life the divine command to treat all men as we conceive God would treat them. That is the universal ideal of human relationships.

And this should be our attitude toward all our problems when our supreme desire is ever to do the Father's will.

The true religion of Jesus leaves us free to follow the truth wherever the lead-

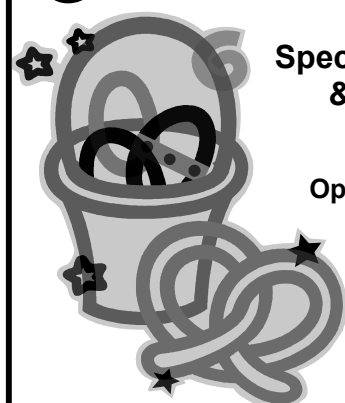
ings of the spirit may take us. And who can judge -- perhaps the Spirit of Truth may have something to impart to this generation that which other generations have refused to hear?

Is Bush doing God's will, as he openly declares? Is he loving and doing good to even his enemies; is he doing good for this country? Are we better off now? Is this a nation that people look upon as a loving nation?

Are we brave enough to really follow Jesus, the Prince of Peace, into new relationships even with those who want to harm us?

Are we willing to stand up and really be the true children of God as Jesus wants us to be?

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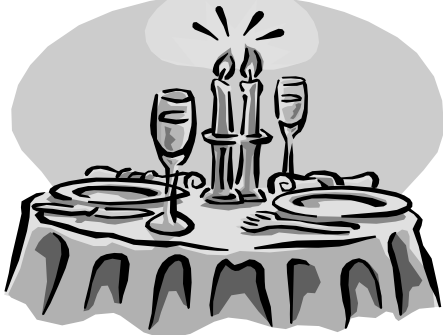
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Corrections

In the Nov. 24 issue of "Illinois Valley News" --

*An ad for Clothesline Quilts listed incorrect dates. The sale will be held Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 4 and 5. (See ad this issue).

*In an article about student health centers, it incor-

rectly was reported that Cow Creek Foundation provided funding for pedometers. The funding actually was obtained through Illinois Valley Community Response Team. The Cow Creek Foundation helped to build a new clinic. In addition, Marshall Hamilton, a registered nurse, devotes 20 hours per week "evaluating and seeing children," rather than "visiting."

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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 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 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, 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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