

Here, There & Everywhere

K-9 BUDDY - An anonymous donor has provided \$15,000 to "Friends of the K-9" for a new four-legged "officer" in Josephine County, said Sheriff Dave Daniel. Said the sheriff: "Last year we lost K-9 'Smitty' due to retirement. The first of this year we lost K-9 'Danno' due to medical problems. This left us with only two K-9s. The Friends had enough money to replace 'Smitty,' but not 'Danno.' This anonymous donation is extremely appreciated, so we can replace both dogs. Without the generous support of our community, we would not have a K-9 program," Daniel concluded.

'HEAVENLY' MUSIC - "Deeper," a free, public concert by X-Treme Praise Youth Choir from Community Bible Church in Central Point, will be performed in Cave Junction Friday, March 18. The event will begin at 7 p.m. at Valley Evangelical Free Church ("the wedding cake church"), at Laurel and N. Old Stage roads.

AIDS EVENT - There'll be a "grand reopening" at the office of AIDS Support & Prevention of Southern Oregon Friday, March 25. It'll run from 6 to 9 p.m. at 132 N.E. "B" St., Suite 23 in Grants Pass. For more information phone 471-7890 or 659-9020.

GRAD BENEFIT - April 16 is set for an I.V. High school Grad Night Benefit with dinner, silent auction and fashion show. Diners can choose vegetarian lasagna, beef or chicken. Tickets are available from Bi-Rite Auto Parts, between Stevereno's Family Restaurant and Earth Friendly Kids in Cave Junction. Proceeds will be used for the all-night, drug-and-alcohol-free graduation night party for the Class of 2005.

WRESTLERS AID - Invitations have been extended for two of Illinois Valley High School's top wrestlers to attend the eighth annual Down Under International Games in Australia in July. Wescott Lynch and Sam Green, both seniors, are planning fund-raisers to supplement help from their families. A joint account for them is set up at Home Valley Bank. Donations of any size should be made out to either of them.

'HEY, MARINE' - Planning is under way to form a Pacific Northwest chapter of the Third Marine Division Association in Oregon and S.W. Washington state. Anyone who served in, was attached to or served in support of the Third Marines since its formation in 1942 is eligible for membership. Phone (503) 698-2301 or contact billsplymouths@aol.com.

NOTEPAD - **Steve Welsh**, a writer from Takilma, will be featured Wednesday, March 16 beginning at 7 p.m. at the Blue Moon Café Monthly Writers Series. The gathering will include an open mic time. For more information phone Michael Spring at 592-2266 ... **Melva Nichols** (formerly McDonald) suffered a broken hip recently. She served as I.V. Chamber of Commerce office manager and the valley's RSVP coordinator for many years before relocating to Jackson County several years ago. Flowers and cards can be sent her at 2466 W. Evans Creek Road; Rogue River 97537 ... **Heartworm season** is coming up, notes Dr. Joe's Pet Hospital ... **Easter Sunday**, March 27 will mark the largest Easter Egg Hunt in the history of Illinois Valley Lions Club. The hunt by valley children will begin at 1 p.m., with rides on the club train and other attractions beginning at 11 a.m. ... **T-shirt:** The problem with Italian food is that three or four days later you're hungry again ... **Another T:** Having kids is like being pecked to death by a duck ... **Last T:** Jesus loves you. But I'm the favorite.

LAST WORDS - You don't have to spend much time in Washington to appreciate the prophetic vision of the man who designed all the streets there. They go in circles. (President Ronald Reagan)

IVFD to the Rescue

Monday, March 7
*10:48 a.m., medical assist (M.A.) with American Medical Response (AMR), 9648 Takilma Road.
10:50 a.m., districtwide medical standby (DIMS) for AMR.
*6:29 p.m., open burn, Redwood Hwy./Reeves Creek.
Tuesday, March 8
*6:49 p.m., M.A., 162 Queen of Bronze Road.
*7:06 p.m., DIMS.
*3:30 p.m., vehicle fire, milepost six Caves Hwy.
Thursday, March 10
*2:47 p.m., structure fire (escaped debris burn), 9516 Takilma Road.
Friday, March 11
*1:16 p.m., motor vehicle

accident (MVA), 32429 Redwood Hwy.
*6:21 p.m., illegal open burn, 25870 Redwood Hwy.
*6:56 p.m., smoke investigation, Caves Hwy./Smith Sawyer Road.
*9:22 p.m., grass fire, Jubilee Park.
Saturday, March 12
*4:57 p.m., grass fire, 23456 Redwood Hwy.
Sunday, March 13
*4:14 a.m., M.A., 36916 Redwood Hwy.
*4:16 a.m., DIMS.
*11:13 a.m., grass fire, 325 Dick George Road.
*4:12 p.m., M.A., 112 S. Redwood Hwy.
*11:28 p.m., MVA, 24342 Redwood Hwy.

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Letters to the Editor -- The Public Forum

(Continued from page 2)

And to add to that dilemma, labor and jobs have been outsourced for several years, leaving hundreds of thousands of Americans to obtain minimum-wage jobs in the service industry. If Reed hasn't noticed that problem, where's he been?

Cronyism, basically thievery, is out of control with this administration, and to ignore that is to step back to medieval times. Halliburton's no-bid contract and Dick Cheney should be brought up on charges for disregarding the bidding process, in which the American taxpayer has to foot the bill.

As we can see that our world is getting smaller and smaller, we have to ensure that our voices are heard louder, and louder. It make sense to me that every vote is traceable and free from corruption.

At least in 1960 the people were voting with paper ballots that left paper trails. Electronic voting machines with no paper trail are easily manipulated to show desired results, leaving the voters silenced.

There is one remaining glimmer of hope today: America severely needs a few good patriots. Thomas Jefferson stated, "Dissent is the highest form of patriotism," and according to him, Austin would be considered a true patriot and Reed a diatribe.

I love my country, but truly fear my government.

'Mukharebin'
From William Schneider
Cave Junction

I believe we are at a time in our evolution as a species where events played out on the world stage reflect where we are in our development as humans, and that the next very few years will determine more as to the direction of civilization than possibly any that have come before.

We all have been watching the events in the Middle East playing out with agonizingly slow (if any, it seems at times) positive results. However, what is happening, if we look closely, is an incredible development in human evolution; possibly the dawn of a new age.

For the first time since the Iraq war started I see a light at the end of a very long tunnel.

We are watching an entire way of thinking and living give way to the natural demand of the evolving species. We, as living human entities, in order to evolve any further at this time as a species, must be free from oppressive governments and oppressive ways of thinking.

One-by-one, as the world watches, democracies are replacing oppressive regimes. Slowly but surely the demand for freedom is creeping into the cracks of the castles of kings, no longer to be ignored. And as time passes, less and less will be tolerated by those who would impose their will by force of arms, through fear and intimidation.

I think people who have tasted freedom after never having known it are far less likely to give it up than those who take it for granted.

Each person, each country, each and every idea or thought of freedom adds to the tsunami that has, for the sake of survival, begun its cleansing. Why do I feel so optimistic?

I believe that once the people of oppressed governments, and especially women in the MidEast, are allowed their God-given rights, there is no way in Hell they are going to stand for them being taken away again. The only way that could happen is with government crackdown, which would be in the spotlight of the whole world watching.

Ukraine is a good example. And for the first time, militants in Palestine are distancing themselves from suicide bombers, calling them what they are: Mukharebin. Arabic for saboteur. Saboteurs of freedom and evolution.

I would hope that the Muslim community make so clear to these homicidal maniacs, and those who would support them in any way, that they do not have the support of the people or Islam. That their lives and religion will no longer be high-jacked for some personal quest for acknowledgment or power. That indiscriminate murder contradicts the religion they claim to live and die for.

It is time now, as always, for the people of Earth to individually ask themselves, "Do my actions promote a peaceful co-existence, or does what I say and do at any given moment make me a Mukharebin of the process of peace?"

Today's 'left'
From Bob Amelia
Cave Junction

Ward Churchill is a fraud. He claimed American Indian ancestry, but we find that he lied.

We also find charges against him for plagiarizing paintings he sold as his originals -- a real solid guy. If he lies about his heritage

what else might he lie about?

He has the right to say anything he wants, but taxpayers have a right not to fund hate speech at a public institution.

Would you support the Klan, Nazi Party, or a religious zealot that preaches murdering the very citizens that pay their salary? Would you pay taxes so that our Southern Oregon colleges could have these groups come to teach our children?

Regarding U.S. foreign policy, Kristine Strohl ("Illinois Valley News," March 9) makes a sweeping, generalized statement without specifics or examples. She states that U.S. policy is "ruthless, including torture and murders of hundreds of thousands of innocent people." No example given.

What in her mind could justify the slaughter of 3,000 Americans on 9-11; grotesque beheadings, and sui-

cide bombers who prey on their own children to explode the bombs?

They promise 72 virgins to youths who "volunteer" to go on a suicide bombing mission. This is not caused by U.S. policy, but by pseudo-religious cult madness.

Nevertheless, she and Ward (the wannabe Indian) and Michael (the propagandist) Moore all contribute to revealing how perverse and deranged today's "left" has become. Who wants to join this jihad?

Let's review the score card: two presidential elections, the Senate, the House, and a growing majority of governors are all Republicans.

John F. Kennedy would not be able to recognize today's "left" and must be spinning in his grave. More and more thoughtful Democrats are being driven out of the party.

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