

Bob's Corner

We have a cute newcomer at our house. He has four legs -- ending in what look like paws that resemble catcher's mitts -- two piercing khaki-colored eyes, a black coat, and the attitude of a jungle beast. He probably weighs close to 3 pounds now, nearly double his weight from approximately two weeks ago when we brought him home.

We thought and thought, trying to develop an appropriate name for the playful little guy. After watching him to see just what kind of critter he was, we chose "Tar Baby Sponge Bob," but that fell by the wayside with "Flint Eastwood" taking precedence. That's the name that fits his personality.

He has pretty much taken over the house, and has no trouble (almost) with 16-pound "Bubba" the mostly Siamese cat with the tiny voice. In fact, we acquired "Flint" as a playmate for "Bubba" because the latter's chubby mother, "Maui," is about as much fun as a double hernia. She will not play, preferring to hiss and growl whenever "Bubba" tries to get her involved in one of those odd cat games that seem to involve paw-batting and running through the house like a herd of yaks.

Our greenish-eyed baby climbs like a mountain goat, taking on everything of any height in the house. He leaps, digs in with his baby claws, and makes his way to the top. The furniture will never be the same. He also enjoys making his way to the garage through the cat tunnel we had installed from the living room. In fact, the garage, with all those boxes, nooks and crannies is often a favorite place. And he enjoys pouncing.

We have found that little "Flint" has no fear, taking on "Bubba" in those feline festivities mentioned earlier. He also has sharp kitten teeth and claws, which he's busy learning how to apply to his "owners" and, with a certain reserve, "Bubba." As for me, I'll be wearing long-sleeved shirts for a while. My hands exhibit a number of playful scratches too, but I'll not be donning gloves. It's too difficult to type that way.

Anyway, "Flint" will eat anything: albacore, ham, beans, beef, peanut butter and crackers: Put it in front of him, and he'll go for the gusto. He also likes expensive cat food. The other night, Jan was feeding him some tuna on our bed (where else?), and big "Bubba" leaped up for a look-see. He could not figure out why his little buddy was eating something other than cat food. It was an interesting situation, as "Bubba" even tried some of the fish, but found it not to his liking. He kept staring at "Flint," as if to say, "Why are you eating that? It's not cat food!"

"Flint" is a smart omnivore, adapting himself to us (or is it the other way around?) quickly. And he's gregarious.

So now we are a three-cat, two-dog, 20-or-so goldfish family. Also, we have had our daughter and two granddaughters visiting from San Diego, so we have had our hands and hearts full. Yep -- it's been a busy two weeks with newcomers left and right. Unfortunately, the three from San Diego are going home soon, and we'll miss them.

But we'll still have the poor man's menagerie.

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.

Brotherly love From Doug Blair Cave Junction

A fund for Don Lovejoy has been established at Home Valley Bank branches in Cave Junction and Grants Pass by Darlene Varney and I.

Don lost everything he owned, with the exception of his pickup truck, which is used to conduct his yard work. The explosion of his motor home propane tank was the cause of the loss.

The amount contributed is not the issue. It is to show compassion and brotherly love for those in our community who suffer accidents or other misfortune.

A few 'bad apples' From Vicki Kaplan Carlsbad, Calif.

I'm visiting in Illinois Valley, and have noticed the friendliness of people I've met here. They are pleasant, and that's what makes your valley and town so attractive.

I've also noticed situations that spoil that image. It seems that a handful of people are determined to spoil everything for everyone else.

Two examples are the break-ins, including the one at the CJ Swimming Pool, and the trash situation at Jubilee Park. Obviously, there are some people out there who lack ethics, and don't give a darn about the rest of the valley.

Maybe it would be good to let the trash-tossers know that it's a public park, and that others will use it and not want to wade through the rubbish left behind.

As for the burglaries and break-ins I read about in this newspaper, those people should be ashamed. And they should be fully prosecuted when located.

Real estate terms From Randy Beaver Cave Junction

I am selling my home, and am using a valley real estate agent.

When I got together with the agent to complete the papers, I told her several times that I wanted 60 days after the house sold to finish vacating the premises.

She never once mentioned that in the real estate world, the term "sold" means "entering into escrow," and that "closing" means the house has actually "sold."

This agent knew exactly what I meant. However, she never told me that what I really wanted was 60 days after "closing."

Escrow will close Aug. 15, and the person buying the house has the option to back out of escrow anytime

until that date. Why any seller would want to put himself in this position is beyond me.

As it stands now, I need to put money into a rental before the house "closes." And if he changes his mind, my home will be vacant, and I will have spent rental money unnecessarily.

I have never sold a house before, and I feel that this agent took advantage of the situation in order to make a quick sale. I'm writing in the hopes that this type of practice will stop.

All real estate agents need to explain the terminology to the seller and the buyer, and to make sure that each party is aware of all their options.

It's not only "buyer beware." With this type of practice, it's also "seller beware."

Biscuit logging From Justin Rohde Cave Junction

I live in Illinois Valley, where the forest service has been pushing what I believe is the largest timber sale in modern history, the Biscuit taxpayer-subsidized forest give-away.

I can tell you that in my estimation the majority of people who live here do not appreciate that the forest service and multinational logging companies have destroyed parts of the trailhead to Baby Foot Lake leading into the Kalmiopsis Wilderness, or that they have begun logging the National Wild and Scenic Illinois River Canyon area, including near the Illinois River trail leading into the Kalmiopsis Wilderness.

The logging is by John West, of Silver Creek Timber Co. I feel that he demands the public pay him for letting us use our national forests. The forest service has rewarded him by closing vast areas of Illinois Valley to the public.

Only logging companies and miners are allowed to access the entire Eight Dollar Mountain Road and Baby Foot Lake area, and I believe that they will soon close the entire Illinois River Road to the public so that West can earn money without the public opposing the sale.

More on logging From Rolf Skar, campaign director, Siskiyou Project Cave Junction

Three years after dry lighting strikes started the Biscuit Fire in Southwestern Oregon's Siskiyou Wild Rivers area, the Siskiyou National Forest has begun logging forests in the Wild and Scenic Illinois River canyon.

It's disappointing to see that with millions of taxpayers dollars and three years to work with, the forest service is still getting it all wrong. Instead of working together on real fire safety and creating restoration jobs, we're watching them log along the fish-rich Wild and Scenic

Illinois River at heavy taxpayer expense.

The McGuire logging sale is located entirely in an old-growth reserve that was to be shielded from cutting for sensitive species under the Northwest Forest Plan. It also logs the 3,529-acre Six Mile Creek roadless area -- an uninventoried roadless forest near giant Kalmiopsis wildlands.

Ronnie Chittim lives on a small private residence within the Siskiyou National Forest along the Illinois River. "I both live and make my living along this beautiful river," said Chittim. "Tourists come from all over the United States to stay in my cabin and enjoy the peace, quiet and beauty of Nature.

"When people ask me where to go on trails around here, I'll have to tell them to walk until they see the stumps and slash piles down the road," continued Chittim. "This logging would trash a historic place, and increase fire risk for people like me. I'm concerned that the scenic part of this river is shrinking because of devastation from logging."

Said Greg Walter, a local historian and tourism advocate: "This harmful logging is not about real jobs, fire safety or the economic future of our community. They may close one of our most-used tourism areas during peak travel season -- it makes no sense at all."

Some 95 percent of the more than 20,000 official public comments on the Biscuit logging project urged the forest service to take a conservative approach. The forest service has disregarded those comments, favoring to log in sensitive old-growth reserves and roadless forests.

The McGuire sale is a testament to how out of touch the forest service leadership is with common sense, our economic future

and the values of most Oregonians. I wish we had some progress to celebrate on this anniversary, but the forest service has given us nothing but controversial logging and politics as usual.

'How to stop theft' From S.D. Freeman Cave Junction

Any time you are forced to sign any contract, it is rendered null and void and is without force and effect.

The following information can be used by most people who drive a motor car. Only those who are hauling goods or people for hire cannot use it. First, two definitions:

"Permit, a license or grant of authority to do a thing ..." (Black's Law Dictionary, Fifth Edition, 1979, page 1026).

"Streets and highways. A permit to use street is a mere license revocable at pleasure. The privilege of using the streets and highways by the operation thereon of motor carriers for hire can be acquired only by permission or license from the state or its political subdivisions" (Black's 5th Ed. P. 830).

"This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance hereof ... shall be the supreme Law of the Land and the judges in every State to the Contrary notwithstanding." (U.S. Constitution, Article VI, paragraph 2).

"Article I, Section 10. No State shall ... pass any ... law impairing the obligation of contracts." (National U.S. Constitution.)

Any time a person buys a car, the dealer will not let you drive it off the lot unless you have a driver's license and the car is registered and licensed. The registration and licenses are contracts.

(Continued on page 3)

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(Classified ads & uncomplicated display ads can be accepted until Noon, Friday with an additional charge.)

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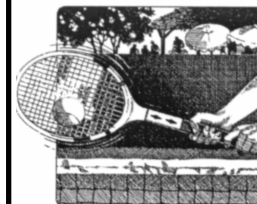


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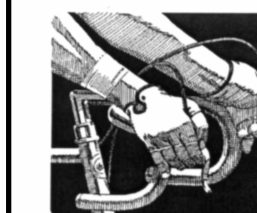
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