

Bob's Corner

Ye olde editore is a wee bit weary after a lovely, loving and uplifting (see below) two-week visit by our daughter, Vicki, and two granddaughters, one of whom was only 8 weeks old when they arrived from Carlsbad in San Diego County.



In fact, although I hesitate to admit it, because of my perceived fantastic physique and macho attitude, the tendons in my forearms are a trifle sore from lots of lifting and carrying the youngsters. It's tough getting older, and that has

become quite clear because of the muscular aches and pains that have made themselves known.

You've heard of tennis elbow? I have baby elbow. And in the interests of comfort (my own), Natalie, who'll turn 3 next month, and the aforementioned infant, Ella Valentina, offer their favorite expressions to spare me any more strenuous typing than absolutely necessary.

I don't want to! (Natalie)
I don't want to!! (Natalie)
I don't want to!!! (Natalie)
Waaaaaa! (Ella) Translation: I'm cranky and hungry; bring on the mommy milk!
I really need to hold the kitty! (Natalie)
I really need some peanut butterscotch chips! (Natalie)
I really need a juicie! (Natalie) (Translation: Get me a drink of apple juice with mandatory straw).
WaaaWaaa!! (Ella) Translation: I'm tired and cranky, plus hungry; bring on the mommy milk!

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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.

'Someone got involved' From Peggy Norman Cave Junction

I'm a little miffed after reading the "Get involved" letter to the editor from Jennifer Berubee, and "Police Blotter" regarding the pickup truck burning on Caves Avenue June 26.

I live next door to where the truck burnt. I don't know what was happening on Berubee's street at 3 that morning, but most everybody here was all nestled in their beds asleep.

One man, who was awake, saw the fire and used his garden hose to try to put it out. He also made a 911 call, to which volunteer firefighters (my husband being one) responded, and finished putting out the fire.

The sheriff's office also was called, and was on-scene by the time the fire was extinguished. By my count that's at least five volunteer firefighters, one officer and a Good Samaritan.

The truth is: If not for a quick-thinking neighbor and volunteer firefighters, the truck would have burnt to the ground, but the fire was held to the inside of the cab.

One thing I've learned in life is to get all the facts straight before accusing.

Valley mail service From Jack Nolan Kerby

The U.S. Postal Service ought to consider resurrecting the Pony Express. It sure would improve mail service between Selma, Cave Junction and O'Brien.

The postal service in Illinois Valley is lousy. There needs to be a big shake-up.

I don't think that a lot of the local people know that if you mail a letter at any one of these post offices to go to another I.V. town, that it goes to Medford, and God knows where else. Also, if you put mail in the outside box it is picked up by the mail carrier and carted to Medford, even if it is addressed to that post office.

It's going on a long round-trip, more than 100 miles, and in some cases, many hundreds of miles and many days before it gets to the recipients.

Several years ago, on our way to a job in Gold Beach at 6 a.m., I used the outside deposit box to mail a proposal to an O'Brien customer, thinking he would

Corrections

*A page 14 caption in the July 20 issue could have been interpreted that Bob Kerivan, of Bridgeview Vineyards Winery, owns a new vineyard in O'Brien.

In fact, the vineyard is owned by Reggie Boltz. The manager is Victor Putnam, and Mona Putnam is serving as "cook."

*For more information about C-J Child Care Center, which will open soon, use 596-2444; not the number that was in a story in last week's issue.

get it that day. Ten days later he called me, wanting to know about the proposal, so I hand-delivered another copy the same day, and guess what?

The original proposal was delivered to him that same morning. It had the postmarks of Medford, Eugene, Salem, Portland and two others that couldn't be read.

Just recently a customer mailed us a check from the Cave Junction Post Office on June 26. We received it on July 8, 11 days after it was posted.

We have been wondering why it takes so long to get paid after we send our bills. But no wonder. If it takes 11 days for the customer to get the bill, and another 11 days for the check to get to Kerby, that is more than three weeks.

Let's write or phone the regional office in Seattle. Why can't the three post offices sort the mail for the valley destinations, like they used to do, instead of sending it all over the state?

I think the mail that originates in the valley and has a valley destination should stay in the valley.

'Chile pepper' popper From William Reid Cave Junction

What a neat article on O'Brien resident Tony Armida and his utilization of old satellite dishes for growing vegetables.

I would imagine that the dishes make the ultimate raised bed. Among the items that were being grown were "Jalepeno peppers," "Anahem chili peppers," and "bell peppers." Sad to say, there are no such "peppers."

The misunderstanding began when Columbus first encountered the fiery varieties of chiles and called them "peppers," thinking that they were related to pepper, which is the order *Piperaceae*, genus *Piper*, of Oriental origin.

Chiles, botanically speaking, are capsicums, a genus of the order *Solanaceae*. In Mexico alone, there are an estimated 61 classified varieties of chiles. Most often in Mexican cooking the red chiles are used dried, while the green chiles are used fresh.

The exception to this is the ripe red bell and the sweet, heart-shaped red pimiento, which are almost always used fresh, never dried.

So now we know, there are chiles, and there are peppers: But there is no such thing as a chile pepper.

Special lawman district suggested to CJ Council

A special district for law enforcement throughout Illinois Valley was suggested during the Cave Junction City Council meeting Monday night, July 25.

Meeting in city hall, the council, during the citizen comment portion, heard from Jim Frick, a real estate broker and longtime community supporter. He and major city developer Larry Osborne said that such districts work well elsewhere.

Frick said that holding elections for funding such entities can be expensive, but that the results are worth it. He estimated that eight to 10 officers could be funded with a taxing district.

He and Osborne also have touched on the idea of combining law enforcement with fire protection, as is done successfully by the city of Grants Pass. Frick said that Chief Harry Rich of I.V. Fire District should be contacted for his input.

The city currently contracts with Josephine County Sheriff's Office for 40 hours per week of law enforcement in city limits. Sheriff Dave Daniel has

suggested that the city find a way for 24/7 coverage because of population growth.

In another matter, the council voted 3-1 to allow certain improvements to W. River Street in connection with the Too Far South subdivision development. Councilman Rita Dyer voted "no," and Councilman Dan Fiske was absent.

The council devoted approximately half of the 60-minute meeting to the matter. Details of the approved plan are available at city hall.

In connection with the approval, Osborne chided the council, calling its action "a mistake." He indicated that the council perhaps was too lenient with the request by Wiegand Engineers, of Grants Pass, and that problems could result from heavy rainfall.

Councilman Russell Ehrman, who lives on the street, said later in the meeting that he "could have made a mistake" voting for approval. But he stressed that public safety is paramount, and that the OK'd plan addresses that issue.

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