

Bob's Corner

As summer 2005 staggers to a close (Sept. 22 is the “official” start of autumn, although how Mother Nature reads a calendar is beyond me), I am forced to recall one summer long ago. Yes, I know that El Jefe is reminiscing beyond the endurance of some readers, but I enjoy recollections, so put that in your pipe and smoke it.

Actually, I know some folks who would smoke it, but that’s another story. And another story comes to mind, courtesy of a fellow bingo player at I.V. Senior Center last week, who wants me to write about the “mischief” of my early daze. Those recollections will have to wait. Can’t tell you why, although there probably are some city of San Diego firefighters still looking for me around Linda Vista.

Anyway, returning to the Legitimate Land of Yesterday, we find ourselves in the area of San Diego known as Pacific Beach, or as it’s still called by the locals, “PB.” Window stickers are available.

PB is home to Crystal Pier, which contains an actual motel over the incoming tide (or outgoing, depending on the moon). The address is actually on Ocean Blvd., which is a good clue. The motel slogan is, “Sleep over the ocean,” which is another clue.

I spent one summer as a lad of approximately 17, fresh out of high school, working at a snack bar a shell’s throw from the pier. It was a dank, dark place (the snack bar), mostly because vagrants and errant surfers used the inside corners at night as a restroom. Some occasionally slept there too, away from the corners, and sometimes I’d have to make a lot of noise to get them to leave in the morning.

My first duty was to hose down the concrete interior of the place, and get the hot dogs going. Then I’d hang up the bags of chips; put out the candy display; make sure the soft drink dispenser was ready, and then smile. Business was less than good, as surfers in those days had little or no cash.

Heck, sometimes they’d pitch pennies against the back-outside wall until one got up to 14-cents for an order of fried potatoes at a nearby fast-food burger joint. My dogs were 50-cents, as I recall. Actually, I ate more dogs than I sold, what with being a growing boy making a buck an hour.

A couple times a week, a boy from my graduating class would give me free use of a surf mat from his beach business after I closed the snack bar. He was a young entrepreneur, and a nice kid. Mat surfing was a kick, and I’d hang around with the real surfers trying to understand that they were talking about in surfer language. Eventually I became an honorary member of the somewhat-famous La Jolla-based Windansea Surf Club. That came in real handy when I covered water sports for the former San Diego “Evening Tribune” a few years later.

There was a café with an outside serving window a short distance from “my” snack bar, and starving surfers would take advantage of the nightly serving of spaghetti. You could get a huge plateful of carbohydrates for about a buck. They got their money by doing odd jobs in the neighborhood or panhandling the tourists.

Sometimes, if the beer trucker for the café wasn’t watching, a case of brew would disappear while he was making a delivery. Gotta’ have beer with your spaghetti, I guess. Once, this young surfer tried to make off with a whole keg. It was at least twice his weight, and he only got about 20 feet before the trucker caught him. The driver didn’t call the cops; just yelled at the thirsty kid a lot.

So there you have it. What with cheap spaghetti and fried potatoes, not to mention free beer, no wonder my hot dogs didn’t sell well.



CONSUMER CREDIT
COUNSELING SERVICE
of Josephine County, Inc.

1314 NE Foster Way, Grants Pass, OR 97526
www.cccsgrantspass.com
Hours: 9-2:30. After hours appointments are available.

We are a local, non-profit agency that can help you solve your debt problems, avoid bankruptcy and learn how to handle your money!

Credit reports & credit reviews available.

Phone 479-6002 today.

Illinois Valley News

An Independent Weekly Newspaper Co-owned and published by Robert R. (Bob) and Jan Rodriguez - Bob Rodriguez, Editor El Jefe

Entered as second class matter June 11, 1937 at Post Office as Official Newspaper for Josephine County and Josephine County Three Rivers School District, published at 321 S. Redwood Hwy., Cave Junction, OR 97523
Periodicals postage paid at Cave Junction, OR 97523
Post Office Box 1370 USPS 258-820
Telephone (541) 592-2541, FAX (541) 592-4330
Volume 68, No. 26
Staff: Kacy Clement, Michelle Binker, Becky Loudon, Bryan Harley, Tabitha Jackson, Nina Holm Consulting.
Member: Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association

DEADLINES:
News, Classified & Display Ads, Announcements & Letters
5 P.M. THURSDAY
(Classified ads & uncomplicated display ads can be accepted until Noon, Friday 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 latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity. The 'News' reserves the right to edit letters. Generally, one letter per person per month at publishers' discretion. Letters are used at the discretion of the publishers. Unpublished letters are neither acknowledged nor returned. A prepaid charge may be levied if a letter is inordinately long in the publishers' 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 resubmitted weekly if the item is to run more than one week.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
One year in Josephine County - \$20.80
One year in Jackson and Douglas counties - \$24.40
One year in all other Oregon counties and out-of-state - \$36
POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to
P.O. Box 1370, Cave Junction, OR 97523

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.

‘Insensitivity of paper’
From Bonny Griffith
Cleburne, Texas

I am writing regarding an article published in the Aug. 31 issue, “Injured Kerby woman dies in Portland.” I am the daughter of Larry LaVada, and my family is very upset at the insensitivity of your paper.

I understand that gore may sell papers, but I doubt that this article had any effect on the sale of your paper. There appeared to be no consideration taken about the feelings of those affected by the death of my stepmother, Vicki. The details of the accident did not need to include:

*That she died after taking her off life support. How about, “She died as a result of her injuries.” Your statement made it appear that she died as a result of being taken off life support. That is completely incorrect. She died after being taken off life support, which was a very difficult decision to make.

*That she was thrown 15 feet and that she tried to run away. My father was present at the accident, but did not see the entire thing. Would you like to know that your loved one had to run for their life?

*‘LaVada’s first two wives died of cancer.” What does this have to do with anything?

I realize at this point that there is nothing you can do to take away the pain and anguish my father felt after reading this article, but I hope that in the future you will be more compassionate in thinking about the family that is left behind and reading your paper.

‘Katrina’ and pregnancy center aid
From Mary Lefner
Pregnancy Center of the Illinois Valley

I am writing to share concerns about the “Katrina”-affected people in Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi.

Many people were unable to evacuate, or stayed to help others. As is common in these types of situations, basic needs are difficult to obtain.

People are seeking comfort during times of intense personal turmoil, and are less likely to use good judgment when it comes to potential reproductive consequences of such action.

The pregnancy centers that I have been in touch with in the Gulf Coast region are expecting a sharp increase of crisis pregnancies starting during the next few weeks. As we saw immediately following the Sept. 11 tragedy in New York City, abortion promoters and providers tend to prey upon these types of situations.

Positive things are happening. One Louisiana pregnancy center that we’ve been in touch with has become a distribution point for aid. They are in specific need of waterless hand cleaner, feminine products and Bibles.

Our Pregnancy Center of the Illinois Valley will be collecting these items and

shipping them often during the next few weeks.

If you would like to participate in this endeavor, leave your items/donations at the center on S. Junction Avenue, adjacent to Foundation of Life Assembly of God Church.

For those who would like to assist with the shipping costs, a check would be most welcome: 100 percent of donations received for this cause will be forwarded to the Gulf Coast.

For those interested in helping victims in Mississippi or Alabama, we have a center in Georgia that is collecting supplies and driving them to these pregnancy centers. And 100 percent of donations received for Mississippi or Alabama will be forwarded to them through the Georgia center.

Supplies are most needed in Louisiana. Monetary donations will go farther for the Mississippi and Alabama centers, as supplies can be purchased in Georgia and Florida (saving shipping costs). Tax-deductible receipts are available through our center for any donations received.

Phone us at 592-6058, or send e-mail to Pregnancy Center@cavenet.com if you have questions or want to aid this relief effort.

‘Spiked with deception’
From Mary Sharp
Selma

The mainstream media has a lot of words and, using the bait of human distress from “Katrina,” the net is thrown out to draw in the “fish” who swallow a line so well-spiked with deception.

But for anyone who just thinks a little, and examines the facts to find what is true, they will see that the mayor, governor, senators, etc., who so boldly accuse the president and FEMA of failure, and even of purposely causing harm, are themselves mostly to blame for failure to avert a lot of their storm troubles.

Those accusers are so hypocritical. We shouldn’t wonder at bureaucratic difficulties to act, but if we had a dictator, we’d have the terror of that. We got off the right track way back when we thought a human entity could and should be our savior.

We say, “Mr. President, keep up the good work.

“We’re with you in your hurricane troubles, and we’re with you for John Roberts too. He’s a superb choice. Don’t believe those phony polls that say your rating is down.

“We don’t answer to poll-takers. Anyhow, what is right is right, and it takes real courage to stand there when it looks like a fire storm coming against you.”

‘Is God laughing?’
From John Bazen
Cave Junction

With the inventions of the electron microscope and the much newer atomic-resonance microscope, science now is fully able to describe what Charles Darwin said was a very simple cell, the living cell of an animal.

He was looking through a new invention, a microscope, with less than 10-power magnification. He said it was a gelatinous blob, seemingly very easy to begin by itself the life we see on Earth.

Funny though, oft spoken of, not ever mentioned, are the six times Darwin himself wrote, “It would be a grave error to forget God

in this process.” Yet this is really the baseline of this whole movement, which has become a religion to many.

In all their seminars and symposiums, they seem to never have any microbiologists on the panel or in the audiences, to ask embarrassing questions. Why?

Is it due to the fact that most of these biologists now know that any cell from a man or animal is so thoroughly complex, that saying this: “Take a square mile of New York City, at rush hour, and reduce this to micro-micro size, as such one needs the most powerful microscope man has to date, to see it in detail.”

Many take this to mean that only God is able and created everything. For example, there are “factories” producing amino acids; then “trucks,” powered by jets of liquids, transport this product, to another factory, and these trucks each take the same routes, over and over, as if on tracks or roads. They have found many thousands of “factories and trucks” within a single cell.

Now all this by the accidental lightning strike, or a comet/meteor that carried “life,” in the frozen vacuum of space and then still living through 3,000 plus degrees burning through the atmosphere, that life needs?

When does common sense kick in, America?

Now, if evolution is fact, then God is not, right? This means there can be no sin, nothing is absolute, in right, wrong or truth, which is what many have been saying for years. This also means that we live, we die, the end.

No hope, no salvation. Now perhaps we know why 30,000 of our youth from 12 to 20 years of age committed suicide, last year according to government info.

If all we have is the heartaches of life, the disappointments of life, the aches and pains of old age, only to die, why not save one’s self from all life’s difficulties, and die now?

Why not indeed?

Bald Lick
From Peter Salant and Tim Ream
Little Applegate Valley

On July 8, Medford District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) released an Environmental Assessment for the Bald Lick Landscape Project.

The proposed actions involved thousands of acres of commercial logging and extensive road-building and reconstruction in the heart of our beloved Little Applegate community. Our community has responded energetically, and we feel it is appropriate to make anyone who might be interested in public land commercial logging issues in our area aware of our feelings and actions.

It is perhaps most important to point out that the Bald Lick Record of Decision may be illegal. Several public-interest environmental groups are located in or have a substantial presence in the actual Bald Lick planning area. On their advice, the Oregon Natural Resources Council and attorneys in the Portland area have become involved in Bald Lick legal issues.

It may be worthwhile to examine whether the federal courts will halt the Bald Lick project for either substantive or process-related reasons.

To gain a better understanding of the rationale for possible legal action we are encouraging people to review the many public comments concerning the Bald Lick project on record at the Medford BLM office. They are the gauge not only of the strength of our legal arguments, but the scope of opposition to this project by neighbors and concerned citizens from around the country.

At this point we meet regularly as the Little Applegate Neighborhood Network (LANN). Generally we have approximately 30 community members per meeting with new people in the area learning about pro-

(Continued on page 3)

Illinois Valley Friends of the Library
will hold its annual
Book & Bake Sale
Friday, Sept. 23 from 6 to 8 p.m. for members, and
Saturday, Sept. 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the public
in the County Building in Cave Junction.

For further information or to volunteer please contact
Linda at 592-3289.





HUGE SALE

10% OFF
Entire Inventory

Sale ends Sept. 24 - limited to stock on hand

Corner of Redwood Hwy. & Rockydale Road
592-5386
Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

