

## Bob's Corner

Well, we're in trouble again. Our amazing ball of fur and fire, black-and-white minicat Charlie Kaplan, has learned to open drawers and cabinet doors. This means that in the early morning (like between 2:30 and 5 a.m.) the sounds of banging, thrashing around and stuff being pulled out of said drawers and cabinets interrupts our rest.

Or we are treated to the intriguing, sometimes disconcerting noise of those cabinets and drawers being slammed shut. He also likes to knock over water glasses, usually with liquid in them. And sometimes he tries to damage me by knocking items off the headboard, like lamps and glass knick-knacks. Makes for an interesting course in Sleeping With Sound-Effects. Plus, I might have to wear a helmet to bed.

We already installed child-proof latches on some of our cabinet doors because Bubba the Huge Mostly Siamese used to sleep in our pots and pans. Or he'd pull out towels and sheets from one storage site.

At our abode we are never without some sort of feline companionship, especially in bed, because they all enjoy sleeping with us. They each have their special spots. Charlie the Destroyer, when not exploring and knocking stuff over or pulling it out, likes to lie between us; Rocky the Vicious Pomeranian has a claim on one side of the foot of the bed; Maui the Marauding Peacekeeper often lies on Jan's side of the bed or atop her; and Flint Eastwood claims the locale just below my feet.

As for Bubba the Sumo King, he prefers the top of my head or whichever of my hips is up. At 16-plus pounds, I can always tell when he's present. Especially because he has a tendency to put most of his weight on one spot. A tender one. Besides that, he frequently, from two to four times per sleep phase (mine), insists that I pet him or scratch his face and behind his Batman radar ears. If I do not, he raps me somewhat gently, most of the time, with one of his furry catcher's mitts. He'll keep it up until I comply. Then he engages his odd little purring.

Oh, and Bingo, our terrier/shepherd/whatever mix doggie, sleeps in another room. He's kind of antisocial when it comes to the other animals. But he's so jealous of me hugging Jan that if he's a witness he'll start barking and jumping, demanding that he also be hugged.

I guess you could say at our house that it's reigning cats and dogs.

**Cats are a mysterious kind of folk. There is more passing in their minds than we are aware of.**  
- Sir Walter Scott -

## MASSAGE THERAPY

Rachel Goodman, L.M.T.

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## Spring Bazaar

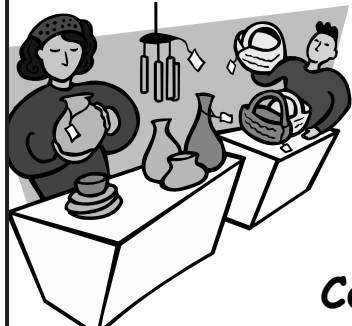
I.V. Senior Center  
520 E. River St. 592-6888

Friday & Saturday, April 7 & 8  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Candy, Dolls, Minerals, Candles, Beadwork,  
Indian Crafts, Woodwork, Baby Clothes

Homemade  
Bake Sale  
Snack Bar  
11 to 2

Come join the fun!



## Illinois Valley News

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

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### 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 letter 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.)  
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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.

'Thank you' submissions are not accepted as letters.  
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### All-church banner promoters comment From Lyn Berry Cave Junction

The next all-church congregation is coming up Sunday, April 9 at Community Bible Church at 6 p.m. (see display ad elsewhere in this issue of "I.V. News").

The application, complete with proposed text and layout of the next banner was submitted March 6. The proposed text is:

"All church congregation gathering

"Once and for all" a musical presentation in celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

"Community Bible Church 4-9-06 at 6 p.m.

"...we have been forgiven and made clean by Jesus Christ dying for us **once and for all.**" (Hebrews 10:10 Living)"

The mayor approved all the above text, except the Scripture quote: "...we have been forgiven and made clean by Jesus Christ dying for us once and for all" -- even though Hebrews 10:10 is the Biblical basis of the title of the special musical presentation (which, by the way, I highly recommend for believers and unbelievers, alike).

Since my husband and I have complied with every regulation in the printed "banner instructions" handed us by city hall personnel when we applied, we asked (on March 7 after being denied by phone call from the mayor) for a copy of the newly revised rules. We were told these are not yet available. We will continue to ask.

The banner needs to be installed March 24 in order to be up for two weeks prior to the event (as allowed in the rules we have been given). Of course, the banner company needs some time to manufacture and ship the banner.

I thank God for those believers who have encouraged us that they agree with having the Word of God and the Name of Jesus Christ lifted up in our town.

### Former smokejumper base a real treasure From Gary Buck Cave Junction

The Siskiyou Smokejumper Base at the Illinois Valley Airport has been approved by the State Historic Preservation Office as a State Historic Site.

It has been nominated for placement on the National Register of Historic Places.

The reason it has received these nominations is that this smokejumper base and the park-like setting

around it are not only historic, but are rare and extremely unique in North America. These buildings were constructed for a specific purpose and are unequalled anywhere.

Experts appointed by the governor of Oregon approved it as State Historic Treasure because it represents an extremely significant story in U.S. history. This means that this base could become a one-of-a-kind attraction to help boost tourism in this valley, which would help improve the local economy.

There is no other community on the West Coast that has this unique heritage story. This attraction advantage should be saved so that we could capture some of the national tourism market. There is proven economic potential here. We have a million tourists who drive down Redwood Hwy. every year. Most are not stopping in Illinois Valley.

Other communities on the West Coast are taking advantage of the economics of tourism. We have not been able to do this, and we could. Ignoring the economic potential here would be foolish.

Buildings at the smokejumper base should not be torn down or removed. There is a park-like setting around those buildings. Trees should not be cut in this setting. This base is a national treasure. This base virtually eliminated catastrophic fires for 39 years.

While the base was open, we had no Biscuit Fire, no Longwood Complex Fire, no Mendenhall Fire, and no Silver Creek Fire. Remember that the Biscuit Fire was the most expensive fire in U.S. history. Siskiyou smokejumpers would have suppressed those fires easily and at very little cost.

Smokejumpers are a

highly efficient, cost-effective fire-fighting unit. It probably would have cost the government approximately \$20,000 for Siskiyou smokejumpers to put out all of them. Estimates on just suppression of the Biscuit Fire alone are more than \$160 million.

Suppression costs do not include timber loss and other losses. In 1981 the Siskiyou Smokejumper Base was closed, supposedly to save money.

People should write letters to the Josephine County commissioners and express to them that this base is a treasure and should not be torn down. The commissioners have not announced a plan to preserve this historic site or have a museum. The park-like setting around the base should be protected.

This smokejumper base is nationally and internationally significant. The state of Oregon understands its heritage potential. There is no other base like this in the world. This base should be made into a museum so that others can visit and can share in this great story.

The base represents a proud moment in Josephine County history.

### Salvage logging studies, 'last old-growth' notes From Lynne Vanderlinden Cave Junction

In response to Tim Norman's March 15 rebuttal to my letter regarding the veracity of salvage logging studies, I'd like to make it clear that I am not an enemy of the environment, and that I abhor many past logging practices.

What I am is a realist with a basic understanding of what Norman opened the door to: natural progression.

I am not so stupid as to suppose that our forests

didn't burn and blow down 2,000 years ago with no human intervention; it was natural and necessary. Yes, there were people here, but not many, and they could pack up and move at the first whiff of smoke. That option is no longer available.

For better or worse, our distant ancestors (including Norman's) did a bang-up job of going forth and multiplying and migrating to America to continue the process. And I guess that it all went downhill from there.

Whatever the Native Americans still believe, many seem to have naturally progressed, albeit unwillingly, right along with the rest of us. They too live in wooden homes, drive cars, utilize computers and slot machines, use toilet paper and even run their own logging operations and oil fields.

To quote Norman, "the circle of life."

I think that he might have missed a couple of my points. The "moonscape" to which I referred was Mt. St. Helens, and no, I don't wish to see more. I also didn't argue the merits of salvage logging studies.

Doonesbury quipped a couple of weeks ago, "Situational science is about respecting both sides of a scientific argument, not just the one supported by science."

He thinks that people (for example, loggers?) are intelligent enough to find another way to earn a living that isn't destroying our planet. In that case, why don't the enviros focus their time, money and attention to creating those jobs?

And while they're at it, how about figuring out some viable alternative sources of

(Continued on page 3)

## Our County Needs a Sheriff with Fresh, New Ideas...

### I am that Person.

Hundreds of people are signing on to our campaign roster because all over Josephine County citizens are saying they're feeling less safe, alienated from community input, and ready for a fresh new change in our law enforcement standards...

I want to know your ideas as well... so call or email me at  
955-4697  
gilforsheriff@qwest.com

### GET TO KNOW GIL:

- 1975 to 1991 Patrol Officer, Bomb Squad, Tactical Team, Recovery Diver, and Jailer for the Waterloo, Iowa Police Department.
- 1992-2005 National & International Law Enforcement Instructor
- 1996-2004 US Dept. of State in Kosovo & Bosnia
- Josephine County Sheriff Office Search and Rescue Dive Team
- Executive Board of Directors Friends of the K-9, Josephine County
- 2005 Iraq Advisor & Hurricane Katrina Tactical Team

## GIL GILBERTSON FOR SHERIFF

I Will Listen & Together We Will See Change.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Gil Gilbertson Sheriff  
Treasurer, Diann Rhodes-Gilbertson

## Pregnant... Scared

You have questions, we can help find the answers.



Pregnancy Center

Mon.-Fri., 9-5

www.pregnancycenteriv.org

592-6058