

 Bob's Corner

(Note from Bob: Readers with delicate constitutions, or those unused to the editor's sarcastic side, might want to skip this week's column).

Having returned late Saturday last from a short visit to Southern California, -- and facing another issue -- I have some new Robert's Rules (Robert Rodriguez rules) for those crude, unthinking, insensitive types who stay in motels and hotels with those of us who are kind, thoughtful, suave and debonair. Here are a few of my rules, although admonitions might be more appropriate:

*Do not gun your car engine at 6:15 a.m. while honking your horn and shouting, "Hurry up, or we'll miss the damn airplane!"

*Please avoid exiting your room at 5 a.m. and allowing the 500-pound door to slam shut.

*If you are driving a large delivery truck, it would be appreciated if you would not leave its loud diesel engine idling near the guest rooms so that we could avoid the benefits of noise and fumes.

*It would be better to conduct loud conversations or arguments in the hotel lobby or somewhere else, like maybe in the next town, instead of in the corridor outside rooms of those trying to sleep.

*At hotels with complimentary breakfasts, perhaps small children should be supervised by their parents so that they avoid taking several pounds of food to their table and eating 12 ounces of it, leaving the rest for the garbage.

*Please hire English translators for the greater portion of the staff, so that when telling an employee about a problem with your room, the situation will be remedied quickly, instead of 10 minutes before you check out.

Anyway, those represent a compilation of some of my peeves. Some might call them fetishes or, "Gee whiz, what a grouch!" However, we were fortunate on this trip in that we left the first hotel after one night because of a number of difficulties, and found another that was cheaper with larger suites, and which offered many free amenities, including an indoor swimming pool, free cooked breakfast and hosted nightly manager's reception. And just wait until I get the credit card bill.

Guess I'm getting too fussy in my old age.

(P.S. The "Noose" staff did a great job in my absence. Thanks, guys.)

MANSFIELD R. CLEARY

Attorney at Law
General Practice in
Illinois Valley
since 1980
Practice includes but not limited to:
Bankruptcy - Eliminate
financial problems
Living trusts - Avoid probate
Estate planning - Wills,
power of attorney
Domestic relations
Auto accident - Personal Injury
Criminal - DUII
Real Estate contracts - Foreclosure
592-2195 200 W. Lister

Silences make the real conversations between friends. Not the saying but the never needing to say is what counts.

- Margaret Lee Runbeck -

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
Email: newsroom1@frontiernet.net or newsdesk@illinois-valley-news.com
Volume 69, No. 5
Staff: Michelle Binker, Becky Loudon, Bryan Harley, Tabitha Jackson, Zina Booth.
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.
'Thank you' submissions are not accepted as letters.

Break the cycle of pool uncertainty
From Cynthia Hobbins
Cave Junction

The city of Cave Junction no longer wants the community swimming pool. The not-so-funny joke, "Will our pool open this year?" continues.

After having a somewhat successful season last year, with reducing hours of operation and programs that were not offered due to lack of revenue, the gate fees brought in approximately \$15,000. Donations totaled approximately \$18,000. That equals \$33,000.

The expenses were approximately \$25,000 for the summer season, not including winter maintenance. After winter maintenance the pool has about \$6,000 left. On top of those funds there is an account of around \$3,600 that the I.V. Pool Committee raised for a slide -- money for a slide that cannot be put in a pool that will not open.

Maybe that money could be used to keep the pool open? There is a full tank of propane that was not used last year, because the pool was heated last summer season with just the solar units. The city has spent money replacing an antiquated valve in March in hopes of getting the pool running. But the pool will not open this summer.

The city has written a letter to the county commissioners in hopes of nullifying city ownership, wanting the property back into the county's property inventory. It is the city's position that the transfer of ownership of the pool property was completed without full disclosure of the grant conditions connected to the original pool agreement.

This action between the city and county will take some time. The question is, what will happen to our community pool this season? Where will the valley children who want to learn to swim take lessons?

Where will the children, adults and senior citizens who use and believe that the pool is a community asset cool off this summer?

Will the eight Illinois Valley High School students who have been certified as lifeguards to staff the pool have to leave the valley to find a summer job else-where? Is it time to quit and just let the Cave Junction Pool sit unused for a season?

Pools nationwide have been subsidized in order to stay open season after season. In this age of trying to re-educate our youth in our schools with federally mandated programs about health, there must be a way to keep our already existing pool open.

Swimming is a lifetime sport, to be enjoyed by all ages. Programs for our pool need to be developed to increase users. As a community let us use our resources to find the way to say year-after-year, "Yes, our pool will open," and break the cycle of, "Will the pool open this year?"

were to unite the business communities of Illinois Valley and to remove the invisible barrier at the top of Hay's Hill.

We wanted to join with our sister city, Grants Pass Chamber of Commerce, not to let it take over, but to help us become stronger for the community, the valley and the county. We knew we had a "big" job ahead of us.

Our goals were to help the valley's businesses be user-friendly and united. We care about the valley and the chamber business community. We strive to be in the public eye, to let them know we are here for the benefit of us all.

Because of the general membership and the board of directors, we are achieving these and many other goals.

Our community is changing, but not without growing pains. We in the chamber are seeing many of these changes. The five agencies that share the I.V. Visitor Center are reorganizing, and the chamber continues to be part of these changes.

We had a need for a more efficient health-care facility; it is coming soon. We want to see more businesses with family wage jobs -- this also is happening now.

There are many possibilities on the horizon. We have a beautiful and unique area to attract tourists, but we need more lodging. Many of our organizations are working to better these situations. The community should support them when they can.

Our community is growing in a positive way, and with support by residents this movement will continue in a positive direction. We all share a responsibility to promote our beautiful valley.

If we all work together our efforts will benefit our community, our business, our families and our future.

Impeach Bush, she says, because of his politics
From Kristine Strohl
Cave Junction

Not many Americans like to talk about politics.

But today at this moment it is of the utmost importance that we talk about politics. If we don't we may be headed into a full-fledged nuclear war with who knows who.

Bush and his administration have failed to protect this country from attack, from open borders, from Mother Nature; engaged us in a chaotic mess in Iraq; and now he wants to start a nuclear war with Iran. He has spat on our Constitution, legitimized torture, and now he wants to start a nuclear war to force Iran to change its leadership.

Is America proud to be the only nation on Earth to massacre and slaughter hundreds of thousands, if not millions of people without provocation? I'm not.

Bush is again looking to use this country and our military to invade another oil-rich country, Iran, for his oil buddies. But this time he wants to nuke them.

According to Seymour Hirsch's, 4/2/06 article in the "New Yorker," several top military brass are extremely worried that this president is going overboard, but they won't speak up because of fear of reprisal.

It is time for us to bang some doors, raise the roofs and yank some tail to get our elected officials to listen to us. We need to impeach Bush now.

His attacks are linked to corporate greed, not with defending democracy. How much longer will we allow this charade to continue in our name?

If we fall for this president's denial of this plan to attack Iran, then we accept all his bad judgments, inability, mendacity, and his twisted fabrications about Medicare, Social Security, and Iraq.

To put it bluntly, this president is deceitful, and is misleading this country into a deadly quagmire, and we are the ones who will suffer the consequences.

An end to library's financial roller-coaster
From Jennifer Berubee
Cave Junction

In response to Marilyn Arnold's latest letter, all I can add to her comments is this: The goal of an independent library district is Sustainable Funding.

User fees and donations are wonderful suggestions, but they will not remedy the financial roller-coaster of the library. And, no, Big Brother would not be able to dip into the fund because it would be strictly for the library district.

It is not fair of her to create panic among voters with misinformation.

Backing Dave Toler equals 'solving problems'
From Barry Snitkin
Cave Junction

I support Dave Toler for county commissioner because Josephine County is being mismanaged, and we need a change. Dave is the only candidate actually talking about solving problems.

We have a budgetary crisis looming in Josephine County, and only Dave has the experience in handling budgetary crises with his nine years on the Three Rivers School District Board.

Dave is committed to our community. He helped secure funds to renovate the Illinois Valley Senior Center and the Wolf Creek Community Center, and chaired a committee to pass a \$2.5 million bond to build new fire stations in Illinois Valley. He also secured

\$50,000 for Wolf Creek Fire District firefighters gear.

Dave wants to ensure that county citizens get the professional management they pay for and deserve, and he would reduce the commissioners to part time and reduce their current salary to accomplish this.

Dave is also supportive of growing our county responsibility. And he supports the services all residents have come to rely upon: senior meals, quality schools, health care and a public library.

And Dave knows that our quality of life is what brought and keeps most of us living here. So I'm voting for Dave Toler for change.

Solutions to 'self-imposed' dilemma
From Gil Gilbertson
Grants Pass

Out of 36 counties in Oregon, we are the only one to restrict the number of prisoners incarcerated at a number less than full capacity. We are filling only 120 beds of our 262-bed jail and releasing up to 75 felons each month.

The Josephine County Board of Commissioners, under direction of the sheriff, proclaimed a ratio of one deputy to five inmates as an absolute. Using this logic, we could have saved ourselves a lot of money by not building a new jail.

In 2003, recommendation presented to our "then" county commissioners proposed a limit on the number of inmates incarcerated in our jail. The commissioners adopted the recommendations made by the sheriff, agreed upon by the district attorney and legal counsel in compliance with Oregon law. See Oregon Revised Statute 169.042 through 046, and JoCo Court Order No. 2003-023.

In reviewing the minutes of that meeting, it became apparent that the "stated" premise of the ratio of one-to-five was based on square footage of jail space in the antiquated jail in the basement of the county courthouse. This same formula was applied to our new state-of-the-art jail without consideration of all the safety features included.

How does one determine the number of deputies re-

(Continued on page 3)


Lorna Byrne
Middle School
Family Night
Thursday, April 27.
5:30 to 8 p.m.

Celebrate Reading
Prizes - Cake Walk - Games

Adults who dress as authors or book characters will receive a special prize
BOOK FAIR




\$\$ NEED CASH \$\$
Cave Bear Pawn
is buying quality items.
Thinking of having a yard sale (estate sale) but don't need the hassle? Maybe you don't have the time. We can help! We will come to you and appraise your items on the spot...with cash.
Please phone George or Rachel for details:
592-2987
220 N. Redwood Hwy., Cave Junction Plaza