

Bob's Corner

Because Mothers' Day will be celebrated Sunday, May 14, I thought I'd talk about my late father's sense of humor. Actually, that would be the lack of a sense of humor. He was a good dad, but work -- not humor -- was his forte.

My late mom, on the other hand (or foot, depending on the weather) had a terrific sense of what constitutes funny. Thank God, I got her sense of hilarity. I know: You can't always tell, but I do tend toward wittiness, although sometimes it's absurd. In fact, people are always asking me, "Hey, are you trying to be funny!?" Sometimes I answer, "No, I'm just trying."

Which reminds me of the guy who was pulled over as a possible intoxicated driver. The officer said, "Can I see your driver's license?" And the guy replied, "Well, it's in my wallet and I'm sitting on it, so unless you have X-ray vision, I would think not." Another time, a cop yelled at the operator of a car driven into a pond, "Hey, are you drunk?" And the driver responded, "No, I just thought I'd wash my seat covers."

See what I mean about "trying"? But I enjoy jesting. How about the man who walked into a bar with jumper cables around his neck. The bartender looked at him sharply, then said, "OK, buddy, you can stay, but don't start anything." You like it? Yeah, I know, some of my humor is corny. And some of it is so obscure that no one laughs. Something like that.

But about my dad. I think the best story I could tell, other than when my dog, Yankee Clover, farted in his face, would be the time we had a family gathering in El Paso, Texas, my mom's hometown.

Aunt Vera knew that my pater lacked a sense of comedy, and she was jokester, a terrible tease. So at the dinner table: My dad sat to eat. On a whoopee cushion. Actually, those of us closest to him weren't sure if it was a cushion or not that caused the noise.

Anyway, Vera's jokes continued with: the fly in the plastic ice cube in his drink; the bladder under his plate that she could control from her chair, making the plate go up and down; a dribble glass for his water; and a double suction cup for his coffee mug so that it wouldn't separate from the saucer.

He didn't even chuckle; just had a pained expression through it all. The rest of us were convulsed with laughter, of course. He was a good sport though.

Happy Mothers' Day, dad.



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Letters to the Editor

Downtown strip club seemingly unnecessary
From Billie Coakley
Cabin Chemistry, CJ

Thanks for alerting the neighborhood about the topless bar proposing to do business on main street Cave Junction.

Not only that, but drawing customers from out of the area, to spend the evening drinking and driving back out of the area. Drinking and driving: Is that the new revenue-raising plan for the valley?

Let's see: When a theater (in the old theater building) was proposed we were told there is not enough parking available. A strip club sharing the parking lot with Earth Friendly Kids, lovely.

Let's see: From the JJ to the next traffic light how many places sell alcohol? Last count: 6. Isn't that enough?

Aiding Oregon future pledged by candidate
From Jim Feldkamp
Roseburg

The U.S. Dept. of Labor and Secretary Elaine L. Chao deserve credit for recognizing Oregon's need to help dislocated workers.

The government grant of \$816,929 will go far to retrain workers and make them more viable individuals. And while this is extremely important, there is no substitute for a rebirth of timber, industry, technology, tourism and other sectors and the revitalization of family wage jobs they represent.

Hewlett-Packard's displaced workers are yet another example of why we must look into the future and plan to ensure that opportunities lie within the grasp for local businesses and Oregonians to have sustainable jobs and a vibrant economy.

As the 4th Congressional District's next representative in the U.S. House, I will view this through a prism to stimulate jobs -- because in 20 years our current congressman has not brought a single piece of legislation to help our economy.

Library management castigated for situation
From George F. Long
Grants Pass

After having exposed numerous problems in the management of the county's government during the last few years it comes as no surprise to me that the messenger, in this case myself, is blamed for the county's woes.

My recent letter calling for the removal of Cessa

Correction

A page 1 story in the May 3 issue about the planned Sugars topless bar misspelled the last name of Larry A. Goynes.

Additionally, Libby Goines wants it known that Goynes is in no way related to Libby, Wanda and Daniel Goines.

PLEASE HELP!
If you witnessed an underaged boy attack a senior citizen behind Joe's Market on the river on Friday 4-28-06 at or around 6 or 6:30 p.m., please contact cellphone (707) 272-4837! David or Kim

Vichi as library system manager has had this effect.

When I told the county commissioners about Cessa taking herself and five library employees to Salem for three days, Commissioner Ellis, the library liaison, sent her an email asking for an explanation of the financial details of the trip. Ellis gave the response she sent him to me.

While I need not include it all here, the relevant parts are that Cessa claimed the trip was a budgeted item; no claim of the money coming from a grant was mentioned; and it was the perfect chance to do so. She said that the total cost of the trip was \$2,140, but that is not the truth. That was the cost for registration, two nights lodging, mileage and meals.

As with most county managers she neglected to include the real cost of the trip, and that was the salaries and benefits the taxpayers were responsible for to pay for six county employees for three days, 18 man-days as it were.

If the library system in Josephine County is forced to close it will not be because a citizen exposed poor management at the library; it will be because the library has been poorly managed for years.

Claiming that my exposing in county government will cause its failure is rather like saying that the American Revolution would not have occurred had it not been for the misinformation spread by Paul Revere, William Dawes, and Dr. Samuel Prescott that the "Regulars" were coming.

I know, many were taught that they warned that the British were coming. But that's absurd. They were British citizens warning other British citizens of the troubles and danger in their government.

It is not my desire to see the libraries close, but that is the path it is being led by the current management. I think that Dave Toler, who is running for county commissioner, is one of the few public figures willing to acknowledge that the people of this county have lost faith in their government.

Toler is correct in that if the children of Illinois Val-

ley are hurt due to the closure of the library, then one need to place the blame where it belongs -- on poor management.

'Massive clear-cutting' would spoil his place
From Justin Rohde
Cave Junction

I am writing because my favorite place in the world is about to be destroyed by the Siskiyou National Forest and the Bush administration. My favorite place is also Oregon's largest roadless area, and my governor has asked them to cancel their plans for massive clear-cutting in the area.

If we destroy our roadless areas, then we can kiss good-bye our great hunting, clean water, fishing, tourism and clean environment. The forest service has so far refused to protect Oregon's most important roadless areas. I live here and view this amazing area every day from Redwood Hwy.

My favorite place in the

world is the North and South Kalmiopsis Roadless areas. They are contiguous.

How can the Mike's Gulch and Blackberry sales go forward in these roadless areas over the objection of Oregon's governor and its people? In June, the forest service planning to auction these sales.

Trees have also been marked red to be cut along a Coho spawning stream, overlooking the national Wild and Scenic Illinois River, and in the botanical area along the 023 road. Citizens should be outraged.

Last year the forest service made headlines when trees were illegally logged inside a protected wilderness area; then when acres of live trees were illegally logged, and finally when 17 acres were illegally logged in a protected area. Our security ultimately depends on the clean air, water, diverse forests, and species that make life on this planet a reality.

"ASK THE CANDIDATE"

Question: Why is Dave Daniel the *most* qualified person to be our next County Commissioner?

Dave's Answer:

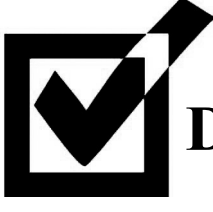
✓ I hold an Associate of Arts Degree and a Bachelor of Science Degree. I'll bring *education and knowledge* to the Board of Commissioners.

✓ At the end of this year I'll have eight years as an elected official in County Government. I also have prior experience as both a Deputy Sheriff and a Parole & Probation Officer with Josephine County. I know both the history of Josephine County and the challenges facing us in the future. I'll bring experience to the Board of Commissioners.

✓ I manage a budget that today exceeds \$10 million. I'll bring *budget know-how* to the Board of Commissioners.

✓ For the past seven years I've led the second largest Office in County Government through good times and challenging times. I'll bring *leadership* to the Board.

✓ I've always had one goal on my mind: to do the best job possible for the citizens of the county with the resources given me. When I took over the Sheriff's Office we generated \$1 million in revenue, and most of that was a federal COPS grant that we no longer have. Today we generate \$2.6 million in revenue. I'll work just as hard to increase revenue as your County Commissioner. I'll bring *resourcefulness* to the Board.



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