

Bob's Corner

What with summer school classes getting under way at Illinois Valley High and other locales, an ancient memory popped out of the dusty, cobwebby areas of my brain. I recall the one and only time I was forced to attend summer school. And it was my own fault.

What happened was that I was an overconfident 17-year-old high school graduate who thought he could handle classes at University of San Diego the same as those at dear ol' St. Augustine High. So I was taking 15 1/2 units and working four to six hours weekdays after my classes; same as in high school. But I discovered that college courses, especially at USD, required more intense study. Lots of it.

So my first university semester ended in disaster. I was summarily dismissed from the roster, all because I was given F grades in algebra, and biology lecture and lab. My D in logic was mercifully not mentioned. However, I earned an A in English, and a B in health, neither of which were enough to sway the cold-hearted dismissal committee.

Therefore, to continue college classes the semester after summer, I had to make up the failed classes during summer school. This I accomplished at Southwestern Community College in Chula Vista in San Diego County. It is not a regimen I would recommend. Especially because I continued working, pretty much full time, starting at 6:30 a.m., and making it to my first class at 2:30 p.m.

Handling the algebra and biology work in a compressed time frame was not easy. I suppose I could have not worked so much. But I needed cash for gas for my car, plus (for me) Jack in the Box burgers and fries, and heart of lettuce salads with fishwiches at Oscar's Drive-In. Not to mention scads of black coffee.

I managed to pass (squeak by) the math and bio classes, what with all that black coffee buoying me. When it came time to take another full load of study, I opted to stay at Southwestern, where the tuition was much cheaper; everyone was much friendlier; and I only lived a few blocks away. Of course, this was when the college shared the buildings with Chula Vista High until Southwestern got its own campus out Otay Lakes Road.

I did take some classes at the new campus, some of them after Jan and I were wed to those many years ago. She had graduated from Chula Vista High, and was taking college courses at the shared campus. Strangely enough, I met her in a hallway outside the sociology class we both were taking.

As I was fairly social anyway, things worked out after it became clear that I was a pretty nice guy with mostly good intentions. These days I still need cash for gas, and black coffee (except now it's all decaf), while the burgers and fried fish are but memories. And that's my fault too.

But I remain social, for the most part.

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Thank you to all of the coaches Nicole, Annette, Amy, Molly, Sally, Dennis, Mike, Chani, Hans, Mamie, Will, Tina, and Jean Paul. Ref J.D. and Azlan, McNally - Field Painting. Thank you to Illinois Valley Real Estate.

Dreams are renewable. No matter what our age or condition, there are still untapped possibilities within us and new beauty waiting to be born.

- Dale Turner -

Illinois Valley News

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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.

'Thank you' submissions are not accepted as letters.

A 'mother in pain' tells of son's beating From Catherine Kuhn-Taylor Cave Junction

Friday, June 9 at approximately 5 a.m., my son was walking across the bridge south of Cave Junction on 199 headed to Cave Junction to spend the weekend with me.

He was attacked from behind by three guys, knocked to the ground, beaten, robbed and left for dead. As of Tuesday, June 12 my son was hospitalized with no definite date of release because the doctors have been unable to get the swelling down in his face.

I was called (not visited) by a deputy from the sheriff's office who stated that he was unable to do anything because my son was unable to identify the attackers.

These attackers assault their victims from behind, leaving the victims unable to identify them. There are three of them, one big man and two medium-sized men, all with horrible body odor, and there have been prior attacks in this same area with descriptions given that matched my son's description of his attackers.

These guys came out from under the bridge when they attacked my son because they were not behind my son when he started to cross the bridge.

There has been enough information given to law enforcement for them to know these guys run in threes; they are probably homeless; and obviously living in the "Forks" Park area due to the fact that the attacks have all happened in the same area. But they say they can't help me.

Before my son slipped into unconsciousness he counted seven vehicles pass by while he was being beaten: Not one of the drivers stopped to help him.

I can understand being afraid to stop and get out of your vehicle because of not knowing if there are guns involved, etc. But it's amazing what honking a horn or the flashing of headlights will do even if you are to afraid to stop and get out of your vehicle.

If anyone has any information about these attackers or saw anything Friday, June 9 at approximately 5 a.m., on the bridge south of Cave Junction, they can contact me at 592-3303. Their identity will be kept confidential.

Guard to Afghanistan 'unconscionable act' From Kaly McRogan Illinois Valley

You printed an article on page 13 of the June 7 edition of "Illinois Valley News" headed "41st Brigade sent to East."

The article was printed in the right-hand column, adjacent to photos of children playing and a man juggling in Jubilee Park. I nearly passed it up until I realized that the article was not referring to eastern Oregon, but to the Middle East.

It seems that Gov. Kulongoski has seen fit to send 1,000 members of the Oregon National Guard to Afghanistan to "train" the Afghan army. Thank you for printing

the article; otherwise I may not have known.

However, this is a local issue that affects us all. To hide such an article on page 13 (continued on page 18) under a cloaked banner seems a minor act of deception in itself. Here is the text of my letter to Kulongoski:

"I see that you have sent 1,000 of our National Guard to Afghanistan for the purpose of 'training' the Afghan army.

"In my view this is an unconscionable act given the lies and deception surrounding the reasons for the war in Afghanistan and the situation we find ourselves in after 15 years of continuing war in Iraq.

"By now you must be aware that we sent troops to Afghanistan during the Russian invasion of that country to help 'train' the Mujahadeen, producing such unsavory characters as Osama, a family member of George Bush senior's business partners, the Bin Laden group.

"Your support of these failing, debilitating war(s) and the so-called 'War on Terror' should have been on the front page, above the fold. I had to discover it on page 13 in a small local newspaper.

"You have placed good people in harm's way for nothing. Sleep well."

A praise report from tumor good news From Rasha Smith Cave Junction

The Lord continues to show me His faithfulness on a daily basis. Last week I received the results of my spinal MRI. They proved to be negative. Praise God.

Furthermore, I will not have to go to UCSF in San Francisco. (Again, praise God). The local Tumor Board has taken my case and discussed what measurers to take for treatment.

Although the tumor was completely removed, they have determined that radiation will be beneficial. I know that I first said erroneously that this particular tumor doesn't react to radiation, when in fact, it doesn't react to chemotherapy.

My treatment began Monday, June 19. The treatments will be five days a week for five weeks. Thank the Lord that my treatments will take place in Grants Pass and not Medford.

I appreciate the love and concern, and every blessing

the community has bestowed on me. God's provision has been truly amazing.

Couples will enjoy Topless bar, she feels From Marlee Evans Cave Junction

I am a woman. I am a heterosexual woman. I am a wife and a mother. And I am not opposed to Larry Goynes opening a topless bar.

As a matter of fact, I would love to have a topless bar in this area. People keep mentioning "the fathers" as the only people who would be patrons of this new establishment. Fathers aren't the only ones who would go there. It would provide entertainment for couples too.

My husband and I would love to be able to go somewhere local to see exotic entertainment; and so far the only entertainment in this town for adults is watching whoever's decided to beat whoever else up at a certain bar known for its brawls, its drunks, and its late-night drug-dealing. But I don't hear anyone complaining

about that business.

It's a business that's keeping all the "drunks" around. There are drunks all over town. We all know the stores that sell alcohol, yet no one is complaining about those businesses.

Goynes wants to sell beer and wine at higher prices. Does anyone think that the "drunks" from any of the other establishments are going to run over to Sugars, and pay a higher price for alcohol that they're already getting somewhere else? Nobody complains about a rowdy bunch of intoxicated football fans. They can act just as any other drinkers when a good game is on. But no one complains about that. That's acceptable. It's normal.

Everyone freaked out when Midnight Oasis was rumored to be coming into town. People all over town were complaining, and saying what a tragedy it would be to have an adult novelty store in our precious family oriented community. I'm sure people back then were complaining

(Continued on page 3)

Help - Almost all my listings have sold.

You can get competent representation right here in the Illinois Valley. I support our community by spending my commission here. References available on request. I'll do more for you than anyone else. Ask me how.

Honesty - Integrity - Dependability
Steve Lyons

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