

# Bob's Corner

Every year, English teachers from across the country can submit their collections of actual analogies and metaphors found in high school essays. Here are last year's winners:

\*Her face was a perfect oval, like a circle that had its two sides gently compressed by a Thigh Master.

\*His thoughts tumbled in his head, making and breaking alliances like underpants in a dryer without Cling Free.

\*He spoke with the wisdom that can only come from experience, like a guy who went blind because he looked at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it and now goes around the country speaking at high schools about the dangers of looking at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it.

\*She grew on him like she was a colony of E. Coli, and he was room-temperature Canadian beef.

\*She had a deep, throaty, genuine laugh, like that sound a dog makes just before it throws up.

\*Her vocabulary was as bad as, like, whatever.

\*He was as tall as a 6-foot, 3-inch tree.

\*The revelation that his marriage of 30 years had disintegrated because of his wife's infidelity came as a rude shock, like a surcharge at a formerly surcharge-free ATM.

\*The little boat gently drifted across the pond exactly the way a bowling ball wouldn't.

\*McBride fell 12 stories, hitting the pavement like a Hefty bag filled with vegetable soup.

\*From the attic came an unearthly howl. The whole scene had an eerie, surreal quality, like when you're on vacation in another city and "Jeopardy" comes on at 7 p.m. instead of 7:30.

\*Her hair glistened in the rain like a nose hair after a sneeze.

\*The hailstones leaped from the pavement, just like maggots when you fry them in hot grease.

\*Long separated by cruel fate, the star-crossed lovers raced across the grassy field toward each other like two freight trains, one having left Cleveland at 6:36 p.m. traveling at 55 mph, the other from Topeka at 4:19 p.m. at a speed of 35 mph.

\*They lived in a typical suburban neighborhood with picket fences that resembled Nancy Kerrigan's teeth.

\*John and Mary had never met. They were like two hummingbirds who had also never met.

\*He fell for her like his heart was a mob informant, and she was the East River.

\*Even in his last years, Granddad had a mind like a steel trap, only one that had been left out so long, it had rusted shut.

\*Shots rang out, as shots are wont to do.

\*The plan was simple, like my brother-in-law Phil. But unlike Phil, this plan just might work.

\*The young fighter had a hungry look, the kind you get from not eating for a while.

\*He was as lame as a duck. Not the metaphorical lame duck, either, but a real duck that was actually lame, maybe from stepping on a land mine or something.

\*The ballerina rose gracefully en Pointe and extended one slender leg behind her, like a dog at a fire hydrant.

\*It was an American tradition, like fathers chasing kids around with power tools.

\*He was deeply in love. When she spoke, he thought he heard bells, as if she were a garbage truck backing up.

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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.)**

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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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### Concern expressed about crime injury From J.T. Doyle Selma

As a retired law enforcement officer, I have been watching with some interest the antics of the thugs and punks in and around Cave Junction.

There seems to be a lot of anger brewing. It strikes me that it will not be too long before either a merchant is injured or killed; or the same for those who dabble in crime.

It's just a thought and maybe a word to the wise, but I've seen it happen elsewhere. And once it happens, the situation seems to escalate.

### Dog 'Joey' is dead; family 'heartbroken' From Olga, Ron, Jonathan, Sawyer, Courtney & Kitty Christianson Cave Junction

One of our neighbors in the 5000 block of Caves Hwy. decided it was OK to shoot our family dog, "Joey," who was known to most people as the "happiest dog in the world."

Even the UPS driver said that. Our youngest son found "Joey" six years ago abandoned in our woods, just 5 or 6 weeks old. Joey always seemed grateful, and just plain happy to be alive, one of the best dogs we've ever had.

The evening we found him in his bed, bleeding profusely from his upper thigh, there was evidence of (a blood trail) coming from a neighbor's house. Joey had basically dragged himself home.

Being a Friday night after hours, we had to go all the way to Medford to find someone to look at him. All we wanted was to get him help so we could bring him home to heal. The damage was too great, and we were forced to make the only decision we could make, to end his suffering and put him down.

"Joey" wasn't known to run off to other people's property, but a young pit bull mix had been to our home visiting him, and "Joey" apparently followed this neighbor's pit bull from our house to their's.

We would never have considered taking the life of this visiting dog on our property, but we did consider find-

ing the owner and speaking with them. Had our neighbor made the effort to speak with us, we would still have our "Joey."

We hope this neighbor that took our pet from us sees that this was a very hurtful thing he has done to our dog and his family.

People with guns have taken three members of our family from us: first my own father, and now our second family dog. Whichever neighbor used his shotgun, he has broken our hearts yet one more time.

### 'A local solution to a global problem' From Tim Norman Cave Junction

It is well documented where I stand, as far as the timber issues in this community, in this state, in this country, and on this planet.

I have gotten some looks from people who, let's just say, disagree with my beliefs and my way of thinking. I see a lot of animosity on both sides of this debate. What we have to realize is that we are all in the same predicament.

The reason that there is even a debate is that of the level of timber being harvested. It is being harvested to feed an industry that could not care less about the environment or the people that live there, including those doing the labor which bear the corporate fruits.

We are entering protected, roadless areas so that the logs can go to Texas to be either sold out of corporate yards or, at even a higher rate, being exported to Japan.

Sure, people get paid for their labor, but with money that is spent to buy things that are mass-produced in some industrial complex. Poverty is easy to create in this type of system. Prices are set to acquire from those who have abundance. Any person who turns in an honest day's work knows that "honest living" and "abundance" could serve as antonyms.

We grind each day to feed the machine that feeds the few. We struggle to keep up. The poverty line goes up. The middle class shrinks to oblivion. We become desperate enough that we support the very thing that is the cause of our despair.

My mother had a friend, Mary Bull, in the Bay Area, and I invite everyone to meet her. She has an idea that is so simple it will have you knocking on your head:

Work to supply local consumers. Think locally not corporately. Create a community built toward sovereignty.

If our trees that we harvested went strictly to local mills, we wouldn't have to harvest at the level that is a present goal. We could work the very thing that Lynda Vanderlinden was trying to point out in a past letter to the editor in the "I.V. News." As a community, we would be happier and more productive.

Those with questions regarding what I'm talking about, or even if you think I'm crazy and feel that -- "It will never work!" -- can attend a presentation of the concept followed by an open forum where their voices can be heard.

The presentation will be held Sunday, July 23 at 6 p.m. at the Community Media & Educational Center, 140-C S. Redwood Hwy. in Cave Junction. There will be a potluck dinner and lots of enlightenment. The center is upstairs in the two-story building across the street from the former Select Market.

### Abiding in Vine lauded; Sugars petitions revisited From J. 'Kalvyn' Evans Cave Junction

I don't like letters to the editor that go back and forth forever. Abiding in The Vine wrote a response to mine, and I simply want to make a slight correction.

My letter to the editor was a while in the making,

plus I missed a deadline. That is why my letter appeared so much later after the petitions.

The kids tagging fake names onto the petitions were not mothers writing the names of their children. They were teen-agers who were obviously making up names. Beyond that, I don't want to point fingers, because I'm not trying to get anyone in trouble. I only brought it up because I wanted it to be known that the 600-name statistic was slightly inaccurate.

I still commend the Vine for its effort in circulating the letters, because I think anyone should have the right to speak their opinions. I just felt that the way these kids were wantonly abusing it was rather shameful.

I also would like to give the Vine a big thumbs up for its new outdoor theater project. In my last letter, I mentioned that everybody seemed to be complaining, and waiting for someone else to do something about it.

But, while everybody else sat back and complained, the Vine made an effort to actually provide the family entertainment that everyone said we need more of. I commend the owners.

### She praises God for her healing From Rasha Smith Cave Junction

On June 19, I was to begin radiation treatment for my

(Continued on page 3)

## In the Service

### Pvt. Michael John Murphy

U.S. Army Pvt. Michael John Murphy, first grandson of O'Brien residents Clifford & Maureen Johann, will deploy to Iraq on Sept. 10, 2006.



He is to arrive in Illinois Valley on Friday, July 21 for a short visit with his family and friends. He is the son of Susan C. Avril, of O'Brien, daughter of the Johanns; and Dennis Paul Murphy, of California.

Relatives include the soldier's uncle, John Johann, and his sons, Jeremy, Jonathan and Jordan, all of O'Brien.

Pvt. Murphy graduated from Canyon High School in Santa Clarita, Calif. A military gunner, he most recently was at Fort Carson, Colo. with the 759th Military Police Battalion. His current duty station is Fort Knox, Ky.

The family said that they and his friends "are proud of him and support him on his decision to join the Army and serve his country."

## Corrections

\*A page 16 story on Clouser Drilling in the July 12, 2006 issue mistakenly stated that "Gill and Lawrence are licensed and bonded." To be correct, the sentence should have read, "Kevin Gill and Chuck Gill are licensed and bonded well-drillers."

\*There were some errors in a page 1 story, "Burglars beware!" in the July 12, 2006 issue. To set the record straight: David Prince was not in Perfect Pizza Plus at the time of the burglary; his brother, Daniel, was. Additionally, in the first robbery, the tip jar was stolen, but in the second attempt a neighbor with a flashlight foiled the burglars. And it was during the third break-in that soft drinks were stolen and suspects were caught.

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