

Bob's Corner

Several months after the first heart attack (mine) that put me down early in 1999, my car was burglarized on a Downtown Cave Junction parking lot. At the time, I left the car unlocked because my dog Bingo was in the back seat and I thought ... well, I thought incorrectly that he would protect my stuff. He didn't.

Sooo, my briefcase with lots of personal items was stolen. (I've known all along who did it, but without proof can't do a thing about it. But the lazy, lousy idiots, whom I've forgiven, know that I know.) That brings us, so to speak, to last week, when Bingo jumped into the car, the same one that he was in during the burglary. As it was extremely hot, and I had errands to run, I didn't want him to come with me.

So I reached into the back seat to pull him out by the collar because he was unwilling to come willingly. That's when he turned into Cujó, growled and snapped at me, causing a small wound on my left wrist. We eventually reached a peaceful agreement, and I left.

That night I related the happening to my family, and son Mike quipped, "You should have pretended that you were going to steal a briefcase." That's funny.

And that, believe it or else, brings us to our pride of somewhat domesticated cats who allow us to share our home with them. A friend, whose initials are Don Gibbs, sent us a magazine article citing the possibility that schizophrenia can be caused by cats. One headline is, "Your cat could make you crazy." The gist of the article is that mental illness of many types can be caused by infections, and that such infections can come from cats.

Don added a note for me, "Be careful of your cats. It might already be too late." He's right. Schizophrenia is characterized by disorganized speech and behavior, plus delusions and hallucinations. But I've had those symptoms for as long as I can remember. That's why the nun who taught me during seventh- and eighth-grade was always on my case about day-dreaming. And she was fond of telling me, "You are not performing to your potential."

So I can't blame the symptoms on the cats, bless their little pea-picking hearts, as Tennessee Ernie Ford would say.

Currently we have no need of an alarm clock, because of smallish black-and-white Charlie Kaplan's noisy, disruptive, eye-opening imitation of a velociraptor. This occurs without fail each morning anywhere from 5:15 to 5:30. There is no way to ignore him.

For not only does he stomp about making his blood-curdling noises, but he works real hard to knock over stuff. He often succeeds, which adds to my unbridled delight at being awakened in such manner. He also has the cute habit of leaping from the carpeted cat tower to my side of the bed, usually landing on my chest. This is another eye-opener.

By this time I figure there's no point in trying to stay in bed. And if there's any schizophrenia around, Charlie and I likely are sharing it. He's nuts and I'm cuckoo.

(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.

Happy neighbors can solve problems From T.A. Allan Cave Junction

I would like to share an epiphany with you and your readers. I think I may have happened upon a plan to solve two valley problems.

According to friends in construction, contracting and real estate businesses the perceived need for "affordable housing" in Cave Junction was widely overestimated. While only a fraction of the hundreds of homes planned have been built, even they are not selling. Developers are bailing, and the banks are becoming home owners.

As banks are in the money business, not the real estate business, they will need to recover whatever funds they can as quickly as possible, which will undoubtedly result in these properties being sold at significant losses.

Among the anticipated problems with this, in addition to the losses of the individuals directly involved, is a major overall downturn in home and land values throughout the valley.

(This wouldn't have been such a surprise to those involved had they paid attention to a study conducted by the University of Oregon, under contract from Options for Southern Oregon, which concluded that there was no market for the types of housing planned.)

So, here's the idea: turn the various failing developments into centers for newly retired, or semiretired, gay men from California. Not only do they not have noisy children or grandchildren who might come visit, they landscape and decorate beautifully; are excellent and willing pet sitters; and will demand the availability of the quality dining so many of us crave.

Plus, of course, they're gay; and happy neighbors are just plain more fun to be around.

So, to conclude, the ugly developments not only get sold, but also become attractive neighborhoods, and the valley demographics move toward the diversity we so woefully lack.

Thank you so much for your time and space.

Yard sale mementoes need to be returned From Pramada (Priscilla) Kisiela Cave Junction

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 14-16, my husband and I had a large yard sale on Simmons Cut.

But I discovered that a box of things not for sale (or

Letters

in the large "Free" pile) was taken by mistake. It contained a pewter (looking) kerosene lamp made into an electric one and several old family books, among other items.

My father recently died, and that box had objects that were of great sentimental value to me. I remember that lamp from more than 50 years ago when I was a small child -- and the books were old family books.

Anyone who came by, please check and see if that box came home with you by accident. I really want it (the memories it symbolizes) back. It can be dropped off or phone me at 592-6031 and I'll pick it up.

Leaders 'blow smoke' on Iraq situation From Wally Hardie Selma

I listened intently to Secretary Rumsfeld and Gen. Casey telling the American people how well the situation is going in Iraq. Neither bothered to mention that the attacks by insurgents are killing more Americans every month.

Nor did they mention that at times the entire country is in lock-down, by curfew. The electricity is off more now than it was before we invaded. The water for drinking gets worse daily, and in many areas only wells supply.

Garbage collection is now almost nonexistent. There are more than 2,535 American dead; 18,000 wounded, and more than 8,000 will never again be the same.

Rumsfeld reiterated again that the insurgency is on its last legs. That is called blowing smoke. It's a war that never had to be, without a plan to exit, and no possible way to win -- except to stay the course and have more die and more crippled for life.

Those who have a little time this weekend might take a drive to the Roseburg V.A. Medical Center. There

is ample parking, and those inside will direct you to the ward with the multiple amputees and those who are disfigured. There you may see for yourself the benefits this war is reaping.

We have a Congress incapable of doing anything constructive; an administration filled with indictments, corruption, and gets worse by the day. It is impossible to comprehend how anyone really believes this war is going well and that the end is in sight.

President Bush when in the Air National Guard was accused of being AWOL (Absent Without Leave) This president is still AWOL when it comes to the office of commander-in-chief.

Reunion assistance noted by '86 Class From Shanna Lee Rhoten-Kopko Class of '86 Reunion coordinator Sherwood, Ore.

The Illinois Valley High School Class of '86 had help from several businesses and people in making our 20th reunion a big success.

We had donations from Shop Smart Food Warehouse, Cave Junction DQ, Wild River Brewing & Pizza Co., "Illinois Valley News," Carlos' Restaurante, the alumni association and Natural Merchants (Ed Fields & Rich Wright).

We also were helped by McGrews Restaurant and Suzi Bleser-Culver; plus Erin Lodge and Bill & Sheree Quate.

We had a great time at both locations and truly enjoyed our 20th celebration. We would recommend both of these businesses for future reunions or other special occasions. The owners made the experience delightful and enjoyable.

And all of my class gave compliments to the staff and their businesses. Erin Lodge is beautiful and right on the river, and Bill & Sheree did far more than expected to make our day

fun. We'll be back in 2011.

World at peace vs. beans & BS From Rick Meier Cave Junction

I've heard the United Nations discuss global sustainability with respect to profit in the pocket motivated global markets -- profiteers -- but never global sustenance with respect to getting everyone fed, first and foremost.

How far behind what we now know today, are we, anyway? Having enacted almost every law, rule, regulation and statute imaginable, which, in my humble opinion has added as much as hatred itself to the armed and dangerous camp the world has become today, how is it that we haven't been able to enact a law that would benefit all equally, a law that would even benefit the losers.

A law that went beyond the grasp of this selfish, self-willed pursuit for profit and power that plagues that world at large today.

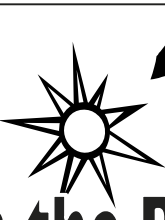
My voting choice for the one global resolution would be to ban the manufacture of all military weapons. The tanks, the missiles, the AK-47s and the M-16s. The land mines, hand grenades, shoulder rockets, bunker busters and bioweapons: I could probably exhaust the alphabet.

Why won't the U.N., a so-called diplomatic global agreement, get members to work together peacefully, amiably, with an eye to an equal share for everyone, and enact that resolution?

Why wouldn't they? Why would they? I wonder how long it will take a so-called U.N., a global league of nations, honestly representing every single solitary soul, so to say, down here on the surface of this planet to be able to come together and enact such a resolution?

I wonder how long this world will go on, how long can it go on, without what

(Continued on page 3)



Concerts in the Park

Thursday, August 3, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
'Emmons Sisters', Gospel Bluegrass
Jubilee Park

Sponsored by
Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce

Final concert of the season.
I.V. Little League Snack Bar
open during concerts



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DEADLINES:

News, Classified & Display Ads, Announcements & Letters

5 P.M. THURSDAYS

(Classified ads & uncomplicated display ads can be accepted until Noon, Fridays with an additional charge.)

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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.

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One year in Jackson and Douglas counties - \$26.40
One year in all other Oregon counties and out-of-state - \$36

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Correction

Illinois River Valley Arts Council is the organization working with children at Lorna Byrne Middle School under a 21st Century grant. It incorrectly was stated in a page 8 caption in the July 26 issue that Southern Oregon Guild is involved. It is not, but Illinois River Valley Arts Council is. Sorry about the error!

Illinois Valley Lions

35th Annual

LABOR DAY FESTIVAL

September 2nd, 3rd & 4th

Jubilee Park, Cave Junction

Theme:

"SOUTHERN OREGON PARADISE"

Official Parade Application

Parade forms at Evergreen School on Mon. Sept 4th, 9:30 am. Parade starts at 11:00 am sharp. Check one or more if qualified.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Music (youth band) | ☐ Music (adult band) |
| ☐ Commercial | ☐ Truck |
| ☐ Special (odd-non-category) | ☐ Industrial |
| ☐ Marching | ☐ Humorous |
| ☐ Horse & Rider (adult) | ☐ Children |
| ☐ Horse & Riders (group) | ☐ Public Service |
| ☐ Horse & Rider (youth) | ☐ Military |
| ☐ Classic Auto | ☐ Antique Auto |

Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Describe entry and/or history: _____

Mail Parade Entries To: I.V. Lions• PO Box 396• Cave Junction, OR. 97523

Booth Entry

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Items of Booth: _____ Total Size: _____

Electricity: ☐ Yes ☐ No

To Reserve: Please pay in advance, \$60 for 3 days, or \$20 per day for 12' x 12' space.

Booth Chairman: Carl Jacobson 541-592-2692 Gary Bell 592-3790

Leave name, phone & address.

All Parade Entries & Booths Subject to LIONS Approval.
Mail Booth entry to: I.V. Lions• PO Box 396• Cave Junction, OR. 97523