

Bob's Corner

Sometimes I am heard muttering nasty words and sputtering because of these word processors at which we stare for so many hours each week.

I would like at this time to smash at least one of my fists into the screen now showing me what I'm typing, but it would only damage my fist. Not to mention the screen, which likely would explode and cause all sorts of consternation. And expense. Not a pretty picture.

What happened here this Friday afternoon, as we all feverishly work to get this issue ready for printing a day earlier than usual, is not uncommon. Fortunately, it does not occur too frequently here. What happened is that I had already "done" a Bob's Corner, using material supplied by Virginia Gilliam, retired from the "Noose." It was some funny stuff, and I worked it into a good column.

Then later, upon returning to the file, the dang thing was gone. Flat gone. Zip. Zang. Nowhere to be found.

I rarely dislike anything, but this #@xx!! machine is about to drive me more insane than I already admit to.

Working with electronic copy is a bit unnerving for the guy who grew up with manual typewriters and foolscap. My fingers sometimes become tangled in the keyboard, or is that tankled? Anyway, tankled or tangled fingers in electronical-type keyboards result in many unusual circumstances. Once, I got a message that read, "Sorry, cannot start World War III with this command." Another time, the machine notified me that, "Your savings account does not contain \$3 million, no matter what you think."

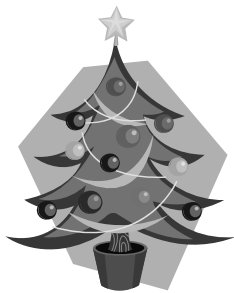
So I struggle on, trying to keep my fingers on the home keys and not swear too much at whatever the machine dishes out next. Sorry to complain so much; it's been a hectic time getting everything ready early.

Oh, and Happy Thanksgiving.

"The derogatory comments about this machine will cause insulting and potentially harmful results."

P.S. The editor has returned to this file twice, and the new column is still intact. Hallelujah.

"Better not check again, or you'll be sorry."



The Illinois Valley Family Coalition is sponsoring our 2nd annual "Caring Tree" for the holidays. Homebound Senior and Disabled residents of the Illinois Valley will have their gift wish noted on a heart ornament on our "Caring Tree".

We need your help to make these Christmas wishes come true for a Senior or Disabled person. Please stop by to select a heart ornament after December 4th and return the ornament with your gift by Friday, December 15th.

The Care You Show Will Bring Joy to A Homebound Senior or Disabled Person in Our Community.

Illinois Valley Family Coalition
535 E. River Street
Cave Junction, OR 97523
592-6139



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

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Letters

(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.

Turkey donors help violence victims From Christine Mallette Illinois Valley Safe House Alliance

Thank you, Illinois Valley News, for donating a turkey to the Cave Junction Lions Club turkey bingo games.

As the recipient of the proceeds of this event, supported by many valley merchants, we are grateful for the support.

We worked with more than 1,000 survivors last year, and help like this means that we'll be there for the next 1,000.

Congressman likes support he received From Peter DeFazio U.S. Representative 4th District of Oregon

I appreciate the strong support given me by the voters in Oregon's 4th Congressional District in this year's election.

Citizens in Southwest Oregon and across the country sent a strong message Nov. 7. Americans resoundingly said at the polls that they want new leadership and a new direction for America on a host of important issues.

I am looking forward to the opportunities that serving in the majority and becoming the chairman of a major subcommittee will bring. I will have the chance to set national transportation policy while continuing to vigorously advocate on Oregon's behalf.

I urge citizens to stay engaged as we work toward a new direction for America. My staff and I remain ready to serve you if you need help with a federal program or agency. You can contact me at (800) 944-9603, or e-mail me at <http://defazio.house.gov/>.

Voters disenfranchised by commissioner choice? From Nancy Jo Taylor O'Brien

As I cleaned the bird cage election Tuesday morning, Nov. 7 I found it ironic that the old newspaper lining the bottom contained the ad for the primary election commissioners race forum showing the faces of the six candidates.

Led me to ponder the events resulting in the one-candidate-on-a-ballot "election" and to question who elected our commissioner. Was it the 45.66 percent of the people who returned ballots and voted for Dave Toler?

The 6,636 undervotes, voters who returned ballots but, for whatever reason declined to vote for commissioner (twice the number left blank for sheriff where there were two names on the ballot)? Or was it the apparently arbitrary decision (no statutes to cover the situation) by the county clerk to deny a second candidate a place on the ballot or in the voter's pamphlet?

Prior to the election County Clerk Georgette Brown stated that no write-in candidate had ever won in Josephine County.

As I see Toler's smiling face on the front of the "Courier" and read his proclamation that he "won" by a 58 percent vote, I wonder how one could be so proud to win under the circumstances. I suspect if the roles had been reversed, a lawsuit would have been filed.

I believe a whole lot of voters were "disenfranchised" and am surprised they are not more indignant. I suspect the 11,183 others, who cared enough about the democratic process to vote the "write-in" option, are as concerned as I am.

Maybe the first order of business for Toler should be to change the county charter so this will not happen again.

He sees arrogance in Bush administration From Wally Hardie Selma

This is about the arrogance of the Bush administration in its bungled attempts to justify an ill-planned war that never had to be, and constantly changing the reasons, trying to make it legitimate, which it never was.

This administration has used every pretext it could create, and every lie which changed weekly to control and mislead the American people into believing they knew what they were doing. A war that has lasted longer than WW2, with no end in sight, and still this administration says it would do the same thing, the same way all over again.

And what is more amazing is that the extreme Right wing of the Republican Party wants to slog on and stay the course. Stay the course for what and how long? My God, is there no

end to this insane endeavor to keep this protracted war going on indefinitely?

Finally enough Americans have been able to see this is a war too far. We have a Constitution put together by people with unbelievable foresight, who originated a means of checks-and-balances. Can you imagine if we had a dictatorship with Bush at the helm, just how long and how many dead Americans there would be?

A senator recently said, "This war has been immoral and dishonorable," and Sen. McCain said on "Meet the Press" Sunday, Nov. 12, "that if we don't stay the course in Iraq it will turn into a total disaster of violence."

Tell me just what this war currently is, if not a disaster and a civil war of unbelievable violence. The end of this war has already occurred; it has imploded, and my government refuses to acknowledge it. It still has hopes of finding some way to salvage anything that will not leave it to be the abortion that it is.

'Angel in the passenger seat' From Alan Laurie Cave Junction

Thursday, Nov. 16 at about 2:15 p.m., I was driving Holland Loop near the end closest to town going toward Caves Hwy.

I probably was traveling 40 to 45 mph. Suddenly a frightened-looking dog appeared out of a ditch to my right. The dog was focused straight ahead to what I soon learned was its home across the street.

There was no time to react. In a fraction of a second I saw what was about to happen. The dog darted into the street. It did not look my

direction until just before my vehicle made contact.

The wheels never struck the dog. In that second, I saw in my rear-view mirror the spinning body on the middle of the road.

By the time I could turn around and return to the scene, the first oncoming vehicle had already pulled over and an Angel in the passenger seat had carried the dog to the side of the road, and with blood-soaked hands was stroking it.

When I saw that the poor dog had not died instantly, I burst out crying. I am a huge lover of dogs.

Then, when I realized that at least there was no way the dog was conscious, I was able to kneel down and stroke the poor dog as the Angel spoke calming words to the dog and me as we watched its life pass away.

Then the Angel pulled off her sweater, wrapped the dog in it and carried it onto the property. We learned from the neighbor across the street that the dog's owners had just left and the dog apparently had followed them onto the street.

I need to do more than the simple verbal "Thank you" I gave the Angel, and I hope that she will get my contact information from "I.V. News" and phone, write or email me.

My heart goes out to the family who owned the dog. But I need to use this forum to point out that dogs running into traffic is not an uncommon occurrence around this area. This dog had lived on a property that appeared to be entirely fenced. The owners had not closed the gate behind them.

I ask all dog owners who love their dogs to be more diligent in their care and protection of them.



The PUPPET LOUNGE

After Thanksgiving Sale
Fri & Sat Nov. 24 & 25 (9am-6pm)

Free Gift (just for coming in)
Free Personal fm radio/flashlight with purchase of full body puppet
While supplies last

Largest selection of Puppets in Southern Oregon!!!
Corner of Hwy 199 and Rockydale
592-2465

Thank you from Abiding in the Vine

We would like to thank everyone who has already purchased their stone for the Ivy Theater move. Our goal is high, but the response has been positive. Our desire is to see this come to pass, but we truly only want God's will to be done.

We believe that He has opened this door of opportunity for us and we are walking through it by faith. We have seen so many miracles in our valley. Lives are being changed. Drug addicts are coming clean, families are being restored.

The turn of events regarding the theater has been a miracle too and we want to give God all the glory! Our prayer is that God's goodness would continue to be poured out upon the Illinois Valley and that all would be touched by His incredible love.

Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ. (II Corinthians 2:14a)

Kathryn & Heather, Abiding in the Vine (John 15)

THINK STONES

FOR CHRISTMAS!

Give a gift that honors the recipient & helps our community.

Between now and Dec. 22nd we are offering you an opportunity to have the name or names of your choice "set in stone".

Brick pavers will be engraved and set around the Ivy Theater. The cost is a \$30 minimum donation for each engraved stone.

We will move our business to this new location and offer year-round family movie nights, and live theater, plus a healthy eatery.

Our desire is to be a blessing to our community and we believe that if we work together, not only will Cave Junction have a movie theater again, but we will also be creating a beautiful memorial.

Abiding in the Vine "Project Living Stones"

The stones can be purchased at our current location:

116 N. Redwood Hwy.
Mondays through Fridays,
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information or to get involved, contact us at (541) 592-8588 or abidinginthevine@frontiernet.net

Please be a part of this monumental event!!!