

Bob's Corner

This was the week that I was going to reveal the secret of the meaning of life; how to remain in excellent health while eating anything you want without exercising or experiencing stress; and how to retire at age 26 with \$15 million in a tax-free account. Instead, I have chosen to entertain (hopefully) with the following.

Jan ordered some Christian music, and we subsequently received this message:

Your CDs have been gently taken from our CD Baby shelves with sterilized, contamination-free gloves and placed onto a satin pillow.

A team of 50 employees inspected your CDs and polished them to make sure that they were in the best possible condition before mailing.

Our packing specialist from Japan lit a candle, and a hush fell over the crowd as he put your CDs into the finest gold-lined box that money can buy.

We all had a wonderful celebration afterward, and the whole party marched down the street to the post office, where the entire town of Portland waved "Bon Voyage!" to your package, on its way to you, in our private CD Baby jet on this day.

I hope you had a wonderful time shopping at CD Baby. We sure did. Your picture is on our wall as "Customer of the Year." We're all exhausted, but can't wait for you to come back to CDBABY.COM!!

With that off my mind, it's about time to start shaking the tambourine to highlight the fact that 2007 marks the 70th anniversary of "Illinois Valley News" in its present format. Therefore and thusly, we are planning a mixer for Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce members and guests on March 2; and during May we'll have another something of a celebratory nature. (Don't try to pin me down on exactly what, yet.)

Jan and I have been running the "Noose" only since February 1986. We're trying to figure out why issue number 52 will fall in mid-March, when the paper's first bound-volume issue is dated Thursday, May 13, 1937. Anyone with ideas or explanations can send them to us, and likely we'll do something nice in return. (Don't try to pin me down on exactly what, yet.)

The first issue, with four pages, when Cave Junction was called Cave City, contains a number of interesting congratulatory ads, including some from Grants Pass and Medford businesses. One from Medford-Crescent City Truck Lines notes "steamer connections at Crescent City for San Francisco and Los Angeles." There are several greetings from I.V. food vendors: Illinois Valley Grocery, Illinois Valley Meat Co., and Schumacher's Grocery, all in Cave City; plus Keith's Meat Market in the Holland community, and Lew Hammer's Store in Selma.

Restaurants advertising included Log Cabin Lunch in Kerby, The Spanish Castle (Good Food, Good Drinks, Booths for Ladies), Kerby Confectionary, and Owl Café. And George W. Rowley bought an ad for his Cave City Drug Store. Many other businesses also are listed. That first issue in the bound volumes apparently was used by the owners for their bookkeeping because each ad has the price marked in pencil. They're all \$1 and \$2 ads.

The page 1 headlines include: J.H. Pomeroy Improving Twohy Ranch, Governor to Pass Through Illinois Valley, and New Owners at Orange & Black Camp Ground. The "best yet" Kerby flower show was lauded. And there's a story about what was coming at Cave City Theater: "Tarzan Escapes" featuring Johnny Weissmuller and Maurine O'Sullivan, "Valley of Wanted Men," and "One in a Million" starring Sonja Heinie, "internationally known skater, supported by a good cast of players including Adolph Menjou."

So that's enough background this week. We'll be telling you more in coming issues. (Don't try to pin me down on exactly what, yet.)

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.

Drugs from Canada needed to survive From Wallace Hardie Selma

This letter is for general public information. My wife and I have for several years purchased some of our more expensive drugs from Canada: Drugs that we simply could not afford if purchased in America.

They are drugs that without question are vital to the existence of life. Drugs that my government by law would not allow Americans to buy from Canada.

One could be any other nationality in the world, and there would be absolutely no problem. Those same drugs bought here in America by Americans cost 40 to 60 percent more. Recently the time came to place another order.

When dialing the number for the pharmacy in Canada, we were informed that the number could no longer be reached from our area code. This is the latest attempt of my government to keep Americans from purchasing the very same drugs sold to Canada by American pharmacies.

They are drugs from drug manufacturers that contributed millions to our president's political well-being -- to keep Americans from purchasing drugs that were sold (by the drug companies) for substantial profits.

That profit was not enough; they want a profit three to four times that amount, and my president does his best to conform to their wants. I recently contacted my congressional representative to inquire if there is anything we as senior citizens can do to get life-saving drugs at a price we can afford.

His answer was, "Yes, vote for an administration that cares for its citizens." In the meantime we will continue to circumvent a law meant to punish Americans for the political gain of our president. There are still ways to purchase drugs from Canada, and we will continue to break President Bush's law in order to survive.

But this is a hell-of-a-way to survive. It is very difficult for me to believe that Americans must resort to under-handed methods in order to stay alive.

This is not the United States of America that so many of us fought for, bled for and have died for.

Following are the high-and-low temperatures, and rainfall, recorded in O'Brien by Cheryl & Harry Johnson.

*Fri., Feb. 2: 47-24
*Sat., Feb. 3: 56-33
*Sun., Feb. 4: 56-31
*Mon., Feb. 5: 59-36
*Tue., Feb. 6: 63-38
*Wed., Feb. 7: 51-36 0.79
*Thurs., Feb. 8: 42-36 0.71

Following are the high-and-low temperatures, and rainfall, recorded in Cave Junction at Mountain Wind Farm.

*Fri., Feb. 2: 53-22
*Sat., Feb. 3: 59-30
*Sun., Feb. 4: 64-28 0.01
*Mon., Feb. 5: 60-32
*Tue., Feb. 6: 68-46
*Wed., Feb. 7: 50-35 0.88
*Thurs., Feb. 8: 43-36 0.66

'Us' vs. 'them' mentality said worsening in area From Heather Goodell Cave Junction

Grants Pass residents are embarrassed after a local couple appeared on the show, "Trading Spouses."

They should be. I believe that the woman's attitudes represent a fair cross-section in this community.

For several years, I have listened to Southern Oregon blame "Californians" for our over-development woes, and at the same time for being tree-huggers who hinder development and employment, which is a contradiction in itself.

The people of Grants Pass are worried that America will see us as prejudiced against race and sexual orientation. Yet it's OK to bash "Californians?" What's the difference?

The "us" vs. "them" mentality is festering in Southern Oregon.

A tongue-in-cheek view of some folks From Stephen L. Cochran Paso Robles, Calif.

My wife and I recently came through your lovely valley, and spent a few days walking about Cave Junction and taking in other sights. Some of them are along your main street.

We had seen your newspaper because friends in the area had mailed us a few back issues. While in town we bought some current issues. Some of what goes on, noted in your "Police Blotter," is a bit hard to swallow, but we know that you're only reporting the news.

This may sound harsh and overly sarcastic, but we think, being a retired psychologist and a counselor respectively, that your community could be a showcase for unusual people. Especially those wandering up and down your main street.

Just a little note to maybe get the ball rolling.

Correction

A photo caption in the issue of Feb. 7 incorrectly identified Dusty Culver as Chris Culver. Dusty Culver is actually the Illinois Valley High School wrestler who took first place in the 103-pound category against Hidden Valley on Feb. 1.

illinois-valley-news.com

Weather Watch

Cave Junction

Wednesday, Feb. 14
Increasing clouds w/ prospect of rain
High--51, Low--38.

Thursday, Feb. 15
Perhaps some light showers
High--56, Low--37.

Friday, Feb. 16
Smattering of clouds, clearing
High--59, Low--36.

Saturday, Feb. 17
Increasing clouds, rain later
High--61, Low--35.

Sunday, Feb. 18
Smidgen of rain then just cloudy
High--53, Low--30.

Monday, Feb. 19
Smattering of sun
High--53, Low--36.

Tuesday, Feb. 20
Numerous clouds, maybe rain
High--50, Low--38.

Sucker Creek bridge ...

(Continued from page 1)

erty Services Director Brandes.

"It would have been half our budget for the whole year," Brandes said. "There's no way we could have internally funded it."

Traffic closures will occur during construction, Brandes said, and signs announcing the closures will be placed once a firm schedule is established.

It's anticipated that effects on driving patterns will be minimal, as a traffic study by the county determined that an average of 250 cars pass through that section of Holland Loop, DeJanvier said.

Most major work on the project should be completed by the end of the year, at which point the road will once again be fully open to through-traffic.

"We're conscious of the burden it puts on the people out there," Brandes said.

Temporary road closures will be necessary due to budgetary constraints, Brandes said. A detour route would have added another \$1 million to the project, and any cost overages for the project have to be paid by the county. Such a detour also would have required the county to acquire more temporary construction easements from surrounding property owners.

Easements for four surrounding properties already

have been obtained by the county and approved by the board of commissioners on Jan. 10. Those easements cost under \$25,000, and were paid by OTIA funds.

The Lower Sucker Creek Bridge is also in need of permanent replacement. However, such a project won't happen until at least 2010, Brandes said.

OTIA funds aren't expected to be released until 2009, and the county will have to provide a 10 percent match for the work, which will cost around \$3 million.

A detour will be necessary for the Lower Sucker Creek Bridge replacement, DeJanvier said, because that portion of road is widely used by the public, as well as by school buses and emergency vehicles.

Weight restrictions on that bridge were implemented approximately two years ago due to structural issues. Epoxy was used as part of temporary repair work to solidify the structure.

"It was more of a temporary fix until we could get the funding to replace it," DeJanvier said.

The county is in the process of arranging inter-governmental agreements to start the Lower Sucker Creek Bridge project, Brandes said, but the state will handle such issues as right-of-way and easement acquisitions.

The CHATEAU

at The OREGON CAVES

An authorized concessionaire of the National Park.

Seeking Local Artists

The Oregon Caves Outfitters is seeking appropriate art for consignment sales in the Chateau Gift Gallery at the Oregon Caves National Monument. Areas of special interest include but are not limited to: glasswork, basketry, woodwork, metalwork, and sculpture.

A jury process will be used to select artwork. Jury forms are available at the I.V. Visitor Center.

Call 592-3400 or 592-4440 for more information or to have a jury form mailed to you.

Bring samples for review to the county building at 102 S. Redwood Hwy., Cave Junction

Saturday, March 3
Drop-off: 9 to 10 a.m.
Pick-up: noon to 1

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(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.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
One year in Josephine County - \$22.80
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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