

Bob's Corner

We've been figuring out a weighty matter at our home in the form of a new bathroom scale. It has a futuristic look with some resemblance to the ship in the Star Trek series, "Voyager."

This new hunk of slightly frightening electronics with digital readouts and row of streamlined buttons, plus its chrome highlights and sleek design, replaces our former scale that looks like a garbage scow in comparison. The old contraption is so old that we cannot recall how long we've had it. For all we know, it was a wedding present, which would make it nearly 43.

We figured that we needed to replace it recently while trying to determine the weight of Rocky 2, our Pomeranian who hasn't been feeling well. The idea was, Jan would hold Rocky and stand on the scale; then we'd weigh only her; and we'd subtract and get the doggy dimension. Except that she stood on the scale four times with Rocky, and each time we got widely differing totals.

That was a clue that the old weighing machine was not accurate, and not telling the truth. Although, sometimes the truth (about weight) is difficult to swallow. And that's more than a figure of speech.

Anyway, the new machine is the first bathroom measuring instrument in my experience to come with a



user's guide. I mean, this is way more than a single sheet of instructions; it's a booklet. I was elected to inaugurate the device while Jan piloted it, which meant that I had to remove my socks and dampen the soles of my feet. I was nervous, being told that the scale would send current to my feet.

Eventually we determined my weight, my body mass, muscle mass, body fat and body water. I felt as though I had entered the Twilight Zone of bathroom scales. And as usual, not all the figures are good, although I've never been known for my good figure.

The booklet lists the "proper" figures for all those aspects. Don't you find them annoying? It's like the charts you used to see in medical offices denoting what your height should be based on your weight. For me, I was supposed to be 7 feet tall, but never got there. It figures.

Weather Watch

Cave Junction

Wednesday, Feb. 21

Increasing precipitation
High--44, Low--29.



Thursday, Feb. 22

Overcast, intervals of rain & snow
High--41, Low--26.



Friday, Feb. 23

Numerous clouds, chance of drizzles
High--44, Low--31.



Saturday, Feb. 24

Rain, snow, rain
High--48, Low--30.



Sunday, Feb. 25

More cloudiness
High--48, Low--27.



Monday, Feb. 26

Clouds then returning rain
High--52, Low--35.



Tuesday, Feb. 27

A peek of sunshine
High--55, Low--38.



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

*Fri., Feb. 9: 57-35
*Sat., Feb. 10: 53-40 1.50
*Sun., Feb. 11: 47-40 0.67
*Mon., Feb. 12: 48-34
*Tue., Feb. 13: 52-35
*Wed., Feb. 14: 49-35 0.08
*Thurs., Feb. 15: 59-48 0.28

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

*Fri., Feb. 9: 62-35
*Sat., Feb. 10: 51-38 1.39
*Sun., Feb. 11: 50-38 0.93
*Mon., Feb. 12: 48-35 0.04
*Tue., Feb. 13: 56-35
*Wed., Feb. 14: 47-36
*Thurs., Feb. 15: 62-45 0.21

I've never been one to bet on the weather.

- Paul Getty -

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.

Bovine gas, hair spray 'global warming' cause? From Gregory D. Anderson Cave Junction

"Global warming...puzzles scientists." To hear politicians, enviros, and major media there is no puzzle here.

Greenhouse gases are caused by internal combustion engines, freon from air conditioners or any source of man-caused CO2 is the culprit. But wait a minute. The missing words in the above quote are: "on Pluto."

That's right: Real scientists to date have found global warming on: Jupiter, Venus, Mars and Pluto; Saturn and its moon, Enceladus; and on Neptune's moon, Triton.

Now I think most will agree that other than a couple of Mars Rovers, man has had little effect on these solar system members. Have hysterical AlGore or other like-minded "doom and gloomers" ever mentioned these known facts? Is the "Inconvenient Truth" really a very convenient lie?

Why, it might be asked, do the rest of the solar system "globes" get warmer from unknown reasons while at the same time the U.N.'s latest report on the matter states with more than "90% confidence" that since the 1950s we humans are the main cause of warming on Earth? Could it be possible that there is a political agenda?

AlGore and his ilk tell us there is "a consensus" of scientists (read, ideological left scientists) that greenhouse gases, especially CO2, are the cause. At one time there was "a consensus" of learned men that the Earth was flat.

Approximately 40 years ago there was "a consensus" that we were in global cooling here on Earth. That gives me pause when I hear that word "consensus."

Real scientists tell us that the strongest greenhouse gas is H2O (water), and that in the scheme of things the effects of CO2 are negligible. They also tell us that global warming and cooling have been occurring for thousands of years, long before even AlGore and "his" Internet.

They say that if, in fact, the Earth warms up another degree or two this century, which is not predicted by reputable scientists at this time, we might see the oceans rise a few inches, not feet.

I feel confident that even the flatulent green enviros could now agree that since global warming is happening on neighboring planetary bodies it is not caused by the flatulence of cows, Humvees or hair spray.

Here is an original thought: It might be the Sun's fault!

'No Child Left Behind, except in Illinois Valley' From De Spellman Selma

When you are a child going to school here in the valley, you may or may not have a book for the class you are trying to take. This makes it very hard to do work at home.

Some students need to take work home to have parental help so they do not fall behind. In the high school, kids are getting ready to go out and make a life, go to college to have a future. They are told that you have to get 25 credits and senior projects to do to get your diploma.

So they take the classes only to be told, "We do not have the text books for you." What this means is that you must reach the goals of No Child Left Behind. Sounds like a good idea, but how do you do that if the school cannot provide the books that you need to not be left behind?

Let's look at this from a teacher's point. I have had the chance during the years running kids programs through the fire district to meet a lot of the teachers here. They are good dedicated men and women that do this job because they care about the kids.

I know that it takes a special person to teach; we all know that teachers make so much money that they go to school as a hobby. It is this caring that keeps them coming back day after day to tell their students, "I am so sorry, but you need to share books so you cannot take the book home."

Part of a teacher's job is to motivate kids to do their best and reach their full potential. How can they do this? We have good teachers here from K-12, but it is an unnecessary burden that our kids and teachers carry.

There are 20,000 people living here. If everyone gave just \$1 we could buy the books our kids need. I know the buck stops at Hay's Hill -- that has not changed, we can keep saying that or we can take care of our own kids by collecting money and buying the books and giving them to the schools.

We obtained four Child Development and Parenting books for Illinois Valley Alternative Center at the Family Resource Center. They are used, in good shape, and cost \$120. We are losing our libraries for lack of money. Are we also

willing to lose the education of the children or can we fill in the blanks and help our teachers help our children?

Once again I would call upon the people who live here to be proactive, to help buy books for all our schools. If we do not do anything to help with this problem then when the kids fail, it is our failure, as a community to provide the children with an education.

They are the future. Let's make a difference in the lives of the children. Those who helped get the books we bought, as a start: Joe's Market, "The Ladies at the Smoke Shop," Jeff at Oregon Caves Chevron, Billie at Cabin Chemistry, Steve at Stevereno's Family Restaurant, Fred and Sara Ball at Bi-Rite Auto.

Especially appreciated is Cathy at Bookworm for finding the books.

We need to form a committee to identify the needs and brainstorm to fill that need. Those who care and want to help in any way can reach me at 415-1380.

A couple's nightmare, available for review From Raymond Karczewski Cave Junction

Mine is a story of what befalls a Free Man targeted by government while living in an Unfree Society.

It is the story of a police sergeant and his wife, both 69, who chose to spend their retirement years in beautiful Southern Oregon living in Cave Junction, Josephine County, Oregon.

It is the story of a man and woman of peace, and the systematic destruction of that peace, the quality of their lives, their reputations, health, etc. by a government hell-bent on destroying the quality of life of their citizens in order to ensure its power base.

It is a story you will not soon forget as you apply the facts to your own experiences when dealing with local and state government here in beautiful Southern Oregon.

I hold the state of Oregon and County of Josephine responsible for my wife's disabling illness. I invite all to read in detail the events which have turned a couple's American Dream

into a nightmare by accessing arkenterprises.com/index11.html.

Sustainable harvest vs. O&C Act, county funds From Lynne Vanderlinden Cave Junction

And I thought my sheep were placid. Yet they know enough to go directly to the source (me) of the problem when their alfalfa delivery is late or the water trough is empty.

But mark my words when I predict that when their trough goes dry, the people of Josephine and other O&C counties will be pointing their fingers and blame toward the commissioners and sheriff.

Hey, it isn't their fault and they can't fix it. The people knew this was coming, but stuck their heads in the sand, didn't speak up, and let it happen.

As far as I know, the O&C Act hasn't been repealed. The feds are no longer appeasing the masses with welfare dollars for not cutting timber. So why are we not sustainably cutting on O&C land to restore the funds rightfully and legally our due? People must like the idea of higher taxes on everything as long as we can let those trees burn up or blow down.

I also see that most are still mute about removing electricity-generating dams throughout Oregon, including our own Savage Rapids, so they can feel ever so good about saving fish that would probably do fine on their own if we'd just leave 'em alone.

I'm sure their hearts (rather than their homes) will be warmed by ever-increasing power bills and the fact that the \$15 million safety net O&C payment will go to the fish instead of the county.

Ironic that both dam removal and the requested O&C payment are the same dollar amount. And I hope that the people will make good use of what our governor is touting as the "bright spot" in the federal budget for Oregon -- \$80 million for a light rail system along I-205.

Rebel, sheep! Demand your alfalfa and stop drinking that environmentalist Kool-Aid.

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