

# Bob's Corner

It was time, and I really didn't feel ready. But the food bill had dragged on too long. My boss was insistent. "Go collect the cash from those sailors," he said.

So I tucked my white short-sleeved shirt into my white trousers. And then, because I had food stains on the lower portion of the shirt and the top of my trousers, I tied a freshly cleaned and starched apron around my waist. I looked ready. But I still didn't feel like it.

And off I strode, looking for a certain U.S. Navy vessel undergoing refitting at a San Diego shipyard. It was quite a walk from the cafeteria to the ship, but I didn't mind because it gave me time to prepare myself mentally. A handful of sailors had run up a tab of nearly \$200 during the previous three weeks because I allowed them to charge their food at the remote lunch stand I operated for the cafeteria.

And now it was time to pay the piper because my boss was slightly furious that the chit had been allowed to reach the total. I mean, it was 1963 and that was a lot of chow considering the prevailing prices. I had granted credit because -- well, because I couldn't see a reason not to. After all, the sailors promised they'd pay me. Besides, I was a somewhat gullible 19-year-old.

Finally reached the vessel after making my way through the hazards of a major shipyard. Found my way to the mess hall aboard ship, and contacted the commanding officer, with whom I had spoken via telephone a few days earlier. He and his fellow officers were at their own table in the main dining area because the officers mess was torn up during refitting.

Their table had a tablecloth and a steward. I took a deep breath and addressed the C.O. He gave me a gimlet glance, and then berated me for allowing sailors to charge. "They're sailors for Pete's sake," he intoned. "Did you expect them to pay?"

I answered, "Yes." He continued to grumble, finally advising me that there was no way they could collect the total debt. But the crew had agreed, he said, to fork over \$95 from their recreation fund. I took the cash and left.

Upon my return, the boss was not happy, and told me so in no uncertain terms. And I never let sailors charge their food again. Even when they promised they'd pay.

Not long after, I left that job. After all, I didn't look that good in white clothing, even with a fresh apron.

# 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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## CJ Citizens Patrol seeking assistance From Mark Rodgers, coordinator Neighborhood Watch In Motion/Cave Junction Citizens Patrol

As we all know, a budget for law enforcement is nearly nonexistent.

Therefore, we need to take it upon ourselves to protect, patrol, watch and deter crime. The Citizens Patrol needs volunteers to patrol in vehicles and on foot.

The patrol also needs monetary sponsors for some equipment needed to aid our efforts to document, record and communicate.

Patrol meetings are held on third Wednesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Josephine County Bldg. in Downtown Cave Junction. I can be contacted at River Valley Restaurant, 592-4128; or at home, 592-3754.

## CJ Skate Park still rolling along From Sandy Lilly, president, The Shining Stars; and board of directors

On behalf of our organization, I and directors Nicole Duran, Roy Ewing, Gabriella Salas and Crystal Schroeter want to address the removal of damaged skate park ramps in Jubilee Park by the city of Cave Junction. We realize how upset the youth are to lose these ramps, but there needs

to be an understanding that it was done for the safety of the skaters.

The entire skate park was due to be removed, as the city had received more than one complaint from concerned parents and other citizens. The large ramps were far too rotted to be repaired. We are happy to see that the smaller pieces were left for skaters to enjoy, and appreciate the city for this compromise, as well as for its labor and time.

The remaining pieces still need maintenance and TLC. The Shining Stars will hold a Skate Park Spring Cleanup sometime during the next few weeks. Painting, repairing, and general cleaning of the area need to be tackled.

We also hope to hang skate park signs again. The youth made a CJ Skate Park sign. The Shining Stars has a sign about responsibility and rules, and the city requires that it be posted if we wish to have the skate park.

We are awaiting another meeting with Mayor Paulson to discuss future development and rebuilding. We have a vision for our youth of a concrete skate park. Community involvement from the entire valley will be instrumental to make it happen.

All skaters, families, friends and community are encouraged to come share ideas and learn more about our dream for the skate park in Illinois Valley.

We want to mention Cross Quest for its help in keeping up the facility, as well as those youth who have pitched in during the past few years.

Additionally, The Shining Stars will not host its annual event in June. We value all our volunteers and supporters from the previous five events. We want to look forward together toward the future skate park.

For more information phone 592-2236.

## Sheriff's office delays; message to delinquents From Angela Davel Herde Cave Junction

I am writing in response to the lack of effort by the Josephine County Sheriff's Office, as I was a victim of juvenile vandalism to my vehicle while working at a Downtown Cave Junction restaurant on Dec. 29.

After witnessing a group of teen-agers getting ready to break windows out of Issac's discount store I and another person chased them to another restaurant where they were identified. The next afternoon I spoke with the mother of one of the kids, and she got her son to admit who had actually smashed my windshield and told me she would help me get my windshield replaced.

I called the sheriff's office to inform them of the recent update and was told no previous report had been made. I argued this fact and told them I wanted to pursue this. A week later I was contacted at the restaurant by another deputy, who made it clear that he was there only to investigate the "non-investigation."

I contacted the sheriff's office again and inquired about my case, but did not get to talk to a deputy. I was later contacted by Deputy

Hubbard, who asked why I had not made a report earlier, and that angered me. I told him there had been, but that for some reason no one was officially documenting my multiple calls.

I was assured by the deputy that my case would be handled by him and not to worry about previous contacts, as he would "take care of this." That is the last time I was contacted by a  
**(Continued on page 7)**

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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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## Weather Watch

### Cave Junction

Wednesday, April 18

Chilly with clouds proliferating High--54, Low--32.

Thursday, April 19

Clouds leading to cold and rain High--58, Low--35.

Friday, April 20

More spring: clouds, thunder, rain, snow High--60, Low--35.

Saturday, April 21

Patchy sunshine shifting to rain High--64, Low--39.

Sunday, April 22

Rain showers mixing with snow High--58, Low--35.

Monday, April 23

More spring: snow, rain; rain and snow High--54, Low--34.

Tuesday, April 24

Just clouds with a tad bit of sun High--60, Low--35.

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

\*Fri., April 6: 73-43  
\*Sat., April 7: 65-47 0.31  
\*Sun., April 8: 65-42 0.35  
\*Mon., April 9: 59-40 0.43  
\*Tue., April 10: 67-37  
\*Wed., April 11: 51-39 0.94  
\*Thurs., April 12: 62-34

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

\*Fri., April 6: 81-39  
\*Sat., April 7: 68-45 0.19  
\*Sun., April 8: 70-41 0.26  
\*Mon., April 9: 61-40 0.32  
\*Tue., April 10: 66-36  
\*Wed., April 11: 53-38 0.89  
\*Thurs., April 12: 57-33 0.01

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