

Bob's Corner

During the past century, while spending some six years as a reporter/photographer (and nine months as a copy boy) at the former San Diego *Evening Tribune*, I was acquainted with a staff photographer named Chuck Boyd. He has since retired: I'm still waiting to do the same.

Boyd has a blog, and in it he relates that Alvin Toffler in his 1970s book, *Future Shock*, notes that if you were to take the time that human beings have existed (approximately 50,000 years) and divide this time into 62-year average lifetimes, you would get 800 lifetimes. Of those 800 lifetimes:

*650 of them have been in caves.

*It is only during the past 70 lifetimes that humans have been able to communicate across generations.

*It is only during the past six lifetimes that we've had the printed word.

*It is only in the last four that we have been able to measure time with any accuracy.

*Electric motors and gasoline engines have been around only during the most recent two.

*Most of the technology with which we are so familiar has been brought into existence during our lifetimes.

Boyd relates that he had a chance to see this rapid transition first-hand in the late 1960s when the *Union-Tribune* sent a reporter and a photographer (him) to interview a man whose son, astronaut David Scott, was training to walk on the moon.

When the father was born, the Wright Brothers had not perfected controlled powered flight and -- within one lifetime -- his son was going to be the seventh man (of only 12) to walk on the moon. As commander of Apollo 15, Scott also drove Lunar Rover-1. "Yikes," notes Boyd. Yikes indeed, we say.

In fact, if people "my age" (slightly less than 6.4 decades) think about their past, there can be some major eye-openers. As a child, the following items, just off the top of my balding head, did not exist: color television, 24-hour TV programming on a gazillion stations, satellites, astronauts, TV dinners, microwave ovens, drive-through restaurants, commercial jetliners, espresso coffee stands on every corner, the Internet, personal computers, and on and on.

In fact, the original computers were monstrosities we'd laugh at now (ha-ha). For example, ENIAC (Electronic Numerical Integrator And Computer), which operated from 1946 to '55. Its physical size was massive compared to modern PC standards. It contained 17,468 vacuum tubes (some will have to look that up to figure out what they were), 7,200 crystal diodes, 1,500 relays, 70,000 resistors, 10,000 capacitors and approximately 5 million hand-soldered joints.

ENIAC weighed 27 tons (not real good for use as a laptop); was roughly 8.5 feet by 3 feet by 80; took up 680 square feet and consumed 150 kw of power. Input was possible from an IBM card reader; an IBM card punch was used for output. These cards could be used to produce printed output offline using an IBM accounting machine.

When I worked for the Electronics Division of NCR Corp., which some still remember as The National Cash Register Co., the big deal was the Century 100, which offered a 16k or 32k memory. Wow. Compared to the memories of today's computers, that's like putting a Ford Model T next to a 2008 Toyota. No comparison in terms of performance and technology. So we progress, and often aren't really aware of the significance or historical value of such advancements.

Oh, one item hasn't changed. I'll state it in five words: Are you ready for Christmas? Don't need a computer to answer.

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

*Fri., Nov. 23	42 - 23
*Sat., Nov. 24	43 - 27
*Sun., Nov. 25	44 - 29
*Mon., Nov. 26	52 - 28 0.24
*Tue., Nov. 27	45 - 30 0.04
*Wed., Nov. 28	46 - 34
*Thurs., Nov. 29	46 - 32

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

*Fri., Nov. 23	52 - 24
*Sat., Nov. 24	44 - 25 0.01
*Sun., Nov. 25	51 - 28
*Mon., Nov. 26	50 - 27 0.21
*Tue., Nov. 27	49 - 31 0.02
*Wed., Nov. 28	46 - 34
*Thurs., Nov. 29	49 - 30

(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.

Some good people From Wayne Bergman Selma

Someone turned in our ATM card at Home Valley Bank on Oct. 19. This shows that we still have good people in our valley.

'A neighborly thing' From Elaine Edwards Cave Junction

I love your newspaper, and read it from front to back every week.

A story I read reminded me of what Cave Junction might have been at one time, and maybe this story will encourage our residents to bring back such nice customs. Thanks for giving us such a wonderful newspaper.

(Editor's Note: The story appeared in the August 2002 issue of *Guideposts*. It's about a couple in Frankfort, Ohio; and the good deeds, friendliness and love showered on them by neighbors as a matter of course; plus supporting them in the face of adversity, including their house being severely damaged by fire.)

Parents in home situation Robert Haber Grants Pass

I want to express how proud I am of my parents, Kirk Taylor and Olivia Taylor-Young.

In what's truly a David vs. Goliath situation, they have chosen to fight rather than accept personal abuse, theft of their retirement and intimidation into silence. But proud as I am, I'm equally heartbroken and angry on their behalf.

They invested in Josephine County in good faith; yet ever since my parents moved into CedarBrook Estates in Cave Junction, they have continuously tried to resolve structural matters regarding their home and environmental problems regarding CedarBrook itself. In return, they've been subjected to letters threatening legal action if their complaints were made public and verbal abuse.

I've seen the letters my parents have written asking for resolution, and personally witnessed some of the abuse.

After working hard all of their lives, raising and educating their sons and daughters, my 64- and 70-year-old parents face the choice between foreclosure and possible bankruptcy or risking serious threats to their health. Yet they are accusing my parents of bringing down the neighborhood's property values by going public.

My parents are not in this fight to bring down property values. They are in this fight to protect their health, restore their dignity, peace of mind and a happy retirement. They are also fighting to restore basic fairness and accountability to Josephine

County.

No one deserves what my parents are enduring.

Good deed warriors From Beth Williams Cave Junction

Even though I don't always hear it, any change in the weather seems a good time for one of our shallow-rooted trees to fall on our wooded homesite.

A few weeks ago I drove down the driveway, a full list of the day's activities in hand, to find one of those trees lying across the drive near the road. Back at the house, I phoned a friend for help, then drove as close to the blocked section as reasonable and waited.

Some minutes later a red crewcab pickup truck swung into the driveway. Four guys piled out, grabbed a chain saw from the bed of the truck; cut the tree trunk into convenient pieces; and tossed them into the woods.

The guys responded, "You're welcome," to my "Thank you," and drove away. All this activity took less time than it takes to read about it.

I was still stunned by such kindness when my friend arrived. We traded round-eyed stares and a laugh before he too drove away, and I left to run errands. What a wonderful place to live.

My benefactors are appreciated.

Thief missed out From David Bargelt Cave Junction

A funny thing happened to me during the holiday. Friday morning I was awakened around 5 by headlights shining through my window.

It appeared that the vehicle was just being turned around, which isn't unusual. The vehicle was driven away, and I went back to sleep.

Saturday morning I went to my wood shed and discovered that someone had relieved me of two chainsaws. Funny thing is; they were both in bad shape. The big 066 Stihl with a 42-inch bar needs a muffler and mounts, and it's 25 years old. The other saw is newer and a little smaller; an 041 I think. But it needs some serious work.

I can't afford to fix either one at this time. They essentially were worthless to me. Maybe they're worth a few bucks to someone. Maybe.

The real funny part is that the thief walked past 20 gallons of gasoline, a Honda generator, and two good saws. They bypassed those to go up in the attic for the junk.

Maybe this thief should look for another line of work.

'Government gangsters' From Larry Herman Cave Junction

We don't need gangsters; we already have government suppression of rights on national and local levels, in favor of corporate sovereignty (all the rights of a person without penalty.)

We the people are supplanted when local government favors corporate interests at the expense of the citizens who put them in office. Our life, liberty and pursuit of happiness have been attacked

at the basic level of hearth and home.

There are citizens who pay taxes and vote, who live along the mining site on Rockydale Raod, and they've been violated by the county.

Is it a coincidence that Copeland Sand & Gravel/Barlow Rock will benefit from the mining and the repaving and widening of Redwood Hwy. at the north end of Cave Junction? They built the Yellow Brick Road and line their pockets with gold.

Does the county consider the people living along Rockydale and mining site collateral damage? Just as all those damaged in Iraq are considered by the U.S. government. It's said that money talks and BS walks. Are the county and corporate interests stealing from the south to pay for expansion of the "booming housing market" on the north end of town?

Our government has proved that if you repeat a lie enough times, the brain-dead will be faithful followers. Deception is the New World Order, which isn't so new. It also seems like the local new order. Like above, so below.

That state says that Josephine County is violating law. It's possible to go online and file a complaint with the Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals.

Why should everybody along Rockydale, and now Caves Hwy. and Holland Loop, suffer because of excessive use by selfish corporate interests at the expense of the many? I can say from experience that the noise is horrendous. It begins before 7 a.m. and continues until I don't know when, because I have to leave and come back later.

Also, Rockydale is devastated by dirt and debris. There are many elderly and infirm living along these routes that have been damaged, along with property values. Is the county going to reduce their taxes to compensate their loss? Those who health has been damaged by the noise, dirt and dust, and receive Social Security Disability payments, can phone the SS Administration at (800) 772-1213.

The project work on Rockydale will resume after the first of the year. If it is to resume before March 1, an approved DEQ NPDES 1200A storm water permit will be needed.

Soon, the hype will be exposed, with those who deceive. Cave Junction used to be a nice place to live. If we lock ourselves in gated communities, we will no longer need cemeteries, and the Zombies will rule.

An election year is coming. So we can phone Sen. Ron Wyden in Medford at 858-5122; Sen. Gordon Smith in Medford at 608-9102; or Rep. Peter DeFazio at (800) 944-9603.

Targeting terrorists From Ed Feulner The Heritage Foundation Washington, D.C.

Since the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks -- contrary to all expectations -- there have been no terrorist strikes on U.S. soil. And it's not because our enemies have stopped trying.

A recent FBI report says that al Qaeda hopes to attack shopping centers during the holidays. The terrorist group hopes "to disrupt the U.S. economy and has been planning the attack for the past two years."

The reason we haven't been hit is because U.S. authorities are actively pursuing -- and stopping -- individuals and groups intent on killing Americans.

This isn't always easy. Effective operations often require federal, state, local and even international cooperation. But our law enforcement agencies have already racked up an impressive string of arrests.

Perhaps the biggest fish caught so far is Khalid Sheikh Mohammed. He's tied to a number of terrorist plots, including Sept. 11, the 2002 Bali bombings and the 1993 bombing at the World Trade Center.

Undoubtedly one of Osama bin Laden's highest-ranking operatives, he also claims to have personally decapitated journalist Daniel Pearl. Under interrogation, KMS gave up the names of several fellow operatives, thus helping to prevent other attacks. He's being held at the U.S. military detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, awaiting trial by a military commission authorized by Congress.

In addition, we've captured many would-be terrorists right in our country.

During September 2002, federal authorities arrested "the Lackawanna Six" near

(Continued on page 3)

Weather Watch

Cave Junction

Wednesday, Dec. 5

Cloudiness with rain & freezing rain later
High--52 Low--32



Thursday, Dec. 6

Showers during the day turning to snow
High--46 Low--30



Friday, Dec. 7

Morning clouds with peaks at sun
High--46 Low--32



Saturday, Dec. 8

Cold, miserable rain followed by more rain
High--39 Low--36



Sunday, Dec. 9

Returning glances of sun through clouds
High--45 Low--31



Monday, Dec. 10

Return of nippy drizzles
High--39 Low--37



Tuesday, Dec. 11

An abundance of liquid sunshine
High--41 Low--39



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