

Bob's Corner

If there is one virtue that cats teach us well-trained human care-takers, that virtue would be patience. Because cats do what they want, when they want, no matter what. That's why some of them are injured or killed while crossing streets. They will not be hurried.

In their haughtiness, cats refuse to demonstrate that they might need to increase their gait. For example, when we want *Bubba* and *Maui* to enter the garage for the evening, it can be enough to make one (human) gnash his teeth. Usually, *Bubba* is willing to come in, and many times he's already lurking in the garage waiting for his nightly cat treats.

And usually, *Maui* needs to be called until she deigns to show up. But often it's well past darkness when she seems ready to enter the garage. By then I've closed the door. The scene goes something like this:

Bubba is in, and I open the door so *Maui* can enter.

Maui sits about 10 feet away and stares at me as though I have two heads.

I continue calling her (nicely) and rattle the bag of cat treats to entice her.

Bubba runs out the open door. My voice becomes a bit strained as I call him and his mother (still nicely) to please come in.

Bubba runs under the deck where I can't see him or reach him.

His mother moves a few feet closer to me, then stops and starts taking a bath, ignoring my pleas (voice becoming more strained).

Bubba emerges from under the deck and decides to come back into the garage, as long as he gets some more cat goodies.

Maui decides she has to check something at the far end of the deck and saunters off.

I close the door and go back in the house.

Later, *Maui* appears outside the dining room door meowing loudly that she now wants to enter the garage.

I go out and open the door; *Bubba* runs out again; *Maui* teases me by stopping and starting her entrance at least four times.

Bubba comes in, as I desperately work to keep *Maui* from escaping.

Finally they're both safely in for the night. I grudgingly give them their feline treats, and go into the house to rest my voice and take some deep breaths.

As the saying goes, "Lord, give me patience. But I want it now!"



Bubba (top) and Maui

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.

Making a Declaration From Christine Perala Gardiner Cave Junction

Thanks to *Illinois Valley News* for publishing the Declaration of Independence on page 15 in this issue to help the community observe the July 4th event on Friday.

I've been wondering lately: What is it that makes us "Americans?" What is the Declaration of Independence, and why do we observe it on July 4th? Is it all about fireworks and hot dogs?

What is this "democracy" that our government works to promote around the world?

July 4, 2008, is a good time for us to review the basis for American "independence." What did the founders of our country think about how we should govern ourselves as a nation? What responsibilities go along with our rights as Americans? How can we learn more about our own history?

I applaud *I.V. News* and

the local businesses who have sponsored the publication of the original text of the Declaration of Independence in this issue. I hope that people will support these businesses, and that everyone will ask more questions about American governance.

There are many great ideas that led to the founding of our Republic -- ideas that could still make a difference in our time. Please be sure to vote.

Safety in the city Deborah C. Wilson Cave Junction

There has been a recent exchange of letters between Cave Junction Mayor Tony Paulson and Holger Sommers from Merlin on which I would like to comment.

This valley of Southern Oregon has closed its mind for many years to the graceful receiving of comments and suggestions from "out-of-towners." Some of these suggestions and ideas are good, and many have suffered for not listening.

For anyone to compare the safety of citizens in our community with what is happening in big city areas is not showing demographic savvy. Even big city areas have residential and downtown areas where its citizens feel relatively safe from harm.

This is a small town with only one main downtown street and just a few streets of residential. The percentage of teen-agers is small, and a percentage of them have shown uncivilized and harmful behavior toward the citizens of Cave Junction.

In fact, a recent survey of police reports has shown that there have been 29 incidents involving teen-age illegal activity during the past three months. Compare that number with the 18 reports during an entire year's time attributed to the Red Garter by the city council and Sheriff Gil Gilbertson, many of which turned out to be totally unrelated to the Red Garter.

And yet the city council voted to recommend the closure of that business. Is anything being done to protect the citizens of Cave Junction from these teen-agers by the city of Cave Junction? I want to stress that I do not want to hear that their parents have punished them.

These teens used fighting skills to cause bodily harm. Isn't that against the law, whether minors or not? Isn't being a drunk teen-ager behind the wheel against the law? Did the deputy who stopped that vehicle of teens do anything other than just suggest they go home after curfew? Isn't being out at

midnight or 2 a.m., if you are a minor, against the law? Isn't forcing innocent people to barricade themselves in a building with gang behavior against the law?

As for claims made by Curt Bynum of the police advisory board that there was insufficient back-up protection, a video shows three uniformed representatives of law enforcement on the scene prior to the attack that night, and none did the job of protecting innocent citizens.

I did vote "yes" for the last tax levy, but I am questioning if it is wise for a new levy to pass as I don't see them doing the job for which they are being paid even when it is proven there are adequate resources on hand.

As for the teens, the city of Cave Junction and its citizens need to take a stand demanding punishment for them. These teens who made a very bad decision need to be made examples, making it clear to our future teens that this is just absolutely unacceptable behavior.

Those who are citizens and those who want to enjoy what Cave Junction has to offer need to know from the civic leaders that they do not and will not be forced to endure this behavior from its minor or adult citizens.

City of Cave Junction budget totals \$3.1 million; tax rate still same

A 2008-09 fiscal year budget of \$3,122,198, nearly the same as the preceding fiscal year, was adopted 3-0 by the Cave Junction City Council.

Mayor Tony Paulson and Councilman Dan Fiske were absent from the meeting in city hall on Monday night, June 23. The tax rate will remain at \$1.89 per \$1,000

assessed valuation.

No citizen comments were offered during the public hearing on the matter.

The budget includes \$33,500 in a fund, collected through donations, for the Cave Junction Swimming Pool. City Recorder Jim Polk said the money is needed for maintenance, even though the pool is closed due to the need

for major repairs.

Andy Chen suggested that the money be used to supplement law enforcement for the city. The city, however, has \$116,300 budgeted for a contract with Josephine County Sheriff's Office to provide 40 hours per week of service in city limits.

Also among items in the adopted budget: \$48,300 for

vehicle and equipment replacement; \$964,650 for water and sewer system operations; and \$436,350 in a water-and-sewer expansion fund. That amount is due to the city losing a grant in connection with utility expansions to Siskiyou Community Health Center.

Copies of the budget can be viewed at city hall.



IVHS Alumni and Friends

An association of IVHS & KUHS alumni & their friends
P.O. Box 2086, Cave Junction OR 97523

invites you to join our Reunion Weekend '08 Celebration

Friday, July 4

Texas Hold 'em Tourney
6 p.m. - Lions' Den at the airport
IVHS Wrestling Club donates to our \$cholarship fund
Info: Jay Miller 597-2325

Saturday, July 5

21st Annual Alumni Golf Tournament
8 a.m. - \$60
I.V. Golf Course
Public invited, Bring buddies, friends, & relations!
Info: Terry Reynolds 218-2261
Ryan Nolan 592-2914
Golf Course: 592-3151



Saturday, July 5

Tour Kerbyville Museum
2 p.m., \$2
Group price for Alumni

Dance

8 p.m. to Midnight,
\$5 cover
Junction Inn
Timber Room
Hop? Twist? Bump? Chat?



George, aka Music Menagerie, will play requests. That's George Michels ('75), our DJ. He'll entertain with favorite rhythms and tunes from "back when", whenever that was!

Adopt a Duck! Win a Truck!

Only \$10
I.V. Rotary will sell their famous ducks.
Support new track for IVHS.

Sunday, July 6

Public Invited
All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast
Jubilee Park Pavilion
8 a.m. to Noon
including Mikey's World Famous Not-to-be-missed Biskits-n-Gravy
\$4⁵⁰ (children \$3⁵⁰) suggested donation provided by
Cave Junction Cares
10% of the proceeds are donated to our \$cholarship fund

Silent Auction - Class Gift Baskets
8 to 11 a.m.
Take donations to Kerbyville Museum or bring them Sunday morning
Info: 592-5252



COUNTRY STORE

202 S. Redwood Hwy.
592-5358

IVHS Alumni & Friends Annual Meeting

Sunday, July 6 at Noon
Jubilee Park Pavilion
Info: Ryan Nolan 592-2914