

## Bob's Corner

Including two travel days, ye olde editor and fam, including granddaughter Kim, got six days off last week. As usual we had to work ahead so as to not be behind, then work off our heads and behinds when we returned so as to catch up with our editor-type duties. Yadda-yadda-blah-blah-blah. You've heard this song.



Charlie the cat and Ella Valentina

OK, we were pumped from our planned flight in Medford on the way south, and then had a long layover in Portland. So we didn't reach Santa Ana and Chong Wang Airport until late, which meant we didn't reach our fam in San Diego County's Carlsbad until close to midnight that day. On the return trip from SNA we had to fly to Seattle to catch

a flight to MFR.

Travel, even by air, is tiring, especially when you fly as we do: Space available, so you never know if you're going to get bumped off, so to speak. Fortunately that happens on the ground; not while the plane is airborne. I have a small notebook with lots of scribbled observations, which I'll be pleased to share next issue. For now, we've included a few photos I took during



Just-for-fun cake decorating

the four days we got to spend with daughter Vicki and the "new" larger house she and Matt bought. I'd share my notes this issue, but I'm still recovering from the vacation.



Natalie soaks up the limelight

## 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.**

\*\*\*

**Wild Blackberry Pickin' = fun 'staycation' From Mark Russo, festival chairman Cave Junction**

The Illinois Valley Wild Blackberry Arts & Crafts Festival is less than a month away, and already I'm getting excited. The theme is *Wild Blackberry Pickin'*, and this year's two-day event will feature great Bluegrass and Country music played by local talent from Southern Oregon and Northern California. These bands will play both downtown and during our free concert in Jubilee Park.

There will be arts, crafts, and food booths on both sides of the main street of Cave Junction, plus the city park will be teaming with family friendly activities and exhibits, thanks to the I.V. Family Coalition, which has graciously agreed to oversee these activities.

The gasoline situation is putting a strain on us financially as it is for everyone, and I know everyone is asking for money these days. But I would like to point out that the local activities here, your activities: The Bluegrass Festival, I.V. Chamber Concerts in the Park, the I.V. Lions Labor Day Festival and the Wild Blackberry Festival, are all run by hard-working volunteers who need your support in order to bring these activities to Illinois Valley.

We are only half way to the \$2,500 we need to provide a quality event that supports our merchants, artists, crafts persons and local cottage industries. If you feel that the festival is an asset to the community, especially if you are a merchant, contribute anything you can. If you can only spare one dollar, that will bring us a dollar closer to our goal.

I propose that we make this the summer of the "Staycation." We should do our part as a community to promote Illinois Valley as only a short drive away from our neighbors in Southern Oregon and Northern California. We can't solve the gas problem, but as they say, when life hands you lemons, then make lemonade.

We still have spaces available, so if you want to participate or need more information, we can be reached at 592-6509 or email us at info@wildblackberry.org.

**Teen drinking hazardous From Hazel Reagan O'Brien**

I'm responding to the Police Blotter in *Illinois Valley News* on July 1: A father was tired of unknown subjects giving his 13-year-old

daughter alcohol.

What is the motivation of anyone contributing alcohol? It is clearly not the minor's welfare.

When I worked at Head Start in Corvallis, a parent gave her daughter's 13-year-old friend alcohol. The parent went to jail and lost custody of her children. But aside from the legality, it is dangerous to the child. The 13-year-old girl died of alcohol poisoning.

I plead for these adults who are contributing to consider the consequences:

\*Developing bodies do not metabolize alcohol as adult bodies do.

\*One out of five teen-age drinkers black out.

\*They are more likely to engage in risky behavior like unprotected sex.

\*There is an increase and severity of accidents.

\*There is increased violence (including sexual).

\*Increased suicide (alcohol is a depressant).

\*It arrests emotional development.

\*It causes permanent brain damage.

\*Drinking before age 15, they are five times more likely to become alcoholic.

**Commissioners doing job? From Joel Perkins Jr. Cave Junction**

The Josephine County commissioners serve as the Executive Branch and perform legislative and quasi-judicial functions of the county.

Commissioners are responsible for the planning, formation and implementation of the annual budget. Commissioners also formulate and set county policy, as well as set the number and type of job positions within county government.

Additionally, commissioners serve on other federal, state and local mandated governmental panels, boards and commissions with fiscal duties and authority over public monies. Commissioners also serve the ceremonial functions of the county in representations to the public for the public good and betterment of Josephine County.

This is the first material you see when you open the Josephine County commissioners Web page. But is this what we see going on in our county? Are the activities of our current commissioners demonstrating proper procedures for the forthcoming generation to set their standards by? I think not.

Also, the fact remains that even when we get someone who's not an incumbent, they must modify their voice

## Correction

A page 1 story in the July 9 issue about a May 26 incident in Cave Junction incorrectly stated, "Three Red Garter employees were reported injured."

In fact, the three persons reported injured consist of a DJ, who is an independent contractor with Art's Red Garter; and two other men, who work at another Cave Junction establishment, but were patrons at the Garter at the time of the incident.

at the risk of alienating themselves from their fellow board members. All that they have done for us during the past couple of years is help us realize that we need to better regulate the people we choose to be our voice.

How can anything they've done (?) be considered "For the good and betterment of Josephine County." This recent bunch of elected officials has thoroughly ruined my belief in our county government, and the fact that despite the passionate outcry by the people for the resignation of an unnamed commissioner, he still resides in that place of governing power.

This, despite Oregon's Constitution clearly stating that we at all times have the inherent right to: Alter, Reform, or Abolish the government in such a manner as we think proper. Isn't calling for a resignation part of that? The people have spoken -- and once again been ignored.

So I ask, what will it take to be heard? What will it take to reinstate the proper handling of our city and county finances? This is a serious matter, and those who have lived here as long or longer than I can tell you of the days when times were good to our valley and county.

Some remember when the Blackberry Festival had blackberries and when the Illinois Valley Lions Club Labor Day Festival had go-cart races.

Our commissioners tell us that we've got no money coming into our economy, that we don't have the budget for police protection; that it's all our fault, because we didn't vote in this levy or that tax hike; because we didn't do this or that.

Not much has changed around here except for the people handling our affairs for us. Granted, things have changed in the world, but not enough to basically bring our small town straight back to the Old West. How is it that things could get so jumbled, and who is accountable?

I don't know how it got this way, but I do know that we people of Illinois Valley and Josephine County are now the ones accountable. We have to fix this.

**News Website 'great' From Janet Knodel, 'Grandma in the Woods' South edge of the valley**

Your Website is great. We live on the California side of the border on Hwy. 199. I have been an *I.V. News* subscriber for many years.

We stopped getting the *Del Norte TriPLICATE* from Crescent City, Calif., as mail delivery was not timely. I go to its Website for local news and find the format disappointing and not necessarily current.

Tonight when I gave your site a try I was very impressed. As the young ones say, "Like wow, this is like, really out there!" The weather page is fantastic. Keep up the good work. I plan to be a frequent visitor.

**She likes I.V. Noose From Elaine Stein Cave Junction**

I think it's been more than 20 years that I've had a subscription.

We always enjoy your paper; it keeps getting better and better. Thank you.

**Declaration appreciated From Marshall Sisk Selma**

Many of my friends and I appreciate greatly your running the Declaration of Independence in the issue of July 2, just in time for the Fourth of July.

I and many others, I'm sure, like and need to be reminded of how our country came to be. It seems that too often people forget where we came from, and why there was, and still is, a need for independence.

Tyranny must never be accepted. It must always be rejected. The people who sponsored the presentation of our Declaration of Independence with the newspaper are appreciated for their effort.

**Extreme scream From Commissioner Charles J. Hurliman Tillamook County**

Those on a fixed or limited income should take time to let environmental extremists know what they think about their role in stopping logging and new energy-  
(Continued on page 3)

## Weather Watch

### Cave Junction

**Wednesday, July 16**

Sunshine  
High--84 Low--50



**Thursday, July 17**

Plenty of sun  
High--90 Low--52



**Friday, July 18**

Sunny  
High--87 Low--51



**Saturday, July 19**

Brilliant sun  
High--85 Low--50



**Sunday, July 20**

A full day of sun  
High--89 Low--52



**Monday, July 21**

Sunny  
High--92 Low--52



**Tuesday, July 22**

Sunshine  
High--93 Low--53



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

*Fri., July 4	84	60	.00
*Sat., July 5	86	53	.00
*Sun., July 6	94	59	.00
*Mon., July 7	94	60	.00
*Tue., July 8	102	65	.00
*Wed., July 9	103	63	.00
*Thu., July 10	96	62	.00

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

*Fri., July 4	81	58	.02
*Sat., July 5	85	48	.00
*Sun., July 6	91	55	.00
*Mon., July 7	91	58	.00
*Tue., July 8	98	60	.00
*Wed., July 9	101	55	.00
*Thu., July 10	94	54	.00

illinois-valley-news.com

## Illinois Valley News

www.illinois-valley-news.com

An Independent Weekly Newspaper Co-owned and published by Robert R. (AKA Bob or El Jefe), Editor and Jan Rodriguez

Entered as second class matter June 11, 1937 at Post Office as Official Newspaper for Josephine County and Josephine County Three Rivers School District, published at 321 S. Redwood Hwy., Cave Junction, OR 97523

Periodicals postage paid at Cave Junction, OR 97523

Post Office Box 1370 USPS 258-820

Telephone (541) 592-2541, FAX (541) 592-4330

Email: newsroom1@frontiernet.net or newsdesk@illinois-valley-news.com

Volume 71, No. 18

Staff: Michelle Binker, Zina Booth, Brenda Encinas,

Millie Watkins, and Josiah Dean

Member: Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association

### 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.)

**POLICY ON LETTERS:** "Illinois Valley News" welcomes letters to the editor provided they are of general interest, in good taste, legible and not libelous. All letters must be signed, using complete name, and contain the writer's address and telephone number. The latter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity. The "News" reserves the right to edit letters. Generally, one letter per person per month at publishers' discretion. Letters are used at the discretion of the publishers. Unpublished letters are neither acknowledged nor returned. A prepaid charge may be levied if a letter is inordinately long in the publishers' opinion.

**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

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to P.O. Box 1370, Cave Junction OR 97523

# GT MAINTENANCE

Professionally Serving The Illinois Valley

Greg & Teresa Goad  
(541) 659-3618

**ONE OF A KIND!!**  
1,200 sq. ft. one-story log cabin  
**FOR SALE**



**Price: \$65,000**  
**Flexible floor plan**  
**Ready for your lot**

**View at 4490 Holland Loop Road**

For more information:  
Robert Conrad  
592-4974  
conrad706@yahoo.com

**Illinois Valley Golf Course DOLLAR DAYS**

To thank all those who have supported affordable golf here in our valley, we are offering this special, now through August 31, on any day designated "Open-Play" (9-hole minimum):

- Students and staff from local schools (with ID) 50¢ per hole
- Seniors 65+ 75¢ per hole
- Others \$1 per hole

Call 592-3151  
for details  
and tee times

