

Bob's Corner

My mind is quite clean because I change it so often. Such is the case this week, as the errant editor has decided to postpone his column about a trip to visit family. Instead, I want to share some of "the stuff" that happens around here. It's all true; none of it is made up.

Couple weeks ago we checked the phone messages, and found one from a man who sounded intoxicated. His anonymous, complete message: "Bob, you are a racial piece of s _ _ _." Then he hung up. We determined that he used a public telephone in O'Brien, and so we could not return his call to discover what he was talking about.

A couple days later, the same man phoned to threaten us with a lawsuit in connection with our printing the name of a young person in Police Blotter. He ended his second contact after being asked to identify the appropriate state of Oregon rule. He would not identify himself, and denied making the earlier call. And he again used a public telephone, this time in Cave Junction.

Another recent phone contact was from a rude and belligerent woman, who would not identify herself, calling about what she claimed was a major health hazard. She claimed that hundreds of people had been made ill by eating packaged food from a valley store. She informed us that it was our responsibility to check it out, and that she would be monitoring us to see that we were doing our job.

Subsequently, we checked with the county health department, which had no reports of illnesses as asserted by the discourteous woman. We found though, that the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture had investigated the woman's claim and "found nothing there" to substantiate her charge. The ag agent stated that there had been no reports of food-borne illnesses, and that there might be a quality issue, but not a health hazard.

Another recent situation involved a reader who sent a note after I wrote here that in trying to determine the distance from John Wayne Airport to the closest Amtrak station and what the taxi fare would be, I had phoned several possible sources, including the Santa Ana Fire Dept. The writer essentially asked why I was dumb enough to contact that agency about Amtrak tickets.

The response I sent to him: "Obviously I was unclear. Reason I phoned the SAFD is that I was sure that an agency that responds to all locations for aid would be able to advise on the distance between two locations. I did not think for a nanosecond that the FD would provide tickets or bookings. Thanks for writing!"

Last Friday we received an irate phone call from a person who had placed a classified ad for a yard sale. The customer was angry because we obviously had screwed up the ad because people were already at the site and the sale wasn't until the next day. So we dutifully checked the ad, and it listed only the correct day. It was a trifle difficult to make clear to the caller that the ad was correct, as placed, and that we did not know why people were already trying to attend the sale.

So there is a handful of experiences showing what it's like here. Ah, the fun we have at the valley's community newspaper. And we're going to keep producing it every week, despite anonymous and angry individuals.

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. * * *

What if . . . ?
From Larrick Jones, chairman Illinois Valley Fire District Board of Directors

On an average it takes five minutes for firefighters to reach their station to respond to a call. Five minutes isn't a very long time. But, what if:

You or a loved one were hanging upside-down in an overturned vehicle? You are fully conscious and aware. Every bone and muscle in your body hurts. Would five minutes make a difference to you?

Or you wake up and find your home filled with smoke, and you can hear the horrible roar of a rapidly advancing fire. As of right now the fire is confined to the kitchen and washroom. How about it -- would five minutes make a difference here?

How about this, you find your young child gasping for breath. There is still some air getting through her partially blocked airway, but you can clearly see she is choking. You rush to the phone and phone 911. Would five minutes count here?

Even if Ballot Measure 17-21 to staff our fire stations full time doesn't pass, you still can count on our dedicated firefighters responding to your call. They always will do the best they can. This is what they do.

But, what if you are the one they are coming to help -- would five minutes matter? Most of us may never need to phone 911 to report an emergency involving ourselves or someone we love.

But what if . . . ?
Think about this when voting on the Nov. 4 ballot.

Brown Barn questions From Linda S. Tedder Cave Junction

Regarding the letter from Scott Hicks (*Illinois Valley News*, Aug. 6) about the closure of Judy's Brown Barn Laundry in Cave Junction, there are so many questions left unanswered as to just why the laundry equipment was taken.

How did something like that take place in the wee hours of the morning and no one heard a sound? Moving so many commercial appliances like that isn't easy, and no one heard a thing. Even the best commercial movers make noise.

There are two sides to every story, and so far we've only seen or heard of one.

Organization News

Lovejoy Hospice
A workshop, *Caregiver 101: Powerful Tools & Hands-On Care-Giving/From Independence to Total Care*, is planned for Saturday, Sept. 13, and registration by Friday, Sept. 5 is recommended.

The workshop in Grants Pass is co-sponsored by Lovejoy and Rogue Valley Council of Governments. There is a fee, which includes a workbook, continental breakfast, and beverages. Scholarships are available.

To register, or for more information, phone 474-1193.

illinois-valley-news.com

There is more to this than meets the eye.

Mayor Tony Paulson was asked about this, and he didn't care, as Hicks claims? Oh really, just what was he supposed to do? Call out the militia? If Hicks had ever lived in small towns he should know that this is just how these things are handled.

Paulson doesn't have a vendetta against the homeless, but he does want Cave Junction to attract people like Hicks and his family to move here. We do, or did have, the Cave Junction Citizens Patrol. Where were they when this was happening?

Yes, we do have a policeman, but he is only on for 40 hours. Perhaps Hicks should come to city council meetings and find out just what the mayor does, and is and isn't allowed to do. In fact, Paulson does all he can; and as I see it, the job is not so rewarding. It can be very frustrating.

And Paulson is giving up the seat of mayor, so maybe Hicks would care to run. Keep in mind that this is an unpaid position. We need new blood on the council and any other positions open in running the city of Cave Junction.

What's wrong with this picture? Eventually the whole true story regarding the Brown Barn will come to light. And yes, it was one of the best commercial laundries around. Paulson does care: He's done the best he can with what he has to work with.

'Hero jailed' From Bill Pfohl Kerby

U.S. Army Pfc. Jim Burmeister is an Oregon soldier who gave his all for his country. While recuperating in Germany from an Iraqi roadside bomb, he decided that the war was run by people of dishonor who kill others with

major disregard for Iraqi life, and voted with his feet to move to Canada.

Burmeister was sentenced to six months in military jail for being a hero by not going along with the dishonorable orders from his very dishonorable government. Maybe others should consider not joining this type of military that cannot control itself. Sadly I voted for Bush, but never voted for his willingness to turn our military into a water-boarding, killing-without-regard machine.

It seems that Burmeister left due to the illegal activity that our government was making him perform with its so-called "Small Kill Teams." This activity was under orders from the top levels in our government.

He was sent to set up a sting to kill people who need to steal. A harsh job for any enlisted man probably trying to get a free ride in a good college through the GI Bill. It is apparent that he was told to plant military items of value and hide in a nearby spot and kill the people like dogs as they stole the items. He apparently followed orders for

awhile, and without a doubt felt it was not good for his soul, rightly so.

I believe he realized he was killing starving civilians who were just trying to survive and feed their families. Is this what President Bush would call the olive branch of "I want to help kill your country with my Gestapo?"

We should consider that this country is stressed, and still without electricity for the most part and basic services, even with all our so-called help during all these years.

What are we doing there with this judge-and-jury attitude with a trigger finger within an empty-headed soldier, who has been ordered to have an empty head or we will put him in our military jail?

Our government is out of control. We can write to complain to our president, and then maybe Pfc. Jim Burmeister could be given an honorable discharge with back pay because he was ordered to do a continuing illegal, dishonorable activity.

Jefferson and Washington would say it's time for the true patriots to stand and be counted.

Weather Watch

Cave Junction

Wednesday, Aug. 20	☀️
Clouds limiting sun	High--75 Low--57
Thursday, Aug. 21	☀️
Cloudy sunshine	High--85 Low--47
Friday, Aug. 22	☀️
Sunny	High--90 Low--50
Saturday, Aug. 23	☀️
Sunny and warm	High--95 Low--52
Sunday, Aug. 24	☀️
Sunshine	High--92 Low--52
Monday, Aug. 25	☀️
Warm sunshine	High--92 Low--54
Tuesday, Aug. 26	☀️
Sunny	High--98 Low--56

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

*Fri., Aug. 8	84	54	.00
*Sat., Aug. 9	81	56	.00
*Sun., Aug. 10	93	46	.00
*Mon., Aug. 11	99	52	.00
*Tue., Aug. 12	100	56	.00
*Wed., Aug. 13	106	58	.00
*Thu., Aug. 14	105	58	.00

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

*Fri., Aug. 8	86	49	.00
*Sat., Aug. 9	81	49	.00
*Sun., Aug. 10	86	43	.00
*Mon., Aug. 11	95	47	.00
*Tue., Aug. 12	94	49	.00
*Wed., Aug. 13	97	51	.00
*Thu., Aug. 14	108	53	.00

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. 23

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 letter 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

TOYOTA NATIONAL CLEARANCE EVENT

THE PERFECT TIME TO BUY A TOYOTA IS NOW.

NEW 2009 CAMRY

4.9% APR Financing² for 60 months
\$18.83 cost per \$1000 borrowed

31 MPG³

4 cyl.



LEASE NEW 2009 RAV4

\$199 a month 36 mos.
\$1999 due at signing

27 MPG³

2WD



NEW 2009 TUNDRA

\$4000 Customer Cash¹ or **0% APR Financing² for 60 months**
\$16.67 cost per \$1000 borrowed

17 MPG³

4x4 5.7L V8



This event happens only once a year! Choose from a great selection of fuel-efficient Toyotas!



TOYOTA
moving forward

Great Northwest TOYOTA Dealers

WHEELER TOYOTA

375 Redwood Hwy.
PARTS SALES SERVICE
476-5206 476-6858 476-9379
www.wheelertoyota.com

Lease a new 2008 RAV4, 4WD, 4 DR, 4CYL, 4AT for \$199 a month for 36 months with \$1999 due at signing, which includes first month's payment, \$1,250 down payment, \$0 security deposit and \$550 acquisition fee. Example based on model #4432. Base MSRP is \$22,650. Total monthly payments = \$716.4. Capitalized cost of \$21,721 based on down payment and dealer participation, which may vary by dealer. Lease-end purchase option is \$14,822.50. Lease does not include taxes, license, title fees, insurance, and \$280 dealer charges. Closed-end lease. Payment may vary depending upon final transaction price. Customer responsible for maintenance, excess wear and tear and \$0.15 per mile over 12,000 miles per year. To qualified Tier 1+ customers through Toyota Financial Services. Customer cash from manufacturer. Financing through Toyota Financial Services on approved credit to Tier 1+ through III only. *2008 EPA estimates. Highway rating. Actual mileage may vary. Offers end 9/2/08 cannot be combined, are subject to availability and may vary by region. See participating dealer for details.

©Graham Advertising. All rights reserved. 9805