

# Bob's Corner

It's said that time flies, and I have no idea how to pursue that thought except to note that time spelled backward is "emit." Fascinating. And flies in reverse spells "seifl," which has no meaning. I hope that you have time for this.

Where is this going? Don't know, but give it time. Maybe I could relate "time" to times past. Ah, there we go. This thought was precipitated last week while I was buying a bagel, but I can't remember why. I mean, I know why I was buying a bagel; I just can't recall where the thought about time came from. And that's why timing is so important.

One of the times I remember, and which I've possibly related previously, is from a time when I was around the age of 18. So if you've heard this story, stop reading. Anyway, I had a real early morning delivery route aboard North Island Naval Air Station next to Coronado. Because of the need for early times (for filling vending machines, not drinking Early Times) my Canteen Service van was often the only vehicle aboard a San Diego-Coronado ferry. (I will not bring up this circumstance in any future columns.)

During a foggy time, weather-wise, I had the untimely experience of having to drive out near the southwest edge of North Island to fill a pastry machine in one of the line shacks. It was a real spooky time, and I was nervous not only because of the time, but because of the fog, the stillness and the dark. There I was stuffing pastries into the machine, when suddenly I realized that *someone* was behind me. The hair on my head (I had hair then) stood up, my heart pounded, and as I turned to the intruder, the *someone* spoke, which caused me to yelp and throw pastries all over the floor. The voice, which belonged to a U.S. Marine sentry, said, "Could I please buy a cinnamon roll?" Boy, that was some time.

Being up that early causes a certain blurring of the eyeballs. One aspect is that darkness hides much, and shadows and odd lighting alter appearances. So I found on the route, and one I had years later for the *Los Angeles Times*, that buildings, shrubbery and other landmarks look different depending on the time. Yeah, really. This means that finding a place at 11 a.m. vs. locating the same spot at 5:30 a.m. can be a problem. Being timely can be difficult.

But I managed because of keeping track of time. It just takes time to be on time. And now it's time to end this. About time.

But wait, just in time I received a phone call from Canada last week. I was advised that the *Crime Story* episode for which I was interviewed earlier this year will be shown soon. As for the time, I'm not sure because I looked up A&E and found several times. So whenever it's shown, that'll be the time in good time.

Maybe in time-honored tradition I need a time out to have a good time. I am marking time on my own time though, but I am not paid double time. Well, that's it for the time being.

# 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 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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**About facts and figures From Lloyd Putney Cave Junction**

When officials give us the facts and figures supporting taxing districts and levies, they don't give us the totals. I did some calculating regarding the money issues on the ballot.

As a resident of Illinois Valley, if the two law enforcement taxing districts (99-cents + \$1.09) and the I.V. Fire District (\$1.68) pass, I still will pay the current 58-cents for county government. A home assessed at \$150,000 would cost \$652 for county government plus county schools, RCC, and Oregon Dept. of Forestry assessments.

Those who live in the city of Grants Pass (and own a home with the same assessed value), and if the sheriff's taxing district I and the city police and fire levy pass, will pay \$1.89 + 99-cents, which is \$432 -- plus amounts for other city services and city schools.

I suggest that people look at their specific tax bills because they might find that their home is assessed at more than \$150,000.

On another topic, I found an interesting statement on the sheriff's office Website under the tab for the sheriff's advisory council. It stated that member Diann Rhodes had to resign recently due to full-time employment commitments. I believe that she is the sheriff's wife, using her maiden name. While not illegal, isn't it a conflict of interest and a bit self-serving for the sheriff to appoint his wife to the advisory council charged with evaluating his performance and making recommendations for funding his department?

Does the sheriff's wife always use her maiden name or just when she serves on her husband's committee?

**Debate control From Crystal Griffin Cave Junction**

George Farah, executive director and founder of Open Debates is the author of *No Debate: How the Republican and Democratic parties secretly control the presidential debates*.

We used to have a fantastic, genuinely nonpartisan presidential debate sponsor: the League of Women Voters. From 1976 until 1984, the league hosted our most-important public forums, and made sure the debates served

the public interest rather than the interest of any political party. And the league had the guts to stand up to the two major parties.

Four years later, the Walter Mondale and Ronald Reagan campaign actually vetoed 68 of the moderators that the league had proposed for the three debates. The league issued a scathing public press release castigating the candidates for abusing the process, and the Reagan and Mondale campaigns were forced to accept aggressive moderators. The parties did not like the fact that an uppity women's organization, pro-democracy, was telling their boys who could participate in their debates and under what conditions.

In 1987 they created this private corporation called the Commission on Presidential Debates. Every four years, it awards absolute control to the Republican and Democrat parties over our political system. The co-chairmen of the commission are Frank Fahrenkopf and Paul Kirk. They have run the presidential debates for 20 years.

At the time they were the heads of the Republican and Democrat parties. Kirk has lobbied on behalf of the pharmaceutical industry, and Fahrenkopf is the nation's leading gambling lobbyist; he is president of the American Gaming Association. These are the guys deciding who gets to participate in the most important political forums in the United States of America.

**Keeping children safe From Jessica Welcome Cave Junction**

The idea for creating the Crosswalk Safety Committee is to bring awareness of the possible dangers facing our children. We realize that in

order to help make our crosswalks and roads safer for our children (seniors and everyone in-between), there needs to be more than the covering of a flag and a red light.

The drivers and the owners of the road systems must contribute (ODOT is currently helping), and must not overlook anything in order to see the "big picture." Let's start by looking at the drunken freight truck drivers who are driving through the very same intersection that we are helping to make safer.

Last week near Ashland another life was lost. A truck driver under the influence killed a fellow trucker as that trucker was inspecting his rig. Here's a thought: maybe the state of Oregon should require truckers to have a clean drug test report before they can drive on our highways.

I believe the responsibility and requirements of anyone driving something that huge is greatly different than the everyday "go-to-town" driver.

Our Josephine County randomly conducts urine tests to ensure the quality of drivers of their big trucks. Who are the statewide freight driv-

ers accountable to? Maybe we should have a random, or mandatory, drug test at our borders to ensure the quality of drivers before they can drive on our streets. Maybe if anyone was found dirty, the hiring company should be held more responsible and liable, not entirely the sick person behind the wheel.

I believe there is someone reading this who has the passion to see change for the better. It's time for a change. I have my hands full, as does Patty Schalk, with her home and mission, to help make our crosswalks safer for the children, seniors and everyone in-between. It only takes the first step to get something started. Anyone feel like walking?

**Take back the streets From Dick Bradley Cave Junction**

Ever wonder why the local winos and drug users can do what they do in public? Read the following state statute and it will become clear.

Is this something we want on the law books of this state? Those who say "No" can write or phone their state

**(Continued on page 3)**


## B I S B A C K

### I N G O


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52 numbers or less

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2110 Caves Hwy. (red, white, & blue building)  
Every Third Thursday  
Starting October 16, 6 to 10 p.m.



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*"The Fully Qualified Candidate"*  
**Josephine County**  
**TREASURER**

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## Illinois Valley News

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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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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

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**CHICKEN A LA KING**  
**OVER MASHED POTATOES**  
Cut green beans, whole wheat bread, marble cake

**MONDAY, OCT. 13**  
**ROAST TURKEY**  
**WITH GRAVY**  
Whipped potatoes, lima beans with peppers, cracked wheat bread, cinnamon applesauce

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 15**  
**MACARONI & CHEESE**  
Escalloped tomatoes, broccoli cuts, whole wheat bread, peach crisp

## START SAVING \$\$\$

*Invest in your Home this Fall*  
**Save \$\$\$ ALL year long**

Find out how at the  
**Fall Home Improvement Show**  
**October 11 & 12, 10am-4pm**  
**Josephine County Fairgrounds**  
**Floral & Pavilion Buildings**

**No Admission Charge!**  
*Non-perishable food items for the Food Bank appreciated.*

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EcoQuest Intl.  
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**October 11 & 12, 11am - 4pm**  
*Self-guided tour of a variety of beautiful local homes*  
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- 2) 461 Hawk Dr—Northstar Custom Builders, CCB# 161138
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