

Bob's Corner

Based on an Internet message, this is what comedian Jeff Foxworthy has to say about living in Oregon:

If someone in a Home Depot offers you assistance and they don't work there, you live in Oregon.

If you've worn shorts and a parka at the same time, you live in Oregon.

If you've had a long phone conversation with someone who dialed the wrong number, you live in Oregon.

If you measure distance in hours rather than mileage, you live in Oregon.

If you know several people who have hit a deer more than once, you live in Oregon.

If you have switched from "heat" to "A/C" and back again in the same day, you live in Oregon.

If you install security lights on your house and garage, but leave your front and back doors unlocked, you live in Oregon.

If you can drive 75 mph through 2 feet of snow during a raging blizzard without flinching, you live in Central, Southern or Eastern Oregon.

If you design your kid's Halloween costume to fit over eight layers of clothes, you live in Oregon.

If the speed limit is 55 mph -- you're going 80, and everyone is still passing you, you live in Oregon.

If driving is better in the winter because the potholes are filled with snow and ice, you live in Oregon.

If you know all four seasons: almost winter, winter, still winter, and road construction, you live in Oregon.

If you actually understand these jokes and forward them to all your Oregon friends, you live or have lived in Oregon.



VISIT IVHS GRAD NIGHT

HAPPY HAUNTING HOUSE

Jubilee Park Pavilion

Monday, Oct. 27 through Thursday, Oct. 30, 6 - 8 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 31, 5 - 10 p.m.

admission:
1 - 11 years \$1
12 & older \$2

Proceeds benefit I.V. High School
Safe and Sober 2009 Grad Night Party

H.D. PATTON JR

C O N S T R U C T I O N

541 • 476-2127 Lic #39671

134 Draper Valley, Selma
4.83 Acres, Treed, Hilly, Secluded
1993 Mobile, 14x70 on foundation
2 bed, 2 bath w/garden tub • Has upgraded siding

Price Reduced to \$145,000!



“REACH UP, STAND UP, FLY UP”

Illinois Valley News

www.illinois-valley-news.com
An Independent Weekly Newspaper
Editor-and-Publisher: Robert R. Rodriguez (AKA Bob or El Jefe)

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
P.O. 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. 32
Staff: Michelle Binker, Zina Booth, Brenda Encinas, Millie Watkins
Website maintenance by Ashgrove Visual Arts
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 publisher's discretion. Letters are used at the discretion of the publisher. Unpublished letters are neither acknowledged nor returned. A prepaid charge may be levied if a letter is inordinately long in the publisher's 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

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 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.

Cites 'unjustified criticism' From Roy Lindsay Grants Pass

As the current chairman of the Sheriff's Advisory Council (SAC), I would like to comment on a letter to the editor from Lloyd Putney (*Illinois Valley News*, "About facts and figures" on Oct. 8) concerning Diann Rhodes' (Gilbertson) participation on the council.

Diann brought a rich mix of marketing and business skills to SAC, enabling her to make a number of valuable contributions to our work on behalf of the sheriff's office. These efforts would have been praiseworthy from any citizen.

At no time has SAC had any influence over resources granted the sheriff's office, his personal compensation or his expenses. At no time has SAC had any expense authority within the sheriff's office. In fact, SAC members have spent their own money, not tax money, in performing their duties. This is certainly true of Diann. No SAC member has been compensated for their work in any way.

The evaluation of the sheriff's performance was not a requirement of his office, but rather was performed at his personal request. Had Putney bothered to check the dates, he would have seen that Diann resigned from SAC long before the sheriff's performance evaluation was prepared.

With knowledge of these facts, any reasonably unbiased observer would conclude there has been no conflict of interest of any kind. Participation in public life may be expected to invite a certain amount of unjust criticism, but to extend this to the families of elected officials is neither just nor honorable.

'Building empire' response From Joel Downing, Senior MSgt USAF (Ret.) O'Brien

I have only been a property owner in Illinois Valley for 12 years, and I can state that the only reason that the valley has never had a serious problem with fires is because we have a dedicated and brave group of volunteers and paid staff that have made a career of keeping the fire danger under control.

Whether the Biscuit Fire could have been prevented or not, does not diminish or change the importance of having a fire district here.

People who write letters to the editor should at least get their facts straight before submitting erroneous information that has no basis in fact. As a matter of fact, the present fire chief, as well as most of the fire board members, were not in charge of the fire district at the time of the Biscuit Fire.

The new fire stations were built not because of the Biscuit Fire, but because the old stations were dilapidated and falling apart and should have been condemned. The fire district and the board held open houses to show valley residents the deplorable conditions of the existing stations. Concerned citizens took the time to view the stations; were appalled at their condition; and eventually voted for the levy to replace them.

The new levy is not a bid

to create an "empire," but a means to improve on the capabilities of the fire district to better protect home owners and the lives of Illinois Valley residents. The fire district receives no federal funding and must rely on the valley citizens and those willing to volunteer as firefighters to provide the services the valley needs to protect homes and lives of valley residents.

Contrary to the opinion of Bud Couron, (*Illinois Valley News* Oct. 15 letter to the editor, "Building an empire") the levy is only for five years and would require another vote after that to re-establish another levy. This levy only affects Illinois Valley residents, and the services are exclusively to protect valley homes and lives. As I have stated in the past, the home insurance rates that valley owners pay to protect their property are affected by a rating that the fire district receives on a regular basis -- and those home insurance rates will be lower when we have paid firefighters.

This rating is referred to as an ISO and is rated from 1 to 10. The lower the rating the better the insurance rates for home owners. As of recently the district received an ISO rating of 5 for the Cave Junction area and a 7 for areas outside the city. The ratings are based on several factors such as the total and type of equipment available, availability of water; and most importantly, the availability of firefighters.

Since most of the volunteer firefighters have jobs and can only respond when they are not working, this reduces the manpower needed to lower the ISO rating. The ISO guidelines consider one paid firefighter equivalent to three volunteers because the dedicated job of a paid firefighter is to fight fires and respond to emergencies. These ratings could be lower if additional paid staff were on duty 24/7. This new staffing will significantly lower response time to fires and other emergencies.

Our valley needs and deserves these full-time firefighting positions at a time when volunteerism is down throughout this nation.

(Editor's Note: Joel Downing is a former I.V. Fire District director.)

'Count on me' -- Moore From Don Moore Cave Junction

I stepped up to the plate to run for mayor of Cave Junction when no one else wanted to do the job, and you can count on me to do it.

Long before the renewal of our O&C funding, I was in Washington, D.C. at DeFazio's office showing news clippings of negative articles about Cave Junction. I also spoke in person with Gov. Kulongoski about being a stranger in our valley, and I had an audience with Sen. Ron Wyden.

Behind the scenes recently, I was able to obtain an extension from the IVFD fire marshal to get our Jubilee Park pavilion cooking hood system up to code so that organizations can continue using it. Tony Paulson, the current mayor, wanted to tear it down. That is not the way to solve the problem.

Also, I am in the process of requesting OECD to lift the prohibition imposed on the city that bans us from getting any kind of grant. The new Siskiyou Community Medical Center was able to obtain a \$450,000 OECD grant for water and sewer. OECD revoked the grant when Paulson did not hire a manager to do a required EIS to start the project.

There was \$15,000 in the grant package for the study. But the city's money has to

pay the bill because of incompetence. And we lost another \$50,000 to pay for wrongful discharge.

As a city we will not survive if we keep on the disastrous course we've followed during the past four years. We need new leadership, and I am ready to be that person with my seasoned experience in business and promotion. I want our city to advance for the betterment of all citizens.

My plan for the city also includes the "green revolution" and beautification programs. I am supporting a community garden.

Why vote for Moore? From James Walmsley Cave Junction

Why would I support Don Moore for mayor of Cave Junction? I couldn't answer the questions, so I did some research, and here are a few good reasons I found.

Don Moore lives in Cave Junction. He takes pride in this community. When Tony Paulson announced that he would not run for re-election to the mayor's position, Moore had no idea that he would be running for that position, but later stepped up when he realized that there would be a void in city government. He wears many hats and wasn't looking for another one.

Moore brings years of executive experience acquired during his career with United Airlines. He was a licensed energy auditor for California state buildings. He holds California contractor licenses for General Building "B," electrical and plumbing C-10, C-36.

He is licensed in Oregon as an All Structure Contractor. He is a commissioner on the county rural planning board, a city councilor, president of the I.V. Chamber, and an active member of I.V. Lions Club and I.V. Rotary Club: To list all the community activities that he supports and participates in would use too much of my ink cartridge.

Moore is proactive, not reactive. He is a businessman and would bring this style of leadership to bear.

One example is that the city is banned from applying for any block grants from OECD. Don will appeal this decision and try to restore the city's good standing because there is money available that would benefit the city with many community projects.

Another is the order of the fire marshal to shut the cooking pavilion at Jubilee Park until the kitchen could be upgraded to new fire safety standards. Don met with the fire marshal and was granted a six-month stay to install a new code-compliant hood, and agreement to do no deep frying.

Because of his effort, Don was able to keep the "City Treasure" from becoming the "Jewel of Denial."

When faced with a problem, Don looks for solutions. There is no dirty laundry to air. When someone expressed the need to clean up the city's slickers, Don decided to open a laundry with a convenience store and deli.

He will bring a common sense and business style of leadership to city government. Do we need more of the same that we've had for the past four years? I think not, and will vote for Don Moore.

Media super star From Mike Hunter Selma

The media have created a new star and probably the next president of our country. They all say he is the best for the job, but how do you qualify "The Best?"

What has this young attorney done? Where is his

record of achievements and what did he do for his home state? Can anyone tell us? He is promising all sorts of miraculous things:

Government-mandated health care for all, want it or not. Peace and make nice, nice with the Arabs and Koreans. Then a richer, sweeter, kinder America with a new national anthem: *If I Could Teach the World to Sing*. No more silly saluting or respecting the flag will ever be necessary again. There will probably be pretty balloons, tambourines, a warm puppy and Kool-Aid for everyone too.

Let's try and get a grip here. The media claim that Gov. Palin isn't vice presidential material, doesn't have the qualifications; but the facts are that she is far more qualified for the job she pursues than Obama is for his.

What's wrong with this picture? Can anyone, please, write Obama's qualifications on a piece of paper so we all can appreciate them? Did he ever hold any other office before the Senate? What did he do for his home state? He spent less than 150 days in his current job as a U.S. senator.

He introduced no new legislation, and during this time voted to raise taxes 400+ times. Obama thinks he can tax us out of a bad economy. He's anti-military, pro-abortion; he has plenty of questionable friends and acquaintances; and if "political tide changes" he will stand with the Muslims? (a quote from his book). Whoa, what does that mean to us? Anything?

Yes, let's get a health-care system working that will serve everyone and, yes, let's get the Congress to fix the economy, but let's not further socialization of our country. We have gone too far in that direction already. Every country that has socialized medical care has far less the quality care than ours. Maybe more available if you have the time, but certainly of much less quality.

Ask anyone from a country with socialized medicine where they would rather be treated.

We also keep hearing, "We don't want four more years of Bush." Well, me too, but isn't George W. leaving office some time in early January 2009, and ain't no way McCain or Obama could do the same job. Believe it or not, there are many things happening in this world that G.W. Bush didn't create.

Those who think Obama is a new Messiah and want him as their president can give him their vote, but they should be ready for the wonderful "changes" he has promised. I would like to think that we will vote for the most-qualified person regardless of party affiliation, but we all know the answer to that, don't we? When there's something offered as "free" who'll be the first in line?

For those who like the idea of socialism in our country then why not try Canada, Europe, China or Mexico and experience socialism before they vote to "change" this country to it? Things are really great in those countries now, aren't they?

Loves I.V. Fire From Linda Butler Cave Junction

I am a member of the Political Action Committee, "We Love I.V. Fire."

Our committee supports Ballot Measure 17-21, a five-year tax levy proposed to hire and maintain 24-hour firefighters and emergency medical personnel to be housed in two stations in Illinois Valley Fire District.

Ballot Measure 17-21 is for the Illinois Valley Fire Protection District only and is not connected to the sheriff's

(Continued on page 3)