

# Bob's Corner

This was the issue in which I was going to be chatty about our current curious crop of cuckoo cats. But I've decided to wait until I can include some photos of our furry, fantastic felines. Besides, we missed National Newspaper Week, which was observed from Oct. 5 through 11.

No, don't send gifts; it's our fault for not telling you about the observance. And I know that National Newspaper Week ranks with National Lick A Toad Week, National Take A Yak to Lunch Week, and National Stare at the Sun Week. Something like that.

Traditionally, I've tried to recap some experiences as a journalist to highlight newspaper week. And so, even though it's a bit late for the observance, I'm going to proceed in that direction anyway. Or anyhow.

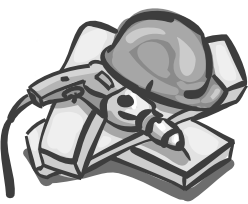
First, it must be admitted that I am biased about the quality of the newspaper we produce each week. The staff strives with each issue to put out an accurate, informative and entertaining publication for the valley and surrounding area. So it bothers me when I find people who don't read "the newspaper" from their community. Do we cover everything? No. Like all members of the media -- including newspapers, which are the real "Press" -- we write stories and take photos about and of what are, in our estimation, those events that are of the most general interest.

Those who do not agree are cordially invited to tell us (not anonymously and sans acid tongue) what they would like to see that we aren't providing. We're always willing to listen. It's extremely difficult to respond to complaints and criticism when it's presented to Joe Blow at the coffee shop, and not to the newspaper. We are fairly intelligent, but we're not mind-readers.

Oh yeah, about those newspaper experiences. I've been a journalist some 44 years. Having worked for daily and weekly newspapers, and written quite a few stories and taken a like number of photos, it's difficult to feature what one might consider the highlights. Let's just say that there have been funny, poignant, weird, boring, thrilling, and startling encounters.

Simply trying to pick a handful from 22 years in Illinois Valley seems staggering. It's really a labor of love, and we plan to stick with it until we get it right. Or until someone steps up to take the reins. Something like that.

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## Illinois Valley News

www.illinois-valley-news.com

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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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# 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**

### Mauer, Rubenstein 'OK' From W. Scott Jorgensen Grants Pass

This election cycle has certainly been one of the most rancorous in recent memory. Personal attacks and negative ads seem to be the norm, which is rather unfortunate. However, there are two notable exceptions.

House District 3 candidates Ron Maurer and Julie Rubenstein have demonstrated tremendous civility and mutual respect in their races.

Here's hoping that future office seekers will see fit to follow the fine example set by these great candidates.

### Public deception From Andy Chen Kerby

During a recent weekend we were asked by Cassanelli and Brown in a full-page ad, "What Can Josephine County Learn from Crestwood, IL?" The same question is repeated on Sandi's Website.

Based on my investigation, it appears that the authors of the ad understand Crestwood finances about as well as they understand Josephine County's. The lessons to be learned from Crestwood, Ill. are:

\*Be in the same county as one of America's largest cities (Chicago), with a tax rate at least six times as high as Josephine County, so that they can fund extensive county services.

\*Be very small and leverage county services to reduce demand on your own resources.

\*Have a major regional mall and extensive other retail property within city limits.

\*Collect a 1 percent sales tax from all those nonresident retail customers.

\*Due to all of the above, collect so much tax revenue in excess of your needs that you can actually rebate more tax than you collect from your city residents.

This has absolutely nothing to do with cost efficiencies. In fact, it is yet another example of the misinformation campaign so symptomatic of Josephine County politics in recent years. Voters in this election should be wary of anyone who attempts to deceive the public in this fashion.

### Brown, libraries From Ellyn L. Coley Cave Junction

I just want to point out that Jack Brown, running for county commissioner, regards libraries as a nice-to-have nonessential. Don't think we need subliterates running Josephine County.

### Wants more Moore From Steve Lyons Cave Junction

I'd like to endorse Don Moore for Cave Junction mayor. Even though I'm not a city resident, I am affected by city policy and actions.

Don's experience as a contractor, successful businessman and volunteer makes him very qualified. He is a city councilor, I.V. Chamber of Commerce president, sits on the Josephine County Rural Planning Commission, and is active in the local Rotary and Lions clubs. When you need something done, go to the busy guy.

Additionally, and on another subject, now is the time for all good men (and women) to come to the aid of their country and county by volunteering with I.V. Rural Fire Protection District.

### No whining, please From Harry Bradley Cave Junction

At the beginning of my long career in law enforcement, I took a college course in police administration. The required text for the course was *Municipal Police Administration* by O.W. Wilson, the acknowledged expert in this field at that time.

I recall vividly the overall theme of this book as follows: "A community's police service will only be as good as that community wants it to be." How good do people want the police service to be in Josephine County? The answer will come forth when the votes are counted regarding the levy.

I have a caveat for the "No" voters if the Nov. 4 levy fails: "No whining please, when you call for help and no one answers."

### Grant money From Luz Moore Cave Junction

We had an audience with some USDA officials, and it was a fruitful meeting with them, where one can only hope for the best.

There is grant money for improvements in rural cities like Cave Junction, but it will take proactive leadership to get it. USDA has expressed frustrations over this deal under which improvements for Kerby Water District have dragged on since 2003. The grant is for approximately \$1.7 million. In fact, USDA has added funds three times for this project.

Funds have been available since 2003, but there is a chance that we will lose them if we will not act fast. We are in economic hard times. We have to pull in whatever funds we can get for the benefit of the people in our community. We need responsible

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

*Fri., Oct. 17	73	42	.00
*Sat., Oct. 18	67	44	.00
*Sun., Oct. 19	69	48	.00
*Mon., Oct. 20	60	41	.00
*Tue., Oct. 21	62	37	.00
*Wed., Oct. 22	65	33	.00
*Thu., Oct. 23	64	34	.00

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

*Fri., Oct. 17	76	39	.00
*Sat., Oct. 18	68	41	.01
*Sun., Oct. 19	72	43	.00
*Mon., Oct. 20	61	33	.01
*Tue., Oct. 21	64	31	.00
*Wed., Oct. 22	75	28	.01
*Thu., Oct. 23	73	29	.01

leaders go through with this project. Let us be proactive, coordinate and cooperate.

*(Editor's Note: Luz Moore is the wife of mayoral candidate Don Moore)*

### Most qualified From Erlinda Felizardo Cave Junction

There are a lot of positive statements to make about Don Moore. Having lived in the Bay Area, he was CEO of one of the biggest privately held commuter transportation organizations, transporting 500 people a day to work.

The Bay Area Air Quality Control District each year gives an award to exemplary contributions to air quality control. This award is selected from among seven million people, or approximately the population of Oregon. Moore also received recognition from the Environmental Protection Agency.

I think that we should elect hopeful leaders who might change Cave Junction's atmosphere, especially in these current economic hard times. To do this, we should vote for Don Moore.

### Veterans Day From Marvin D. Sprinkle Cave Junction

Veterans Day on Nov. 11 is approaching, and I recently ran across one of the best descriptions. What is a veteran? The answer is:

"A veteran -- whether active duty, reserve, discharged or retired -- is someone who, at one point in his or her life, wrote a blank check made payable to 'The United States of America', for an amount of 'up to and including his or her life.'"

"That is honor, and there are way too many people in this country today who no longer understand that fact."

### Doesn't like WOPR From Shannon Wilson Selma

The Oregon BLM has just released its final version of the Western Oregon Plan Revision (WOPR). This final plan if implemented will increase logging by 436 percent over current levels.

This is not light-handed logging. During the first 10 years of WOPR implementation it plans 75,000 acres of clear-cut logging of native and old-growth forests. BLM and Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne are attempting to finalize and sign WOPR's Record of Decision before the end of 2008 and before the Bush regime leaves office.

Implementation of WOPR threatens all Southern Oregon families' livelihoods and homes (including my own family) with destruction by increasing the likelihood of higher-severity forest fires (old forests burn at lower intensity than tree farms), as well as the abilities of Southern Oregon communities to cope with economic downturns because of degradation of recreation values and salmon runs.

WOPR will hugely affect salmon runs because it proposes to reduce riparian buffers near 20,000 miles of rivers and streams by half of current levels.

This reckless and dangerous plan must be stopped by our elected representatives at the urging of the citizens and

(Continued on page 3)

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The return of a black DayRunner schedule book and purple 3-ring binder.

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Any information please phone 592-2866

## First CHOICE

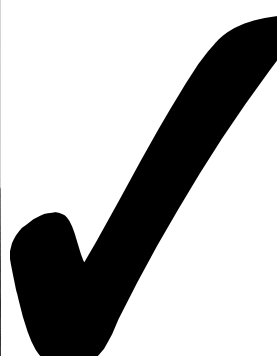
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## Weather Watch

Cave Junction

**Wednesday, Oct. 29**

Sunshine High--69 Low--31



**Thursday, Oct. 30**

Cloudy High--66 Low--34



**Friday, Oct. 31**

Cloudy & breezy High--66 Low--42



**Saturday, Nov. 1**

Rain High--63 Low--39



**Sunday, Nov. 2**

Rain High--62 Low--37



**Monday, Nov. 3**

Rain High--58 Low--33



**Tuesday, Nov. 4**

Cloudy High--51 Low--41

