

## Bob's Corner

After having our daughter and two "great" granddaughters with us for two weeks, including Christmas and Hanukkah -- and dealing with biting cold weather, the editor is weary. So I'm taking a break until I can flex my fingers once the weather gets warmer.

Meanwhile, here is my offering for this week's Corner. It's titled, Great Literary Taunts, otherwise known as "Why didn't I think of that?!"

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\*I feel so miserable without you, it's almost like having you here. -- Stephen Bishop

\*A modest little person, with much to be modest about. -- Winston Churchill (about Clement Atlee)

\*I've just learned about his illness. Let's hope it's nothing trivial. -- Irvin S. Cobb

\*I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure. -- Clarence Darrow

\*He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the dictionary. -- William Faulkner (about Ernest Hemingway)

\*He is not only dull himself, he is the cause of dullness in others. -- Samuel Johnson

\*He had delusions of adequacy. -- Walter Kerr

\*I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn't it. -- Groucho Marx

\*They never open their mouths without subtracting from the sum of human knowledge. -- Thomas Brackett Reed

\*He loves Nature in spite of what it did to him. --Forrest Tucker

\*I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it. -- Mark Twain

\*His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork. -- Mae West

\*Some cause happiness wherever they go; others whenever they go. -- Oscar Wilde

\*He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends. -- Oscar Wilde

\*He has Van Gogh's ear for music. -- Billy Wilder



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Every decent man is ashamed  
of the government he lives under.

~ H. L. Mencken ~

## 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.)

**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 The letter need not be published, but will be used to verify authenticity.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 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

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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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## 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.**

### Funding services From Roy Lindsay Grants Pass

Josephine County covers 1,624 square miles of mostly rural and sparsely populated areas.

Grants Pass, the most densely populated part of the county, covers only about 11 square miles with its separately funded police services. The sheriff's office currently covers the rest with just 14 patrol deputies, enough to provide only 12 hours of patrol per day.

Even during these limited hours of operation, there are frequently no more than two deputies on patrol, and life-saving backup may be more than 40 minutes away.

Of the 78 total employees in the sheriff's office (as of December 2008), approximately half work to operate the county jail, which is the only jail in the county. Eight years ago, when the county's population was significantly smaller, the sheriff's office had 28 patrol deputies and 121 total employees providing the same services.

The sheriff has requested that the commissioners authorize an additional 17 deputies to allow expanding rural patrol to 20 hours per day. This expansion would also increase demand for county district attorney and juvenile justice services and resources.

The federal bailout funds that currently pay for the bulk of Josephine County's non-road related services will be reduced each remaining year, and will not be sufficient to cover even the current minimal service level in the third year. Any hope of a successful transition to the post-O&C period depends on immediate action by the Josephine County Board of County Commissioners to develop and implement alternatives to fund all county services.

### IVHS Activities Calendar Brought to you by the folks at

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### WEDNESDAY, JAN. 7

\* 21st Century 3:30 p.m.: yoga, drama club, researching your family history

\* Wrestling vs. North Valley @ 5:30 p.m.

### THURSDAY, JAN. 8

\* Wrestling at Redmond Classic @ 2 p.m.

\* 21st Century 3:30 p.m.: scrap-booking

### FRIDAY, JAN. 9

\* Wrestling at Redmond Classic @ TBA

### SATURDAY, JAN. 10

\* Wrestling at Redmond Classic @ TBA

### MONDAY, JAN. 12

\* 21st Century 3:30 p.m.: yoga, drama club, welding

### TUESDAY, JAN. 13

\* 21st Century 3:30 p.m.: brain bowl, sewing, theater/improv

\* Basketball at Henley JV boys @ 5:30 p.m.

\* Varsity boys @ 7 p.m.

\* Basketball vs. Henley JV girls @ 5:30 p.m.

\* Varsity girls @ 7 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14

\* 21st Century 3:30 p.m.: yoga, drama club, researching your family history

\* Wrestling at Phoenix @ 5:30 p.m.

(All 21st Century events are open to parents of students at any I.V. school. Also open to homeschoolers.)

illinois-valley-news.com

### Upset mother From Tia Tibbitts Selma

I am angry that this valley has programs for Christmas that mislead a family and break a child's heart. I spoke with CJ Cares program, and was reassured that Santa would bring my son a present on Christmas morning.

My son was so excited and impatient to see Santa, but as the day progressed, no Santa. I realize that due to snow that it might have been impossible to travel. But I also know that people are a phone call away.

This busted my son's bubble, and as a parent trying to keep my son believing in the magic and spirit of Christmas, this really put a damper on things.

I phoned CJ Cares Christmas night to ask, and it was again promised that Santa would come the following morning. Again it was a no show. Do these people realize how hard it is for parents to try and explain this mishap to their child or children? I realize there are a lot of children that CJ Cares has to care for, but for the kids that don't have a visit from Santa when expected, the people who promise such a wish for a child, completely make a child wonder if Santa is really true and give a parent no choice in having to break a family tradition.

I will never reach out for help, even though I have low income, and be misled or bring disappointment to my family, by some people who do not realize the effect this has. This program is useless if innocent children are misled and their beliefs changed.

### Water precious From Fran Spellman Cave Junction

Is the Cave Junction water supply being managed? Not if we leave it up to Jim Polk and the mayor. I pay for city water usage at a cost of \$59 a month. I use a third of the allotted amount. I believe we should all conserve our precious water supplies, and I also believe we should be compensated for our efforts.

Why doesn't Cave Junction pro rate our water bills by usage? Is it an accounting problem? Too much work? Or just poor government management?

Why can't Jim Polk make a decision about returning deposits held more than a year and a half because he has to send it to the mayor for approval?

It's no wonder we can't get relief for our conservation efforts. This organization can't even write a check for \$100 for a long overdue return of my deposit. How are we going to manage the water supplies to support the growth in our community with leadership like Polk and the mayor?

### Holiday thief From Sharon Hopper O'Brien

My father and his partner spent Christmas Eve with us. We had a wonderful day with a good dinner. When they went home to my father's house Christmas day, they found it had been broken into.

The thieves trashed the house, emptied drawers all over the floors. They stole my deceased mother's jewelry, rolls of wheat pennies, and a big bottle of VO.

Maybe nobody caught them in the act, but God saw them, and they'll have to pay to Him. They not only stole from my father, but us, his children. They've taken away what my mother passed on to us. At least they've saved us the task of dividing her belongings.

What do they think they're going to do with that big, old video camera? And what about that out-dated car phone? Looks like it should belong in one of those *Get Smart* shows. And that's what the thieves should do: Get smart and

return the things stolen before it's too late. We forgive them, can they forgive themselves?

### KWD engineering From Chris Courville Kerby

I moved to Kerby in June 2006 from N. Nevada to provide a safe and corruption-free environment to raise my family.

I have enjoyed every minute I have been here until last month, when I found that I was being taxed and billed by the newly formed Kerby Water District (KWD) that has only one thing in mind: money. Money and how to obtain as much possible for personal interest.

I purchased my property from a couple who purchased it from a board member of KWD. This property had a shallow well in moderate condition that with filtration had enough water to allow the original owner of the property (before our board member purchased the property) to grow a beautiful garden and supply their household, plus an additional cabin on the property, with water.

The person purchased this property; became a member on the KWD board; and then participated in some activities to assist KWD in obtaining its goal. This activity included re-plumbing and routing gray water run-off from the residence to the ground and back into the well. This was done to contaminate the well beyond the level of humane consumption.

(Continued on page 3)

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