

Bob's Corner

Every four years a significant event occurs on Jan. 20. And this year that date will be especially significant as a certain person achieves a milestone.

This person has been acclaimed by many, although there are some who have made disparaging remarks. But that is understandable, as men of his stature and position often find themselves in unusual situations as they deal with public matters and people of many levels.

The man is, for the most part, a humble individual. He calls himself "greatly humble." He speaks well of others. He keeps his desk neat and plays well with others. He tries to accentuate positive aspects of life and his daily business even in the face of disappointment and difficult challenges.

On Jan. 20, 2009 there actually will be some in the nation unaware of the importance of the date and the special circumstance that will be marked. Unfortunately that is the way it goes sometimes, and the man who will mark his exceptional day understands that without rancor.

On his most-unique day it is certain that the Man of the Hour will be blessed in his new endeavors. His family and friends will be especially pleased with his progress. And the man himself will take it all in stride.

Yes, Jan. 20, 2009 will mark the 65th birthday of Robert R. "Bob" Rodriguez, co-publisher with his wife, Jan of *Illinois Valley News*. They've been Cave Junction residents since

February 1986, and are 30-year residents of Oregon.

And lest we forget, on the same day, Barack Obama will be inaugurated as president of the United States.

Weather Watch

Cave Junction

Wednesday, Jan. 14

Sunny and warm
High--65 Low--24



Thursday, Jan. 15

Sunshine
High--56 Low--25



Friday, Jan. 16

Cloudy
High--51 Low--27



Saturday, Jan. 17

Sunny
High--53 Low--25



Sunday, Jan. 18

Sunshine
High--53 Low--26



Monday, Jan. 19

Afternoon rain
High--55 Low--39



Tuesday, Jan. 20

Rain
High--53 Low--38



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

*Fri., Jan. 2	51	29	.91
*Sat., Jan. 3	36	26	
*Sun., Jan. 4	38	28	
*Mon., Jan. 5	51	37	.35
*Tue., Jan. 6	53	45	
*Wed., Jan. 7	56	46	
*Thu., Jan. 8	49	39	.43

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

*Fri., Jan. 2	49	28	.62
*Sat., Jan. 3	38	28	.01
*Sun., Jan. 4	38	28	
*Mon., Jan. 5	50	36	.89
*Tue., Jan. 6	53	44	
*Wed., Jan. 7	57	46	
*Thu., Jan. 8	49	31	.64

(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.

I.V. Lions recap 2008

From Harry Johnson Member, I.V. Lions Club Board of Directors

The Illinois Valley Lions Club is proud of its accomplishments of 2008. This year, as during so many other years, we showed the communities in Illinois Valley that we care.

As most know, sight and hearing work are a main part of what we do in our communities. We sponsored more than 30 eye exams and free eye-glasses; and two hearing exams and hearing aids.

We're proud to say that we have one person awaiting cataract surgery.

During '08 we loaned more than 200 pieces of medical equipment to families in Illinois Valley. Everything from crutches and wheelchairs to beds is available to all who need them.

In '08 we had a wonderful Easter in the Park event with more than 3,000 eggs for the children, 154 eggs with \$1 in them, 75 eggs with a coupon for a free toy, and 12 eggs with a coupon for a free Easter basket. The club also had its train giving free rides. Members dressed as the Easter Bunny and Smoky Bear gave candy.

In September, we had our 37th annual Labor Day parade with 45-plus year Lions member Lewie Spencer as grand marshal. It was fantastic with at least 75 units and walking participants. Our three-day Labor Day Festival had one of its largest turnouts. We had the wild and crazy Tuff Truck racing. Those who never have seen this must come in 2009 and witness the spectacle.

We had train rides for the kids, and delicious hamburgers and fries. All members worked quite hard. On Labor Day we raffled a 2008 Harley Davison motorcycle. We sold 270 of the 300 tickets printed at \$100 each. It was a great success for the club.

The 2009 raffle fundraiser is under way with an '09 Harley displayed at Taylor's Country Store in Down-

town Cave Junction. Tickets are available at Taylor's or through the club.

Last year, as during years past, we showed our support of young scholars in Illinois Valley. We awarded five \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors at Illinois Valley High School. We hope this is the beginning of their road to success. We also sponsored several youth sports teams: Illinois Valley Little League, the Boys & Girls Club football team, and our state champion IVHS wrestling team.

Our club gave money to help support the Cave Junction Cares holiday meals program. In August, members went to Evergreen Elementary School and helped build new playground equipment. It was two days of hard, but enjoyable work.

Past president David Anderson last year received the "Crystal Pin" Award from Lions International for a year of positive growth by our club; and he received an award from District for club membership growth.

Other members received awards during '08: Jerry Somers, Don Sills and Steve Lyons received awards for bringing the most new members to the club. Gale Hatch was honored as the club's "Lion of the Year." Two members received the prestigious Helen Keller Benefactor Award from Lions International: Vale Hatch and Richard Strohl. We're also proud of Lion Don Moore, who's one of our newest members, for his landslide victory and becoming new mayor of Cave Junction. We know he will do a great job for the city and will represent us well.

The club received an award from the I.V. Chamber of Commerce thanking the club for the money and business brought to the city and its local businesses, because of our Labor Day Parade and Festival.

In 2009, we will have a busy year. We will have the usual eye care and hearing aid care support that never stops. We'll continue filling the medical equipment needs of the valley. The real fun starts with our free Easter in the Park event and the thousands of painted eggs. And the '09 Labor Day weekend looks as though it's going to be another success.

FAC insights From Mara Carnes Cave Junction

I have the distinct pleasure of holding the position of project coordinator for the Forestry Action Committee (FAC). We are a non-profit organization, and value volunteerism and community spirit.

FAC believes you can accomplish anything if you bring the community together in a positive way. Our motto, "Together, we can do a lot," reigns true. Our employees embrace the chore of empowering land owners to restore riparian areas on their land. We provide not only the tools needed for land owners to accomplish this task, but also provide support and guidance for the years to come as land owners proudly watch their trees mature.

Our services are provided free of charge to participating land owners.

Healthy streams mean healthy fish habitat. Taking care of the environment that surrounds us is a job we all must accept responsibility for -- for ourselves and our future. To date, FAC has planted almost 300,000 trees in Illinois Valley. This is a huge success for us all.

FAC believes in open membership, mutual consensus, courtesy, respect and power from the bottom up. Our goal is to empower the unempowered, and to come up with creative changes and solutions in which the community can find common ground.

With the coming of this new year, I invite the community to attend our board meetings and meet the new staff. The FAC board meets on first Thursdays in the Butler Bldg. (lower US Forest Service compound) at 3 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

FAC encourages public involvement, and encourages anyone interested in finding out more about us to attend. All financial records are available for review, and we offer open discussion for new ideas, old ideas, praise, questions or criticism.

For those who cannot attend a meeting, our door is always open to the public. People can come and be a part of our organization, see what's new for 2009 and do

something good for our community.

Images of Gaza From Ali Madjdi Cave Junction

There is nothing Israeli foreign minister Tzipi Livni can say or do that can take from the minds of people across the world the images of Christmas in Gaza.

You see, there is something special about pictures; long after words have blown away with the wind, images keep haunting us. That is why a picture is worth a thousand words. Dead babies don't lie!

Water Precious Response from Tony Paulson Cave Junction

I thought I would add some clarity to Ms. Spellman's issue (Letters, *Illinois Valley News*, Jan. 7).

Water conservation is appreciated by the city.

Relating to the monthly utility billings, the water fee of \$28 is for the first 500 cubic feet of water used, and that is what the city must charge in order to fund the operation and maintenance of the water system and to be in compliance with the conditions of a grant award that the city received to upgrade the water treatment plant and distribution system.

The sewer fee, with a base rate of \$31 per month, is the amount the City must charge to fund the operation and maintenance of the sewer

(Continued on page 3)



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Illinois Valley News

www.illinois-valley-news.com
An Independent Weekly Newspaper
Co-publishers: Bob & Jan Rodriguez
Editor-in-Chief: Michelle Binker

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. 44

Staff: Zina Booth, Brenda Encinas, Scott Jorgensen and Millie Watkins
Website design and 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 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

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

IVHS Activities Calendar Brought to you by the folks at

592-3556 Cave Jct.
469-7545 Brookings
471-7487 Grants Pass
773-7487 Medford

Blame us if your life goes to Pizzas!

THURSDAY, JAN. 15

* 21st Century 3:30 p.m.: scrap-booking, drumming, home-style cooking, scholarship essay class

FRIDAY, JAN. 16

* Basketball vs. Hidden Valley JV boys @ 5:30 p.m.

Varsity boys @ 7 p.m.

* Basketball at Hidden Valley JV girls @ 5:30 p.m.

Varsity girls @ 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, JAN. 17

* Wrestling at North Coast Classic - Eureka @ 9 a.m.

TUESDAY, JAN. 20

* 21st Century 3:30 p.m.: brain bowl, guitar lessons, sewing, theater/improv, scholarship essay class

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21

* 21st Century 3:30 p.m.: yoga, drama club, running/walking, home-style cooking
* Wrestling at Glendale @ 6 p.m.

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

Letters to the Editor

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