

## Bob's Corner

Having recently returned (again) from Carlsbad in San Diego County, we have recovered from driving two days in each direction. Our car is quite comfortable, but as we get older, sometimes it hurts to sit in the same position for hours on end (no pun intended.) Upon alighting from said vehicle, our muscles and joints let us know they're not happy.

And because we are "at that age," we stop for the night about half-way down. Interstate 5 offers a good range of towns in which to spend the evening. Actually, I can't recall where we stayed southbound, possibly Buttonwillow. And I think we stopped in Patterson on the way home.

The occasion for the trip was twofold. First, granddaughter Natalie, 6, was going to be in a horse show (as a rider). She's been taking lessons, and her equine outfit was part of an equestrian event way up in North San Diego County. It was out Gopher Canyon Road, sort of on the way to Fallbrook. The temperature was 98 that day; reminded me of other hot, dry days in our native land.



Anyway, Natalie donned her riding helmet, boots, jodhpurs, special shirt and collar; and she rode. Took third place. Would have taken a higher rating, we're sure, but her normally docile horse decided to kick up his heels, so to speak. Fortunately, the wrangler who was walking with her is excellent at his job working with youngsters, so he was a big help. And Natalie handled herself well, despite the horsey antics.

While in Carlsbad, we went to Kelly Elementary School, where Natalie's class presented a dancing/singing program. They were great. And, of course, Natalie stood out (spoken like a true grandparent).

We also took "Nat" and her sister, Ella, who just turned 4, with their mom, Vicki, to see the movie, *Monsters vs. Aliens*. Actually, it's a good film; we enjoyed it. For Ella, it was the first time she was able to sit through an entire flick. Well, she did get up near the end and walk around, but basically she was able to handle the entire presentation.

As for the second reason for our outing, some might recall that *Scrappy* the cat went south some months back as a companion for *Charlie*. Unfortunately, after a while they didn't get along because *Scrappy* would not leave *Charlie* alone. He always wanted to play or pretend-fight. So *Charlie* began staying out late, and being extremely grumpy. Thus we, as

*Scrappy's* "parents," went to bring him back to Cave Junction. He's adapted pretty well so far.

We might be the only people around who will travel some 2,000 miles to get a cat.

## Weather Watch

### Cave Junction

**Wednesday, May 6**  
Showers possible  
High--63 Low--40

**Thursday, May 7**  
Sunshine  
High--71 Low--38

**Friday, May 8**  
Sunny  
High--70 Low--38

**Saturday, May 9**  
Sun and clouds  
High--69 Low--38

**Sunday, May 10**  
Cloudy  
High--70 Low--39

**Monday, May 11**  
Sun hidden by clouds  
High--66 Low--40

**Tuesday, May 12**  
Rain  
High--67 Low--35

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

*Fri., April 24	66	33	.00
*Sat., April 25	68	31	.00
*Sun., April 26	70	33	.00
*Mon., April 27	56	36	.05
*Tue., April 28	54	29	.23
*Wed., April 29	64	32	.00
*Thu., April 30	69	34	.00

Following are the high-and-low temperatures and rainfall recorded at Oregon Builders Inc. in Cave Junction:

*Fri., April 24	67	33	.00
*Sat., April 25	70	28	.00
*Sun., April 26	69	31	.00
*Mon., April 27	56	32	.00
*Tue., April 28	52	36	.04
*Wed., April 29	62	31	.00
*Thu., April 30	70	33	.07

## 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.**

### Time to open CJ Library From Tom & Kathy Carlise Selma

It's been some time since either of us last wrote, maybe because we haven't had much to complain about lately. Actually, we have nothing to complain about right now, but we do have something to ask of your readers.

It's about the main library and the branch library in Cave Junction. It's been closed two years, and it is time to get it open again. As your readers know, our community is amid a fund-raising campaign to keep the main library open another year, and, equally important, to reopen the Illinois Valley branch.

It is our understanding that last year's fund-raising campaign raised about \$300,000 countywide. However, only \$8,000 or so came from Illinois Valley. To get our branch opened again, we need to do better. We need to raise about \$40,000 in the valley. That is one big chunk of bucks, but we believe that if all of us work together, it can be done.

The \$40,000 divided among many of us will lighten the load for any single individual or family: 400 memberships at \$100 or a thousand memberships at \$40 would do the trick, especially if everybody contributes something, even if it isn't a lot. Therefore, we hope that all of those who care about a public library and what it represents will join the library or renew their memberships before May 16.

People can send a check, or sign up for automatic monthly payments, or use a credit card to donate on the Josephine County Library Webpage. Or, those who harbor either doubts or questions can phone 592-3289 for more information. And people can think about joining or rejoining Illinois Valley Friends of the Library.

We hope that none of us will fret so much about the details of opening the branch that we neglect to participate in the fund-raising. The important thing is to get our branch up and running and functional again. After all, the library is for everybody — kids and grown-ups, the wealthy and not so wealthy,

home-schoolers and public-schoolers, fiction fans and research buffs. We're all part of it, and in one way or another benefit from it.

We humbly encourage readers of the *Illinois Valley News*, our friends and neighbors, our acquaintances, and all those who value quality of life in the Illinois Valley to become a part of this down-home, do-it-ourselves movement to open our branch library again.

### Shooting not acceptable From Charley Mickey Cave Junction

This past weekend I can understand why there is so much talk about the Second Amendment right. I have lived in our valley since 1948.

I am one of 11 in our family. We were brought up to respect others and their property, and to love and care for each other.

My wife and I attended grade school and are graduates of Illinois Valley High School. I was a Junior 4-H leader, served on the Soil & Water Conservation board, was a rancher and blue-collar worker all my life and raised my children here. They are also I.V. graduates.

We were all raised with guns of all kinds and never were disrespectful or destructive with our firearms.

I have lived off Takilma Road for the past 30 years. As the times change, it is nothing to hear gunshots at all hours of the day or late at night. Some are close and some aren't. Our property borders the river and some of it also crosses to the other side. It's only 1/2-mile at most to Rockydale Road.

When I left for work Saturday afternoon, it sounded like a small war zone toward the south corner of our property on the river. And this happens quite often.

After seeing our horse running from the river, my granddaughter and wife went to check on all the livestock. When they went to the horse pasture they found the horse had been shot just below the right eye. They were faced with seeing it fight for its life for several minutes and die.

If this was an accident you would think that the party would come forth. But for this kind of thing to happen is not acceptable.

People like this should be put on the front lines of the Iraq war zone, and then we'll see just how big and brave they are. Also people who do this kind of thing should never have a firearm or any rights. I just hope that every time this person sees a horse that they have a conscience. This is one of many reasons that the Second Amendment is at risk. What stupidity.

To think that we have

people like that in our neighborhood is sickening.

### '59 reunion set From IVHS Class of '59

The IVHS Class of '59 is excited about celebrating its 50-year reunion. Our reunion group is searching for the following classmates: Jeanetta Adams, Marilyn Mayfield Harl, Vonda Hale Huber, Ida Mae Stow Osbourne, George Savage, Sharon Tucker Swanson, Marvin Warren and Vernon Wilder.

Those who can help us find these classmates can contact Jackie Wright at P.O. Box 798, Cave Junction, OR 97523; phone 592-3343; or email ackie@nitrosports.com.

### Likes Caveman service From Sharon Reasor Selma

We had a pleasant surprise one recent morning. Our heat pump had a problem.

We called Caveman. The fix was quick, bill noted a 30 percent discount. Why? Caveman's "stimulus." Wow.

Here in Selma we are more used to a surcharge, as we are some distance from Grants Pass.

### Building safety guardians From Robert Rice, Building Safety Director Josephine County

America will celebrate Building Safety Week through Saturday, May 9. The theme is, "Building Safety: Where You Live, Work and Play." The Josephine County Building Safety Dept. is participating this year.

First observed in 1980, Building Safety Week annually raises public awareness of critical safety issues affecting every person, regardless of age or occupation. These involve the structural soundness of the buildings where we live and work, reliability of fire prevention and sup-

pression systems, plumbing and mechanical systems, and energy efficiency and sustainability.

Inspectors, plan reviewers and others in our Building Safety Dept. work to ensure the safety of the structures in which all of us live, work, attend school, worship and play. These professionals provide the first line of defense against building disasters. They are silent but vigilant guardians who work daily to ensure safety in the built environment for the citizens of our community.

Our department strives to provide excellent customer service while striving to accomplish these goals by working with stake-holders in a positive and productive manner. The mission statement of the department is, "To assist the citizens of Josephine County in the application of the state's specialty codes in a flexible, fair and safety-focused manner with the goal of providing safe buildings in our community."

Our department is a member of the International Code Council (ICC), the sponsor of Building Safety Week. ICC develops the most widely used building safety and fire prevention codes in the nation. These nationwide model codes are the basis for most of the codes adopted in Oregon and include the Building, Residential, Mechanical and Fire codes.

The Southern Oregon Chapter of the International Code Council, representing Josephine County Building Safety Dept. and 14 other jurisdictions in Southwestern Oregon, will have a display booth at the Josephine County Home Builders Home Show Friday through Sunday, May 15 to 17. Building Safety staff will be at the booth to discuss your project and answer your questions.

(Continued on page 3)

## 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 72, No. 8

Staff: Zina Booth, Brenda Encinas, Scott Jorgensen and Millie Watkins  
Advertising sales: Kenny Hix  
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

### Selma Community Center

### Theater Group

is holding

## Auditions

for

### THE MOONSHINER'S

### DAUGHTER

OR

### HE LOVED HER "STILL"

Actors & Actresses meet at the stage

in the gym at the

Selma Community Center

1 p.m., Saturday, May 9

Please call

592-4348

for more information.

illinois-valley-news.com

Josephine  
Community  
Libraries

Libraries

PO Box 1684  
Grants Pass OR 97528  
(541)660-6531

## Membership Form

Your membership will help open and operate the libraries throughout Josephine County.

new member  renewal

name \_\_\_\_\_  
(as you would like to be recognized)

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street address \_\_\_\_\_

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