

Editorial

In an attempt to save money, the state of Oregon is considering HB 3184, a bill that would put control over public notices in the hands of bureaucrats with little or no public oversight. In essence, our representatives are attempting to take us a step backward in open government.

Up in Salem, the thinking seems to be that the government can save a little bit of money by not having to inform citizens, in a printed newspaper, of what is going on in our communities. Instead, the state wants to put public notices on obscure websites that are hard to find, unreliable and difficult to navigate.

Here's a pretty succinct rundown, from the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, of what is at stake should public notices not stay in local newspapers:

Obituaries

Walter Daniel Blood

March 31, 1942 – March 7, 2011

On Monday, March 7, 2011 after fighting a long and courageous battle with pancreatic cancer, Dan arrived into the waiting arms of our Lord and Savior. He leaves behind his adoring wife Kathy and four children, Richard, Danail, Lianne Blood and Suzanne Sannar, who loved him dearly. Survivors also include, 4 dotting grandchildren, CJ Blood, Karla Owens, Josh and Jaci Sannar, also one great-granddaughter Taylee Owens. He will be sorely missed by all.

He was an operating engineer for local 3 Union for 48 years, spending most of that time working with Teichart Construction.

As a Sacramento Native, he spent most of his life in the area. He retired to fulfill his lifelong dream of building and owning a ranch in Cave Junction, Oregon.

Dan enjoyed his livestock animals, restoring and showing antique cars, and building and renovating the homes he lived in. He also loved boating, motorcycling and camping. He was a member of the Vintage Chevy Club of America and Bridgeview Community Church.

Preceding him in death and joining him in heaven, are his parents, triplet infant sons, his sister Geraldine Mitchell Garrett, and granddaughter Katie Owens.

Dan worked long, played hard and loved much and was quick to lend a hand to a friend.

A service and celebration of life will be held at Stephens Family Chapel in Grants Pass, Oregon on Sunday, March 13 at 2:30 p.m.

For online condolences and tributes, please visit stephensfc.com.

Arrangements by Stephens Family Chapel, Grants Pass, Oregon 541-476-7900

Virginia Garrett Chambers

August 14, 1919 to February 28, 2011

Virginia Garrett Chambers, age 91, of Cave Junction, Oregon, passed away Monday, February 28, 2011, at home with her family.

A memorial celebration of her life will be held at Fountain of Life Assembly of God Church, 451 S. Junction Ave. in Cave Junction, Oregon on Saturday, April 16, 2011 at 1 p.m.

Letters to the Editor

Illinois Valley News welcomes Letters to the Editor. Please e-mail them to dan@illinois-valley-news.com

POLICY ON LETTERS:

'Illinois Valley News' encourages letters to the editor provided they are legible and not libelous or scurrilous. All letters must be signed, including name, 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. Letters are used at the discretion of the publisher.

(Editor's Note: Views and commentary, including statements made as fact are strictly those of the letter writers)

Wake Up America

While the photo was sublime the article sent my head and heart on a roller coaster of a ride which to say the least is not so sublime. I refer to the article in March 2 "I.V. News" about medical marijuana. In the first place how is it that state representatives know so little about the people they are supposedly representing? Don't they realize Oregonians have far more important issues than who's smoking whatever or when. Far more important issues demand our attention and tax dollars in the millions.

Second and more important is the unconstitutional issue of

double jeopardy. It's illegal stupid. In this land once you do your time you have paid for your crime. Or in this case, offense, as there is no moral issue surrounding pot other than taking the right to use it.

Now these pathetic little wanna-be's would have you pay more by denying one the right to medical marijuana if one has prior felony drug convictions. In the first place the government has no, read that, no business meddling in our health care and if not more important, there is constitutional address to the issue of double jeopardy. It is illegal. Oh, did I already say that?

I suggest these representa-

tives move to Libya or Egypt or somewhere, where their sort of mentality is more tolerated. But then again, it appears that people may be running out of tolerance for those who would take our rights, meddle in our lives and waste our time and money. I know that as soon as I can get a name for these so-called representatives I am going to start a recall petition to remove from office each and every one who signs off on this unconstitutional behavior.

I have a vested interest in this issue as I am one of those affected by the outcomes of this waste of political posturing.

I am not only a medical card holder, but I have also

spent seven years of my life under Uncle Sam's thumb for cultivation on a mining claim back in 1994. Three years in a federal prison camp where I learned more about the dirty side of our government than you would ever learn in college, and four years peeing in cups and reporting to parole officers. Now when they want to throw double jeopardy in my face I get angry. Not pissed off but angry. And they will be hearing from me in Salem with regards to this issue.

Grow up America. People smoke pot. Big deal. Second-hand cigarette smoke is far more hazardous to our physical and mental health as a na-

tion than a bunch of pot smokers. If you have a problem with pot, don't use it. Get a life and leave us alone. Or, suffer the consequences in whatever form they come, i.e. massive lawsuits against the state and individual representatives. Think I'm kidding? And that's the gentle side of it. Trust me, millions of pot smokers aren't just going to give it up. We're actually starting to get really tired of this crap.

**William Schneider
Cave Junction**

com or call 541-592-4444 for information.

MARCH 26

"A Night at the Casbah" featuring Mediterranean cuisine and dancing to Oregon Little Big Band

will take place 5:30 to 9:30 pm, Saturday, March 26th at the I.V. Senior Center, 520 E. River Street. Live entertainment will include belly dancing by "Raqs Ahroosh," a semi-professional troupe from Grants Pass, as well as "Wild Azaleas" and "Tashkent" performing traditional ethnic dances. Raffles, live and silent auctions will benefit IRVAC's two major programs: Second Friday ArtWalk and Learning Through Art. \$20 Advance tickets are now on sale at Evergreen Federal Bank in Cave Junction. Dinner 6 to 7 pm only. Admission \$25 at the door subject to availability. Visit www.irtvac.com

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