

Weather Watch

Cave Junction

Thursday, Jan 15

Overcast

High --52 Low -- 43

Friday, Jan 16

Rain

High -- 48 Low -- 45

Saturday, Jan 17

Rain

High -- 49 Low -- 46

Sunday, Jan 18

Rain

High -- 49 Low -- 41

Monday, Jan 19

Chance of Rain

High -- 48 Low -- 36

Tuesday, Jan 20

Partly Cloudy

High -- 49 Low -- 36

Wednesday, Jan 21

Chance of Rain

High -- 52 Low -- 36

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

Jan	High	Low	Rain
2	42.9	22.6	
3	41.6	25.0	
4	53.3	32.5	0.02
5	55.0	35.1	
6	50.0	33.4	
7	49	32.7	
8	44.7	33.9	

Jan Rain: 0.02" YTD Rain: 32.30

ROSTIE'S

INFERNO

WOOD FIRED PIZZA

TRY

ROSIE'S

PIZZA

By-The-Slice

TODAY

415-0517

OPEN:

MON 11-6

FRIDAY 11-7

AT CHEVRON IN CJ

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FACEBOOK!

A reminder to ask more questions:

by Robert Hirning

I recognized the deep booming voice on the other end of the phone. It was Art Sallman, owner of a local watering hole “Art’s Red Garter Saloon.” It was late in the day, and I regretted picking up the phone in the first place; but in the days before caller ID it was just a crap shoot as to who was calling.

“God damn toilet’s plugged up again, I’m sick of it,” Art was grouching. “Get me a new one and be done with it.”

“We get our deliveries on Friday and I’ll order one tomorrow,” I offered. “You’ll need a new open front seat, too, I suppose.”

“Whatever!” Art shouted back, “Just fix the son of a bitch.”

We had done considerable work for “The Garter” over the years, though mostly in the kitchen. I had installed a grease trap and some miscellaneous repiping of old decaying galvanized supply lines but the drain cleaning had all been done by Dave MacKechnie on our dispatch. I had worked in the rest rooms to fix toilet flappers and urinal Sloan Valves and

the place often presented difficult service calls. Trying to conceal my grumbling, I told Art that we’d be glad to take care of the problem and hung up the receiver with a grimace.

At the time, my apprentice was Wade Hooey, son of Steve and Myrna (our letter carrier) who lived down by Four Corners. Wade was a can-do kind of guy and by working together, the two of us would make this messy job at least a little more bearable. Knowing that our materials drop off from the Medford warehouse would be early on Friday, we scheduled our arrival to be around 10 a.m., figuring that early in the day would have the least impact on the customers. All went as planned and on the appointed day we loaded the new toilet into the van and we set off for town.

The Red Garter Saloon is an unusual environment first thing in the morning. When we passed through the swinging doors and out of the blazing daylight we entered a nether world of timelessness. As our eyes adjusted to the half light, shadowy figures seem to

float around the tables or sit at the bar swigging down the “hair of the dog” that bit them the night before. A few lost souls were spending the last of their dollars at video poker and Merle Haggard crooned from some unseen juke box. Up on the wall, a TV silently flashed the news but no one was watching, and a telephone kept ringing from behind the bar. As we propped the restroom door open a few faces peered over their drinks to see what was going on, surely an unusual event in their daily routine.

Wade took the lead in unbolting the toilet from the floor while I broke open the cardboard boxes containing the new American Standard elongated bowl and tank. No problem, I thought, we’ll be out of here before noon. After removing the supply tube and wax from the old toilet we peered down at the messy, stained porcelain.

Wrinkling his nose, Wade asked “What should we do with this thing?”

“Yuck!” I replied. “We sure ain’t taking it back to the shop.”

Remembering having seen a dumpster out in the

parking lot, we removed the tank from the bowl and muscled the whole works down a narrow hall and out the back door. Out in the daylight we reentered the reality of just a normal morning in town. The dumpster was only partly filled, so with a “one, two, three, heave ho” we tossed first the bowl, which hit the bottom with a resounding bong; and then the tank, which smashed into a hundred shards with a very satisfying crash.

Back inside we worked like a well oiled machine pulling parts out of boxes and reassembling the new, gleaming toilet. It actually did seem to brighten up the room, even though it obviously would not stay that way for very long. Suddenly I felt something behind me and instinctively turned towards the door. Art himself was standing there scowling down in disapproval. Then came the all too familiar booming voice.

“For Christ sake, what are you guys doing in the MEN’S room?” he bellowed.

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Flights ... Continued from A-1

Both companies sell subscription memberships. OLG memberships are \$60 per year per household. Mercy Flights memberships start at \$67 for a senior and \$72 for a family.

Asked if OLG would honor Mercy subscriptions, McSwain said, “We consider the patient’s need on every basis. If the patient belongs to another service that will be part of our decision making process.”

This is the first foray into Oregon for Classic Air Medical which is accredited by both the Commission on

Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems (CAMTS) and the National Accrediting Alliance of Medical Transport Applications (NAAMTA). Their accreditation extends to OLG, although McSwain is still waiting for a Merlin site inspection from CAMTS.

OLG Merlin and Medford sites are staffed 24/7 with 3 crew members per each 12 hour shift. McSwain said any Josephine County patient that urgently needs to be flown to Portland would be taken directly by helicopter. “If we’re flying from Redding we’d transfer at

the Medford Airport because it’s on the way,” he said.

Hoke said most air transport calls out of the Illinois Valley are heart attack victims. Patients are stabilized on scene by a paramedic prior to the arrival of the helicopter.

“Time is of the essence in major trauma or heart attacks,” Hoke said. “However we need to honor the patient’s preference if they have purchased a subscription for Mercy or Oregon Lifeguard.”

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