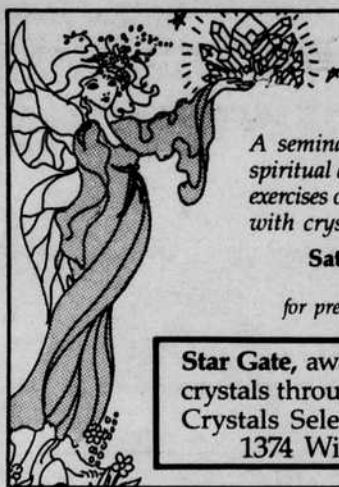


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October 17: THE SKILLFUL HEART
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October 22: EFFECTIVE SELF - EXPRESSION! Fun, informative and really useful! Learn whole-person communication skills, getting and keeping rapport, being effective and genuine. Thursday, 7 pm - 11 pm. \$15.

October 13 - December 1, 8 weeks: THE COUNSELING CLASS: Skills For The Concerned Person. For people whose job includes paying attention to helping others. Learn to assist with feelings and positive change. Tuesdays, 6:45 - 9:45 pm. \$75

Oct. 30-Nov. 1: TURNING POINTS: Awakening Skill & Heart For Growth And Change.. For people in a Life-Transition or who want to create positive change. Open your heart and learn skills for working on yourself in a lifelong process of self-directed growth. \$195 including four weeks of follow-up sessions.

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**Thomas Fisher, M.S. and
Tamara Oglesby, B.S.**

LETTERS

Distressing Weekend

September 18th and 19th have come and gone; to many Lane County residents these two days were particularly uneventful. However, for a few of us who are keeping our eyes and minds open, these two days were very distressing.

The first event was the Eugene Rodeo. The cruelty inflicted on animals by grown adults harkens all humanity back to a time before our modern enlightenment when care-less people abused animals as they did each other. Inhuman treatment of animals is subhuman.

The second event was the Nuclear War drills sponsored by FEMA. Several Reserve units set up command posts like the one by the Autzen Foot Bridge (code named "ATOM"—appropriately enough) and displayed several instruments to test for radioactive fallout from a nuclear exchange.

Other instruments (supposedly) tested for a biological warfare agent. A man dressed in camouflage green showed us how the little red light went on when he placed a probe into a beaker of solution. They also had contingency plans to deal with the "peace groups" that they said would destroy communication towers.

Didn't the Voters of Eugene and Lane County vote overwhelmingly to make our areas Nuclear Free Zones and therefore outlaw these ridiculous exercises in futility? Or, is allowing this type of madness to continue one of the reasons the Nuclear Free Zone task force is trying to change Eugene's voter approved ordinance?

Is it any wonder that the human race is teetering on the brink of nuclear annihilation?

Think about it!

—Richard Gold

Just Say No

Personal misfortune doesn't always happen elsewhere, to others. But it is often preventable.

Our County Commissioners recently authorized Lane Public Works to purchase 1000 gallons of Round-Up for application on county roadsides. A reference used by Public Works shows the active ingredient, glyphosate, to be water soluble (12,000 parts per million) and lethal at 1.5 cups for a 150 lb. human. One thousand gallons then would equal 16,000 cups or 10,607 lethal doses. If only one percent of this were taken in by healthy human adults via contaminated water, drift, volatilization, or food, this would equal 106.07 lethal doses. On the same scale, a 1.5 pound human fetus would need less than one teaspoon to be killed and aborted if it had a fully developed immune system, which it would not.

These calculations are based only on acute toxicity and only on the "active" ingredient, glyphosate. Cancer studies, financed by the manufacturer Monsanto, were rejected as fraudulent and re-ordered by the EPA. Only one acceptable cancer study has been repeated so far and it was positive—tumors in mice. The names and effects of the so-called "inerts" or secret ingredients in Round-Up have been withheld from the public.

If our Commissioners would say no to this environmental drug, they could prevent a lot of misfortune and tragedy in Lane County such as abnormal children, miscarriage, cancer, poisoned fish, wildlife, and food.

The commissioners can be reached at 687-4203. You can obtain an official No-Spray sign from Public Works at 341-6902. SOS is at 484-COPY.

For life, in a strange world,

—Barbara Kelly
Director, Save Our ecoSystems

Neo-hippie Nonsense

Your decision to run Carolyn Reuben's column ("Living Foods for Life with AIDS," Sept. 17) was—pardon the pun—tasteless. As someone who has had the sad experience of watching a friend die of AIDS, I resent this columnist's fostering of the myth—a la Harmonic Convergence—that diet and meditation can cure this irreversible condition. A peach pie is a wonderful thing indeed, but I'm sorry; it cannot cure pneumocystis pneumonia or any of the other horrific consequences of the HIV, no matter how flaky the crust.

My fear here is that many dubious authorities on health care are capitalizing on AIDS patients, who are at their weakest and are willing in many cases to believe almost anything. While I would never deprive anyone with AIDS the hope of a cure, I find Reuben's column and the books upon which it is based to be offensive and opportunistic in nature. Such fiction may be reassuring to the uninfected population who feel their disease-free days are numbered, but I suspect it is insulting to the dying, who deal with AIDS 24 hours a day and are entitled to accurate information—either positive or negative—about their conditions and their hopes for prolonged life.

I urge you to discontinue the publication of Reuben's column if this piece was an example of the pseudoscientific, quasi-factual neo-hippie nonsense we can expect from her in the future. I enjoy your publication and feel it has an important role to play in the community, but your readers are not well served by this type of shoddy workmanship.

—Michael MacRae

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