

Life is short, Art is long*

Dr. Karkeys

This time around, let's talk about green stuff. The color of the ocean for a week or so last month when the phytoplankton flashed on a thermal. The blackberry vines lashing out early and producing galaxies of watery berries (red when they're green). The woman telling her kids, "We just spent a hundred bucks in there, so you guys better not ask for anything else." Long green.

It can get crowded on the beach, but if people spent more time there and less time shopping, they might not be trying to buy their kids off.

Plenty of folks look forward to autumn - maybe the most beautiful weather of the year - and to winter, when the beaches are lonesome and endless. A walk in the timeless grey mist, coming home to a hot shower and a fire and the comforting silence - if you can afford a home on service industry wages, and if there's one available when property taxes tempt owners to disregard the need for local housing in favor of short term rentals. Real long green. As "the season" seems to lengthen on both ends, it's going to be more and more difficult to find long term rentals. Land values increase, and modest but liveable homes are torn down. New construction does not make for affordable housing. Somehow, the economics have to factor in the good of the entire community as a positive value. The formula's out there somewhere, and it goes a step bevondenlightenedself-interest. Any other clues?



Life is short, art long, opportunity fleeting, experience treacherous, judgement difficult.

Hippocrates 370 B.C.

THE SECRET SPOT

The secret spot is where time stands still within the tides. A place where the sand has no tracks. So peaceful and so powerful. Where in some spots you must climb to get in and out; one false step and you are in the water. The water which controls the secret spot is the most powerful thing ... the thrust of a wave will clean out the secret spot and all the traces of man's presence. The only evidence of man is the debris the ocean leaves. The secret spot is so untouched that there are agates everywhere and Bald eagles flying overhead.

Gabe Bonde

Winter SHUTTLE SCHEDULE FOR CANNON BEACH

Going South	7 days
Les Shirley Park	10:00
Candy Kitchen	05
Coaster	10
Midtown	12
Surfcreas	16
Tolovana Wayside	10
Haystack Heights	20
Wave Cress	25
Maher	30
Going North	7 days
Leaves from:	
Maher & hemiock	10.30
Tolovana Wayside	35
R.V. Park	.40
Midtown	.45
Ecola Square	50
White Bird Gallery	55
Los Shirley Park	00

(Not all stops listed). Shuttle's last run going South at 6 pm. No shuttle service 1-2 pm

"Of all the preposterous assumtions of humans about humanity, nothing exceeds most of the criticisms made on the habits of the poor by the well housed, well warmed, and well fed." Herman Melville

DR. KARKEYS CONT.

If you do have to be homeless, there are worse places than Cannon Beach, and worse times than late summer. The shelters of choice are tents and VW vans, and some of us can reach back a few decades to remember living this way by choice and, for the most part, enjoying it.

In the 30s, the homeless were often people who had lost their jobs or their farms. A whole lot of folks saw their lives blow away with the topsoil, and they had no choice but to wrap themselves in a thin film of hope and head away from desolation. In the 60s, the relatively affluent and usually young hit the road to carry their patchwork of hipness, hope, and holiness in all directions.

Nationwide, the homeless in the 90s may be victims of layoffs or veterans (flashbacks of W.W.I), but most locals are working. Serving tourists doesn't provide enough income to afford much of a place, and the fact is simply that there is no housing available.

This is a beautiful place, more visibly so in the winter when there aren't thousands of people milling about in each others way. It's a thriving community and can be so without being Aspen or Disneyland. If those who choose to live here put people before profit, then the beauty of the place is felt by more of us.

When you see someone having a party in a house you'd enjoy just living in, well, it can make it hard to remember how much you can enjoy living here. The historical lessons of concentration of wealth are real, and the particular shade of green has more to do with anger than envy.

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