

Local Color

THE FINGER

(A COLUMN OF SOCIAL ISSUES AND HUMOR)

The ongoing exchange between the community of Cannon Beach and the Cannon Beach Police Department is the item of discussion on every bench, in every bar and coffee shop in town. If you don't know of someone who has personally been upset with the local police force then you have probably read about it in the paper.

Many people are aware of the flyers that have circulated through town and the local tabloid (The Gazette) has been full of letters both in favor of and condemning the C.B.P.D.'s efforts in law enforcement.

Volume 17, number 8 issue of the Gazette contains a letter by the C.B. City Manager, John Williams. The letter is sympathetically entitled "City Manager seeks information," what an appropriate title. Mr. Williams is expressing "great concern" over the exercise of freedom of speech and it would appear by his letter that he is not only surprised by the flyers touting the slogans IMPEACH THE CHIEF and RESTORE OUR SENSE OF COMMUNITY (the latter conveniently left out) but that he is completely unaware that any potential problems exist. Or is he?

The first paragraph of the letter clearly states the letters objective: identification of the party(ies) responsible for the flyers. A curious approach for one who is as he states himself "ultimately responsible for the operation of each of the city's departments." The obvious step is to research the complaint files of the C.B.P.D., not to question the flyers information and seek the party(ies) responsible.

What then is the true motive of Mr. Williams letter? Is it seeking accurate information on a department he is responsible for, or looking to smooth over a blatant problem with the actions of the C.B.P.D.?

Mr. Williams is very concerned with identifying the "substance of the allegations" personally with the party(ies) involved so that "appropriate investigations may be conducted and if recommended, the necessary changes be implemented." We can only suppose that he is unaware that in instances of "possible" police misbehavior that the police investigate themselves and also decide the best remedy for the perceived problem (read best remedy to console the public rapidly). Please.

It would appear that the flyer printer(s) need not come forward and identify him/herself or themselves under "every effort...to honor their confidentiality." Mr. Williams need only drive a rusty car through town in the evening to obtain the information he is seeking.

I believe the days of the political passivity in Cannon Beach are coming to a close. A toast (burnt and scraped) to the agents of change in Cannon Beach! The scrapings to the oblivious managing units of the established city government. Become part of the community and understand the problem instead of trying to manage it like a sheet of numbers or a game.

SOUP



ALERT!

How to protect yourself from the Cannon Beach Police

This article is addressed to any of the following:

- People with rust on their car
- Men with longer Hair
- People under 25
- People out after midnight

So to protect yourself, try the following:

1. Check your rear license plate light. For some strange reason, this has become of critical importance.
2. This is not 1940, this is not Nazi Germany, you do NOT have to show or carry "ID" if you are not operating a car. Just say "NO" over and over.
3. Wear your seat-belt. Even if your car does not run and is up on blocks. (See photo above in which Gary Moon was cited \$50 for not having a belt on.)
4. Yes Virginia, they can stop you at any time for "weaving" and hassle you, but please write down all the details so a record of these can be built.



Community Policy Questionnaire

In an attempt to begin a dialogue between the citizens and City Management, we are asking residents and visitors to fill out this form, specifically concerning contact with the Cannon Beach Police Department. We hope this information will help us solve what appears to be a real problem. These forms will be presented to the City Manager and Council for their consideration and recommendations.

Date & time of contact: various over last 2 years
 Officer/officers involved: can't know names
 Alleged charges: speeding, expired tags
 Witness/witnesses: none
 Resolution: no further action
 Name: _____
 Address/occupation: Cannon Beach - many years - business owner

Comments:

My spouse and I have observed the CPD in action many times. Over the last few years, we have found them to be cold, officious and stiff. Very inappropriate for a destination resort area. We are middle-aged, successful, and have heard similar complaints from many of our friends and acquaintances. There is an "us vs them" attitude, which would fit in a lot better in South Central L.A. Police can still be effective and professional, and at the same time a little more humane & friendly. As far as we are concerned, the CB Police Dept. is a reflection of chief Rouse's personality - aloof, cold and uptight.

Please drop off completed forms at Cannon Beach Leather Co. or Jupiter's Rare and Used Books, or mail to The Upper Left Edge, P.O. Box 118 Cannon Beach, Or 97110

p.s. We've had have fun-time for the last fifteen years.

Comments:

Sept. 14, 1992

My wife and I are permanent residents here in Cannon Beach. We both think that the Cannon Beach Police Department are doing an excellent job. And, because of this, Cannon Beach is a SAFE place to live. If there are unhappy people out there, it might just be that they are breaking the law.

Chief Rouse is doing an excellent job. Please let him continue to help keep Cannon Beach a safe place to live.

Paul H. Haas

Date & time of contact: 11:30 PM approx Aug 4
 Officer/officers involved: YOUNG BROWN MACE
 Alleged charges: CROSSING CENTER LINE OF HIGHWAY 11:30 PM
 Witness/witnesses: My Daughter
 Resolution: Warning
 Name: White Lively
 Address/occupation: P.O. Box 945, C.B. 97110

Comments: We were returning from Seaside where my daughter had been visiting friends. We passed the police man as we entered the north entrance to C.B. He had some car pulled over. We stopped to wait for a short period and talked to a friend. I pulled back into highway in the center of town and the (leaded) south. I noticed the police car following two blocks behind me. He continued to follow until we got to sunset where he pulled me over and accused me of crossing the center line several times. I had been driving very carefully as most times I had been with a red light behind them. I feel people would with a red light and give denied this accusation but not my own and gave me a verbal, no the street and I think he was biased.

Date & time of contact: May '92 - approx 2am
 Officer/officers involved: _____
 Alleged charges: was following home - returned for people
 Witness/witnesses: was witness (own in car)
 Resolution: no
 Name: Johnnie Miles
 Address/occupation: Home (Business owner Cannon Beach)

Comments: I realize that drunk driving is a major problem. Also that leaving downtown at 2am is somewhat intimidating. However, one doesn't need to be drunk to be in town late. The police literally targeted me home (I know because I was at the time) and because I wasn't intoxicated, and all the lights on my car were on (I was working on them), they pulled me over at the end of the street and said "off late in town for residential street?" If I don't feel like Big Brother, sometimes!!



ATTENTION CANNON BEACH RESIDENTS AND VISITORS:

ARE YOU AWARE OF THE COURSES OF ACTION BEING TAKEN BY THE CANNON BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT IN A MISGUIDED EFFORT TO INSURE YOUR SAFETY IN TOURIST ORIENTED CANNON BEACH?

THE CANNON BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT HAVE SPENT YOUR TAX DOLLARS ON THE FOLLOWING TO INSURE (BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT) YOUR SAFETY WHILE RESIDING OR VISITING CANNON BEACH:

1. AN AUTOMATIC WEAPONS CACHE FOR EXTREME CONFLICTS. (FOR INSTANCE A RIOT AT THE LINE OUTSIDE THE ICE CREAMERY)
2. COMBAT BOOTS, RIOT FATIGUES AND BULLET PROOF VESTS WORN AT ALL TIMES BY THE OFFICERS. (JUST IN CASE SOMEONE FORGOT TO PUT A LEASH ON THEIR PUPPY)
3. RENTING NIGHT VISION GOGGLES WHICH ALLOW THE USER TO SEE HEAT IMAGES OF PEOPLE IN THE DARK. THIS INCLUDES THROUGH YOUR WALLS!!! (ASK THE OL' CHIEF WHY THEY NEED THOSE????)
4. IN A BRILLIANT EFFORT TO UPHOLD THE LAW, WRONGFULLY BROKE UP A PUBLIC MUSIC PERFORMANCE UNDER AN ORDINANCE THAT DOES NOT EXIST!!
5. PULLED OVER, ACCUSED, HARASSED AND DETAINED FOR 30 MINUTES AT THE SCENE. A LOCAL WOMAN FOR "ATTEMPTING TO EVADE" THE POLICE WHILE TAKING HER BOYFRIEND TO PICK UP HIS CAR. (SHE WAS OF COURSE LET GO NOT BREAKING ANY LAWS)
6. ARRESTED AND CUFFED IN FRONT OF HER SCREAMING CHILD A WOMAN FOR NOT HAVING HER DRIVERS LICENSE AND NOT HAVING A SEATBELT ON HER CHILD. (LOOK FOR MORE ON THIS WHEN SHE SUES AND WEAR THOSE SEATBELTS!)

IS THIS THE WAY THE POLICE IN YOUR COMMUNITY SHOULD ACT? THEY WORK FOR US. THE FUNCTION OF THE POLICE IN A COMMUNITY IS PROTECTION FROM THE LAWLESS AND UNRULY NOT TO ACT THAT WAY. WRITE YOUR LOCAL PAPER AND C.B. CITY HALL AND LET THEM KNOW YOU ARE AWARE AND WILL BE WATCHING!!

RESTORE OUR SENSE OF COMMUNITY

SPEAK OUT AGAINST POLICE HARASSMENT!!

Paid Advertisement



Who will protect the public when the police violate the law? Ramsey Clark

Laws not enforced cease to be laws, and rights not defended may wither away. Thomas Moriarty

Every actual state is corrupt. Good men must not obey laws too well. Ralph Waldo Emerson

Public office is the last refuge of the incompetent. Boies Penrose

436-BOMB !!

... is anything you want it to be.

1. Dial the number to hear interesting Opening Messages.
2. During the Opening Message, dial 537, wait a sec, then 1 and you can listen to the messages of others
3. While Listening to other people's messages, you may hit 7 to fast forward to the next message.
4. Please leave messages of interest to others. Such as...Obscenities, Drug deals, How to build a pipe bomb, what the Police did to you THIS week. Etc. We will change messages on MONDAYS.

CUT ME OUT !!

CUT ME OUT !!