



DR. KARKEYS

It's easy to see why the utopian ideal gets confused with human existence. When you feel that everything you do is connected rather than compartmentalized, the distinction between work and play disappears. You're at your best: strong, imaginative, and open. The things we do and the things we make are better, and more enjoyable.

For many, this state of mind exists only occasionally, and usually between periods of deeper sleep. Their litany includes: "everybody don't get to do exactly what he wants to, arright?" and "yer dreamin', pal." So, most of us live with some degree of estrangement from our utopias.

We may try to avoid making things that don't work very well for people who don't really need them, or catering to bad taste because it's profitable. Few of us have to do legal or promotional work for tobacco companies. We survive, and, once we're warm and dry and have the cooking fires going, we have a lot to say about the refinements of our survival. Refinements like: no one has to sit downwind of the fire and the chores are shared—and that the privy doesn't affect the water supply.

In our collective stampede for growth, we've lost control of some very basic machinery. Perhaps, like so many cultures before ours, we will disappear into our own jungle, but it would be messy and painful.

We might instead consider lives of beauty and intelligence, of insight and creativity. The top-heavy system based on fuel and power seems to be splintering awkwardly, and continues to do vast environmental damage. If, rather than seek more power, we would collectively admit that we cannot decently manage our current responsibilities, then we might find solutions in areas we have been slow to examine. Some approaches have been ignored because we have continued to act as if the machinery was working just fine. Others are rejected because they question the very nature of the machine—what it does, how it does it, and how it affects life.

Questioning the nature and effect of our political, economic, and religious structures does not threaten our survival. Angry shards of humanity exploding in hatred do threaten us all.

Globally, there are functional population limits, and perhaps, too, limits on government size. We may question how many hundreds of thousands any government can legitimately represent.

Locally, we can take advantage of public access to local government. Council and committee meetings as well as frequent events of special interest are more available physically and psychologically in our small communities and neighborhoods, and it's easier to see past the smoke and the mirrors. In a small town, the way we show each other

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respect and consideration is highly visible, and the way it affects the community at large is apparent. Few stay fooled for long when there's mischief afoot, and public input can have immediate impact.

Those who enjoy a community where the well-being of all our neighbors is our true wealth have a slightly better chance here; this is the wealth which allows us to invest in our hearts and minds.

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Dr. Francine Siegel will speak at the United Methodist Church in Tillamook April 29th at 7pm. Call 842-3838 for more information

Fire Mountain School Open admission applications are due by May 15th. Call Barbara McLaughlin for more information 436-1572

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BEHIND THE TIMES continued from pg. 2
Word is, HB 2125's a dead duckling.

What would possess Boom-Boom Campbell that he should want blood sport deregulated? Does the \$400 campaign contribution from an ex-Don of local wrestling have anything to do with anything? Is talk really that cheap? Does state government have friends in low places? Do bears go to the bathroom in the woods?

There is, at least, a snappy surprise waiting for promoters tugging on Boom-Boom's earlobes and praying for surcease of sorrow. It's called SB 525. Introduced in the Senate by Joyce Cohen (one of a select group of legislators still able to reason), SB 525 would end the anguish of blood sportists by abolishing not just the commission, but all of live boxing and wrestling in the state.

Sorry, guys. No rules, no game. And, as they say in the hallowed halls of Sell-em, you can take that one to the bank.

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Shoshone Seek Support

Some 75 Cannon Beach residents were honored to be addressed on March 8 at the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce by Carrie Dann, whose ranch, deeded to the Western Shoshone Nation, is the focal point of the ongoing confrontation between the Western Shoshone and the Federal government.

A video presentation highlighted last October's protests of continued nuclear testing on Western Shoshone land, and Dann reminded the audience that Native American lands are prime targets for nuclear waste sites as well.

The more immediate concern of the Western Shoshone as described by Dann is the activity of the Bureau of Land Management in attempting to round up livestock on tribal lands. A second video focused on last fall's confrontations between federal officers and traditional Shoshone people at the Dann Ranch.

Spring weather is expected to bring increased interference in the Dann's livestock operation, although hope has been expressed that the Clinton administration and the new Secretary of the Interior may alter federal policies that intend to eradicate Native American cultures.

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* more information regarding details later

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UPPER LEFT EDGE APRIL 1993 3