

"It Takes a Whole Village To Raise a Child"
by Hillary Langtry

This title is a saying you hear often when you are around child care providers. It means that even if you have no children, everyone is part of a community and is responsible for the children.

Most child centers meet the normal standards, but what if they do not? The Childrens' Services Districts (CSD) function is to grant licenses to operate centers as well as to periodically check on the standard of care being given. Suppose a few parents, teachers, and/or other individuals were concerned that a center was operating below their standards, and after a CSD investigation, CSD supported their concerns. CSD may not be able to enforce standards or close the center due to the lack of alternative care for the children. Although closing a center would cause hardship for the parents and children, there is also harm in letting a child remain in an non-nurturing, sometimes destructive environment.

This has been a large concern of mine and for many of the professional workers in this field. For anything to be done in a small populous, we need the whole community to be aware of the problem and to participate in finding a resolution. Yes, the whole village.

I feel very fortunate to be in a nuturing center where the child comes first above all. I know this quality care is possible and I want to see every child in the community have quality care.



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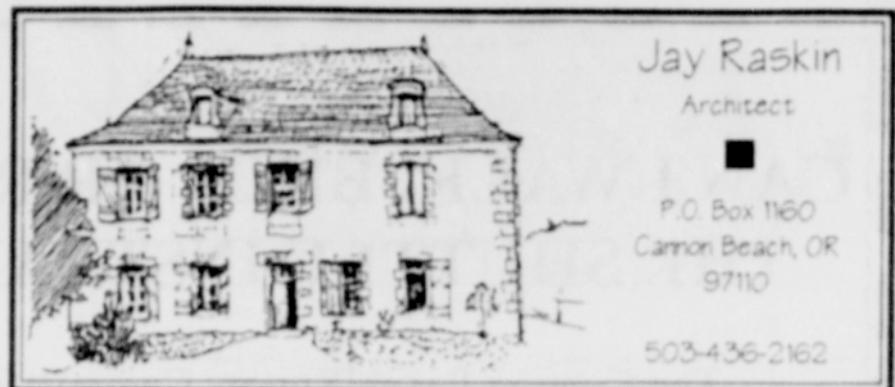
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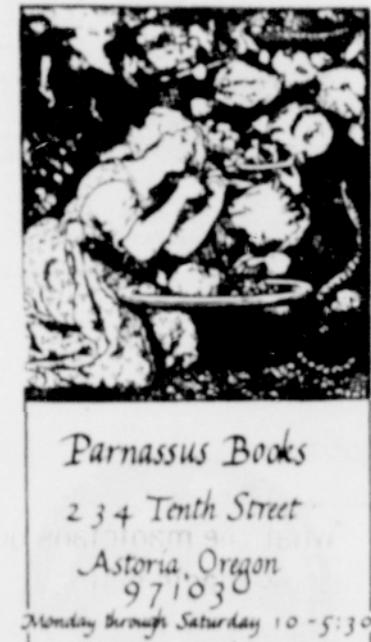
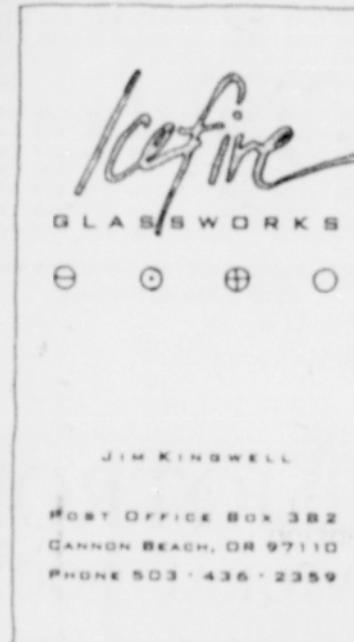
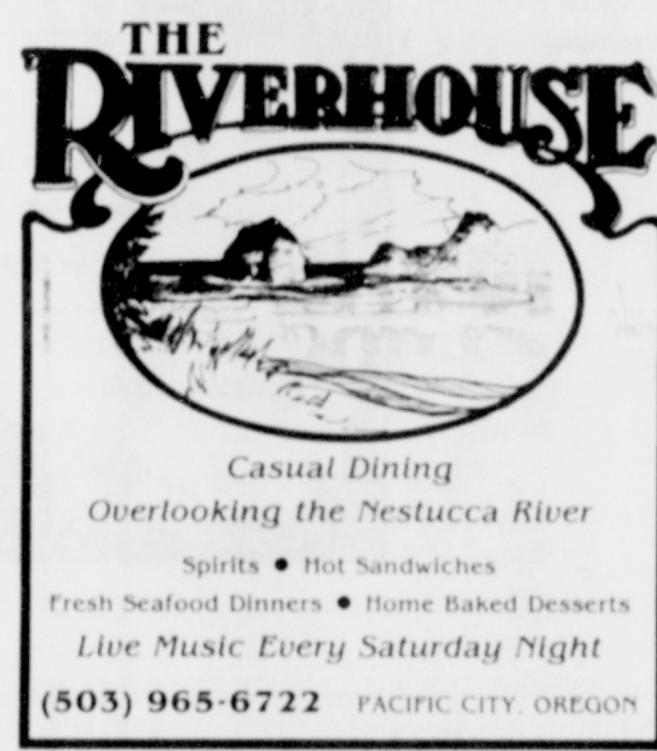
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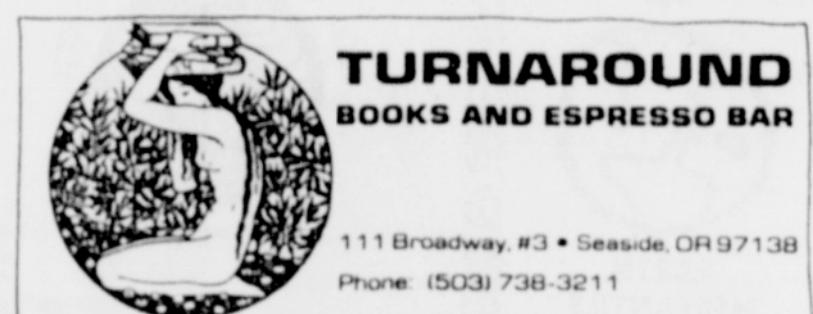
Unfold the peacock eyes
Over the body
Attached to the fear
That hollowed
The whole out in the world
Eyes diverted behind irridescence
Screech from the beauty
Whose aquamarine and shimmering green
Covers and warms
The searching for safety
Pawing at the earth
They say that animals
Smell fear
Covered over by flapping
Of wings
Breathing feathers
Fleeting and flying

--Mary L. Misel



Nothing in man is more serious than his sense of humor; it is a sign that he wants all the truth.

Mark Van Doren



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Foaming at the mouth for love is good.

But when that love is for a thing

the size of the sea -- and the sky --

and the earth -- well

It can draw unwanted attention.

Like last Tuesday when I tried to drink the sea,
and became ill, then tried to fondle

a perfectly curved cloud,

and fell. Or there's that tree

It knows which one it is. I blush

to think of how they found me

But foaming at the mouth for love is good.

It is better than most of the things we do.

It is better than laundry or dishes,

or the tedium of prayer.

Sickness can occur,

but as sicknesses go it is not bad;

it is hot, spirited, a bit reckless.

It is good, foaming at the mouth for love of mud,

and sea, and pine needles, and sky

It brings color high inside the cheeks,

it brings a fire to the eyes.

-- Bill Clunie



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