

Dear readers,
 We here at the Edge, just by the virtue of being on the streets month after month, sometimes get what "normal" folks would call "weird mail". Every once in a while we like to share with you, our lucky readers. These two postcards, looking for all the world like a ransom note, arrived recently. Your guess is as good as ours. We just call it art and let it go at that. -ed

YES! Send me more information

There is a great tendency to fix past mistakes. However, unless more effort is devoted to looking forward toward prevention rather than backward toward correction, we will continually be trying to catch up.

"America has proved that it is practicable to elevate the mass of mankind...to raise them to self-respect, to make them competent to act a part in the great right and great duty of self-government; and she has proved that this can be done by education and the diffusion of knowledge..."
 —Daniel Webster

"I have defined the 100 percent American as 99 percent an idiot. And they just adore me."
 —George Bernard Shaw



FROM 'W.W.' - BITCH, BITCH, BITCH BY TIMOTHY GOWER

Take this summer's baseball strike. Millionaire athletes, most of whom would be parking cars were it not for their prowess on the diamond, complained about being underpaid. Billionaire team owners, most of whom buy baseball clubs as diversions from their full-time jobs as megalomaniacal corporate tyrants, complained about losing money. Baseball fans missed out on the end of the regular season but were treated to the World Series of Bitching.

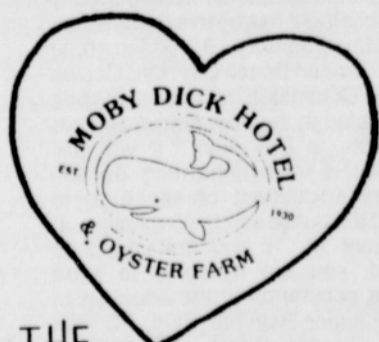
"I am the poor white, fooled and pushed apart,
 I am the Negro, bearing slavery's scar,
 I am the Red man driven from the land,
 I am the immigrant clutching the hope
 I seek—
 And finding only the same old stupid
 plan
 Of dog eat dog, or might crush the weak.
 O, yes,
 I say it plain,
 America was never America to me
 And yet I swear this oath—
 America will be!"
 —Langston Hughes

Back in the U.S.S.A.

"In raw numbers," notes conservative thinker Charles Murray, "European-American whites are the ethnic group with the most people in poverty, most illegitimate children, most women on welfare, most unemployed men, and most arrests for serious crimes."



This woman was 18 years old and had had at least one child when she died approximately 15,000 years ago in Cap Blanc, France.



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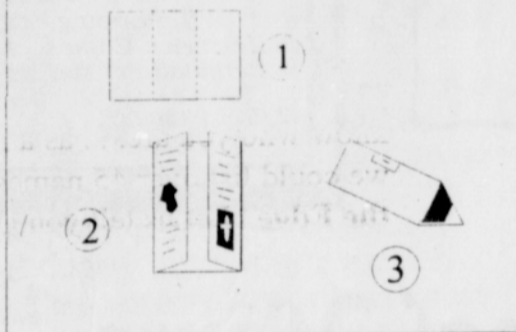
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The Upper Left Edge is a monthly broadsheet (approximately 12"x21") publication with a current distribution of 5,000. It is circulated throughout the Oregon and Washington coastal communities and larger metropolitan areas which serve them. As stated in the upper left corner of the Edge flag, it is FREE to the vast majority of its readership; though there is a rapidly increasing number of subscribers worldwide. Now in its third year of continual growth, The Upper Left Edge relies on advertising funds to keep it in print.

Advertising rates are as follows:

Business Card Size Ad	\$25.
1/16th approx. 3x5	\$35.
1/8th approx. 4x7	\$50.
1/4th approx. 6 1/2x9	\$100.
1/2 page	\$150.
Full page	\$300.
Back page	\$350.

... per month. Payment is due the 15th of the month prior to the issue in which ad is to appear. Camera ready art is requested. We are usually on the streets by the first weekend of the month.

EARTH DAY 25: ARE WE READY?

By Kim Bossé

The first Earth Day in May, 1970, has long been extolled as the advent of the environmental movement. Now, as we approach Earth Day's 25th anniversary, it appears that we are facing an indifferent and cavalier attitude towards conservation. Ecology & Recycling are not currently the trendy and hip espresso house discourse. In the last few months articles by environmental luminaries such as Theodore Roszak, Martin W. Lewis and Jeremy Rifkin have voiced opinions regarding the changing mind-set within the populace. Intertwined within their individual theories have been suppositions that the environmental movement itself is becoming endangered due to its own lack of clarity, continuity, and cooperativeness between groups to create solutions that will benefit everyone. The urgent nature of many conservation problems helps to create a perceived persona of non-scientific emotional blackmail. This, coupled with a changing political climate, economic uncertainty, and the general lack of education regarding conservation issues gives an aura of frivolity to lifestyle changes such as source reduction, over-consumption, and natural resources/energy demands.

Whether we agree politically or philosophically, I believe that the individuals who live here care about our community and its inhabitants. Therefore, issues regarding the land we occupy, resources we use, and the non-human inhabitants are our common concern. I will go a step further and say it is for our common good to be educated, involved, and active in the choices made about the place we choose to call home. These are not issues that come in and out of vogue, rather, they should be lifelong commitments.

So, my friends, I have some thoughts for you to consider as we approach Earth Day's auspicious milestone.

Have you created opportunities within your lifestyle that allow you to be inclusive, tolerant, and respectful of the environment in which you live?

Do you have the courage to stand up for your convictions, even if they aren't the "flavor of the month"?

If not, then possibly you, like many others, either haven't had the time to consider these issues or do not feel a pressing need to be committed to the preservation of our community. It would be nice if in this new year we all pledged to learn, experiment and grow in ways that help protect, improve and sustain our world. Perhaps we just need to pause in our sometimes overanxious quest for life to consider the old maxim that the simplest pleasures in life are often the best. They can also be gentle solutions to some of our environmental and societal concerns.



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