

Rev.
Hults

Editorial Now & Then



Michael McCusker for Mayor of Astoria
by Billy Hults

The long-time editor and publisher of the North Coast Times Eagle, organizer of Northwest Vietnam Veterans Against the War, social critic, and well-known local Astoria character is considered by some to be running a campaign with no chance of winning. Some think he is not serious. I disagree. I was sitting in the Goose Hollow Inn when Bud Clark decided to run for Mayor of Portland. Bud and Mike have a lot in common. They are both highly educated men. They both passionately love their community, their state and their country. They love them so much they want them to work. Neither is a politician. They are both too outspoken for that. They will both tell you the truth. They are both veterans. They are both known to have an adult beverage on occasion. They both have worked hard and volunteered often. They both have published newspapers. They are both readers of history.

When Bud ran he had buttons that said, "Bud Clark is Serious!". And he was. But that isn't why he won in the primary (an unheard of feat against an incumbent). Bud won, I believe, because everyone he knew trusted him and wanted to help him do something to help his city. Something else I hope Mike and Bud have in common. Bud's literally thousands of friends got their rolodexes together and formed them into mailing lists and phone trees. People printed posters and flyers for cost or free. Folks invited friends over for drinks and talked about what Bud was doing, and passed the hat. Bands did benefits for the campaign. Raffles were held. I remember going to a Blazer game and handing out hundreds of roses donated by a florist the day after Valentine's Day, with a little note that said "Vote for Bud Clark and the Rose City", or something. We did cruises on the river. Artists drew posters and galleries held events. It was fun!! A wide spectrum of the population pitched in to elect a fellow citizen to help them. And he won. And he helped his city faithfully for two terms and then stepped aside, to go back to work at his tavern and spend some time with his grandchildren. After his eight years in office the City of Portland, which had been running hand to mouth before he got in City Hall, was showing a budget surplus and had a "Rainy Day Fund". He also garnered a bit of national publicity which is always good for business. That's another thing Michael and Bud have in common, they know the value of other people's money. So, I have seen a citizen elected Mayor of his city. And I think Astoria would do well to elect citizen McCusker. That is not to say that Mr. Van Dusen is not a good man, he and his family have contributed generation after generation to Astoria. Mayor is almost an inherited position in their family. On the other hand it takes a lot for a man like Michael to stand for public office. I don't envy Michael the next few months. His life will be examined, he will be pilloried by self righteous zealots, he will be laughed at and sneered at. But he's marched for peace before, so he's familiar with the drill. I believe he will behave in an honorable fashion. The question of whether he will be elected Mayor of Astoria, and what he will do if he is, is pretty much a question of what we, his fellow citizens, want. Astoria is currently going through a change that will be felt for generations, and someone who has the will, skills, and compassion of Mr. McCusker doesn't do this everyday. He has no ax to grind, his motives are anything but selfish, he's beholden to no one, he profits not from this, yet he stands. If he's willing to stand for us, the least we can do is stand with him. It's pretty simple, it's a lot of hard work and a lot of fun. We all get organized, go knock on neighbors' doors, raise money, talk about the issues, make sure everyone votes, and have a great victory party. Any questions? How can you help? Well, since Michael doesn't have a phone or e-mail, you might want to send your list of addresses and phone numbers to the Upper Left Edge, and a list of times you can volunteer, and what resources you can bring to the table. No, we haven't been hired by the campaign, we are volunteering too, just because we still believe democracy is worth working for.

These truths hold true in our little village. Laurel Hood is standing again for Mayor, opposing Frank Little. Dear John Fraser has decided to reclaim his council seat, and Jimmy Tanquary has also heard the call to serve his community, as has Barney's mom Michelle Standridge. We congratulate them on their courage, and encourage the community to support them in their efforts to serve. As for the fourth candidate, we have yet to meet, or hear from her.

Be advised, we do not agree with everything the above named folks say or stand for. We have serious problems with some ideas. And of course we have accepted ads so our motives and loyalties may be called into question. Fear not, the decision is yours, not ours.

State wide we have the republicrats and the democrans fighting it out for the scraps. We have the brave and reckless fight to stop the clearcutting and poisoning of this small corner of the world. We have an initiative that will make it legal for folks who are in pain to use a common weed to relieve their suffering. Funny world, huh?

Rex Amos comes to town. Famous Rex Amos, artist and preliminary philosopher, is now among us on a regular basis. We regret we didn't get the notice of his show in August in time to share with our readers, we luckily were able to view it and were particularly fond of one rather timely collage mirror showing folks in the act of 'inappropriate intimate contact'. (We at the Edge still can't bring ourselves to join the mass media and describe the various forms of inappropriate intimate contact. We are not exactly a 'family' paper, but we do have other things to talk about.) Space, and an editorial policy that frowns on profanity, prevents us from printing verbatim a letter from his 'practicing wife' about the "Transient Stronghold" article last month. The same policy prevents us from 'editing' letters to the editor; we either print it as written, or don't print it at all. Suffice it to say it was funny and the point was well taken that beauty is a fragile thing, time a constant factor, and fools are common. The reason we bring all of this up is that our regular 'quotes' which we print under the articles in the Edge (and which have been mistaken for editorial comment, or mistaken for random luck as well) are this month from his tract on Preliminism, a philosophy of dubious merit, but mischievous intent. So, prepare yourself to repair yourself, or vice versa according to Preliminists.



Why blame failure on yourself?
Others need that recognition.
BE AN ARTIST!

Don't complain about others so much that you
don't leave time to complain about yourself.
(Unless you are one of the others.)

Our readers will notice we have a couple of letters to the editor this month. One is about Measure 64, which bans clear-cuts, pesticides, herbicides, and which everybody from the Governor down has come out against. Still it made the ballot, so we called Olife, the sponsor of the initiative, and talked to Richard Bowden, he answered the phone. The impression we had of Measure 64 was it was a pretty radical attack on the timber industry by some hard core environmentalists who would not compromise. Like Earth First! with a good lawyer. People in the environmental community have told us the Measure hasn't got a chance, it's unconstitutional, it's poorly written. We got the bulk mailer from Ed 'Oregon State Forester, retired' Schroeder telling us that no one in Oregon could cut a tree over 30 inches in diameter, and 28,000 folks would lose their jobs if this Measure became law. Richard explained that it takes a Douglas Fir a century to grow 24 inches in diameter, and the measure might actually increase the number folks employed in the forest. Richard is not exactly a Earth First! kinda guy. He's from Atlanta, Georgia, and sounds like it. He's in his fifties and used to own Marrietta Millwork, where he made roundtop window frames, employed 50 folks and bought a lot of wood, he told us all about it. He would be more accurately described as a wood worker, rather than a tree hugger. Richard was down in southern Oregon debating an employee of Roseburg Forest Products and 'dazzled' him when he said, he had bought a million board feet of pine from Roseburg Forest Products several years back. Richard understands the difference between a user and an abuser when it comes to wood. So if you don't really trust what you read in the papers, or even the 'Voter's Pamphlet' give Richard a call at (541)683-1494, he's got some interesting stuff to tell you. And yes, we urge Oregon voters to vote yes on 64.

Brother Watt Childress of Greensborough, Tennessee, visited recently and told a heart warming story of an advisory initiative in his county that was trying to stop the construction of a four lane highway to the site of a new shopping mall or some such thing. After all the 'powers that be' could do to stop it, it won, and they had sworn to bow to the will of the people. The funny thing is it won by one vote. Three thousand and something to three thousand and something plus one, and every one in the county who voted for it was sure it was their vote that did it. And the wonderful thing is that they are all right. We urge our readers to vote. It matters.

COAST RANGE
ASSOCIATION
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In Preliminism the shortest distance
between two points is nothing.

U.L.E. SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Date _____
#of years, up to 3 _____ @ \$30 per year \$ Enclosed _____

Enjoy your retrospectives; preliminists have no prospects.



John Fraser

For
City Council

- Resident 22 years
- Experienced - City Councilor, Planning Committee
- Merchant 15 years

"City should concentrate on Quality of Life, rather than Commercial Growth"

Paid for by Fraser for Cannon Beach City Council

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Advertising rates:

Business Card Size Ad \$30.
1/16th approx. 3 x 5 \$35.
1/8th approx 4 x 7 \$50.
1/4th approx. 6 1/2 x 9 \$100.
1/2 page \$150.
Full page \$300.
Back page \$400.
... per month. Payment is due the 15th of the month prior to the issue in which the ad is to appear. Camera ready art is requested. We are usually on the streets by the first weekend of the month.

WHERE TO GET AN EDGE

Cannon Beach: Jupiter's Rare and Used Books, Osburn's Grocery, The Cookie Co., Coffee Cabana, Bill's Tavern, Cannon Beach Book Co., Hans's Bakery, The Bistro, Midtown Cafe, Once Upon a Breeze, Copies & Fax, Heather's, The Homegrown Cafe, Haystack Video, Mariner Market, Espresso Bean, Ecola Square & Cleanline Surf
Manzanita: Mother Nature's Juice Bar, Bayaide Gardens, Cassandra's, Manzanita News & Espresso, & Nehalem Bay Video
Nehalem: Mermaid Cafe
Rockaway: Sharkey's
Tillamook: Rainy Day Books
Bay City: Art Space
Yachats: By-the-Sea Books
Pacific City: The River House, Far Country Books, & Village Merchants
Oceanside: Ocean Side Espresso
Lincoln City: Trillium Natural Foods, Driftwood Library, & Lighthouse Brewpub
Depoe Bay: Oregon Books
Newport: Oceanic Natural Foods, Cafe DIVA, Cosmo Cafe, Bookmark Cafe, Newport Bay Coffee Co., Cuppatunes, Bay Latte, Ocean Pulse Surf Shop, Coastal Coffee Co., Sylvia Beach Hotel, Green Gables Bookstore/BBB, & Canyon Way
Eugene: Book Mark, Cafe Navarra, Eugene Public Library, Friendly St. Market, Happy Trails, Keystone Cafe, Kiva Foods, Lane C.C., Light For Music, New Frontier Market, Nineteenth Street Brew Pub, Oasis Market, Perry's, Red Barn Grocery, Sundance Natural Foods, U of O, & WOW Hall
Corvallis: The Environmental Center, OSU
Salem: Heliotrope, Salem Library, & The Peace Store
Astoria: KJUN, Columbian Cafe, The Community Store, The Wet Dog Cafe, Astoria Coffee Company, Cafe Uniontown, & Shark Rock Cafe
Seaside: Buck's Book Barn, Universal Video, & Cafe Espresso
Portland: Artichoke Music, Laughing Horse Bookstore, Act III, Barnes & Noble, Belmonts Inn, Babelot Art Gallery, Bijou Cafe, Borders, Bridgeport Brew Pub, Capt'n Beans (two locations), Center for the Healing Light, Coffee People (three locations), Common Grounds Coffee, East Avenue Tavern, Food Front, Goose Hollow Inn, Hot Lips Pizza, Java Bay Cafe, Key Largo, La Patisserie, Lewis & Clark College, Locals Only, Marco's Pizza, Marylhurst College, Mt. Hood CC, Music Millennium, Nature's (two locations), NW Natural Gas, OHSU Medical School, Old Wives Tales, Ozone Records, Papa Hayden, PCC flour (local), PSU (two locations), Reed College, Third Eye, TransCentral Library, & YWCA
Corvallis: The Weekend Garden Market
The Dalles: Klondike Bookeller
Hood River: Purple Rocks Art Bar & Cafe
Astoria: Garo's Java House, The Black Sheep, Blue Mt. Cafe, & Rogue River Brewery
Cave Junction: Coffee Heaven & Kerby Community Market
Grants Pass: The Book Shop
(Out of Oregon)
Yanovover, WA: The Den
Longview, WA: The Broadway Gallery, & Carat Patch
Long Beach, WA: Pacific Picnics
Naselle, WA: Rainy Day Artistry
Nahcotta, WA: Moby Dick Hotel
Duvall, WA: Duvall Books
Bainbridge Island, WA: Eagle Harbor Book Co.
Seattle, WA: Elliot Bay Book Co., Honey Bear Bakery, New Orleans Restaurant, Still Life in Fremont, Allegro Coffeehouse, The Last Exit Coffee House, & Building News
San Francisco, CA: City Lights Bookstore
Denver, CO: Denver Folklore Center
New York, NY: The Strand Book Company
Washington, D.C.: Hotel Tabard Inn