

Rev.  
Hults

# Editorial Now & Then



Our faithful readers may have noted that the Edge has avoided any discussion of the recent doings in our nation's capital. The reason is we were taught when young that when another family is having troubles, the best thing to do is let them work it out in the privacy of their own home, and not to gossip about what was going on. Apparently this is not a lesson learned by many others in the media, or in positions of power in our government. It is a pity that so many folks who are elected to do the people's business chose to spend their time preaching rather than working. Quoting scriptures rather than writing laws. We have been reminded rather harshly that this is a nation of laws, as was formed by group of white males in the late seventeen hundreds. Some believe that this is a Christian nation, and they can point to our currency which says "In God We Trust", as well as the phrase "under God" in our pledge of allegiance to the flag. Well, it must be pointed out that those are recent additions. This nation was founded by folks who came here either trying to escape religious persecution, or looking for a place to practice it, so when they wrote those first laws they made sure that this country would not have a state religion. The very first coin minted in America was designed by Benjamin Franklin; it had thirteen circles with the names of the states inside, and they were around a motto that we think should be returned to our currency. It was: "Mind your business". Just a thought.

Our headline this month is from a song by a band called the Bad Livers. Well, it's a duo really, anyway when we saw them it was. Tuba and banjo. Yes, it does sound like an odd duo; yes, they are. They are also two gifted intense and totally original musicians whom we suggest you seek out.

We were struck by their words as we were living through this winter. Big winds, Big waves, Big stuff has been going down, and coming up. We do live in interesting times. Locally and Globally we have some stuff to deal with that could either kill us or make us strong. Locally we have several items to deal with; our grade school needs to be moved to a safer location this summer. We can not allow the children to be at risk one more year. There are two locations being debated, one a wooded area in a residential neighborhood, and the other an RV park across Hwy. 101. We urge the choice of the latter, for the same reason we moved our fire station a few blocks from the RV park, and because there are existing structures that could be incorporated into the school and for use as a community center. It should also be noted that the wooded site, called the IMPACT zone for some very good reasons, is one of the last large stands of natural trees in the village. We have also several times suggested that the soon to be former site of the grade school be used as an interpretive center and historical park. As we all should know, the school sits on the site of the village where Sacajawea and Capt. Clark visited to trade for whale blubber, and gave Ecola creek its name. It has been argued in these pages that where the Cannon Beach Grade School now sits, the footprints of the Lewis & Clark Expedition stopped and turned back, making it the End of the Trail. This is something we should be respectful of when we talk of what to do with that site.

Okay, globally, yes, we have problems that if survived will make us strong. It's not just that we have a web site now, and do e-mail, that the problem called Y2K is something we should talk about. While in the course of the usual stuff of your beloved reverend's days the Y2K problem has been mentioned a bit lately. At the regular meeting of the Thanatopsis Literary and Inside Straight Club's last meeting the topic was broached, and some scary stuff was talked about. Top of the list wasn't whether planes would fall from the sky, or the banks would close, or rioting in the streets would happen; no, the truly scary thing is the Russian Nuclear Power Plants. They don't seem to have a clue, and they have asked for millions of dollars and as many computer geeks as we can spare. They pointed out that it is not 'just their problem'. The technology has once again led us down the road, and we have to find our way home. The best idea we have heard is that a good neighbor is the best defense. Just like any serious problems we face, it helps when we face them together. Y2K, Global Warming, Nuclear Power, the list goes on. The question is, do we? Our guess is yes, and yes, we do think it will make us stronger.

## Mo Stuff

CoastWatch, our friends who adopt a mile of the Oregon Coast and report its condition four times a year, are coming to town. They are meeting at City Call Council Chamber in Cannon Beach on March 13th, from 9 until 11 AM. They are here to talk about stuff, and there will be a beach walk afterward, of course. These are the people who have been working with SOLV to monitor the New Carissa disaster. The Upper Left Edge has adopted the mile south from Brailier Road to Humbug Point, so any reader who wants to report is welcome -- the more eyes the better.

The idea is not just to look out for oil or injured wildlife, but to chronicle the changes that happen every day. This give us information that can not be gathered any other way. And if you just can't make it, give Chet Loving a call in Gearhart at 503-738-0598 anyway. It's a good thing to do, it makes you remember that this is your beach, and your ocean and your planet.

Regular columnist Victoria Stoppello and her husband Anthony and their home were featured in the March/April issue of *Solar Today*, the national publication of the American Solar Energy Society. Anthony is an architect and they remodeled their 1895 home to maximize natural light, installed a low-cost solar water heater, and reduced their electricity consumption by two-thirds.

If you want to learn how to do things like that, the Stoppellos will be teaching a one-day workshop on "Simple Steps toward Sustainable Living" through Clatsop Community College on Saturday, May 15, from 9AM to 4PM. Call (503) 338-2506 for more information.




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"One of the problems that the marijuana reform movement consistently faces is that everyone wants to talk about what marijuana does, but no one ever wants to look at what marijuana prohibition does. Marijuana never kicks down your door in the middle of the night. Marijuana never locks up sick and dying people, does not suppress medical research, does not peek in bedroom windows. Even if one takes every reefer madness allegation of the prohibitionists at face value, marijuana prohibition has done far more harm to far more people than marijuana ever could."

Richard Cowan of NORML quoted  
by William F. Buckley Jr.



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## WHERE TO GET AN EDGE

**Cannon Beach:** Jupiter's Rare and Used Books, Osburn's Grocery, The Cookie Co., Coffee Cabaña, Bill's Tavern, Cannon Beach Book Co., Hane's Bakerie, The Bistro, Midtown Café, Once Upon a Breeze, Copies & Fax, Haystack Video, Mariner Market, Espresso Bean, Ecola Square & Cleanline Surf

**Manzanita:** Mother Nature's Juice Bar, Cassandra's, Manzanita News & Espresso, & Nehalem Bay Video

**Tillamook:** Rainy Day Books

**Bay City:** Art Space

**Yachats:** By-the-Sea Books

**Pacific City:** The River House,

**Oceanside:** Ocean Side Espresso

**Lincoln City:** Trillium Natural Foods, Driftwood Library, & Lighthouse Brewpub

**Newport:** Oceana Natural Foods, Ocean Pulse Surf Shop, Sylvia Beach Hotel, Green Gables Bookstore/B&B, & Canyon Way Books

**Eugene:** Book Mark, Café Navarra, Eugene Public Library, Friendly St. Market, Happy Trails, Keystone Café, 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:** KMUN, Columbian Café, The Community Store, The Wet Dog Cafe, Astoria Coffee Company, Café Uniontown, & The River

**Seaside:** Buck's Book Barn, Universal Video, & Café Espresso

**Portland:** Artichoke Music, Laughing Horse Bookstore, Act III, Barnes & Noble, Belmonts Inn, Biblot Art Gallery, Bijou Café, 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 Café, Key Largo, La Patisserie, Lewis & Clark College, Locals Only, Marco's Pizza, Marylhurst College, Mt. Hood CC, Music Millenium, Nature's (two locations), NW Natural Gas, OHSU Medical School, Old Wives Tales, Ozone Records, Papa Haydn, PCC (four locations), PSU (two locations), Reed College, Third Eye, Multnomah Central Library, and most branches & the YWCA,

**Ashland:** Garo's Java House, The Black Sheep, Blue Mt. Café, & Rogue River Brewery

**Cave Junction:** Coffee Heaven & Kerby Community Market

**Grants Pass:** The Book Shop

(Out of Oregon)

**Vancouver, WA:** The Den

**Longview, WA:** The Broadway Gallery

**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, & Bulldog 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

(Out of U.S.A.)

**Paris, France:** Shakespeare & Cie

**Brighton, England:** The Public House Bookstore

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## UPPER LEFT EDGE

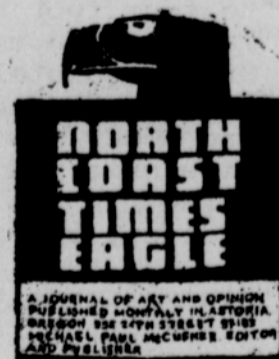
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... per month. Payment is due the 15th of the month prior to the issue in which the ad is to appear. Camera ready art is requested. We are usually on the streets by the first weekend of the month.



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