

Rev.
Hults

Editorial Now & Then



Well, that guy who is living in the White House is once again making your beloved editor cranky. Not only is he doing his best to sell our children's future to the highest bidder, but he seems to be making a fool of himself and us in front of the rest of the world. Some people are saying, "Get over it. He's president and nothing can be done until the next election." Well, we humbly disagree, and we are not alone. We mentioned last month that the Oregon Democratic party is calling for the impeachment of five Supreme Court Justices, we suggested an investigation into the election and called for the impeachment of Governor Bush. This dog won't hunt. We, the folks that voted against him, 52% must demand that the proper steps be taken to make sure this man is removed from office. This means writing to your representatives in Congress and to your local newspaper. This means protesting the usurping of democracy. This means doing something most Americans haven't done in years, get involved in politics. Yes, we hear the collective groan. Yes, we know politics is considered an evil and ugly thing by most people. Yes, it is the last refuge of a scoundrel. But we also know its root word is people, and in a Democracy the people are the sovereign. The people decide who is going to lead us. The people decide what they will buy and not buy. The people decide what they will read or listen to or watch, lately those decision have been made by large corporations. They have merged and reduced our options and democracy is about options. They have merged and reduced our sources of information and democracy is about information. They have merged and bought our leaders and changed our laws and democracy is all about laws. No one can stop them but the people. You are the people. You are politics. If you know nothing and do nothing you will get nothing. If you think it doesn't effect you look around. The reason we have to change printers is that a multi-national bought the Oregonian and the Oregonian bought the Hillsboro Argus and TYP and decided they weren't 'cost effective' and we can't do anything about it. Well, we can do something about it. We can vote, yes, but we can also get involved in changing things. We have a modest proposal that we have suggested before and repeat it in hope that the current conditions will be enough to encourage people to take it seriously. We propose that a ballot measure be written that calls for the forfeiture of the corporate charter of any corporation that is convicted of breaking the laws of Oregon three times or more. It is a simple matter of taking the Supreme Court at its word, that 'a corporation is a person', with all the rights of a citizen, and following that logic must have the same responsibilities as a citizen. Thus, under Oregon law a citizen who has been convicted of breaking our laws three times must pay the penalty of serving time in jail. And since putting CEO's or even managers or workers in jail is impractical our logical option is to forbid the corporate 'citizen' from doing business in our state. This is no small matter. And if we passed such a ballot measure every corporate lawyer in the world will be busy the next day. The Supreme court will have to rule on the constitutionality of such a law, in that it would certainly impede interstate commerce, hell, it will impede global commerce. But no more than a law that stops smugglers or a law that prevents you from carrying a loaded gun on an airplane. Corporations here in Oregon and around the world break the laws they can't change by bribing our representatives and are given token fines. Even when they are fined substantially they write it off as the cost of doing business. Thus they have once again polluted the Willamette River that we citizens clean up in the 1970's and now we have to clean it up again and pay them not to pollute. This isn't working. This is encouraging crime. These corporations break our laws and open up for business the next day. If a small business, say a tavern, break the liquor laws of the state three times, sometimes just once, they are shut down, they lose their liquor license and are not allowed to do business in our state. Yet corporations break our environmental laws and are fined hundreds of times and open for business the next day. Are our environmental laws less important than our liquor laws? Our world is changing and someone has to decide how it will change. In Oregon we have the ballot measure that can be voted on by the people so they can decide. So, I suggest you get involved in politics and address the root of a lot of our problems on this planet. One simple vote could change the way corporations effect our lives. One vote could change the way we elect our leaders. One vote could change the world. This little paper can exercise its first amendment rights and call for a new law, but you the people and you the various environmental groups, and you the labor unions and you the small businesses must get involved. Yes, all is chaos under heaven and the situations are excellent, if you accept your responsibility as a citizen, and require no less from any other citizen. Dammit!!!



Photo by Darren's Dad

Okay, some people may be asking themselves, "What's with the pig on the front page?" Well, it's a long story. We have several interesting traditions in this village. There is the unique and we think totally wonderful event that happens every fall when the elementary students finish their last day in school and march down Hemlock and the whole village lines the streets and cheers for them. We can't watch that event without feeling tears of joy and pride well up in our eyes. Our other major parade is on the 4th of July and though we are as patriotic as the next editor, and more than most in our humble opinion, we tend to shake our head occasionally as weapons of war roll down our streets. The aforementioned pig participated in this years 4th of July Parade on the back of a flatbed and accompanied by a lovely Pig Princess and her faithful servants as pictured above. The truck was colorfully decorated with graffiti and slogans that caused varying responses from the crowd. The reason the pig was on the truck is another tradition in the village. We hesitate to breach the subject while our "guests" are still around, but this quaint little village wasn't always a destination resort. There are among those who live here people who do not sell t-shirts, pizza or ice cream nor depend on the tourist trade in any way. In the old days on the last day of the "tourist season" locals would fire a cannon down Hemlock at 5pm on the final day and declare the town closed for the winter. Then they would go to the beach, build a big bonfire and eat and drink the sun down and show no mercy to a tourist who over stayed his welcome and got too close. Of course as time passed and more tourists came and the season got longer and longer it became necessary to move the "Town Party", as it used to be called, off the beach and somewhere that wouldn't bring the curious tourists and the cranky locals into contact. Thus the Pig Party, thus the pig, and you can figure it out from there.

Well, gentle readers once again we have managed to bring you another issue of our little paper, and it wasn't easy. A careful reader will notice that for the first time in years the back page of the Edge doesn't carry the imprint on the Tualatin-Yamhill Press. Our friends at the TYP called when we got back from the Country Fair and said that the boys at the Oregonian who bought them out a few years back were discontinuing the printing of other papers as of August. They also won't be printing for our friends at Hipfish. We were shocked and saddened by this turn of events. We have had a wonderful relationship with the people who have printed our paper for these many years and will miss them tremendously. The good news is Oregon Litho in McMinnville has taken on the task and this is our first issue together. The worse news is that we got behind on our payment schedule and owe TYP for two issues, yes that is more than a thousand dollars. Plus since our server bailed out on us our web site has been down and we need several hundred to get it back up. So...if you ever thought of advertising in the Edge, or subscribing to the Edge, or just supporting the Edge with a few bucks, now would be a very good time. We are always operating on the edge of poverty but lately the Edge has gotten closer to the edge. To put it simply; HELP!!

Since we are in a begging mode, we might as well go all the way and remind people that your beloved editor is still trying to get out of the country for a walkabout in Europe. To date we have received a total of \$60 toward that goal, which will possibly be enough to reach Gresham. We are serious here, if you send money you will get a weekly update by e-mail prior to the printed version of our adventures which will run in the Edge while we are gone, assuming we get past Gresham.

- WHERE TO GET AN EDGE**
- Cannon Beach: Jupiter's Rare and Used Books, Onburn's Grocery, The Cookie Co., Coffee Cabana, Bill's Tavern, Cannon Beach Book Co., Hane's Bakerie, The Bistro, Midtown Caf, Once Upon a Breeze, Copies & Fax, Haystack Video, Mariner Market, Espresso Bean, Ecologia Square & Cleanline Surf
 - Manzanita: Mother Nature's Juice Bar, Cassandra's, Manzanita News & Espresso, & Nehalem Bay Video
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 - Bay City: Art Space
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 - OceanSide: Ocean Side Espresso
 - Lincoln City: Trillium Natural Foods, Driftwood Library, & Lighthouse Brewpub
 - Newport: Oceana Natural Foods, Ocean Pulse Surf Shop, Sylvia Beach Hotel, & Canyon Way Books
 - Eugene: Book Mark, Cafe Navarra, Eugene Public Library, Friendly St. Market, Happy Trails, Keystone Caf, 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 Cafe, The Community Store, The Wet Dog Cafe, Astoria Coffee Company, Cafe Uniontown, & The River
 - Seaside: Buck's Book Barn, Universal Video, & Cafe Espresso
 - Portland: Artichoke Music, Laughing Horse Bookstore, Act III, Barnes & Noble, Belmonts Inn, Biblot 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 (four locations), PSU (two locations), Reed College, Third Eye, Multnomah Central Library, and most branches of the YWCA.
 - Ashland: 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)
 - Vancouver, WA: The Den
 - Longview, WA: The Broadway Gallery
 - Naselle, WA: Rainy Day Artistry
 - Nahcotta, WA: Moby Dick Hotel
 - Duvall, WA: Duvall Books
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 - 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
 - Washington, D.C.: Hotel Tabard Inn
 - (Out of U.S.A.)
 - Paris, France: Shakespeare & Cie
 - Brighton, England: The Public House Bookstore
- "A small paper for a small planet."

5000 to 6000 copies are printed and distributed monthly in Oregon and to points around the world.

Advertising Rates

Business Card size	\$40
1/16th approx. 3x5	\$50
1/8th approx. 4x7	\$60
1/4 approx. 6 1/2x9	\$110
1/2 page	\$160
Full page	\$350
Back page	\$450

....per month. Payment is due the 15th of the month prior to the issue in which the ad is to appear. All ads must be "camera ready". We are usually on the streets by the first week-end of the month.

Democracy, like love, can survive any attack - save neglect and indifference. Paul Sweeney

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