

soon-to-be chain of (though I do love and support Laughing Planet) de-diversifying, greed-satisfying (I know someone out there is making some profit off of this besides Laughing Planet) restaurants. It doesn't get more local and diverse!

There is only one Holy Cow Café, and when it is replaced, it will not exist anymore! I entreat those of you who have the power to prevent this from happening, to do so. I, among many others at this university, will not let this issue go quietly into the night.

Please don't take away my Holy Cow Café as it represents far more to me than just a place to buy a meal. It is one of the things that makes the UO special and unique.

*Jacob Mauck
Eugene*

BAD STUFF BURIED

I am responding to your Aug. 30, 2007 Coast Range cover story.

Up until the 1990s obsolete sawmills in remote locations were scrapped out and burned, along with the accumulated solid and liquid waste that the mill owners were liable for.

The Valsetz Mill was scrapped out by M&E Salvage of Albany. The town and mill were bulldozed and burned, along with 40 to 60 barrels of wood chemicals, used oil and forest pesticides. Some of the really bad stuff was buried in a huge trench and covered over to degrade the lake and river for the subsequent millennium of time.

The real challenge is in the legacy of mill operations. Up into the 1990s there were no commercial mill solid waste/liquid wastes recycling companies that would take industrial volumes of bag crap!

I was asked by Mid-Columbia Engineering to "Valsetz" the sprawling antique lumber mill of Northern States Forests Resources, in Republic, Wisc.

I refused the invitation, declined \$132,000 salary and an efficiency bonus if I got the 34 acres cleared before the contract time date. There are just too many discard pits on the property and up on the abandoned forest rail spurs.

*Don Baarstad
Corvallis*

CHANGE OUR STORY

Steel yourself for the GOP "fear and smear" machine once Obama wins the nomination. What stopped Hillary is her "angry mommy" voice — plus most of us are tired of the Clintons and very tired of Bush.

We're one IED away from 4,000 U.S. dead in Iraq. Our economy is iffy and the nation is depleted and demoralized. I'm 55 and have never seen this country in such a miserable state.

I've got my Obama sticker on my car. I'm ready to rumble. Get registered and vote May 20.

Change our country's story.

*Greg Hume
Creswell*

48 OUT OF 100

One out of every 100 American residents is now in prison, and a prisoner costs us an average of \$80 a day nowadays. It's time for the American media to publicize the

alarming fact that our very old punitive, outdated, vengeful and counterproductive social justice system is bankrupting our country and communities.

In 1964, while living in Holland, I discovered that Holland had (and continues to have) a criminal justice system based on rehabilitation rather than punishment with a recidivism rate of 4 percent (four released prisoners out of a 100 return to prison.)

The U.S. with its punitive system (in 1964) had 38 out of 100 returning to prison. Today Holland has six out of 100 prisoners returning to prison while the U.S. has 48 out of a hundred returning to prison.

Today, the U.S. has more than two

million prisoners in more than 500 prisons. California alone has more than 140,000 prisoners crowded into 38 prisons. Holland, with 22 million people, has two prisons.

Why do we continue to have a bankrupting punitive system?

Providing for prisons is a very profitable big business with corporations controlling prisons in more than one state. Thousands of prison employees are protected by powerful labor unions.

A lecturer commonly finds more than 50 percent of his listeners fearful of cons and ex-cons with a fear often similar to our fear of large animals. "Rehabilitation of these animals it too expensive," is not an

uncommon expression.

While our bankrupting social justice system continues to produce tens of thousands of dehumanized repeat offenders and social liabilities at a cost of \$80 per imprisonment day, a rehabilitative system provides thousand of productive and socially responsible tax paying citizens at a comparatively small cost to society.

*Jerry Copeland
Florence*

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