

The Ojai & Ventura

openCHURCH



VIEW



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Tell it Like it Is !!!



Gretchen

- P.E.T.A
- VIA FAIR TAXES
- JEFFERSON
- BIG SCHOOL PENSIONS.....
- ETHICS
- UNCLE LEO
- ALASDAIR COYNE
- RICHARD SENATE
- GHOST OF A CHANCE



Photo © 2009, Joel Anderson



CITY HALL CODE
SUCK DEALING CITY HALL

- THE WEB CONTINUES...
 - ROBIN'S '57 CHEVY
 - AQUATICS SUCCESS
- CLASSIFIEDS / LISTINGS
- RELLIS • DOC JANET • ROWE



CAFE VOLTAIRE
FLASHBACK !



SUZANNE PARIS

• ROS HAMMER RETURNS !

• AUGUST GARDEN

• FATHERS AND SONS - MILHADO

• RON ROWE LEASHES END

MARY M. LONG

TEAM SPIRIT ROCK

• BRIAN FAITH BAND

★ • HASSO MEMORIES

• CAVEMAN DIET

• Mary-jo

• ADOPTABLE PETS OJAI



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INSIDE: • POOGH PARADE • Satire • Political Crackpots • MEDIA GOSSIP

MONEY HONEY

R. Ellis Smith Hey! It's Only Tax Dollars...



You are asking the citizens of Ventura to allow you to raise the sales tax by 1/2 to 1 cent. Yet you still insist on tossing our hard earned tax money at every harebrained scheme that comes up.

You convened a "Blue Ribbon" panel to decide if the tax proposition should go on the ballot for the citizens to vote on, allow the panel were volunteers there still were a few thousand tax dollars wasted on staff time and printed material.

You are still allowing a few select members of the Gang in the Ivory Tower to use our tax money, thousands of tax dollars, to take wonderful little junkets to Washington DC, (twice) Las Vegas, Nevada.

Now you have a plan in the works to award \$5000.00 each to a group of artists that come up with artistic "Bike Racks" that please you so we can feel that our city is "Bicycle Friendly".

You still insist on maintaining the contract with the RedFlex co for the hated intersection cameras that has been responsible for a multitude of rear-end accidents and which the City of Ventura loses more than \$500,000.00 per year on.

So instead of raising sales tax, how about simply curtailing all the frivolous spending that is still rampant in the Ivory Tower.

How about the Fire Department, with loads of free time becoming the new building inspectors? We could save a big bundle of money with just these two items.

Rellis Smith rellis39@officeliveusers.com www.venturanow.web.officelive.com

"We Believe code enforcement is on the right track...." VCRReporter Management, Editorial April 30

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Ojai Valley Democratic Club Lends Support to Skate Ojai

At last night's July 27, 2009 general meeting, the Ojai Valley Democratic Club passed a resolution to support Skate Ojai and their request to the city of Ojai to move forward with the skate park in spite of the School District's appeal.

The Ojai Valley Democratic Club supports the building of the Ojai Skate Park at its present location as was promoted by Skate Ojai to its donors, and requests the City of Ojai take any and all action including litigation necessary to insure that the skate park is built as planned as quickly as possible.

According to Sean Keenan, President of the Club, "Skate Ojai is a great example of a grass roots citizens group that has taken action to get things done".

When asked about the School District's appeal to the Planning Commission, Keenan says, "That's their right, but it should not slow down or stop the City from moving ahead at full speed unless there is a court order."

If the location were changed, Skate Ojai might have to return all of the money to the 600+ donors and we would be back to ground zero. That would be a serious breach of the public trust by our City Council.

Keenan says "it's understandable that the OUSD wants to raise much needed funds by leasing the Chaparral School property and there's no reason why the present location of the Skate Park would hinder them in that endeavor.

Pat McPherson, Ojai Democratic Club www.ojaidemocrats.org

"Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it everywhere, diagnosing it incorrectly, and applying the wrong remedies" - Groucho Marx

Send your Letters editor@ojaiandventuraview.com multiple publication submissions discouraged

Ventura Ivory Tower Public Election Dashboard

Neal Andrews, City Councilmember/Businessman Melody Joy Baker, Small Business Owner Brian Brennan, Councilmember Kenneth M. Cozzens, Small Business Owner Robert "Bob" E. Dugan, Businessman Mike Gibson, Business Manager Camille Harris, Retired Business Owner Wendy Halderman, Business Owner William M. Knox, III, Tax Attorney Phil Mechanick, Local Businessman Jim Monahan, Businessman/Ventura Councilmember Maureen C. O'Hara, Attorney Brian Lee Rencher, Financial Advisor Ed Summers, Incumbent Mike Tracy, Retired Police Chief

LETTER - CODE ENFORCEMENT

Dear Mr. Stuffer [Code Enforce. Ventura], We have been recently investigated by code enforcement for having a grammy flat for which the city cannot find permits. We believe that it is indeed permitted as it was a rest home when purchased.

VEGAS: Christy's Big Vacation !!!

R. Ellis Smith It was all Business, No Fun was Had!



I e-mailed the city to find out how much Mayor Christy Weir and parties trip to Las Vegas cost the tax payers of Ventura.

RE: your request to the City of Ventura From: "aschneider@ci.ventura.ca.us"

VIEW EDITORS NOTE Forward: Your Money.....!

The City of Ventura lost \$10 Million Dollars 1 1/2 years ago (well before the recent economic crash), through their ambitious high-risk investment plan; having placed precious taxpayer dollars with Bears Steams (BS) private assets, which went belly up in the JP Morgan fiasco.

VIEW Detailed Financial Analysis Go To: http://ojaiandventuraview.com/OV-ViaArt/TheRoseVol.IIssue1WebStealthkatGraphics.pdf

that time. We believe the missing permits were lost by the city and or county. My brother is a senior with a terminal illness, and the stress of this experience has had a devastating affect on his already poor health.

Enforcement, Continued Page 5...

<aschneider@ci.ventura.ca.us> Monday, June 29, 2009 4:28:01 PM To: rellis39@sbcglobal.net Hi Rellis,

I'm the project manager in charge of coordinating our efforts at the International Conference of Shopping Center Real Estate Convention (ICSC RECON).

The total expenses for having a booth in the leasing mall and sending three members of staff and three council members to the ICSC RECON was \$9,186.81 and includes lodging, travel, registration, meals, supplies, booth rental, and all other booth related expenses.

Hope this helps, Alex Alex Schneider Associate Planner, City of Ventura

Rellis Smith rellis39@officeliveusers.com www.venturanow.web.officelive.com

the Ojai and Ventura Real VIEW Editorial Policy The Ojai & Ventura View is FREE, owned by Stealthkat Publications, edited, and written by contributors, Printed by Western Web, 15,000 distributed in the Ojai & Ventura Gold Coast Region. Views in the View do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial board, local government, corporations, advertisers or other dependent entities.

That's Un-American

Lately, we've seen a lot of passion demonstrated at "town hall meetings" around this country. I'm thinking the first round of ruckus is not so much about health care as it is about "Big Brother" going through another growth spurt that is eating us out of house and country (more national debt).

The real problem is many Americans feel like they've been duped. They believe the system is being manipulated and driving another agenda. It would be one thing if we could agree on the problem, but the proposed fixes won't fix the stated problems.

Put another way your politicians say one thing and their actions reek of a hidden agenda. If your agenda is so good why not present it and let the system work? Why hide it? That is more un-American than hijacking airplanes and destroying public land marks, and that's why everybody's angry about the bail-out.

Power Corrupts; Absolute Power Corrupts Absolutely!

By the way, let's not confuse the real first round passion with the organized filibuster type disruptors. The round two folks on both sides are yet more smoke to cloud the core issue.

It's always easy to see someone else's problems from afar. Hey, wait a minute. Isn't the same hidden agenda trick being pulled by certain members of the Ojai City Council and school district?

HERE'S HOW IT REALLY PLAYED OUT: Citizen: Thanks for allowing me to speak at the city council meeting. I think we need a safe fun place for our youth to skate and I'd like to propose the idea of a skate park.

City Council: Hey, our budget can't support that. Why don't you raise a quarter million dollars and come back if you'd like to continue this conversation. We'll even match \$100,000 for the project. (Thinking: Let's nip this in the bud. We'll never hear from him again.)

Citizen: OK, we've got cash donations from the citizens of the town; here's the \$250,000. Oh, and we have a lot of other professionals in the community willing to donate their services to defray other costs. City Council: Well ah, we really don't have a place to put it.

Citizen: How about a small portion of the undeveloped land controlled by the school district?

City Council: Well, we'll get back to you on that.

Citizen: Ok what's the story on the location?

City Council: We're still working on it.

Citizen: Anything yet?

City Council: Ah yeah. I guess that land will work.

Citizen: OK when do we break ground?

City Council: I guess maybe we could start it and have it finished by May 16, 2009.

Citizen: OK when do we break ground?

City Council: It looks like construction won't commence until March 22, 2010.

Citizen: Hey! I did everything you asked me to do and you are not doing what you said you were going to do. What gives?

Here's How it should have Played Out if the City Council had Revealed their Agenda

Citizen: Thanks for allowing me to speak at the city council meeting. I think we need a safe fun place for our youth to

skate and I'd like to propose the idea of a skate park.

City Council: Don't bother us with this rogue request. We've got a city to run. We are going to put you off indefinitely. Come back when you've got 250,000 dead presidents.

Citizen: OK, we've got cash donations from the citizens of this town, here's the \$250,000.

City Council: Dude, check it out. Some members of the city council and staff are closely connected with the school board and powerful land developers, and we really think a skate park will hinder development and adversely affect the value of the developments we don't want to disclose at this time.

NOTE to certain members of the city council, staff and school district. The citizens of Ojai are a bit torqued off firstly with your tactics and secondly with denying us a skate park for our kids. Let's face it, new trolley's are more expensive and just aren't as fun as a skate park.

The hidden agenda game at the federal and local level stinks. Your bluff's been called. Now show us your cards.

- Jefferson Pinto

LETTER - PESKY TEENS

"Wake the Town and Tell the People"

- Mr. Ed

Are these the thoughts of a teenager in the Ojai Valley? Are these the questions they are asking? "Do you want to know what I need? To my parents - when was the last time either of you told me that you loved me or gave me a hug? Maybe never or not enough. I need to feel loved like any other human being. I realize that both of you must work but it seems like there should be a time when we could play games together, shoot baskets, go hiking, camping, etc. I know that you work hard to provide the money so that I play baseball, football and soccer. But what I really need is some of your time. To the community - what will I do this summer while my folks are both working? I've tried to get a job but no one will hire me because I'm too young. It doesn't sound like we kids are going to get the skateboard park we were promised for a long time yet. Seems the City Council and The School Board are at odds with each other. I'm afraid of what could happen if we teenagers have no outlet for all of our pent-up energy. I heard there will be a general meeting open to the whole community to come together and talk about some of the problems we teenagers face. I sure hope members of the City Council, The School Board, and other community leaders will be there. I also hope teenagers will be there and we will be allowed to express our thoughts and that you, the community, will listen. If we are to be the future leaders, we need to be heard."

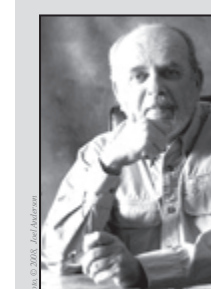
Come on, Folks - let's show our youth that we believe in them and support them. Let's step up to the plate. I'll be there, will you?

Mr. Ed Ed Martel, Ojai

www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com Keep Smiling!

"Paradise," said the Prophet, "Lies under the shadow of swords."

"Don't Tell Me Who I am... Let me guess!" Fathers and Sons



Here is what the German poet Rilke had to say: Sometimes a man stands up after supper and walks outdoors, and keeps on walking, because of a church that stands somewhere in the East. And his children say blessings on him as if he were dead. And another man, who remains inside his own house, Stays there, inside the dishes and in the glasses, So that his children have to go far out into the world Toward the same church which he forgot.

The church in the East is a symbol for the inner journey. It's living the 'examined life'. Even though a father might become pre-occupied with a spiritual quest for a while, he always stays connected and lives up to his responsibilities to his family and to his son. It is not a literal departure to unknown lands, rather it is a necessary separation from the falsely advertised security of the silent majority and from the bitter illusion of the materialistic con called the 'American Dream'.

If a man is to become himself, he has to venture upstream and liberate himself from the downstream psychology of those in the mindless collective, who are slaves to consumerism and the bullshit celebrity culture. If a Son doesn't see his father's life as a soulful life, he is pressured to bear the tremendous burden of his father's un-lived life. Only a father who has looked deeply into the mirror and acknowledged both the light and dark side of his soul can teach his son to individuate and find his own way and not be dependent on approval from and applause by others.

When that occurs, the mother-son relationship carries to much weight. Most mothers love their sons, but they cannot initiate their sons into something they are not. A mother hurts her son by either doing too much or doing too little. A son needs a father to pull him out of his mother complex. If the reader will allow me to oversimplify again - a 'mother complex' in a man keeps him imprisoned in two basic lifestyles. He is either overly dependent, needy, clingy and poisonously passive-aggressive or he compensates for his dependency with a power driven, controlling macho attitude. I've seen enough macho types in my office, who when their wives finally find the strength to leave them, totally decompensate into a lengthy meltdown. Neither the passive nor the power driven man can be soulfully connected to a woman - a mother complex makes relationships not personal. A son needs to get this understanding from his father.

After holding out for years my younger friends have finally convinced me to let them put up a web page and blog for me. Check it out, Enter the dialogue, leave a comment and hopefully we'll have some laughs. www.DrPeterMilhado.com Thank you Russel Webb!

A father also needs to instruct his son how to work, how to bounce back from failure and adversity, and how to tolerate frustration and delay immediate gratification. He needs to promote his journey from home to horizon and teach him how to chip a piece of earth out for himself and be responsible for it. A father needs to tell his son it's perfectly normal to be afraid and most of all that he loves him deeply and accepts him. Finally a father needs to teach his son about women.

If this was not provided by our fathers, we have to learn to father ourselves. Finding a mentor who is connected to the wisdom of the forefathers and who knows about the shadow world can be very helpful. Becoming a man amongst men, finding our peers and sharing our lives with them is essential. An education in history, philosophy and literature can provide good fathering. All the major battles waged within. When we take a conscious look into our inner psychic landscape, the land of complexes, fears, dreams, internal allies, demons, abysses and wisdom, healing occurs.

P.S: The man who is brothers to all men cannot be defeated!

One for all and all for one. Love to Mother Meera PETER RUDOLF MILHADO, PH.D. Lic #MFT14142 35 Years Experience drpetermilhado@gmail.com • (805) 640-1810 Blog: www.DrPeterMilhado.com Extensive Experience With Folks Over Forty and Artists In All Creative Fields

Wine And Roses

by Ron Rowe



August received its name from the Emperor Augustus. He was not born in August but during this month his greatest good fortune happened to him. As July contains 31 days and August only 30, it was thought necessary to add another day to the latter month in order that Augustus might not be in any way inferior to Julius.

Another successful Fourth of July Parade in Ojai, thanks to Nancy Hill and all the people who helped to make it successful. You are appreciated. I see the chairs are being placed on the sidewalk a week in advance. I think chairs should only be placed on the day of the parade on a first-come first-served basis. This gives every Ojai resident an equal chance of finding a favorite spot.

Ojai has a Village walking guide; it shows the locations of shops, art galleries, parking lots, restaurants, hotels etc. It's a very easy-to-read guide, with all locations clearly marked. Check with Meg at Ojai house 640-1656 for more information on where to obtain one.

If you are being hurt with the recession, take heart; a company in Riga, Latvia, is offering loans to customers willing to pledge their souls as collateral. Victor Miroslitchenko of the Kontora Loan Company says the offer is no joke and that already 600 people have taken out loans pledging their immortal soul if the loans are not prepaid. I suppose body parts will be the next collateral on loans.

Good news for couples wanting children; fertility researchers after a one-year study recommended that couples trying to conceive should have sex daily to improve sperm quality. That shouldn't be too difficult to achieve.

First low-cost airline Ryanair started to charge customers two dollars for each visit to the restroom during flight. Now they want Boeing aircraft to design a plane with standing room to pack in more passengers. Passengers will have a belt buckling them to a metal pole during flight.

Question? If we are going to leave Iraq next year why have we built large military bases all over the country, and why build the largest embassy in the world in Baghdad at the cost of \$740 million with a staff of over 1,000? Anyone know? or care...

Why do we have war on terror, war on drugs, war on crime, etc. it never works. Take war on drugs; after nearly 4 decades

of a war on drugs at a cost of over \$1 trillion, 38 million arrests making our prison population quadruple. Also making building prisons the fastest growing industry in the US; more than 2.3 million citizens are now incarcerated on drug charges and every year we arrest 1.9 million more making prisons bust at the seams. Every year the war on drugs cost the US taxpayer \$70 billion. It's time we stop treating drug addiction, a medical condition, with law enforcement. It's time to end modern prohibition, it didn't work then with alcohol and it isn't working for drugs.

Wise sayings... blessed are the young for they will inherit the national debt. How is the world ruled and how do wars start, diplomats tell lies to journalists then they believe what they read. If work was a good thing the rich would have it all and not let anyone else do it.

And 90 percent of politicians give the other 10 percent a bad name. There is no housing shortage; it's just a rumor spread by people who have nowhere to live... Nothing is impossible for the man who doesn't have to do it himself.

You can tell times are hard when Swedish Countess Maria Douglas David, 36 who is divorcing, wants to negate her prenuptial agreement. It allows her \$46 million; she claims she has weekly expenses of \$56,000, the lawyer claims she was forced to sign a prenuptial agreement requiring her to survive on only \$46 million. Oh how the rich do suffer...

Over 12,000 people flocked to East Dublin, Georgia for the annual red-neck games featuring such tradition rich competitions, bobbing for pigs feet, belly flopping into a giant mud pit, spitting watermelon seeds and making farting noises with your armpit. And these are the people that voted overwhelmingly for George W. Bush.

Ladies, weary of shaving and waxing your legs, check out the "no no", it promises a do-it-yourself hair removal. You roll the device along your legs and presto, the heat on the follicles disrupts growth and decreases density, contact www.MY-NO-NO.com if interested.

It is now official according to informed sources Buddy Wilds is not running for Ojai City Council. When asked if he would be running in the next election, no comment.

Never marry a man who snores. Beverly Jacobs, age 40, slashed her husband on the arms and legs with a kitchen knife and poured bleach down his throat to stop him snoring. Two years earlier she stabbed him within an inch of his heart. Mr. Jacobs forgave her the first time, but has now filed for divorce... Strange but true.

Russian police arrested Valery Kinkoff, age 32, nicknamed the female spider. She is charged with committing

perverse crimes against 12 men. She would meet the men in bars and then lure them into her apartment, give them a narcotic substance in their drink then use them to realize her hidden sexual fantasies. The men would be hospitalized after the romantic meetings; all were diagnosed with clonidine poisoning and indication of sexual abuse. The victims stories to the police were all identical, however, not one wanted to file a report against the woman.

Maria in Ventura wants to know, are artichokes beneficial to your health? I really don't know Maria but here is what Thomas Tidbert wrote in 1584. "Artichokes reformeth the savor of the mouth, artichokes causeth urine and veneriall act. Artichoke amendeth the hardness of making water and the rank savor of the armpits, artichokes strengtheneth the stomach and helpeth the privie places that children may be conceived."

Hope that helps you Maria, if not eat one stick of celery, one carrot and call me in the morning...

For wine drinkers, no need to fumble with the old-fashioned corkscrew anymore, try the new automatic wine opener, just place it over the cork, press a button and presto the cork pops out. Cost \$40, check 800-926-7000.

An overly supply of grapes in Australia has resulted in record low wine prices, major wine retailer Dan Murphy is selling many wines for a \$ 1.99, less than bottled water. Check out the Australian wines at your local wine shop. In this hot weather it's time to try Sauvignon Blanc, great for summer evenings. Mason cellars 2006 Sauvignon blanc, good value, a lovely elegant wine from Napa Valley, good depth and complexity around \$18.

Eliseo Silva, 2006 delightful, excellent value, enticing mango, melon and star fruit flavors, around \$15. Dry Creek Vineyards Fume Blanc 2007, a classic from Sonoma County, great grassy edginess similar to France's Loire Valley while also preserving a distinctive California ripeness and style.

Time to close with a quote from Sen. Hiram Johnson who said in 1917, "The first casualty of war is truth". Plato said "Only the dead have seen the end of war", let's pray he was wrong. All politicians take note.

peace to all living beings on earth NAMASTE Your comments are welcome rhjrowe@aol.com

EVENT CALENDAR

- Thru Oct, 4 MAD about Sergio. Ojai Museum exhibit artist/ cartoonist Sergio Aragones. Aragones has drawn commercially for 50 years. He has massive quantities of archival material. He wants to include only the items most important and significant to his oeuvre and his life. A large showcase is chosen to house examples of this multi-faceted artist's work: carpentry, needlework, model ship building, jewelry, ceramics, woodcarvings and the scarf and shawl he knitted for his wife. from his childhood cartoons, to his inspirations and to later work at Mad Magazine and the character of Groo the Wanderer. He designed the exhibit to show the technical process that turns a hand drawn cartoon into a printed one. In conjunction with the exhibit there will be two Sunday Gatherings: "Cartooning with Sergio," on August 30 and "Sergio on Comics and Humor" on October 4. Contact the museum for reservations for the reception and the Sunday Gatherings with the cartoonist.
- www.ojaivalleymuseum.org/ or phone 640-1390
- Aug. 29, Surf Lessons for Women, Women in the Water Retreat, Enjoy a two-hour surf session with other fantastic women, then head up the coast to an oceanfront home at Mussel Shoals. Events Continued on Page 12...

OXNARD CHURCH LEFT WITHOUT PROPER FACILITIES TO FEED THE NEEDY



R. Ellis Smith Contract with Mr. Sheldon Brown, Architect?



I recently received an e-mail from Mr. Jim Fry, General Contractor relating a story about a contract he entered into with Mr. Sheldon Brown owner and editor of the Ventura Breeze, ("the only local newspaper"). Mr. Brown had been running a classified ad in his own newspaper looking for part time work as an "Architect" wanting to do remodels or additions.

It seems Mr. Jim Fry, a general contractor, had a remodel job for a church at 333 W. Seventh Street in Oxnard and entered into a written contract on 11/13/2008 with Mr. Sheldon Brown to do all of the plans and drawings for the remodel project. The cost Mr.

Cop Watch Ojai

Good Morning Watchers, Our friends living in the area of Bald Street in Ojai, are having problems with a prowler. There is a man going into the neighborhood backyards early in the mornings. These crimes seem to be happening between midnight and 7 am. If you live in this area and see or hear someone in your yard, please call the police.

When your deputies respond to these types of calls, they respond quickly and normally with two or more cars. This is because they want to get a perimeter around this guy in order to catch him before he leaves the area or returns to his own home.

When your deputies catch this man, we need you to request prosecution for his actions. This is a misdemeanor crime and your request for prosecution is needed.

If you are passing through this area and see any suspicious people walking in the late night and early morning hours, please call us. The more chances we have to contact this person, the more he will want to stay out of the area or at least in his own yard.

If you live in this area you can count on seeing an increase in police patrols. We are also going to increase the amount of probation searches we do in this neighborhood.

Having a prowler in your neighborhood is a bad thing. We all share in the comfort of knowing our families are home at night in a safe environment. When a prowler enters our yard, he violates our family's security. As a community we need to let them know this is not going to be tolerated. Having said that, please watch out for your neighbors. If you see something that just does not look right, call us.

Brown quoted was to have been \$ 9,600.00 for the entire job and take 3 to 4 weeks. As the project progressed, Mr. Brown presented his drawings/plans to the plan check department of the city of Oxnard to a Mr. Steve Newman of the plan check department and was advised that his plans did not meet the cities code requirements, not once, not twice, but a total of four times.

I talked to Mr. Newman of the Oxnard plan check department and he related that he had tried to help Mr. Brown by pointing out the discrepancies that needed to be fixed and, each time Mr. Brown returned with the plans, the problems had not been attended to. During the time, from 11/2008 to 7/2009 Mr. Brown was paid not only the \$ 9,600.00 but also a mistaken overage of \$ 1,550.00 plus an extra charge, Mr. Brown said, was needed of \$ 1,235.00. Mr. Fry has been in contact with Mr. Brown; because the contract was never



Mr. Sheldon Brown owner and editor of the Ventura Breeze, would never be caught without his copy of the Ojai and Ventura VIEW. Here photographed enjoying the splendid weather in Ventura on July 19!

LETTER - ENFORCEMENT Enforcement, Continued From Page 2...

This being said, the reason I am writing to you today is that I read in both the Ventura County Star and the Ventura Breeze that the city has an amnesty program in place and there is a moratorium on prosecuting homeowners with second units. Instead of being informed of this program, we were threatened with \$450. a day fines for noncompliance with city demands, then told us we must gut our unit and install a garage door and make unaffordable improvements. Like many

Enforcement Continued Page 10...



Oxnard's Open Church - Unable to use their kitchen (left) due to incomplete permits. Boxes stacked in hallway (at right) unable to be put away due to unfinished construction. The church feeds over 1,500 disadvantaged people every Wednesday. more photos, page 23

finished he has asked Mr. Brown for a refund of the \$1,550.00 plus the \$ 3,500.00 for the final set of plans that were never approved.

On July 28, 2009 Mr. Sheldon

Brown e-mailed Mr. Fry and in no uncertain terms told him that he would "prepare a long response in a few days but I have no intentions of returning any money." Mr. Fry is still waiting for the aforementioned "long response". Mr. Fry has now had to hire another Architect to do the job because the Church is unable to use their building because of lack of restrooms and other problems that would have been alleviated if Mr. Brown had finished his contracted job as he told Mr. Fry he would do.

Since I received this information from Mr.

The VIEW editorial staff would like to recommend Sheldon take the VIEW on a nice long vacation or perhaps, a spiritual pilgrimage and send us a little photo with info. about his trip!

email: editor@ojaiandventuraview.com

Mr. Sheldon Brown owner and editor of the Ventura Breeze, would never be caught without his copy of the Ojai and Ventura VIEW. Here photographed enjoying the splendid weather in Ventura on July 19!

Fry, I contacted Mr. Steve Newman of the city of Oxnard for confirmation which I received. I contacted the Oxnard business license department and was told that Mr. Brown's city business license has been inactive since 2003, and I have contacted Mr. Sheldon Brown by e-mail twice asking for his input on this story. As of this writing I have not received any reply from Mr. Brown.

Rellis Smith rellis39@sbcglobal.net www.californiachile.com

Damn Good Reading!

© 08, Ted A.

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Mike Deering has over 15 years of Information Technology employment in a broad range of industries. He has data center experience with Paychex, a national payroll service, and the County of Ventura. His desktop and network abilities were developed in the defense, non-profit, technical services, healthcare, and insurance industries.

With these experiences, Mike sees a continued need for support people who can break down their explanation of a computer question or problem to basic terms that a non-technical person can understand. One way he does this, is to take away the intimidation factor.

Ojai/Ventura - 805-798-0916 Mike Deering
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VENTURA COUNTY VIEWS

The Curse of the Lost Padre's Mine

by Richard Senate



One of the enduring legends of Ventura County is that of the Lost Padre's Mine and the terrible curse placed upon the diggings. Much about the mine is obscure. Was it gold or silver that was mined by the Mission Fathers long ago and some believed there wasn't one mine but several. The yarn goes something like this: The Franciscan Padre's of Mission San Buenaventura were given some shining stones by a Native American. They recognized the pebbles as gold (or in some stories, silver). They asked where they were found and the Native led them to the location far in the back country of Ventura County. Some believe it was in the headwaters of Piru Creek.

The Spanish Priests organized a group of Native Converts to dig the mine, and to make sure they didn't neglect their religious duties; they built a small adobe chapel near the entrance of the mine. The ore from the mine was crudely processed turning the precious metals into bars or ingots. They were loaded onto mules and sent by pack trains down the Santa Clara River Valley to the Mission in Ventura. The treasure was hidden in a special vault until it was taken away at night by black galleons of the Jesuit Order to be taken directly to Rome, and His Holiness, the Pope.

When the Padres were recalled to Spain, they closed the diggings and tore down the chapel. They gathered the workers together and told them that the gold wasn't for the rebellious Mexicans or the greedy Americans. It belonged only to the Pope who would use it for the good of the Native People and the work of the Missions. Then they placed a terrible curse upon the mine that would strike any who would seek the location and doom their souls to a fiery Hell. The workers vowed to keep the site of the mine a secret.

After California became a part of the United States, the gold rush of 1849 changed the makeup of the state. Miners who had been active in the Mother Lode began to seek other places to seek their fortunes and when they heard the legend, they began to seek out the Lost Mine. One of the earliest accounts is that of an elderly Chumash Tribesman named Carlos Juan. He was one of the workers at the mine, or so he said, who was ready to defy the curse and lead Ventura Mayor Angel Escandon to the site. In 1871 Carlos led them to the mine where they found the furnace used to process the metals as well as the entrance piled with ingots. One of the bars was taken back to Ventura and assayed at high grade silver. At that point the curse caught up with the errant Chumash and he suddenly died. They tried to find the mine again but, without their guide, it was impossible and the mine became lost again.

Many went back up the Piru Creek seeking the lost mine only to come back with nothing to show for their efforts. Some stories are told that the lost mine isn't a mine at all but a ledge of gold, an exposed vein of the metal that gleams in the sunlight of the setting sun.

One thing is a fact. There are traces of gold in the Piru Creek. This placer gold can be found by a skilled gold panner and was worked in the 1840s. After a good rain storm traces of gold, called color, can be found in the cold rushing waters today. If there is gold in the creek, where did it come from? Then, there is also the curse to contend with.

Some Chumash whisper that the curse is real and that it will strike any who seek out the mine. The curse seems to target Native Americans most taking the form of terrible accidents and blindness. The wealth is for the Pope, and no one else. Only he can fairly distribute its treasures for the benefit of the Native People.

Is such a mine, or mines, possible? The mineral wealth of Ventura County is vast and, as yet not fully exploited. Still, could a curse also exist? The power of any curse is only as great as the belief in that same curse. Some Native People do believe in the thing and point to accidents in the upper Piru as proof. Would a Catholic priest have the power to place such a curse? Could it be the work of a Native American Shaman who knew that gold was "the White Man's Magic" and that it would spell only ill-fortune to the Chumash People?

Perhaps someday, someone will stumble upon the mine shaft and its stacks of ingots and manage to come back to tell the tale - that is if they can get passed the curse of the Lost Padre's Mine.

- Richard Senate www.RichardSenate.com

Death Sentence



Irene Noble's Two cottages, adjacent to the Ojai Art Center, were leveled Aug. 11

"From such devastation and ruin will spring renewed energy and courage." E.D Libbey, after the great Ojai fire of 1917. The cottages of Irene Noble on South Montgomery survived the great fire of 1917 but yielded at last to the irresistible force of the bulldozer. Vintage door and windows removed before the onslaught of the wrecking crew, the houses looked like sad faces with holes gaping in mute appeal for help. Cats and kittens now removed to make way for the towering Los

Arbolas Condominiums, the cat lady and her charges are now only a memory. "It's time for her to go" was the sentiment of many people who felt that the tiny yellow cottages were an "eyesore" in the shadow of the condos. Perhaps their efforts would have been better served to pick up a mop and a paint brush to help a little old lady stay in her own home. The spirit of the Ojai should be in the barn-raising rather than the barn-burning.

- Editor

Can Government Really Solve Problems or Just Worry About Their Survival in the Next Election ?

by Jefferson Pinto

One of the core elements that makes this country great is our freedom of speech. In the U.S. we have the freedom to contribute our ideas, which more quickly identifies problems, which in turn may lead to finding solutions.

Moreover, the courts have consistently upheld freedom of speech to include the freedom of expression. How would our government ever regulate what can and can't be expressed? It's an all or nothing proposition; unbridled free speech or none at all. Would you want a Government Expression Monitor?

Although some expression is offensive to me I personally know I must tolerate a few folks burning our flag or marching down the street in white robes with cone shaped hoods, in order to be able to walk freely down the sidewalk. After all, the Bill of Rights didn't say, you can express yourself only if your message and presentation isn't offensive to others.

Are you sitting down? I must admit, I didn't vote for President Obama. He won the election fair and square and I'm OK with that. I am, however, disillusioned with the absurd meritless attacks on his character that continue to this day. (His race, his religion, his childhood, etc.) I get an e-mail daily espousing some conspiracy theory about him.

Our prior president was abused by the same antics. After deploying troops to Iraq, then President Bush was greeted by demonstrators calling him Hitler and holding posters with Swastikas on them.

Don't get me wrong. I'm not here to help protect the presidents' feelings. I'm not here to say you can't disagree or have to like whoever got elected. I will invite you to stick to the issue; don't turn it into a character attack because the issue, which is more important, gets lost. For example, "We had no business attacking Iraq and it will cost us needless billions of dollars and countless lives of our young men and women." Or something like, "I oppose universal government-run health care because it doesn't work elsewhere and it won't work in this country."

If you continue to attack someone who won the election for whom you didn't vote, you are setting the "tone" for the next time that your candidate of choice wins. What you are really saying is, "Hey I'm going to attack and bash "your" president that I didn't vote for AND feel free to bash "my" president when he wins in the future. That's a destructive lose-lose proposition. It's not an effective long-run strategy and will sabotage advancement of debates toward good solutions in this country.

Here's why that form of free speech is destructive: It undermines the office of the president and the entire system. It undermines "good" things the president does ('Good' is in the eyes of the beholder.) It diverts attention from finding solutions to real issues. If a personal character attack is the best you can do, maybe your argument

PETER RUDOLF MILHADO, PH.D. After holding out for years my younger friends have finally convinced me to let them put up a web page and blog for me. Check it out, Enter the dialogue, leave a comment and hopefully we'll have some laughs. www.DrPeterMilhado.com Thank you Russel Webb!

'Health and Beauty from the Rainforest'



Prof. Gerard Bodeker and Sheila Cluff.

When world class fitness expert Sheila Cluff met International health expert Professor Gerard Bodeker recently at a conference in Bangkok, an invitation ensued. "If you're ever in California, come and visit." The offer was extended from Sheila Cluff to visit the Oaks at Ojai and when Bodeker left on his world tour to promote his new book "Health and Beauty from the Rainforest, Malaysian Traditions of Ramuan", July 23rd found him addressing a fascinated group of guests at the world famous Ojai Spa.

Professor Bodeker is a clinical psychologist who is an expert on integrative medicine and its role in public health. He is on the Faculty on Public Health at Oxford University, UK,

Mailman School of Public Health and Columbia University. "I did my doctoral research on India and China, said Bodeker. I studied how they had incorporated indigenous medical systems into formal national health care. Because I thought, 'Hey I've done it already and the rest of the world is going to be doing it one day, what lessons can we learn from that one experience?'"

Malaysian health and beauty places an emphasis on vitality, vigor and wellness. Many of the products used are produced from the Malaysian Rainforest which shelters many rare and valuable species of plants and herbs over 130 million years old. Professor Bodeker sees this integration of alternative medicine and western medicine as a necessary addition to medical education of doctors and pharmacists so that they are trained in possible interactions. The public wants free access to alternative medicine, but would like to be informed by a health system which is trained in complementary fields.

Health Spas are becoming centers of health education where guests can come not just to rest and relax, but to learn to take charge of their own health. Bodeker sees the future when these centers will be covered by national or private health insurance as the benefits of preventive medicine are realized by health care savings.

Always on the cutting edge of health and fitness, Ojai's vibrant and eternally youthful Sheila Cluff will be hosting a Spa tour in March to Hong Kong. Sheila is excited to be leading guest in workouts within view of the beautiful Hong Kong Harbor. For more information visit www.oaksspa.com

To contact Professor Bodeker or for a list of bookstores offering his new book visit www.Ramuan.com - Mary M. Long/Joel Anderson

viduals, how we participate and respond greatly forms our whole country and validates or invalidates the message. Jefferson Pinto is a retired CPA, holds an MBA from one of the finer accredited universities in this country, and is the VP of corporate operations for his day job. jefferson@ojaiandventuraview.com

You Go To My Head

by Mary-Jo Murphy

The research of Randy J. Sheely, Ph.D. the recipient of the Outstanding Scientific Achievement Award at this year's American Diabetes Association meeting, tells us that our excess weight goes to our heads. Fat cells talk to our brains.

Humans have evolved to grow and protect those fat cells, but we used to have an on and off switch when it came to appetite. For millions of years we homo sapiens ate when we were hungry, and when we sensed we were full, we stopped. Of course, some of us ate too much or too little now and then, but mostly our brains got the signal from our hypothalamus to regulate our appetite and therefore our food intake. Recently scientists discovered that the hormone leptin was in charge of this function.

So, you're thinking, why can't I just make myself a big pot of Leptin Soup and be done with it?

Well, let's go back 150,000 years to a time when food could be scarce; when a caveperson with tendency to hold onto weight was at an advantage.

Appetite was a driving force. Mornings would find hungry, hairy guys gathering around the fire pit. After a strong cup of boiled roots, our ancestors would head off to pursue the kill.

While they were gone, the cavewomen would gather fruits, grubs and berries. As they'd sort the day's harvest, they'd chat about potential mates. The first to be removed from the dating pool were any skinny, picky eaters.

If the hunters didn't become prey, the setting sun would find them silhouetted against the orange sky. The tribe would look with ravenous anticipation, as the tired guys would drag in, often empty handed. Root and berry gruel again!

Imagine after nuts and grubs for weeks maybe months on end, a mastodon finally found its way onto the campfire. This was not a one-bite-at-a-time event. Everyone gorged themselves. They were expected to. They sang, danced and flirted; maybe in the next few mornings, until slight twinges of hunger reminded them it was time to be off pursuing another major meal.

Fast forward to 2009, where a fast-food restaurant sits on every corner; hundreds of kinds of chips tempt us at the convenience store. A root or berry can't compete. And here we are, the product of natural selection, still programmed to be famine-resistant. Can we resist? Is this desire for more of a good thing all in our heads? Dr. Sheely tells us, yes. The changes in our diets in recent decades have reprogrammed millions of years of evolutionary advantage.

We feel like we're starving, he explains it's because the high fat foods we often prefer interfere with the signals to our brains. When we've finished the equivalent of a woolly mammoth meal, we still pursue the next delicacy with craving, longing and yearning, as if the survival of our species depended on

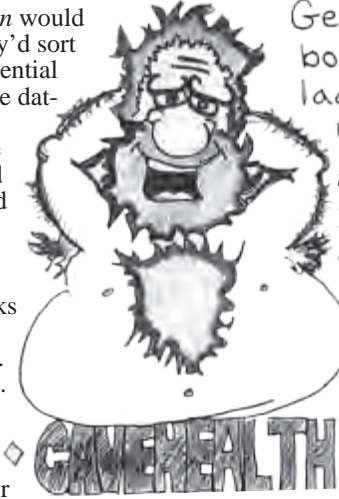
it. He says this response is not part of our evolutionary direction. Our brain function has actually been altered by what we eat.

David Kessler, former FDA commissioner, takes it a step further and says we are the targets of a food industry campaign. The hunter, (the consumer), has become the prey.

In his book, The End of Overeating, he contends that foods containing fat, sugar and salt stimulate the brain to release dopamine, which for humans feels like pleasure. How about chocolate covered bacon? I saw it at the Ventura County Fair. Yum!

He tells us we feel emotional relief when we eat foods rich in these three. And we create pathways in our brain that make us want more. At the mere thought, we're making a plan. Deprivation only intensifies the desire for the hunt.

Kessler also says that 15 percent of the caveman's descendants are immune to this planned conditioning by the food industry. He proposes more research to find out why some are so blessed.



Get the body the ladies want!

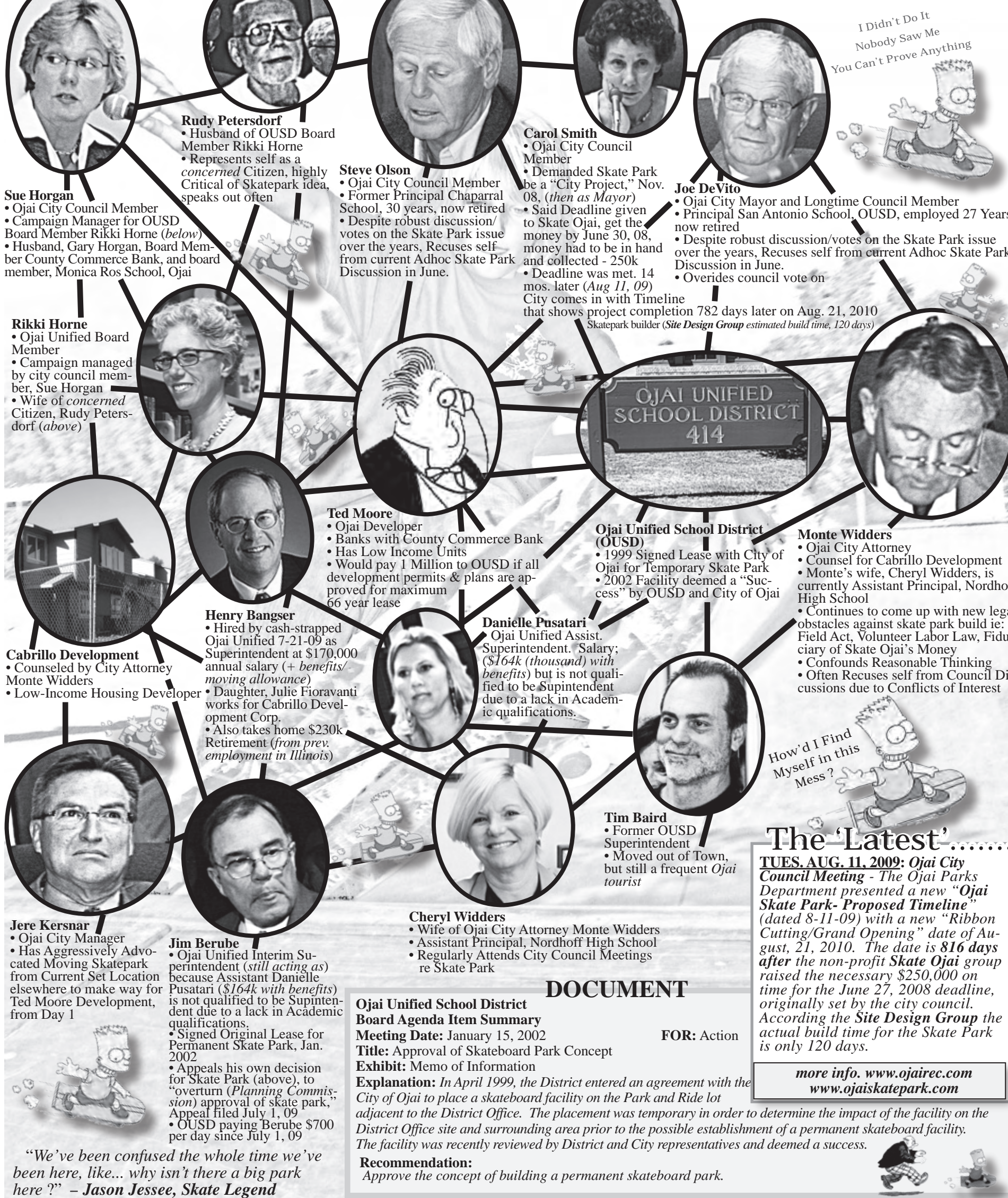
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Back by Popular Demand! Oh What a Tangled Web We Weave, When First We Practice to Deceive



"We've been confused the whole time we've been here, like... why isn't there a big park here?" - Jason Jessee, Skate Legend

Confused Ojai Unified School District Looting

by Joel Anderson

It doesn't take a phi beta kappa to realize the educational system across the country, and particularly in Ojai, is in financial straits. If you had to bet on it, school admin. management skills probably wouldn't bring elated screams of joy to those managing in the private business sector. So you have to wonder, Where is the Ojai Unified School District (OUSD) money going? Follow the money.

On the income side, with enrollment down in Ojai (4,200+ students in 1997 and now down to 3,000 or less; Ojai is paid by the state for each student enrolled, called *Average Daily Attendance (ADA) income*). (What family with children would want to move to Ojai without basic recreational facilities?) The state has also cut back other significant income sources to education, in Ojai, statewide, etc.

One must ask; What has OUSD been doing to reduce expenses on the spending side and thereby stay liquid? School Administrative salaries are high and the high number of those positions have also remained consistently "high." The new Superintendent, Henry Bangser just hired July 21, is salaried at \$170,000 annually, + benefits and moving allowance, and with the \$230,000 he already receives from his previous employment retirement package, his annual income is upwards \$463,000 + Ojai benefits.

On the other hand the Santa Paula Superintendent makes just \$135,000 + benefits, despite their district's student population being over twice that of Ojai. Interim Superintendent Jim Berube is being paid \$700 per day, since July 1, 2009 (beyond his OUSD retirement), until Bangser (now at full pay) learns how to be the new OUSD Superintendent. Internal cost-cutting measures have simply not been made at the top level in Ojai. At the rate OUSD's river of money is pouring into administrative salaries, soon there may only be administrators and board members at Ojai Unified - no teachers and no students, and certainly no funding. Sound familiar? General Motors...

Seventy-three teaching positions have been stripped out of the front lines, while no administrative personnel have been sacrificed. In fact OUSD has cut every department (Teachers, Office Staff, Special Ed. Staff, Phys. Ed.) except administration. The coyotes are guarding the hen house! Who will teach the children? It's

clear what the current administrators and board have taught the kids of Skate Ojai, about promises... To say that Skate Ojai's skateboarders have lost faith might be an understatement, but the bureaucrats may have also misjudged Skate Ojai and community resolve.

Ojai Unified, intoxicated by visions of individual wealth, seems to believe they have the right to use their position of public trust, to, on one hand, pay out exorbitant administrative salaries, and on the other gain funds by irretrievably liquidating public assets (school land). Perhaps Ojai Unified board members and administrators have lost their way. Why they entered into the educational field to begin with seems obvious at this point. Do they even remember, why? They are not permanently elected and haven't the real authority to continue looting Ojai's children's future.

The educational systems are entrusted with developing children and students into fully functioning successful adults with valuable contributions to make to the world. The purpose of education is not to develop low-income housing, unwanted strip malls, and destroy historic structures in order to provide extreme bureaucratic salaries and pensions... and high-dollar contracts for developers. Now Ojai Unified and the city has broken the trust with the children and community, transforming the truly grass roots once-enthusiastic and light-hearted Skate Ojai to a stalwart and irresistible force. This is costing everybody money as well as gallons of blood.

This is nothing new. Thirty+ years ago OUSD Board Member Bud Bower successfully led the fight to stop Ojai Unified from selling off the valuable 7.88 acre Chaparral property, arguing that once the property is sold it's gone. This fight should not have been in vain. Bower prevailed; the historic 1936 building (formerly called Ojai Elementary School) was too valuable a potential educational/facilities resource and also an essential part of Ojai's history. Many in Ojai have grandparents who attended the school.

Why has the district brought Jim Berube, former assistant superintendent, out of retirement to stand in while the current Assistant Superintendent Danielle Pusatari makes a \$164,000 annual figure?

How many superintendents does it take to screw in a lightbulb?

July 28 City Council Meeting Chamber of Commerce CEO Scott Eicher Speaks Out

At the July 28 Ojai City Council Meeting, the Skate Park was placed at Item 10 of the agenda. It was 11:45pm by the time the Skate Park issue had been heard by the city council. Due to the late hour, many of the public who

Ronald Reagan Sports Park
On March 3, 1983, President Ronald Reagan, in a speech before the U.S. Olympic Committee, paid tribute to the nation's can-do spirit, specifically citing the volunteers and donors of Temecula, Ca, among others.

"The folks in a rather small town, Temecula ... got together and built themselves a sports park, held fund-raising barbecues and dinners. And those that didn't have money, volunteered the time and energy. And now the young people of that community have baseball diamonds for Little League and other sports events, just due to what's traditional Americanism."

"Whatever else history may say about me when I'm gone, I hope it will record that I appealed to your best hopes, not your worst fears; to your confidence rather than your doubts. My dream is that you will travel the road ahead with liberty's lamp guiding your steps and opportunity's arm steadying your way."
-- Ronald Reagan, 1983

EDITORS NOTE: Later in 1996, Temecula, built their skate park, using funds from the city general fund.

counsel for Ventura and I worked with him on that commission for a number of years, and I want to disclose that the course of our discussion was he called me...he felt like... that he knew me well enough to get the answer to him and the question was are we going to look at setting a date? and I talked to him because I had talked to Mr. Kersnar the day before, not even knowing that I was going to get the call from Mitch that we were just going to talk about the date and not the appeal itself and the attorney mentioned to me that he would be calling you and I, I, I... my last comment to him was if we are going to discuss that this evening I will get... I will talk to Mr. Kersnar and he could talk to your law firm, he could talk to your firm to get back to him. So I did not have that conversation and our discussion was basically are we just discussing the appeal tonight or are we talking about the date? And since I felt that we were only talking about the date he said that he would not even send a representative to see me."

Widders: "Your question is?"
DeVito: "Now, I'm just mentioning to ya... I'm just disclosing that and I don't know whether you have any comments about that disclosure."

Widders: "Well, generally when clients are represented by an attorney, as you are, Mr. Mayor, other attorneys are not permitted to talk about pending.... so actually that call was, generally unethical."

DeVito: "Ok, it was not a call that I precipitated so... therefore...."

Widders: "Oh no, I'm not saying you did. He knows that you're represented by a counsel, and he's not supposed to talk to my clients without me present, anytime, no matter how good a friend he might be."

DeVito: "Well, we're not very good friends, we don't do any socializing or anything like that."

- Joel Anderson, Editor

I Really Hate to Beat a Dead Horse, But I Just Have to....



Taylor Pusatari, and Berube after rare appearance at the Aug. 11 Ojai City Council Meeting. Joe DeVito (right).

Mayor Joe DeVito Appears to Get Tough with Ojai Unified after the Aug. 11 city council meeting

"When we talk about (putting the skate park at) Sarzotti (Park), the neighbors.... and at that particular time, because of the development... the close proximity to the picnic area, the expansion of the redoing of the restrooms, we just felt like you're putting things in too close, but what happened was the police said, 'It's really not a good place because... (the location in the back) they would have to get out of their car (to police the area)' explained Mayor Joe (once again) to Linda Taylor, OUSD Board Member who, using a bit of double-speak, answered, "Well, I was thinking that grassy area in front of the (Sarzotti) park. Perfect spot (to build the skate park)." Answered Joe, "...that site would never do. It isn't a perfect place."

If anyone can tell the VIEW why Taylor seems to be filled with double speak, saying she's all for the Skate Park at the present contracted for location on Ojai Avenue, while at the same time, making the above statement (on tape) we'd love to hear it.

Go Gettem, Joe!!!!
NOTE: Although Ojai Unified has publicly said they wholly endorse the skate park built at the present contracted location, it is apparent from the above exchange that their 'whole' support is either not 100 percent, or the school district is having difficulty with their 'communication' skills. - Joel Anderson, Ed.

Brief Chronology of Events

- School approved permanent skate park
- Kids use old plywood Skate Park, wait for permanent park
- City said Raise the money
- Kids Raised the Money (many in the community donated)
- Kids use old plywood Skate Park, wait for permanent park
- City Sets Timeline for March 16 Ribbon Cutting (Skate Park Opening)
- Kids use old plywood Skate Park, wait for permanent park
- March 16 Ribbon Cutting date passes, No Ribbon Cutting
- Kids use old plywood Skate Park, wait for permanent park
- Shovel has not been turned to date on the project
- Continued Stalling by City/School District, appeals, kids blamed for everything under the sun, etc.
- Kids use old plywood Skate Park, wait for permanent park.....

"GONE WITH THE WIND"
Mr. O'HARA: "You mean to tell me, Katie Scarlett O'Hara, that Tara doesn't mean anything to you? That land is the only thing that matters. It's the only thing that lasts."

Sicily, Introducing the Capitol; Palermo

by Mina French

Palermo is the wondrous place my mother was born. It is a place of gorgeous sunrises and sunsets. It is the capitol of Sicily, with a population of 1,239,272 inhabitants and located on the northwest side of the island of Sicily, at the Gulf of Palermo near the Tyrrhenian Sea.

Great history and culture is found in Palermo and Sicily as a whole. The city was founded by the Phoenicians in the 8th Century B.C. There is archaeological and linguistic evidence to support the existence of the Ausonians in the 13th Century B.C. Thucydides, Greek Historian and Author, wrote about the Elymians who settled in the west of Sicily.

The evidence shows a fascinating thing – it shows there was human settlement which goes back to around 35,000 to 9,000 B.C. This evidence is in the form of cave art similar to the French Caves at Lascaux, in a group of caves at Levanzo and Monte Pelligrino. There they show drawings of a collection of animals, mainly horses, oxen and deer. These people were called the Sicani and according to Thucydides, they settled in the south and western parts of Sicily.

Sicily gets its name from the Sicels tribe who, according to Greek sources, settled in the eastern part of Sicily around 1300 to 1250 B.C. Palermo became a Greek colony during the Pyrrhic war period in 276 B.C., (the ancient Greeks named Palermo, Panormus, meaning "All Port"). Palermo became an important trade route when it fell under Roman rule three decades later. (It was during Roman times that Christianity spread).

As Roman rule fell apart, Palermo fell under the control of German tribes; in 440 A.D. the Vandals, known for their ferocity, first took control. Then, in 488 another German tribe called the Goths, ruled.

Around 877 A.D., the Arabs ruled Sicily, and by the 10th Century, they had made Sicily the richest country in Europe. They were very progressive in Sicily; having brought craftsmen and artisans for weaving and jewelry making. In agriculture, they introduced terracing, irrigation and water-storage tanks, "planted rice, cotton, sugar-cane, pistachios, pomegranates, apricots, peaches, citrus, indigo, roses, jasmine, and groves of mulberry trees to feed the silk-worm".

Palermo became the capitol of a new kingdom from 1130 - 1816; the kingdom of Sicily. In 1816, Palermo was united with the Kingdom of Naples to form the two Sicilies until 1860 when Italy was unified.

The people of Palermo are wonderful; they are creative, passionate, and hardworking. They are known as Palermitans and the languages they speak are Italian and Sicilian. (I have recently purchased a language set and I am ready to learn.) Their religion is Roman Catholicism.

The Patron Saint of Palermo is Santa Rosalia. (Saint Rosalie). Her festival is called "Festino" and commemorates a miracle in which the city was freed from the Black Death. Saint Rosalie's bones were discovered on Monte Pellegrino – the story goes, when her relics were carried around the city three times, the plagues were lifted.

Another important celebration is attributed to Santa Lucia. (Saint Lucy). During this time Palermitans refrain from eating anything made with flour. Instead, they boil wheat in its natural state and use it to prepare a dish called cuccia.

This festival commemorates the saving of the city from famine through the intercession of Saint Lucy.

The story says that a ship full of grain mysteriously arrived in the harbour and the people were so hungry that they did not waste time making flour but ate the grain as it arrived. Ah, the beauty of Palermo!

1 "Blue Guide, Sicily" by Ellen Grady, Somerset Books, WW Norton New York 2006

"Sicily, Lonely Planet" by Fionn Davenport, Lonely Planet Publications, London 2000

Mina French artnews510@aol.com

Fishing the Ventura Pier

R. Ellis Smith Petition to Save Mussels and Ecology



Open Letter to City Council
City of San Buenaventura
July 14, 2009
Dear Council,

It has come to my attention that the City of San Buenaventura has plans to remove all mussels from the pilings of the Ventura Pier, as was done approx. 2 to 3 years ago.

No other beach city with a pier has established such a practice. The reasoning behind the idea is supposedly to lessen the shock of the waves on the pilings of the pier during times of heavy storms. It is our contention that this idea is without merit, and only serves to damage the natural ecology of our pier fishing areas. The results of any heavy wave action on the pilings of the pier actually only serve to remove many of the mussels in a natural way. The action of the large starfish that eat voraciously upon the mussels remove most mussels below the mean water line, thereby lessening the danger of any damage to the pilings of the pier. The fishermen also remove many of the mussels to use as bait for fishing, the fact that the new pilings at the end of the pier to almost the center are now constructed of steel also help preclude any damage during a storm.

The mussels are an important link in the food chain provided by the ocean; as stated, they are a main staple in the diet of starfish, and by their action of crushing the shells of the mussels, many fish are attracted to the area which of course supplies food to many fishermen. This is not to mention that mussels are also enjoyed by humans as a delicious delicacy. In the past when the city had the mussels removed, the amount of fish in the immediate area declined rapidly. Only now that the mussels have been re-established has the fishing enjoyed by many residents and visitors begun to improve.

The pier is one of the major attractions to visitors to our city and many of them enjoy fishing and purposefully come here for just that reason. One of the other objections to the removal of the mussels in this economic time is of course the cost involved; it takes a team of divers upwards of a week to remove all the mussels from the pilings and the money spent, of course, could well be directed to some other more worthwhile purpose.

We therefore wish to ask the council to reconsider this action, the ecosystem of our pier is unique and very fragile and to purposefully damage it in this way, is in our estimation, a very foolhardy plan.

We thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Ventura Pier Fishermen and Friends

- Rellis Smith
rellis39@officelive.com
venturanow.web.officelive.com



LETTER: Code Enforcement

Enforcement, Continued From Page 5...

citizens of Ventura in these difficult times, we do not have the money to meet these demands and are aware that if the city puts liens on our home, and we cannot pay those liens, the city has a law that ultimately allows foreclosure on us.

When I called and spoke with your assistant, Sue Taylor, to ask about the program, I was instead interrogated with questions like, "Have you ever rented the unit and if so, did you pay income taxes on it?" The interrogation, rather than telling me how we could enter the program touted in the newspapers only served to frighten us more.

I would also like to state that calling this an "Amnesty" program is misleading because both we and others to whom we have spoken, are not aware that we have done anything wrong. The city has accepted second units as far back as we can recall and know that even city officials have lived in them.

By applying for entry into a program to document second units, I think it is important for citizens not to be automatically criminalized for applying. The name "amnesty" could be changed to "documentation" program to be more inviting to citizens.

Thank you for any information you can give us regarding the program to document and "legalize" existing second units.

Respectfully,
Rosalind Strobusch- Mother to Eric
Eric Strobusch (18-year-old Son)

"He who drives an ass must of necessity smell its wind." - Arabic

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An August Garden

by Sandra M. Blackburn

This is a good month to evaluate your garden, really taking notice of what is doing well and what's not, during this challenging season.



Watering will eat up your garden time. Remember the basics: Water in the early morning. Water the soil, not the leaves. Water deeply and occasionally, rather than shallowly and often. Soak containers well. If they're wilting anyway, move them to a shadier spot. Give the compost heap an occasional dousing to promote necessary decomposition. Make sure your irrigation system is performing at its peak.

Also, fertilize acid-loving plants and any other plants that may be showing an iron deficiency like citrus and other fruit trees. Continue to feed tomatoes and they may continue to bear to the frost.

Native plants in the landscape make more and more sense as our awareness of our water use increases. Sustainable gardening and landscaping are keys to the future. The fact that one fourth of the population has no ready access to clean water and sanitation encourages rethinking of irrigation and landscaping techniques.

The 250 million U.S. residents living today have access to about the same amount of water as U.S. residents did 200 years ago, when the population was four million. Ninety-five percent of the United States' fresh water is underground. Among the globally dropping water tables is North America's largest aquifer, the Ogallala. Being depleted at a rate of 12 billion cubic metres (bcm) a year, the Ogallala stretches from Texas to South Dakota, and waters one fifth of U.S. irrigated land. Globally, agriculture uses 70 percent of the world's water supply; industry 22 percent, and 8 percent is used for domestic household purposes. It can make a difference.

Late summer and early fall are optimum times to plant California native perennials, trees and shrubs, along with South African, Australian, New Zealand and other Mediterranean native or hybrid drought tolerant species. Proper position and area along with really good soil preparation for drainage, and being well watered until established will fill a native plant needs. Manzanita, Arbutus, Ceanothus or Mountain Lilac, our favorite Salvia apiana, or White Sage, Cleveland Sage, (not from Ohio) Carpenteria californica or Flannel Bush, Coffee Berry, and our very own Matilija Poppy, Toyon aka Christmas Berry, all natives or hybrids of natives, are just a few from which to chose. Erica and Grevilia species from Australia, various grass type species, Phormium or Flax from New Zealand, Society Garlic and Lion's Tail from South Africa. The list really does go on. Some bloom in winter and can add interest at various times of the year. From hedges to screens, groundcover and cut flowers, shade trees and specimens: Yarrow, Lavender and Rosemary, and on and on.

There are so many choices!! Once established, many of the California, Australia, New Zealand, South African and Mediterranean drought tolerant native and hybrid species require a minimum of care or water. Saving on water bills and maintenance, thereby providing some leisure in the garden and you can possibly make a bit of a positive difference in your own sphere, with a minimum of research and preparation.

The California Native Plant Society, Channel Islands chapter, (www.cnpsci.org), the Santa Barbara Botanical Garden, (www.sbbg.org), along with your local nursery

At Home in Ojai Assisted Living in Beautiful Ojai Valley 225 N. Lomita Ave, Ojai, CA 93023 Telephone: (805) 646 2402 Facsimile: (805) 646 4289 www.athomeinojai.com License # 565801458

Signal St. Quackery



Joann Lutz is the hostess of the Signal St. Quackery. A collection of ducks has taken possession of her front yard and spills onto the patio in a whimsical array of statuary, stuffed animals and art work. Winding their way through the immobile ducks, which have personal names, are living animals and family members; Suzette the white poodle and Kiki, the calico kitty.

Joann's face is immediately recognizable as one of the volunteers at the HELP Of Ojai's 2nd HELPPings Thrift Store on S. Montgomery St. "I've been a volunteer for 19 years" she says proudly. With 2nd HELPPings proceeds going to fund much needed projects in Ojai, there is not doubting her community spirit. With her cornflower blue eyes, silver hair and ready smile she is a picture of hospitality in her storybook yard. "I used to have real ducks" she says explaining how her passion for duckyness has extended to the porcelain beauties that she now enjoys. Laughing she goes on to explain the duck population has a variety of clothing for every occasion. Duds for Halloween, duds for Independence Day and duds for Christmas among other holidays.

In the middle of her driveway stands "B.B." which stands for Big Box, the sometime home of tenant Martin Whitney. Joann and Martin have now found themselves involved in a controversy over their property rights and their right to keep Martin's motorhome in the driveway. While Martin and Kiki are defending their B.B. homestead, they are dividing their living space between the "box" and a gazebo in attempt to satisfy the city. With a flair for design and a sense of humor over their habitat that brings character to small town living, how can you not enjoy their wonderful Joie de Vivre?

Photos and Text by Mary M. Long

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When is the Universe Trying to Tell You Something?

by Roslyn Hammer

Not being an "in touch" person with my environment, it takes more than a little bit of unhappiness, a nasty mood, or a full depression to shake me out of a bad decision.

I left Ojai twelve years ago for a great job in Los Angeles. Busily making money and working ten-hour days, it took five years to complete my contract and have enough money to retire. Just by luck I was able to purchase a condo in a retirement community in sunny Florida. The first year was great. Of course, I moved there in November after the hurricane season, and by the time June rolled around, I had heard from all my neighbors, that hurricanes were not a problem in Broward County. Some of the residents had lived there for over twenty years.

"It's just a little wind with some rain," said Rhoda, the busy little baker who lived one floor above me.

"It's nothing to worry about. Don't make a big deal," said Miriam, my sweet next door neighbor who had recently lost her husband Louie, the Adonis. After seeing a picture of "her Louie," it was clear that her Adonis had a few too many cheeseburgers and a lot of white bread in his lifetime.

By July, I was hunting for hurricane shutters, canned food, bottled water, and batteries. This became my hobby as Charley, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne smacked Florida with a vengeance. All my

neighbors were mystified. This had never happened before. And the consensus was that it would never happen again.

With all my hurricane experience from the year before, I was semi-confident when the 2005 season started. Unfortunately, it became the most active hurricane season in recorded history. As Dennis and Emily plowed through town my new hurricane shutters held tight and all was well. Katrina was nasty and ferocious with a sadistic nature although she made landfall in Florida as a mere Category 1. On Oct. 25, 2005, I prepared for Wilma. In my closet with water, transistor radio, Coleman lamp and magazines, I listened as the sound of a railroad train zoomed around me. It was relentless. My shutters crashed to the ground, my windows broke, and before it was over the roof of my house was on the ground. Wilma was recorded as the most intense hurricane ever in the Atlantic Basin.

I decided to move. Next on wondering road I landed in Texas close to my son and his wife. There's nothing like having a mother-in-law around to give advice and offer wisdom and her opinions whenever necessary.

"The thunder storms here can be pretty bad, Mom," my son said. "Don't worry. I've been through the worst of it. Nothing can scare me after all those hurricanes."

"The only thing you have to worry about is when the sirens go off."

"How often does that happen?" "I've been here seven years and they've gone off twice," he replied.

The storms rolled in vicious and violent. The newscaster on the television offered warnings of hail the size of golf balls, flash floods, and dangerous lightning. But it was the tornado warnings that scared me to death. In less than two years the sirens had gone off eleven times. There's not much you can do because these tornadoes happen mostly in the middle of the night. I gave up sleeping, and I also decided to move.

Fortunately, I had been talking to my friend, Sharon, who told me of a little place that was for sale in her neighborhood. I bought it over the telephone.

I arrived in Ojai a week before my movers. Being in this beautiful place, meeting with old friends and watching the people in this town, who seem to have an attitude of gratefulness, is a joyous experience. The cliché, "There's no place like home," is even sweeter when home is Ojai.

I moved into my new house on May 7th, and had a great night's rest free from the worry of hurricanes, thunder storms, and tornadoes. On May 8th, I was happily unpacking boxes when I heard a loud explosion. "What was that?" I asked my friend Kent who was passing by. "It was earthquake," he replied.

Roslyn Hammer wrote for the Ojai Valley VOICE during the 1990s. She has a background in stand-up comedy and comedy writing.

At the Fair - Sandra Butchko of Cotton-tail Creations proudly displays fine silver jewelry made at their mid-Ventura store. With ongoing classes in Silver Soldering, chain making and beading, anyone can make beautiful gifts for themselves or others. Family owned Cotton-tail Creations is operated by Jewelyn and Charlie Vanoni, Sandra. Drop in for art supplies and a list of classes. 1744 E. Main St., Ventura



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EVENT CALENDAR

Continued from Page 4...

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details, RSVP, www.riemansurfschool.com info@riemansurfschool.com or call 746-6499 • Aug 15 & 16 The 25th Annual Ojai Peddler's Fair 9am-4pm Sat and Sun Chaparral Auditorium 414 E. Ojai Ave. Antiques, Collectibles and hand-crafts. Benefit for Mira Monte PTO. info. 964-8915



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Ilan McCrory surfing the big swell at Emma Wood. Surf Lessons and Retreat for Women, (See View Event Calendar, page 4).

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Zander, JT and Kevan Harris arriving at the X-Games



Warheads - Jamey Gabriel (sophomore)

Photo © 2009, Joel Anderson



Photo © 2009, Sunday Rylander

Marc Bruzuela (Junior at Nordhoff this fall), Jamey Gabriel (Jr. at Nordhoff this fall), Ryan Nance (center/back - just graduated from Chaparral High School)

Ojai Skaters Hang Tough at X-Games



photo © 2008, Joel Anderson

Hopes Were Never so High - Skate Ojai Day, May 31, 2008. Skaters turned out to celebrate their success at reaching their goal of raising \$250,000 to build a permanent Skate Park.



Drew Lazos (age 14), Rhett Kemp, Rocky Kemp and Cody Schultz (age 14)



Zander Gabriel being helped off the course by Paramedics - According to Zander's Mom Judy Gabriel, despite the broken wrist he sustained in competition, he is "Very motivated," and can't wait to compete again.

Photo © 2009, Joel Anderson

J.T. Erickson - On the Spot at X-Games

Ojai had two teams and both of them made it to the final round, we ended up getting second, for the second time in a row. Last year Zander got second in the X-Games, and then this year he got third, but yeah it really sucks what happened [Zander's Fall].

"There's definitely some camaraderie now, and it's definitely fun, getting to meet and skate with new people. You know you can find new skate spots and new cities that you probably would have never found if you never became friends with those from the other cities that skated. So it's really cool, a real cool thing. I'm bummed this is my last year.

"We've definitely been keeping our hopes up [for an in ground Skate Park] but lately you know, since we're all grown up and stuff, we've kind of not been caring as much, because by the time it's done, we're probably going to be like 25 or something... so..... yeah definitely trying to focus on other things right now, school and stuff.

I think it's [Zander's Fall happened] because he didn't really warm up to the rail... Rails and stairs and stuff. I mean it's like we can skate em, but you know all we have [in Ojai] is you know, we don't have a rail, we don't have any stairs or anything. [Zander had completed this rail trick in a previous run successfully]. We have rails at the skate park that are just ground rails you know. We can put em down ramps and stuff, people come in and steal 'em and yeah, it's really like a bummer man. We had this perfect rail, and them some dude was like... oh, put it in the back of his truck.....

Carpenteria, yeah they're getting a park, I know Piru's getting a skate park pretty soon here and it seems like every little nowhere town everywhere is getting one you know.... no more.... They have a million dollar park in Santa Paula..... Seems like it would be a lot easier to get the skate park if the city was actually backing us. But you know, it just seems like we're in a rock and a hard place that you know...." - Joel Anderson

Judith Brosius, J.T., Tom Erickson, Rhett Kemp, Rocky Kemp, Melinda Barlow, Jacob Sessing and Greg Sessing



J.T. Erickson and Melinda Barlow



The Skater Moms Extraordinaire! Sunday Rylander (Keifer), Judy Gabriel (Zander), Judith Brosius (J.T.), and Melissa Harris (Kevan).

www.Sk8NHSSA.com
www.futuresamseries.com
www.OjaiSkatePark.com



Photo © 2009, Melinda Barlow

J.T. Erickson



Tom Erickson and his son, J.T.

Photo © 2009, Joel Anderson



Zander Gabriel navigates the Feeble to 50/50 on the Grass Gap Rail



Photo © 2009, Jeff Stern

J.T. "I own the park" Erickson

Photo © 2009/2008 Credits, Sunday Rylander, Judy Gabriel, Michael Gabriel, Rocky Kemp, Steve Padilla, Melinda Barlow, Jeff Stern, Joel Anderson



Zander Gabriel



Photos © 2009, Joel Anderson

Bobby Woods, Woods International (Skateboard Co.), Jake, 8-years-old, Nathalie Woods, Nerine Facia and Jonathan Navarro, X-Games



Illustration © Eli Cohen



Dream It, Design It! Planning Meeting, Sarzotti Park, Sept. 13, 2008 Charlie VanLent

One wonders how many more generations of hopeful Ojai Skateboarders will have their dreams of a permanent skateboard facility brought just to the edge, only to have their dreams carelessly dashed by thoughtless public officials with hidden agendas and a seemingly endless supply of broken promises.

The 1957 Chevy was the only car that looked good either as a 4 door or 2 door model. Back in '57 Ojaian Buzz Robinson sold cars at Tom Mahan Chevrolet. At that time the dealership was located in the building which is now called Fitzgerald Plaza. Later

that building became the Goodyear tire store, and the area which was the Chevy showroom, now houses Jersey Mikes.

It is said the 1957 Chevy's were the only cars that ever sold themselves, based on the fine styling, drive, and 'look,' when it came out everyone wanted one, and nearly everyone got one.

Buzz had said he won a trip to Hawaii for he and his wife Clare, for selling a '57 Chevy, as a promo-

tion for Chevrolet. The '57 is a perfect ladies car with 4 doors, which do not detract from the styling and is great for taking the kids around, and as an all around good car. The interiors are good, and a lot of the hot rodders enjoy building them up, they always looked cool.

- Mike Gaddis/Joel Anderson



Robin Schwartzburd and her cool '57 Chevy. At right daughter Alena, 9-years-old learns to check the oil on this



classic. For info. on Robin's Homeschool Program, see display ad, Page 13.



Robin and her '57 at Lake Casitas

Photos © 2009, Joel Anderson



Agoura Shelter



Sheila and Ginger



Pooches on Parade - Ventura Promenade



Elijah, 2-years-old & Char



Michelle Hayden



Dachshund Rescue



Justina and Candy Corn



Candi Cane Psychic

Candi Cane Cooper (left) and Susan Hartzler, right. "Bliss," blue merle Australian Shepherd and "Baldwin" right are licensed Therapy Dogs. Susan is president of Alpha Dog PR. www.AlphaDogPR.com Candi Continued Next Page...



The Pooch Parade, hosted by the Canine Adoption and Rescue League (CARL) on July 19th, was kicked off by fitness buff Sheila Cluff (The Oaks at Ojai) and her poodle Ginger, with a dog-er-cize class for pooch and partner. Warming up for the three mile walk-a-thon to raise money for dog rescue and adoption, participants put their best foot...or...paw forward for the event. Pooches paraded through classes from best kisser to best costume to help celebrate man's best friend. www.carlv.com



Laura Stinchfield and Tina



Joann Stark with Dinah



Raggamuffin



Photos © 2009, Mary M. Long and Joel Anderson



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He lay on the hard cold floor of the kennel. When would the command come... When would he work? As each day passed, Hasso begged for the call. Nose between paws, and eyes on the door- The only word heard, was the Sergeant's voice "excess" A life of service to end with a needle, No longer of use to the United States Navy. A soft young face smiled down at the dog, And said, "don't worry big guy, you're not going to die" A brand new career for Hasso D171, Bringing love and attention to those humans in need, Nursing homes, Veterans, and Subacute care No matter the need, Hasso was there, A lick on the hand, the gentlest rub A therapy dog, was not made.. but inspired.



At last a home with family and friends, Trips to the mountains, the park and the beach- Even a chance to help Shindler herd sheep. But by some quirk of fate this life did not last - This joyful existence became part of his past. A battlefield loomed beyond his control, An adversary more deadly than any patrol. Though his heart was willing, his body grew weak- As he fought for his life, the prognosis was bleak. As his hour grew near he was still Hasso on duty, He struggled to rise, to follow his mistress, For always on duty, always on guard, A lapse in vigilance, impossibly hard. Yet one last good deed, a servant for science, Giving his life so that others might live A champion of military dogs was lost - An untimely deployment, at the cruellest cost

His station at Rescue Boutique had expired. Though it was not his wish to be retired. Mission on earth was over at last, He has four paws in Heaven, a new master, the last A new round of soldiers to sound their approval, Those who have waited for their comrade in arms, All gathered around in ghostly form. To welcome the grand old soldier home. To the feet of the master they respond to the call The click of the boot, the soft step of the paw. Hasso D - 171, at attention - Reporting for Duty, all four paws in Heaven.

— Mary M. Long
petview@ojaiandventuraview.com



Hugo Ekback (Army) with Hasso, Oak Tree House, Ojai



photo © 2009, Mary M. Long

Candi Cane Psychic

Candi Continued from Previous Page...

Internationally acclaimed Animal Communicator Candi Cane Cooper's mission statement; "We are all brothers and sisters two and four-legged, all on the same journey" expresses her spiritual walk within the animal world.

Candi is dedicated to helping animals and humans exist in harmony. She says that the most common concern of all species of animals is that their owners should talk "to" them instead of "at" them. Candi also devotes time to her non-profit animal rescue SWRadoption911, helping animals deal with abandonment and placing them in loving foster homes, while they wait for adoption. "People need to know that if you want your animals to like you, you'd better treat them right." Visit Candi's website at www.thesweetwaterranch.com to learn more about her services helping people and animals in crises. Lost animals, animals who have crossed over, and animals who are preparing to cross over, are among her many specialties, lending a compassionate bridge for owners and animals to communicate.

info. 818-317-0487
www.thesweetwaterranch.com
& Candi's rescue site at www.SWRadoption911.com



American Red Cross of Ventura County

Rhianna Ormond, age 7, with Hasso at VFW, Port Hueneme (at left), Hasso wears Medal of Meritorious Service at VFW with Post Commander Clay Cowgill, Peggy Forino and Mrs. Cowgill.



Bob Maxon, U.S. Army, Airborne (right), Wilbur Long, U.S. Coast Guard (left), Hasso, At Home in Ojai

www.vcar.us
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Hasso with friends, Schindler and Karl (and Hugo)

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DOC JANET

Welcome to the Circus!
Why PETA should protest itself

by Janet McNeil, D.V.M.

interest groups, and think about what is going on. There are far more organizations that have honorable code of ethics and straightforward goals that deserve support. If nothing else, support your local animal welfare and conservation groups. Help with wildlife habitat preservation, help homeless people take care of their pets, and help spay and neuter groups achieve their goals (not by stuffing mandatory sterilization laws down our throats, thank you!).

PETA seems to be a BIT confused about its mission, more than ever now. A visit to its website seems to promote a lot of female exploitation, amongst other things. It seems that joining the cause require you to rip off your clothes at every opportunity. Are they saving animals or promoting nudity?



Dr. Janet McNeil and Devi, Ventura, 2006

The need to equate animal salvation with sexiness is troubling. Would you trust your children to be indoctrinated by an organization that has such warped views and questionable morals? Kind of distracts from the message. Of course, as P.T. Barnum would have known, SEX SELLS!

In PETA's case, sex fills the coffers to be wasted on costumes and other nefarious activities. It sure does not seem to be going to save animals. When have you seen PETA fund a spay and neuter clinic or support an elephant hospital in Thailand? Do they help indigent animals get medical care?

According to records, PETA has killed about 90 percent of the animals taken in at its shelter. 21,000 cats, dogs, and other animals were killed between July 1998 and December 2008. Why? Going to a protest is a party. You can scream, holler, eat, drink, and take your clothes off and get noticed. Your friends will think you are cool. Try telling your friends you cleaned cages for 8 hours or trapped ferret cats for spay and neuter and see where you rate on the glamour scale. Caring for all those animals at a shelter and finding them homes is WORK, and not sexy at all. It is more important to join with a few celebrities than to know what you are protesting. Does Ditta Von Teese (an inspiring role model to our youngsters) know anything about what she is lending her celebrity status to? No matter, it is more important to ooze sexy glamour that be correct and factual.

Nowhere does PETA acknowledge that Ringling Brothers has done a lot for breeding endangered elephants (Center for Elephant Conservation in Florida) or promoted research benefiting elephants. Why? Look at PETA President Ingrid Newkirk's quote "Even if animal research resulted in a cure for AIDS, we would be against it." Not the kind of leadership that brings hope to a world suffering from devastating illnesses.

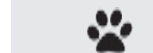
The true problem is that PETA is in love with being outraged and outrageously noticed. If it had any good intentions for animals, as an organization, it has lost its way. The allure of covert operations and high-noon showdowns has taken over. This organization is incapable of researching facts, opening a civil dialog, or joining a collaboration to find solutions to problems in animal health and welfare. Bullying and intimidation are favorite and frequently used tools in trade for this organization.

Speaking of facts, have you noticed that in the outrage over the paraphernalia of handling elephants, no one has bothered to ask veterinarians who regularly treat elephants if those tools are bad? Dr. Peddy points out that correctly used, these are valuable tools to assist in moving animals and restraints for exams, treatments, and safety. Would you want to do an obstetric exam on an unrestrained pachyderm?

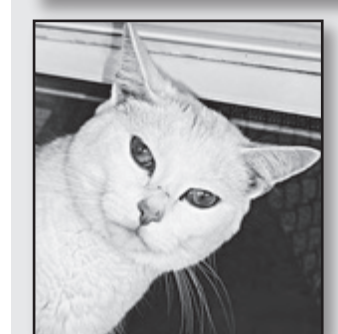
Good training and supervision are important anywhere. Where Ringling Brothers needs to be accountable to USDA, PETA doesn't seem to be accountable to anyone, let alone the misled population that think they are sending money to a worthy cause. The fact that PETA believes it should be allowed to dictate to every animal owner what he/she can think and do is an outrage to every red-blooded American. Tyranny was something we fought a revolution over.

This is not a perfect world, but cooperation and intelligent progress are far more likely to get things done right the first time. Please do not fund terrorist groups like PETA. Ask questions, take a hard look at the finances of

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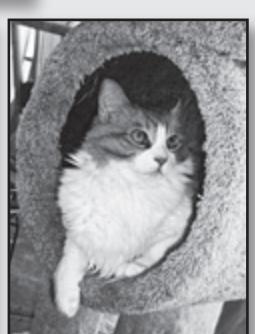
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THE LEASHES END

by Ron Rowe

The European Parliament has voted to ban imports of seal products including fur coats and omega 3 pills made with seal oil, in another attempt to end Canada's annual seal hunt.

Canada's seal hunt is the largest of its kind in the world, killing an average of 300,000 harp seals annually. Canada exported 5.5 million worth of seal products to the E.U. In Namibia the annual seal slaughter will continue despite the animal welfare protests; hunters or killers will club to death over 95,000 seals including 85,000 pups. You can help protest, call 800-536-8173 or www.protectseals.org every effort helps.

Want to help boycott circuses that feature trained animals? Go to www.P.E.T.A.org/circuses Elephant Trainer Tom Ryder who used to train elephants for Ringling Brothers exposes the inhumane treatment they receive. He claims bull hooks are used to torture elephants, they're made to stand chained 22 hours a day and that they are physically abused and beaten six out of eight days a week. He claims elephants are highly social and intelligent animals and it is inhumane to ship them by rail on a two year work schedule with only a two-week break. Being stored in parking lots, basements whatever is available, nothing could be further from their natural habitat. Please, do not visit the circus that features so-called trained animals.

What is happening in central Utah? A massive army of grasshoppers had descended. Jennifer Athergy of Tooele, said she had not opened her front door for a week because of the thousands of grasshoppers all massed on her driveway. One official report recorded up to 2,000 grasshoppers swarming in a single square foot of land; help has arrived, thousands of seagulls have descended to feed upon them.

Man bites dog? Yes, a police dog! Paul Russell of Syracuse, New York admitted he was drunk when he grabbed a police dog by the throat and bit him on the right side of his neck. Paul was arrested and is now in jail. The dog received stitches on the wound and is now back on duty.

Over 7 to 9 million dogs and cats find their way into the nation's animal shelters each year, with only less than 2 percent of cats and 15 percent of dogs reunited with their owners. To pet owners, please make certain you have an ID tag on your pet with name, address and phone number, or check out a new dog locator. It's called a ZOOMBAK G.P.S. locator. It attaches to your dogs collar and helps locate your dog on a live computer map and sends an e-mail alert when your pet strays. Cost, about \$90 at www.Brookstone.com

If you are a young man pursuing and courting the girl of your dreams, don't complain about the time and effort required to woo her. Consider the tiny hummingbird; when it comes to love the hummingbird male falls fast and hard from the sky, so fast it is buffeted with more G's than that of a landing space shuttle, and all to impress the female. The male dives toward the ground at 90 ft per second, or nearly 400 times their body length per second; then they quickly pull up and bullet skyward multiplying by 10 the gravitational pull of the earth, a G force that would knock out fighter pilots. Biologist Chris Clark of U.C.S.B. said they are built so strong for their tiny size, otherwise their wings would break off. They can perform this feat up to 15 times in a row. So take heart, young male lover, all you have to do is say flattering words, buy a present, an expensive one, and an excellent meal before you pop the question. Oh, don't forget the large diamond ring.

Good news for senior dogs that live in San Clemente, California. They now have their own park with cushy green grass and wide-open spaces. They are not as active as they once were and young agile dogs often tease and annoy them. A golden bark to the San Clemente citizens.

Did you know army ants go hunting in battalions of up to 225,000, but they still keep the traffic moving with maximum efficiency? Scientists filming them noted that outgoing ants changed direction if they bump into an incoming ant always ceding the right-of-way.

The incoming ants get priority because they are carrying food back to the colony. The resulting pattern is that the returning ants always end up in the center lane, flanked on either side by the ones heading back out. It's



Ron and his companion, Dudley.

amazing how they do this considering ants are almost completely blind. Now, if only humans can figure out a way for safe freeway and shopping mall parking and driving. Incidentally, ants and humans are the only creatures on earth that wage organized warfare.

The next time you are in a small boat and a great white shark pops his head out of the water next to you, don't panic; just cup your hand over the shark's snout and gently tickle. It's called Knismesis, scientist tried it on a great white shark which just gaped for a few seconds then slipped back into the water contented. A shark's snout can detect a spot of blood in an Olympic sized swimming pool. This means the snouts are very sensitive and highly responsive to pleasurable touches.

Orangutans in Sumatra say goodnight to each other by blowing a loud raspberry and cupping hands around their mouth at the same time to make it louder. I wouldn't advise that to married couples; just a gentle kiss with a good night my dear. Sleep well.

The most informative book on animal protection in the past 25 years is giving animal advocates around the world new hope. The author, Matthew Scully, his book, Dominion, the Power of Man, the Suffering of Animals and the Call for Mercy, reminds us that we are stewards of God's creatures and that we are called to treat all animals with kindness, empathy and a merciful spirit. It's already in its eighth printing. It's a powerful book containing chapters on animal trophy hunting, factory farming, animal experiments and lots more on animal cruelty. It's a must reading for all animal lovers.

Men are from Dogs, Women are from Cats, is also a title of a book by Kenneth Shapiro of the psychologist for the ethical treatment of animals. He claims that scientific studies show that, in general, men have a preference for dogs, women for cats. Just think of the words we use to describe cats and which are also used in regard to women.

The notion of female sexuality being symbolized by cats stretches back to ancient Egypt. The Goddess Bast is commonly depicted as having a cat's head and was representative of the qualities of both female and cats. A protective mother, sensuous, strong and fertile to the Egyptians, cats represented sexuality and sensuality, unrestricted femininity. What do you think, readers?

A California man desperate to rid his apartment of insects set-off 20 bug bombs in his living room. They triggered off a huge explosion shattered windows and blew the roof off the building. The landlord was not amused, oh, firemen found live cockroaches crawling through the rubble. It's not nice to tempt mother nature.

A new survey shows that children who lack confidence in reading soon develop confidence and skill after reading to dogs. Lee Gaffney, president of pet progress claims it's because dogs are non-judgmental and provide a safe and secure atmosphere for children to read. It's truly a dogs life in the USA.

Frosty Paws company has developed ice cream specifically for canine taste. Pooch Passion and also has freeze-dried ice cream for canines. In all tasting tests the dogs gave a paws up.

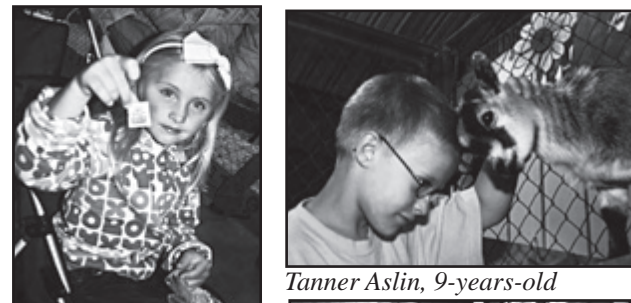
And so dear readers, think big love, smile more easily and be kind in thought and deed to everyone you meet.

Your comments are welcome, Ron Rowe
Peace and blessings to all beings on earth
rhrowe@aol.com

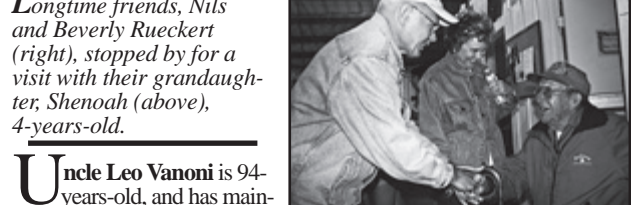
Uncle Leo's Barn
Ventura County Fair



Uncle Leo Vanoni, 94-years-old, and his wife Rita. Leo has consistently opened "Uncle Leo's Barn" at the Ventura County Fair, providing Sheep, Ducks, Rabbits, Guinea Pigs, Pygmy Goats and more every year for 54 years.



Tanner Aslin, 9-years-old



Longtime friends, Nils and Beverly Rueckert (right), stopped by for a visit with their granddaughter, Shenoh (above), 4-years-old.

Uncle Leo Vanoni is 94-years-old, and has maintained "Uncle Leo's Barn" at the Ventura County Fair for 54 years. "He's more of the exhibit than the animals" said daughter-in-law Jewelyn Vanoni. "He loves to see the children experiencing the animals." This year Uncle Leo's Barn exhibits Sicilian Donkeys, Pygmy Goats (9 weeks old), Sheep, Calf, Ducks, Rabbits, and Guinea Pigs.

As Uncle Leo sat watching children play with his animal menagerie he enjoyed sharing his knowledge of Ventura County farming. "I started farming on my own in '49. You know where the golf course is in Saticoy? The length of the golf course, south to the river was my dad's.

You know I started out raising Lima beans, and in those days they didn't have wells. You depended on this sky up here. But it used to rain, but today, you don't know. How much will it rain this year? We used to get 20, 30 inches in a year. ... Anyway, course like the river you know before they put the dam in, it ran all year round. Oh yeah. Steelhead ran in there.

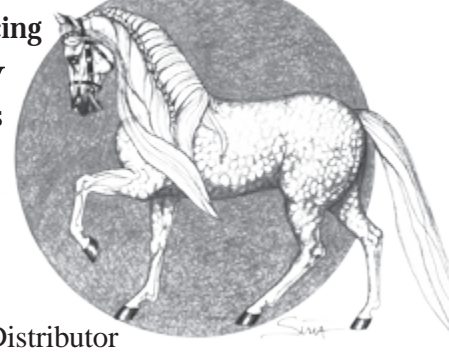
Lemons... my god this year it's less than half the income that we got last year. When you order at a restaurant, you gotta ask for a lemon, they give you a slice of lemon, they give you a slice about "that" thick, but still in the market my god they're 59, 60 cents each.... In the last couple of years, restaurants especially have quit using them. In other words, you gotta ask for lemon in your water.

Beverly Rueckert said, "This is a real institution here. Well, we just came from the Ag building... it was almost empty. For years I used to work with a friend and we'd do California Women for Agriculture (CWA) and get blue ribbons and that place would be packed. We always had blue ribbons. They got fourth.... haaaa. The only people that survive in agriculture now are not only great farmers, they're great business people, because you can't make it otherwise."

- Joel Anderson

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our new Steinbeck book, *Travels with Charlie in Search of America*.... Then dozing off again. Here we were in the middle of one of the **greatest Town Squares** in the world and the **Director of sTeVe**, with his hat off, was dozing with his head resting in his hand practically embedded into the table holding him up. The opened paperback serving as a mere prop from an earlier intention, apparent the scent of abject failure was starting to form like a visible mist... Suddenly, to our left, two large camera tripods were plopped down on their rubber bases making rubbery flubbing sounds on the pavement.

Since this is the **40th Anniversary** of the **Apollo 11 Lunar Landing** on **July 20, 1969**, we decided our inaugural national survey should examine random **American** attitudes on the future of human spaceflight. This detailed survey contains a pro-human spaceflight, an anti-human spaceflight set of questions, with a third set solely for those who believe the **Moon Landing** was faked by NASA on a large **Hollywood** soundstage.

On **July 20, 2009** we officially began our national survey in **Times Square New York City**, the crossroads of the world, or at least, the **U.S.** For many, **Times Square** once brought to mind images of lurid sex shops, a veritable army of paid sex workers mingling with used heroin needles competing for the last available spots of clean sidewalk to contaminate. Many assumed Manhattan's unstoppable vigor would stand forever like a granite monument to the cheap thrills of decadent lust. And that any effort to stop this massive gravity of eternal sin were as logical as rushing out to stop the **Atlantic Ocean's incoming tide** with nothing more than the will power of a true believer.



Then came **Rudy Giuliani** and, in league with the *Superheroes* of corporate **America**, fought back the maelstrom of *low morals*. Remolding the town square of **America's** largest city in the image of well.....something based on a **Disneyland** themed **THEATRE LAND** infused with a mystical steroid of kitsch, creating some sort of indecipherable legal hallucinogen.... of bright lights and more or less harmless eccentrics dressed as the *Statue of Liberty* or *The Naked Cowboy* and so on and on....

On Monday the 20th of July, with a moderate buzz of excitement in the air regarding the **Moon Landing Anniversary**, created by a few headlines on the newsstands and periodic TV clips on the *Giant ABC telescreen* on **Broadway** and **44th St.**, our erstwhile **Founder** and **Director** of sTeVe was trying to show us how the survey is done.

Which type of individuals or small groups of people waiting around, sitting or standing, might be willing to participate? However things were not going well, our staff's spirits were faltering. On the way to **Times Sq.** we crawled from bookstore to bookstore for the air conditioning and snack treats; we even bought a long time favorite book by **John Steinbeck**. I can't remember what it was. The first **New Yorkers** we approached around the **Ed Sullivan Theatre** were set on *'grumpy mode'* seemed from the heat and the *out-of-towner* tourists we approached weren't speaking **English**.... The heat and humidity were even more exhausting to the *California-based* sTeVe staff and so we were sitting, half asleep, napping at a metal folding table in the newer *even more Disney-fied Times Sq.*, and since portions of **Broadway** were recently closed to vehicular traffic.

Brightly colored patio tables, metal folding chairs and even lawn chairs now dot the pavement where cars and trucks recently crawled through the once perpetual traffic jam. And also replaced by a low roar of irrepresible pedestrian energy, flowing like a modest river through what has become a pedestrian mall framed by the **Great Glass Canyons** blasting the loudest and brightest names in the *American Product* and *infotainment* industries. **SONY! FAME! NBC!! ABC!!!** All of this still competing with the *last remaining lane of traffic* slicing down the length of the **Sq.**, intersliced with usual cross-town traffic on the numbered streets.

Even rivers of rushing water often form little eddies of stillness and by chance, sTeVe was resting just below **44th St.**, in the shade of an oddly quiet little well of calmness, encapsulated by the mayhem rushing all around.

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For a few moments reading

persistent and single minded in his perpetual quest for the honey".

"Good - say that. After these two, it'll be that little girl in pink over there, and then you". Right then two young adults in their mid to late 20s, dressed in black with a few visible tattoos and assorted piercings seemingly required for that age

range these days, were getting wired with wireless microphones. A waifish man with a modified Mohawk who looked very out of place in his *Disney Loves Pooh Bear* shirt on, was trying different reflective boards to bounce more light on their faces.

"Okay". We were thinking amongst ourselves, "...here we are asking people to participate in our project, how could WE say 'no'?"

The perky PA returned saying, "Just a few more minutes, let me go get a release form for you to sign and we'll have a sound tech

put a mic on you." We quickly started calling a few friends who might have something interesting to say about *Winnie the Pooh*. While talking to one of them, we saw the little girl belting out the theme song from the cartoon....

Then she was done and we were up, but they decided to move the operation to the street corner of **44th** and **B'Way**. Walking over to the sidewalk, through the crowd, the young female PA was explaining that they were looking for sound bites to promote the new *Winnie the Pooh* film since this was the **40th Anniversary of Pooh mania** launched by **Disney** in **1969**. They decided to tape another young girl, then sTeVe and while that was happening, a sound tech came over to introduce himself and feed a wire through our shirt... we were now mic-ed for sound.

They ushered over our own director of sTeVe over to the invisible mark on the sidewalk they wanted him to stand at and he handed our little digital camera to one of the PA's and, while we were tempted to video it ourselves, decided against it. This was a *bona-fide Disney* production after all.

Suddenly the director/baby sitter coach like guy, with an intense stare through his thick glasses tried to give the proper motivation. "Okay, I'm going to ask you a few questions; include the question in your answer, and don't look at the cameras, look right at me."

With three beefy cameramen and a several thin light guys and two hefty soundmen with cute and sexy PA's and other assorted looki-loos stuck to the whirl pool pocket of the mobile TV studio like leaves in a stream, that was going to be difficult.

"First, what's your name and where are you from?"



Benny Spiewak

"My name is **Steve Knauff**, from **San Francisco, California**."

"What's your favorite memory of **Winnie the POOH**?" My favorite memory of *Winnie the Pooh*.... While I'm not an academic expert on *Winnie the Pooh*, what I remember most is that even though *Pooh* may have been slow, he was very steadfast and in his persistent quest for the honey. He found a goal in life and in that pursuit, he was unstoppable. He even moved like the precious honey he was perpetually seeking.

"Any other favorite memories?" he said smiling for the first time.

"I seem to recall once *Trigger* was very terrified by the *Humpalumps*, or something like that"

"**Tigger**" he corrected me.

"Oh yeah - 'Tigger' - it's been a long time...."

"When was the first time you remember seeing *Winnie the Pooh*?"

"It was so long ago.... It must have been when I was 9 or 10, I'm 49 now... I assume it must have been the movie or at least the cartoon on TV...."

"Can you sing the song?"

"No, I can't remember it all...."

"Come-on - 'Winnie the Pooh...'"

Leading our now frighteningly embarrassed director along...

"*Winnie the Pooh*....", waiting desperately for him to continue...

So he repeated the opening and we repeated again but to no avail.

"*Winnie the Pooh*...." sTeVe echoed fading away....

Then, he thanked sTeVe and it was on to the next person on the street. The main sound guy walked over to turn off the mic and said surrealistically,

"You can sing, don't let anyone tell you can't".

"Huh?"

Interrupted by the young female PA who said exactly what we've been saying to our own interviewees, "Thank you for participating!"

"Sure. Thank you."

With a renewed vigor after a nap and participating in their little 40th anniversary project, the sun and heat of the humid summer air fading as a cool breeze suddenly sifted through. Refreshed from our little diversion, sTeVe and his invisible crew moved away from the *44th street dreamland* toward the new bleachers on 45th, sponsored by **TICKETS on Broadway**. There, to our absolute and utter amazement was an **Apollo** era *'astronaut'* arriving by *Pedi-cab* to the heart of the *Disneyfied Wonderland*. He rose heroically from the back seat and, with his flag stiff on the aluminum pole he proudly held in his left hand, began surveying the landscape smugly.

He magically jumped off the cab as if in reduced lunar gravity and proceeded moon hopping through the crowd sitting at more folding tables and heading for the bleachers. **Times Sq** was his stage and a single deft cameraman his crew. They both moved in and around the seemingly disinterested crowd, a few taking pictures of the unexpected action. Then in a moment when the camera was off in between takes, the actor-astronaut was in earshot at the base of the bleachers, our fearless director called out, "*Mr. Astronaut*, can we interview you?" He could not hear but yet another production assistant, a young **Asian-American** male appeared from around the corner of the base of the statue in front of the bleachers and looked at us as he were in the now. sTeVe enthusiastically asked, "Are you with this production?" "Yes."

"Can we interview him when he's done?"

"What are you...." He drifted off amidst the noise of the crowd.

"We're, sTeVe". Pointing at our hat. "In conjunction with the *Ojai VIEW*, from **Ojai, California** - have you ever heard of **Ojai**?"

"No." He said as if that were an absurd or trick question - as if thinking in his mind silently, *'should I?'*

"It's **California's** version of a small town of sorts, just north of **LA**, near **Santa Barbara**.... We're traveling the country this summer conducting a national public opinion poll on the future of human spaceflight. **WILL YOU HELP US**?"

"Sure, he should be done soon. He was supposed to be done already."

The **Apollo Astronaut** and his cameraman continued moon walking his way up to the top of the bleachers where he opened his helmet and proclaimed for all to hear "*I deserve a proper ending*." Or was it "...*an ad that big*?"

We asked, "I deserve an ad that big?"

"*Big fat pig*-" he corrected me, "We're taping an ad for a website..."

"Oh, that kinda reminds me of **Monty Python's LIFE OF BRIAN**, when the older folks at the back of the large crowd listening to Jesus' Sermon on the Mount can't quite hear rich and mistakenly believe he has said **AND THE GREEKS**

SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH". The young PA did not seem to know what we were talking about.

After several trips moon hopping up to the top of the **TKTS** on **BROADWAY** bleachers, heroically lifting his face plate and yelling out "*I deserve a big fat pig*", the **Apollo Astronaut-Actor** was ready for his interview with sTeVe.

"Hi. We're sTeVe and working with the **Ojai VIEW** from **Ojai, California** conducting a national survey on the future of human spaceflight. You're the most appropriate person we've encountered yet! Will you help us?"

"Sure. This is very cool. I'm obviously very pro space-flight."

"Excellent. We'll go fast since I know you must be roasting in your suit: #1, Do you think people should work and live in space, i.e. manned missions to the **Moon, Mars** and **Beyond**?"

"YES."

"Do you think NASA, on a **Hollywood-like** set, faked the **Apollo Moon Landings**?"

"NO."

"Have you ever been polled about any space related issues?"

"No."

"Have you ever been polled about any topic ever?"

"Yes."

How old is the **Earth: A. 6-10,000 years; B. 35,000 years; C. 5.4 million years or D. 4.5 Billion years**?"

"D."

"Okay, that means you'll fill out the **Pro-Space** flight survey, That just has an additional 10 questions. We'll go fast:

And so it went. Noteworthy response to #9 "DO AVERAGE REGULAR PEOPLE LIKE YOU AND I (WITHOUT SPECIAL TRAINING LIKE MILITARY PILOTS AND SCIEN-

TISTS) BELONG IN SPACE?" "Yes, Greatly agree, they used to say we did not belong in the sky."

"Okay, one last question; would you like to be notified of the results of this poll?"

"Yes!" He filled out his email address and we concluded with our standard, "*Thank you for participating*." Handing him one of our cards as he finished climbing out of his space suit.

After that, we all needed a break from **Times Sq** and on the way over to the **Rockefeller Center** at **Fifth Avenue**, where we imagined sitting calmly at the *Dean and Deluca cafe*, that is the outside background shot for the **NBC Today** show, but while we were still forcing our way through the outer edge of the **Time Sq** chaos, we overheard a melodic pitchman singing above the noise of the crowd, "Can we interview you quickly about your beliefs on the future of human spaceflight?"

"Nah, it WAS ALL FAKED."

Besides I got to do my gig man, I'm working here. He sang over the noise of the crowd.

"I know, it won't take long," sTeVe said in a friendly but aggressive manner in between his delivery.

"I'll tell ya how it was faked...." his buddy suddenly chimed in. He was giving away seats for some nearby comedy club like scores of other lanyard-wearing denizens of **Times Sq**. "... on a big **Hollywood** set and out in the desert, right?"

"Well, we're trying to remain impartial; you guys would be perfect. We need to interview some of those who think it was faked. It'll just take a few minutes. In between your pitches and sales... come on, help us out."

"Yeah man, I'll do it with you." The comedy club seat give-away guy volunteered.

The first man shrugged agreeably.

"Okay, it'll be a dual interview" our persistent director agreed.

So after the preliminary questions, in which they both interestingly agreed on the future of human spaceflight, "if possible" they both said, we turned to the MLWF portion of our survey. "How did you hear the moon

landing was faked and how was it done?"

"Saw something on *Discovery Channel* and on **FOX**, and our own research. The flag moves! Plus, that's how people are - It was just a big distraction from the Vietnam war. And the background in the videos is similar to the desert... and why do all the scenes on the **Moon** look the same?"

"... sTeVe was writing as fast as he could but in the jostling crowd and the continuous pitches it was rather difficult to get every word.

"Yeah man and there's no stars in the pictures... YOU LIKE COMEDY? FREE SEATS TONIGHT!! SHOW STARTS IN ONE HOUR!!!"

"Yeah, and the radiation would cook you in an instant...."

"YOU LIKE COMEDY?... Yeah, when you go beyond the, what's it called? The Van something Belt?"

"Van Allen Belt" our director added.

"Yeah, them. You can't travel beyond the **Van Allen Belts** yet... Maybe one day. FREE SEATS TONIGHT. YOU LIKE COMEDY DON'T YOU, MISS?" he said to a fast moving young beauty already lost in the passing crowd.

"OOH she was hot. Did you see the angry look she gave me?" The comedy guy said wistfully, looking after her vanishing memory.

"Since both you guys are also Pro future human spaceflight, any chance I can ask you 10 more questions?"

By the looks on their faces we could tell that was a non-starter. So our director asked the comedy seat give away guy to take a picture of sTeVe interviewing the first pitch man. Then they wanted a picture of the two of them with their cameras. Does every single person in **America** have a digital camera of one kind or another at all times? We wondered what **John Steinbeck** would have said about that.

However they did not think any other **NASA** activities were faked, they had never heard of the **Godfather** of the **MLWF** crowd, former **NASA engineer Bill Kaysing**, they did not even agree with the stereotypical **MLWF** standard mantra "*We could not have landed on the Moon in the 60s, the technology was not developed enough*." However they did believe the **Soviet Union** was in on the conspiracy and that an astonishing 33.3 percent of **Americans** shared their view, when it is nowhere near that high. They also were certain robotic landers had brought any of the alleged **Moon** rocks back to **Earth** but declined to estimate the quantity in pounds. It is too soon to quantify theirs and the other anti and/or **MLWF** respondents; they are thus far a distinct minority.

More on the adventures of sTeVe on the road asking the big questions of the day in the months ahead.

- sTeVe Knauff

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Red Neck Woman



Gretchen Wilson

"The Ventura Fair Foundation, they told me right before I came up here that their barns are falling apart, their horse stables and the barns over there for the 4-H Kids are falling down, so if you guys feel that you're in a really generous mood tonight, then why don't you go ahead and give back to them because they want to build new barns [to prevent barn demolition] right here in their hometown for the Kids in 4-H. We might be the first generation to outlive our children. So with all that's



Fiddlin' Dan Hochhalter goin' on.....you know I know that everybody is facing tough times right now, but really all you gotta do is \$10 and it really goes a long way in the end."
-- Gretchen Wilson, Aug. 10, 2009

Cop Watch Ojai

Thanks for your time and please keep up the good work.
Your friend and neighbor, Joe

Good Morning Watchers,

Wow I guess there is a new Neighborhood Watch Program in town. The neighbors on Bald Street have banded together and are in the process of taking control of their neighborhood. This morning at 9am, I sent out an alert about a prowler causing problems in the area of Bald Street in the City of Ojai. Well, within 6 hours the neighbors identified the suspect, found a victim wanting to prosecute and called the police. Deputies arrived and, with cooperation of the neighborhood, the suspect was arrested and given a court date. This same suspect was recently arrested for indecent exposure, again with the help of some very alert neighbors. This neighborhood has taken to heart our motto of "let's catch a crook". This is a great example of what a neighborhood can do when they work hand and hand with their deputies.

Keep up the good work and keep those crooks coming.
Joe
I can be reached at
ojaivalley.citywatch@ventura.org

Beatles Week: LOMAX IN LIVERPOOL

Apple Recording Legend Jackie Lomax is in Liverpool for 3 Weeks, in special celebration of the 40th Anniversary of The Beatles Rooftop Concert. Lomax was Apple's first signed Artist. Jackie left Ojai Aug. 16, and is "Putting a band together and Recording while in Manchester." He'll also be performing at key dates with his band, The Undertakers, while connecting with more friends and family. Jackie is being sponsored by Cavern Tours as part of their annual "Beatles Week" blowout.
Jackie left Ojai Aug. 16, and is "Putting a band together and Recording while in Manchester." He'll also be performing at key dates with his band, The Undertakers, while connecting with more friends and family. Jackie is being sponsored by Cavern Tours as part of their annual "Beatles Week" blowout.
Jackie Lomax celebrates his 65th Birthday at the Jester in Ojai, May 10 with musicians Jack Joshua, bass and Liverpudlian, Gwenovive Lamb, sax.
info. www.jackielomax.com

Ventura - Main Street Fair



Peoples Park: Taylor Lyman (top right) future American Idol star, belts out the vocals in Ventura during the Open Mike for Kids (11-1pm, Sat), said event organizer Camille Harris, "It's going absolutely wonderful, the community loves this. It's a place for everyone to play, the kids play with hoola hoops and they have open

WILLIAMS POEM

"I Gotta Bad Case of Them Neda's Dead ! Blues"

This Ol' tired and weary heart of mine
Just broke once again
One more grim poignant time
Was my Bad Day at Black Rock
As I watched the world news
My psyche blind sided
By them sad Neda blues
Spencer Tracy and Lee had nothing on me
My conscience was shook
By a vicious left hook
Sad visions of Neda closed in on me
Like a thunder bolt right
Dropped me dead on my knees
Watching little Neda die

Had to let my hair down
Had to have a good cry
Oh Neda dear Neda
You shattered our hearts
As you lay there dying
Your eyes opened wide
With shock and terror
And cold steel fear
Bravely faced the grim reaper
As the bloody end neared
Then as the world watched
Little Neda died
A scene so damn grim
Even hell's angels cried
You see all that Neda ever wanted to be
Was basic indeed
A modest request,
Just her right to be free
And for that she was shot
Gunned down by a sniper

A random act
That sent a gut wrenching message
To the masses
You will not be heard
You're just bourgeois
Simple Gauche lower classes
Then I drifted away
With Mr. Tambourine man
My best pal Jack Daniel
At my side
Number 7 and I
Took a fantasy ride
I stood tall by Neda
Kept her out of harm's way
Allowed her to live
For a far better day
From my fog I returned to reality
It was all just a dream
Just a fantasy
In truth Neda died

Her friends at her side
As they prepared her to die
They consoled one another
As they prayed and cried
As Neda's life blood
Drained from her face
She became a brave martyr
For the whole human race
Oh would I give a penny
If I could be
Allowed to live out my fantasy
I'd be her Holden pal
Her Caulfield friend
Pretty Neda's protector
Through thick and thin
If just I could be
Her bodyguard guy
I'd be Neda's catcher
Her proud Catcher...In the Rye
By William Williams
AKA Billy Dee Williams, July 4, 2009



OpenCHURCH Feeding Families



Pastor Rowan and Elise Vansleve



Volunteers load food before the food give away



Richard who moved from Los Angeles to join openchurch.cc, with Dana



openCHURCH is located at 333 W. 7th St. in Oxnard



Grace and her son Jude volunteer at weekly food bank



Mike Stoli volunteers at openchurch.cc



The OpenCHURCH Food Bank feeds over 1,500 people each Wednesday



Local man receives a food box stuffed with over 22 lbs of fresh produce

Pastor Rowan and Elise Vansleve have brought their youthful idealism to a practical reality of a God Friendly, people savvy ministry right here in Oxnard which is not only feeding souls but hungry families. With a tease line of "I came for the coffee, find out why" they are opening doors to feed over 1,500 people a week, with plans to give away 1,000 turkeys with fixings on Thanksgiving weekend. Giving live worship and bible teaching to help people lead a "God first" life is a calling for Rowan and Elise who walk the walk of a God who loves and wants to provide for his people. It's their dream to build a church which will be not only a place of wor-

ship but a home for it's members. Face painting during weekly food bank they wait for contractors to finish the church. "The kids get involved and start helping out" said Rowan proudly who understands the beauty of people helping people and the sense of community that volunteering brings. To volunteer time, services, or donate to this dynamic outreach ministry visit the Open Church at www.openchurch.cc Services: Saturdays, 6:30 pm, (Spanish), and Sundays, 6 pm (English), 333 West 7th St. Oxnard Ca. 487-6314

Food Bank and their back-to-school backpack giveaway while they wait for contractors to finish the church. "The kids get involved and start helping out" said Rowan proudly who understands the beauty of people helping people and the sense of community that volunteering brings. To volunteer time, services, or donate to this dynamic outreach ministry visit the Open Church at www.openchurch.cc Services: Saturdays, 6:30 pm, (Spanish), and Sundays, 6 pm (English), 333 West 7th St. Oxnard Ca. 487-6314

Damn Good Reading!



Monday Night Jam Session in VTA



Saul Avila, Sax



Benny Santiago, Bongo's



Melissa James and Vega



Bill Jewell and his Epiphone Sheridan guitar



Curvaceous Carla and Suzanne Paris

Groovin' at the Good Club Musician's Brew
For that night I'll call it a fusion music because I have so many types of musicians that come out from different genres of music; jazz, R & B, rock, blues, it never gets old.....
"We're going to do a musicians brew project involving everyone there. Look for it early next year."
- Coso
www.cosolive.com
Lanesha Baca, singer
Dyane, keyboards
Angelo Arce, keyboards
Manon Franklin, drums
Coso, bass
Davey Miller, drums
Bruce Kimmel, guitar



Frank and Barbara Williams, Bridgett, Matt and Hannah, Rock!, Cindy and J.C., Hailey Fox, Peggy Fox, Yoli Shouten and Jennifer Chavez, 'Electric' Bryan Sutton, Mary Collier and Eric Johnston, Buzzing after the show, Singer, Cherie Bebout-Oakley, Sheriff Dennis Carpenter and daughter, Megan Hamlin

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Suzanne Paris & Dan Wilson, at a Live recording, 1998



David James Holster & Suzanne Paris photos © Joel Anderson



Jonathan Raffetto, June 6, 1996

THE LATE GREAT U.S.A. R. Ellis Smith The Plan !!



Even if you don't like Robin Williams, you have to like this! Robin Williams, wearing a shirt that says 'I Love New York' in Arabic.

You gotta love Robin Williams.....Even if he's nuts! Leave it to Robin Williams to come up with the perfect plan. What we need now is for our UN Ambassador to stand up and repeat this message. Robin Williams' Plan... (Hard to argue with this logic!)

'I see a lot of people yelling for peace but I have not heard of a plan for peace. So, here's one plan.'

1) 'The U.S. will apologize to the world for our 'interference' in their affairs, past & present. You know, Hitler, Musso- lini, Stalin, Tojo, Noriega, Milosevic, Hussein, and the rest of those 'good 'ole' boys', we will never 'interfere' again.

2) We will withdraw our troops from all over the world, starting with Ger- many, South Korea, the Middle East, and the Philippines. They don't want us there. We would station troops at our bor-



Hippie Mark



Singer-Songwriter- Artist Showcases at 8pm every Thurs.

Why wait till Fri- days? New original material from ris- ing stars in the California music scene.

The VIEW talks to Jonathan McEuen: "I would have never gone there if it wasn't for Phil Salazar. Back in September of 1996 we were on the road with John McEuen, and he had been talking about this place, Voltaire in Ventura.... I called Phil from Carpinte- ria and said, 'meet you there'... and the rest is history! Then I went to Ventura and met every- one from the band Southern Cross, and that was when I met Raffetto, Cooley, to

McEuen about Cafe Voltaire name a few, and The Legendary Jimmy Adams who was there. They were all jammin' together...it was, like, a nice introduction that they, Phil and Jimmy put us together with all the young cats. The new kid in town and the guys that had been out there surfin' every day. We made music seven nights a week and camped out back, and made Big love with everybody... rrrrrrrraaa.....! - Editor, Joel Anderson

Featuring Todd Winokur presents: Conejo Valley Family Music Series Afro/Delta Drums and Blues Storyteller Charles "Wsir" Johnson Mindblowing Accoustic Harmonies Dogwood Moon Jonathan McEuen Special guests as Jonathan's back up band "Sugar Cream" \$5 per person or \$10 per family Great Food! Goebel Senior Center in Thousand Oaks (Next to the Thousand Oaks Library) Sunday Aug 23rd 2pm -7pm A full afternoon of family entertainment featuring Drum Circle Free Rock Painting and Music Shaker making "Gods gift to you is your talent, what you do with it, is your gift to god"... Voltaire For Information Call Todd Winokur 805-367-6212 or email him at toddwinokur@yahoo.com A great time for the whole family !! Finally something to do with the whole family in Thousand Oaks you can afford !! www.jonathanmceuen.com www.dogwoodmoon.com www.wsirarts.com

Keepin' up with the... Brian Faith Band

People that aren't in our band don't know... they'll always assume the female's the lead singer, I don't even want that credit, my guys are just amazing, they taught me to sing. We're all lead singers, that's how I feel about it." said Karen Perry, Lead Vocals/Percussion, of The Brian Faith Band.

Ernie Joseph explained, "That premise (team playing) comes from sports. You know what it takes, it's sacrifice. It's not all about being a star. Think of all the times you block, you never get credit for that. A guy goes into the touchdown and I'm knocking out the linebacker."

"Like we all sing," said Cory Orosco, keyboards and also shares vocals, "...then Brian brought his voice into the groove, and Johnny brought his voice and did his songs that he was real good at, and I brought mine, Ernie brought his, and then we brought Karen's in, and we all contribute with our vocals."

"Exactly," said Ernie, agreeing, "because so many bands are self-centered, that's what ruins bands, people think ya know THEY are the whole band and that's what... really... Look what Journey did to Steve Perry? They're still playing without him, so... They're all saying, 'Where's Perry?' He wasn't 'the band'... It was Journey, not Steve Perry. 'With our band it's actually everybody...'"

"I was a sprinter, third leg on the 440 relay. Brian played defensive end for San Marcos High... he was Most Valuable Lineman. Cory was a quarter- back and also a pitcher in baseball, he was a natural. The three of us played, and Karen was also a team player at Royal High School in Simi... baseball and soccer. When we moved here I was a sophomore, and was already playing football for Santa Barbara High and everybody was like, 'Oh you're not going to leave', the camaraderie and my friends... I just couldn't leave them because they wanted me to stay and I knew all my old friends that I grew up with... and I just didn't want to let 'em down so I drove all the way from Goleta to Santa Barbara because they wanted me because I was a team player."

"I sacrificed my body for the team and what would happen is you would get an adrenaline rush; it's just unreal when you're on the field. We traveled... Camarillo, Ventura, Oxnard, played all those schools. I got everybody to sing in the bus on the way to the game, we were doing "Mula... hang on sloopy, sloopy hang on..." the bus driver said...? 'you can sing, but sit down.' Yeah we'd all dance around and everything. Constant singing before we got to the stadium. "You know with sports, the kids relate to sports,

keeps them out of trouble, you know you don't want to knock off anybody, you're too tired to fight anybody, you know you're exhausted, you have to study, that's all you have time for.

"Yeah... and then they get 'yeah, yeah if you don't get your grade, they don't let you play football.' Coach always looks at your grade, 'hey... man you better bring this up, you're not playin'.... I don't want a guy that doesn't think, man. You gotta be thinkin' dude,' they tell guys like that. They just look at you, just scrutinize your report card ya know. And yeah so it's a team thing, I think the kids, they relate to that, relate to sports you know, as in track, music and all that.

"Currently, recording out of SRS in Goleta, We're backing up Jimmy LeRoy, he's from the band ICU, and we're helping him build his songs, and co-writing and producing him. Another artist were currently working with is the Brian Wise Project, mostly little punk and classic rock, upbeat, which is kinda interesting. He's recording in another studio, but we're going to go down and support him. He



Brian Faith aka Ernie & The Emperors

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Voltaire Renaissance in

by Suzanne Paris Voltaire was a surge of creative energy dosed inside of a piece of time... a slice of life...the energy of art and music that surrounded the time-space of Cafe Voltaire sounded off like rainbows from an LSD induced Jimi Hendrix concert.... tall lazy shadows cast amongst the thousands of plants surrounding every table and chair on the outdoor patio.....it almost seemed like you could call upon a fortune teller at any table, at any time.....

This is where I first met Jonathan McEuen, Ksenia, Jonathan Raffetto, The Legendary Jimmy Adams, Hippie Mark, Hat Man Dave and many others...when I first moved to town

KOHLI'S MUSIC PIT

TODD WINOKUR Returns With A New Music Series!



Todd and Evi Winokur

by Michael Kohli Greetings, fellow music freaks! The month of August will bring us the return of TODD WINOKUR to the music scene of Ventura County. A name that is still widely familiar within the scene.

with the very talented songwriter and my partner, David Holster Mary Wilson and The Legendary Jimmy Adams to write songs for Dave (First Voltaire Cover Shot, Ojai & Ventura VOICE). Why wait till Friday? New original material from rising stars in the California music scene.

- Suzanne Paris info. thepariscollection@gmail.com myspace.com/suzanneparis myspace.com/jonathanmceuen Jonathan McEuen and Suzanne Paris present... "Therefore Thursdays!"

Todd Winokur was known for his CAFE VOLTAIRE endeavors. A music lounge/restaurant/coffeehouse that was notoriously known for the venue's incredible taste in live music. You would see people from all ages coming by to check out the latest bands/artists. I'll never forget the nights I'd sit out on the patio watching through the window as

VOLTAIRE Continued, Page 26....

Gifts of the Family 7th Generation TAROT BY NATALYA FOR APPT. 805-794-6921

Kohli Rocks Night. Nicholby's Nightclub. Visit us on myspace!!!

wants us to put the sync back up and we're helping him.

"You might say that's our forte, backing people like Brian Wise, and then John Principe, keyboardist, singer-songwriter, actor, Streets of San Francisco.... he also played Suzanne Summers' husband in the movie, Fools. We're producing an EP called "A Love Divine," dedicated to the mothers spirit ev- erywhere, for their group called The Late Bloomer Band, also featuring Bobby Harris of the Drifters who sings lead vocals on a song called "Remember When" on the EP we're producing. And songs like the title track, "A Love Divine," "On With Peace," "Timeless," an instrumental featuring Brian Faith on Sax. The Brian Faith Band connected Principe and Harris together to do the project.

Also J.C. Martin, singer/songwriter, guitarist of the Black Angel Band, with key members, Cory Orosco, keyboards, myself on lead guitar, and Ronnie Turner, bass (son of Ike and Tina Turner), and Tina Stephens, drums. Did a trilogy; albums like O' Santa Barbara, O' California, O' San Francisco...."

Keep checking in for new songs from the band, go to Youtube.com and search "Brian Faith Band Songs."

www.myspace.com/brianfaithbandsongs

VIEW 'REAL' CLASSIFIED ADS

Environment
L.A. TRASH - Are you concerned Greedy Soulless Developer Corporate Types are moving to Ventura/S.B. Counties & bringing their nasty habits with them; trash, smog, S motivated overdevelopment, and snarmy business practices..... trying too hip to be cool?
email: editor@ojaiandventuraview.com
Is the Ojai Valley Headed for the San Fernando Valley? Has Downtown Ventura turned into an L.A. Redevelopment Nightmare?
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Have you been kicked around by arrogant "above it all" corporate newspaper publishers and editors who come from distant lands, fire long-standing staff, cut salaries for all but themselves, run your beloved town paper into the ground, rob your town's soul, generally make you feel that you're last weeks lunch?
Do tell: views@ojaiandventuraview.com

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VIEW MUSIC LISTINGS

• 20 Aug. -Santa Barbara Bowl, - Thurs. 6:30pm -Depeche Mode w/special guest Peter Bjorn & John, - 962-7411
• 20 Aug. -Jester, Ojai, - Jonathan McEuen and Suzanne Paris presents "Therefore Thursdays" Singer-Songer Artist Showcase Night, Witness the surge of creativity happening at the Jester from the newest singer-songwriter artists. Thurs. 8-12pm, Bookings info. thepariscollectio@gmail.com - 640-8001
• 20 Aug. -Nicholby's Night Club, Ventura, - Pat Salisbury Band, The Calamity, The Grandma's, 9-11:30pm - 653-2320
• 21 Aug. -Java Joe's, 2950 Johnson Dr., Ventura - Fri. 8pm -Claire Marie, Julie Neumark, Dave Carducci, - 275-0304
• 21 Aug. -Shores, Oxi, - Chronic Stew, - 984-5533
• 21 Aug. -Mai's Café, Ventura, - Catwalk, Fri. 7:30pm - 652-2061
• 22 Aug. -Dancing Oak Ranch, Ojai, - Dan Willard, OMG Krewe Band, The OMG Wake-Up Krewe Band will lay down those swampy grooves and play Cajun and Zydeco music that you just have to dance to. Sat. 3pm to 8pm - 665-8852
• 21 Aug. -Java Joe's, 2950 Johnson Dr., Ventura - Sat. 7:30pm -The Chris & Jordan Experience, Chase Carlisle, - 275-0304
• 22 Aug. - Los Caporales/Ojai Sat. 7-10pm - Bob Jones and Randy Rich - 646-5452
• 22 Aug. - Zoey's, - Paleface - 652-1137
• 22 Aug. -Shores, Oxi, - Chronic Stew, - 984-5533
• 23 Aug. -Santa Barbara Bowl, - Sun. 7pm -Diana Krall Quiet Nights World Tour '09, - 962-7411
• 23 Aug. -Todd Winokur presents, Jonathan McEuen, Dogwood Moon, Conejo Valley Family Music Series, featuring Afro/Delta Drums and Blues Storyteller Charles "Wsir" Johnson -Sun. 2-7pm -Goebel Senior Center in Thousand Oaks (next to the Thousand Oaks Library). A full afternoon of family entertainment featuring Drum Circle, Free Rock Painting and Music, Shaker making Great Food!, "Gods gift to you is your talent, what you do with it, is your gift to god"... Voltaire, A great time for the whole family!! Finally something to do with the whole family in Thousand Oaks you can afford!!, Information, Call Todd Winokur- 805-367-6212, or email him at toddwinokur@yahoo.com
• 25 Aug. -Mai's Café, Ventura, - The Spires, Dreamcolor, Special Guests... Tues. 9pm - 652-2061
• 26 Aug. -Ventura Theater, Vta, - Marilyn Manson, Wed. 7pm - 653-0721
• 27 Aug. -Jester, Ojai, - Jonathan McEuen and Suzanne Paris presents "Therefore Thursdays" Singer-Songer Artist Showcase Night, Witness the surge of creativity happening at the Jester from the newest singer-songwriter artists. Thurs. 8-12pm, Bookings info. thepariscollectio@gmail.com - 640-8001
• 28 Aug. -Java Joe's/Ventura Fri. Kangus 8pm - 2950 Johnson Dr. 275-0304
• 28 Aug. -Ventura Theater, Vta, - Eek-A-Mouse, Fri. 7pm - 653-0721
• 29 Aug. -Java Joe's/Ventura Sat. Chris O'Brien 8pm - 2950 Johnson Dr. 275-0304
• 29 Aug. -Ventura Theater, Vta, - Warning, Sat. 7pm - 653-0721
• 29 Aug. -Megasound Studios, Vta, - The

FREE VIEW MUSIC Listings & Submissions Live Wires & Hot Tips Musicians and Venues E-MAIL the VIEW your Gigs!

PLEASE, NO DJ'S, NO Karaoke & NO Elevator Music... Disco is OK, but Rock n' Blues are better!
Req. Info: • Venue & Musician/Band Name • Phone • Dates/Times!
listings@OjaiandVenturaView.com

Sun, 7pm - 2950 Johnson Dr. 275-0304
• 30 Aug. -Ventura Theater, Vta, - The Addicts, Sun. 7pm - 653-0721
• 30 Aug. -The Canyon, Agoura - Sun. -For-eigner - 879-5016
• 30 Aug. -Santa Barbara Bowl, - Sun 7pm -Kate Perry, - 962-7411
• 31 Aug. -Salzer's Records, Vta, - Dirty Words, Mannequin Men, Davila 666, Mon. 2pm - 639-2160
• 3 Sept. -Jester, Ojai, - Jonathan McEuen and Suzanne Paris presents "Therefore Thursdays" Singer-Songer Artist Showcase Night, Witness the surge of creativity happening at the Jester from the newest singer-songwriter artists. Thurs. 8-12pm, Bookings info. thepariscollectio@gmail.com - 640-8001
• 3 Sept. -Chumash Casino, Santa Ynez - Thurs. -Al Green, 8pm - 1/800-585-3737
• 3 Sept. -Ventura Chamber of Commerce, Vta, - Sunshine Brothers, Thurs. 5pm
• 4 Sept. -Pointsettia Pavilion, Vta, - Donna Greene & The Roadhouse Daddies, Donna Greene with the Ventura Jazz Orchestra, Fri. 7:30pm - 648-1143
• 4 Sept. -Red Cove, Vta, - Fri. -Deadbeat Sinners, Disfunction, D.on Darox, Rocken Dead, Whiskey Glass Eye, Dead of Night, 1809 E. Main St. - 643-1101
• 5 Sept -Red Cove, Vta, - Sat. - Live Burlesque Performance by

Casualties featuring Krumbums, Mouth Sewn Shut, Sat. 6:30pm - myspace.com/samtruk
• 29 Aug. -Mai's Café, Ventura, After - D Sat. 9pm - 652-2061
• 29 Aug. -Margarita Villa, Ventura Harbor, The Divine Crime, Sat. 9pm - 654-7906
• 29 Aug. - Los Coporales/Ojai Sat. 7-10pm - Bob Jones and Randi Rich - 646-5452
• 29 Aug. -JJ Brewsky's, Camarillo, - Chronic Stew, - 482-5949
• 30 Aug. -Megasound Studios, Vta, - Instead featuring Betrayed/Retaliate/Downpresser, Sun. 5pm - myspace.com/samtruk
• 30 Aug. -Java Joe's/Ventura Sat. JB King

Vixen's Vixen's, Radio Threat, Trailor Queen, The Resistors, The Iron Outlaws, Luck of the Draw, Give Em' Hell, The Formaldebrides, 1809 E. Main St. - 643-1101
• 5 Sept. -Java Joe's/Ventura Sat. Diamonds Under Fire, Sat, 8pm - 2950 Johnson Dr. 275-0304
• 6 Sept. -Ventura Wine & Jazz Fest. Shilts Sun, 1pm
• 6 Sept. - Ventura Music Festival, Dave Mason, Aaron Neville, The Neville Brothers, Jay Nash Sun, 8pm
• 6 Sept. - Ventura Hillside Music Fest., Arroyo Verde Park, Sun, 1pm
• 5 Sept. - Los Coporales/Ojai Sat. 7-10pm - Bob Jones and Randi Rich - 646-5452
• 5 Sept. -Santa Barbara Bowl, - Sat. 6:30pm -John Legend with very special guest; India Arie & Vaughn Anthony, - 962-7411
• 10 Sept. -Jester, Ojai, - Jonathan McEuen and Suzanne Paris presents "Therefore Thursdays" Singer-Songer Artist Showcase Night, Witness the surge of creativity happening at the Jester from the newest singer-songwriter artists. Thurs. 8-12pm, Bookings info. thepariscollectio@gmail.com - 640-8001
• 10 Sept. -Chumash Casino, Santa Ynez - Thurs. -Peter Frampton, 8pm - 1/800-585-3737
• 12 Sept. - Rookees Bar and Grill, Vta. Hollywood U2 (U2 Trib. Band), Sat. 10pm
• 12 Sept. -Santa Barbara Bowl, - Sat. 7pm - Bonnie Raitt & Taj Mahal-Alone & Together, - 962-7411
• 12 Sept. - Los Coporales/Ojai Sat. 7-10pm - Bob Jones and Randi Rich - 646-5452

Ojai Mardi Gras Band Dance Party



Ojai Concert Series invites you to the Ojai Mardi Gras Band Dance Party at Dancing Oak Ranch on Sat., Aug. 22, from 3 til 8pm. The OMG Wake-Up Krewe Band will lay down those swampy grooves and play Cajun and Zydeco music that you just have to dance to. There will be a dance floor, a Cajun style potluck, masks, costumes and a live auction so bring a deck chair and blanket, a fun dish to share, and your dancing shoes. A suggested donation of \$10 will help support the Ojai Mardi Gras, a non-profit event held each year as a fundraiser for someone with a medical need. Directions and more information, please call Shane at 805-665-8852

CAFE VOLTAIRE... Continued from Page 25...

the crowds of people were just dazzled by the music. The venue always provided a warm and inviting atmosphere. And, the music always felt like the perfect warm blanket around you as you sipped your hot chocolate!

As a scenester myself, CAFE VOLTAIRE was one of the beginning stepping stones of my own career. I was 18-years-old when I first began to study the music scene in Ventura. CAFE VOLTAIRE became one of my regular stops just to check out the live music scene. I remember a friend telling me, to always learn from a person like Todd Winokur. In a way - I truly did. He always warmly welcomed me to the venue. And, I enjoyed watching a lot of VOLTAIRE's music regulars.

This month, Aug. 23 from 2-7pm, Todd Winokur will launch a brand new music series, "Conejo Valley Family Music Series." at the Goebel Senior Center (Next to the Thousand Oaks Library).

- 13 Sept. -Toni Gooden & Friends, 'Voices of Praise,' EP Released @ Solid Rock Christian Center, Vta., Shibumi (Sly & the Family Stone) produced, - Sun. - 644-7722
• 13 Sept. -Santa Barbara Bowl, - Thurs. 7pm -Killers, - 962-7411

The event will be outdoors in the park and will kick off at 2pm with a full drum circle. Artists announced: Charles "Wsir" Johnson, Dogwood Moon, and Jonathan McEuen.

--Michael Kohli KOHLI ROCKS ENTERTAINMENT www.kohlismusicpit.com myspace.com/djkohli
PS: My next KRE live band installment will kick off a new music series at Nicholby's Aug. 20 titled, "Local Scene'd."

"The secret to boredom is to tell everything." - Voltaire



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email the VIEW YOUR MUSIC listings@ojaiandventuraview.com Next Issue of the VIEW Out Sept.

Java Joe's 2950 Johnson Dr., #125 Ventura, Ca 93003 www.cafejavajoes.com

Featuring Great Music Every Weekend
Fri. Aug. 21st, Julie Neumark & Claire Marie
Sat. Aug. 22nd, Chase Carlisle (exclusive event).

Fri. Aug. 28th, Kangas - Live
Sat. Sept. 25th, Diamonds Under Fire Shows Start at 8pm OPEN MIC EVERY SUNDAY For More Information On Shows Go To: www.cafejavajoes.com 275-0304

Featured Artist, Carrie Reynolds Carpintera native, beach inspired vibrant paintings of a unique quality
Come and see the NEW and EXCITING things going on at Java Joe's

Guitar Planet advertisement featuring a cartoon guitar character, various guitar brands (Gibson, Fender, etc.), and contact information for guitar repair and lessons.

Western Web Printing advertisement with the headline 'Impress your clients with color!' and a background image of a church building.

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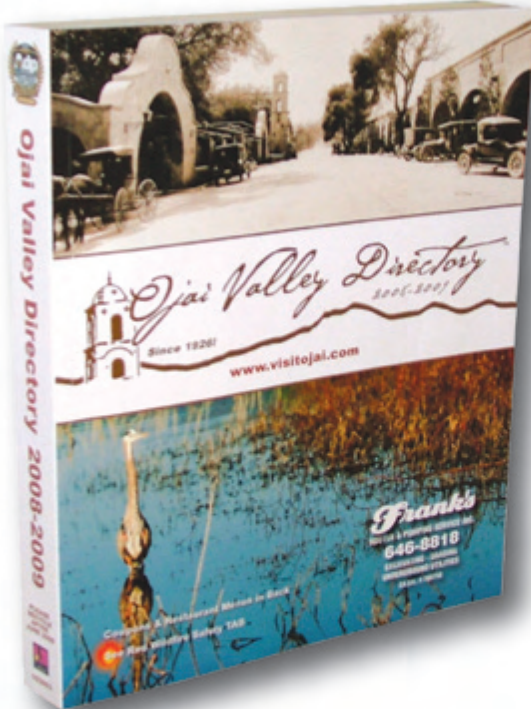
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