

The Ojai & Ventura



VIEW



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Vol. 3 • No. 5 • Issue 41 • Published in the Ojai & Ventura Gold Coast Region • FREE • November 2011

Ojai's Water Warriors



Photo © 2011, Joel Anderson



Photo © 2011, Joel Anderson

Golden State Still Taking Ojai's Money



Photo © 2011, Joel Anderson

And What They're Doing With It! ~ Page 2

IS THERE JUST A LITTLE BIT OF "INTIMIDATION" GOING ON HERE... OR WHAT?

Dennis Leary Fights Back, Pg 14



Ojai's Water

Historical Context of Franchise Agreement by William Weirick - 11.3.11

The franchise agreement under which Golden State Water (GSW) currently operates apparently was a renewal of a previous franchise agreement which had an expiration date of 5/8/67 (OVN, 4/12/67).

Various discussions and debates delayed the approval of a new franchise agreement until the very last day of the old agreement.

The replacement franchise agreement was adopted over the objections of the City Attorney (John F. Fay), one City Councilman (Monroe Hirach), and an accountant (Godfrey Jacobs) acting in the capacity of an auditor of the city's books. These three also did not want the change from a fixed term to an indeterminate term renewal.

Historical Context Continued Pg 3...



- PETER MILHADO ~ MASKS PART II
- ORTIZ NURSERY FALL COLORS
- TOP TEN LIST
- WHY I CAN'T PAY...
- DAS WILLIAMS - OJAI LOCAL
- HIGH PRICE OF CAREER CHIEFS
- OTHERWORLDS - NEPAL HEALTHCARE
- TAKIN' IT TO THE STREETS
- PROTEST MOVEMENT GAINS GROUND
- JEFFERSON - CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'
- FOSSIL FUELS, BIOFUELS???
- NAPPIN' ON THE JOB?

Hear No Evil, See No Evil, Speak No Evil



Photo © 2011, Joel Anderson

Golden State Water Roustabouts



INSIDE: ART • PEOPLE • SOCIETY • POLITICS • ROCK N' ROLL • Ojai Day

— Dick Lynch
 Friend of mine has a sayin', "You'd tell a lie, even if the truth would save you." Water, have I been talking about water? Yep. Now it's time to pay the piper. The people of Ojai have seen Water rates go through the Sky, then higher again, really Sky High like Everest!

Michael Peavey is the former CEO of a major electric company (S.C.E. International) and he is also head of the state Public Utilities Commission (P.U.C.) that determines how big the rate increases are here in trusty ol' California. No wonder every GSW rate increase gets accepted, even when it's not necessary... Golden Mistake already charges 2-3 times higher than the other Ojai water companies.

I almost got up and left the Oct. 24 "meeting" when one speaker said GOLD-EN Mistake Water has filed for yet another rate increase. Something in the State government that allows that IS corrupt. A former CEO of an Electric company, the same company that is installing those DEATH RAY METERS, Michael Peavey, needs to be removed as the Chair of the P.U.C. Call Tony Strickland and Jeff Gorell's office. Peavey is about as trustworthy as KEN LAY FROM ENRON. Golden

Mistake asks Peavey and the P.U.C. say yes. EVERY TIME.

The P.U.C. never saw a rate increase they didn't like. Who said that profits in Golden Mistake were up 45% in the second quarter, and the P.U.C. allows them to make an 8.9% rate of return. Can you spell Monopoly or is it Mafia?

Golden Skates underestimates the people in this Valley... Casitas was financed with a 50 year bond. The last payment on that bond rolls on in Jan. 2012. Fifty years of responsible management...? and with a reliable water source and resource in Ojai. (Ouch 2012 how did time go by so quickly?) The big topic just yesterday was 1999. Time does go by fast... no matter how fast it flies by we won't get to the time when we outlive our need for Water. Basic Water, Life-giving Water.

Figures lie and liars figure! GSWC will slide show about the worlds state of water affairs, about 8 or 10 slides. None of them were about "Ojai." These water "experts" had every excuse for takin' our money, and none of the facts. What GSW did do was Threaten the residents of Ojai. They Huffed and Puffed and threatened to blow the House down. I need to remember to tell my Great Grand kids Raggedy Edge Continued Page 4...



Photos © 2011, Joel Anderson

Top Ten List WHY YOU CAN'T PAY YOUR WATER BILL

10. I spent three days at the hospital, admitted for dehydration...
9. I used up the money budgeted for this months water bill after paying last month's water bill.
8. I was Arrested for Robbing Peter to Pay Paul.
7. There was a Road Detour due to a broken water main.
6. Was too busy trying to understand my water bill rate increase.
5. I can't pay my water bill because I needed to buy food this month.
4. I live on social security. I bought food and paid my rent. There was nothing left for the water bill.
3. I don't feel like paying it.
2. The collective consciousness voted against it.
1. I was Busy Attending an Ojai FLOW Meeting.

Livin' with Your Golden State Water bill..... Send The VIEW your stories....

YOU WRITE WHAT YOU'RE TOLD!



THANKS, CORPORATE NEWS! We Couldn't Control The People Without You A Message From The Ministry Of Homeland Security

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR editor@ojaiandventuraview.com



Huffed and Puffed - Golden State Water "big wig" execs. could not blow Ojai down, Oct 24.



Hannah-Beth Jackson



Das Williams and a proud "Aunt" Suza

The Ojai Valley Democratic Club hosted a meet and greet (at the Bohemia Coffee House) Nov. 6. Featuring speakers were Das Williams (Assemblymember elect, 35th District: S.B./Vta. County - D-CA) and Hannah-Beth Jackson, (former Assemblymember, 35th District: S.B./Oxnard/Vta. - D-CA).

Discussion subjects included Ojai's High Water Rates (of course...),

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView

Career Bliss - Sky High is The Limit!

Golden State Water Salaries Company Profile - Ojai

Salaries - where your money goes

- Administrative Secretary Salaries at Golden State Water \$63k to \$75k
- Tax Manager Salaries at Golden State Water \$115k to \$138k
- Administrative Analyst Salaries at Golden State Water \$57k to \$68k
- Corporate Controller Salaries at Golden State Water \$141k to \$171k
- Information Technology Operations Manager Salaries at Golden State Water \$71k to \$87k
- Project Coordinator II Salaries at Golden State Water \$45k to \$55k
- Property Account Analyst II Salaries at Golden State Water \$45k to \$55k
- Risk Analyst Salaries at Golden State Water \$72k to \$88k
- Tax Specialist Salaries at Golden State Water \$75k to \$91k
- Tax Specialist I Salaries at Golden State Water \$48k to \$59k
- Temporary Assignment Salaries at Golden State Water \$38k to \$43k
- Temporary Position Salaries at Golden State Water \$43k to \$49k
- Utility Plant Accountant Salaries at Golden State Water \$75k to \$86k
- Utility Property Supervisor Salaries at Golden State Water \$76k to \$87k
- Water Quality Engineer Salaries at Golden State Water \$75k to \$86k
- Water Quality Technician Salaries at Golden State Water \$52k to \$59k
- Golden State Water Average Salary Range \$8k to \$77k to \$106k
- California Average Salary \$15k to \$47k to \$298k

Source: <http://www.careerbliss.com/salary/golden-state-water-salaries-292924/>



Bob Daddi

Democrats asked the tough questions.

Stop the Trucks, Revamping Pensions, Alternative Energy. A few Dem movers and shakers also attending were Judy Nelson, Michael Shapiro, Tom Erickson, Suza Francina, Bob Daddi, Helen Conly, Sean Keenan, Kenly Neufeld.

the Ojai and Ventura Real VIEW

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LETTER - 10/24 CORPORATE INTIMIDATION Golden State Water

— Leonard Klaif

To the Editor and the People of the Ojai Valley:

Along with 200 or so fellow residents of our Valley, I attended the meeting called by Golden State Water on Monday evening [Oct. 24]. It was an extremely instructive meeting. The Golden State representatives, primarily a Tennessee anti- eminent domain attorney, spent the first hour making it clear that (1) Golden State was not for sale, and (2) Golden State will do whatever it takes to drag out the eminent domain process and make it as costly as possible for us to go forward in our attempt to regain control of our water.

The people in the audience spent the next hour making it overwhelmingly clear that (1) we had taken on and defeated bigger corporate bullies than Golden State, and (2) that we would not be intimidated, and we would not be threatened, and not be bullied.

Reading between the proverbial lines of what Golden State said and did not say it seems clear that we will win, that eminent domain is an achievable goal, if we stick together and don't back down. Golden State has plans for additional "informational" meetings where they will again attempt to intimidate us. I will not attend and urge everyone to stay home. They made it clear that they will not budge. Why waste more time listening to their attempts to continue to bully and intimidate?

I urge everyone to support Ojai F.L.O.W. financially and otherwise, to place a F.L.O.W. poster in your yard, and make it clear to our elected officials that you want to take control of this most valuable and necessary resource, our water.

— Len Klaif, Ojai

Veteran's Day

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

—John Fitzgerald Kennedy



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FRANCHISE AGREEMENT Continued from page 1...

the higher relative rates of GSW's antecedent company, Southern California Water Company (SCW). However, the majority of the Council and the City Manager of the time responded that there was no need for a fixed term given the buy-out provisions of the agreement while contending that the appropriate forum for rate issues was the state Public Service Commission (PSC), not the city council chambers.

All of this was going on while the Ventura River Municipal Water District (VRMWD) and SCW were having a bit of a water war over the right to supply water to customers along Maricopa Hwy. (OVN, 4/16/67). Both companies were racing to lay supply lines in this area in order to expand their customer base. Lake Casitas was at full capacity at the time following several very high rainfall years soon after the dam was completed. SCW, beyond having the city council majority and the city manager support, was trying to use recently passed provisions of the California Public Utilities Code to intimidate VRMWD into backing off from extending lines to customers wanting to connect to its system. VRMWD was not backing off in the face of this pressure, especially since many of the potential customers in this area wanted service from VRMWD.

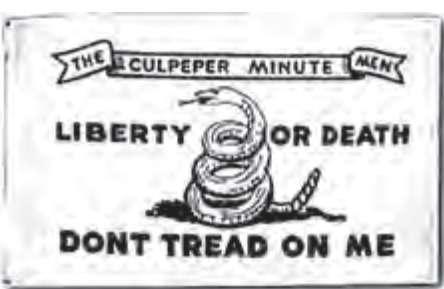
The public notice for this renewal was posted 3/5/1967 (in the OVN) under the heading "Notice of Intention to Grant Franchise." The First reading was in March. Final adoption was delayed in April pending further investigation of rates and examination of submitted gross receipts statements of the SCW to the City. Data compiled by accountant Godfrey Jacobs compared SCW's rates to four mutual water companies in the Ojai Valley, the three other water districts in the Ojai Valley, five city owned water works in Ventura County, four other privately owned water companies elsewhere in Ventura County, and sixteen other suppliers scattered around California.

Even back in 1967, rates charged by SCW were dramatically higher rates than comparable water systems, especially compared to the VRMWD, the name of the district supplying water from Casitas at the time (OVN, 5/10/67). According to this comprehensive study by Jacobs, SCW's rates at the time were 37.9 percent to 92.1 percent higher than comparable systems. In every comparison category, SCW's rates were higher.

Councilman Hirach volunteered to further study the situation if the Council would delay this indeterminate franchise agreement approval while also stating that the VRMWD was capable and stood ready to supply the entire City of Ojai at lower rates. The second reading and passage of the franchise renewal agreement was opposed by Hirach and Jacobs because of these

Franchise Continued, Page 6...

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Annapurna Mountains, Pokhara, Nepal

Otherworldly Economics

by Judy the Hun

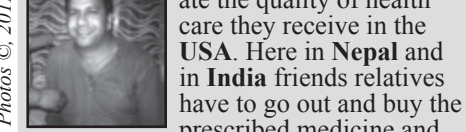
I first noticed a significant indicator when I choked on a piece of curried cauliflower at the Thamel House Restaurant. I was having dinner with a gentleman, educated in America, who has been living all over the world for years and is employed by Morgan Stanley. I vaguely remember his explaining the world economy to me and it all boiled down to "Greed." I was enjoying myself although I had a slight headache.



A young man from Belgium, Sebastian Lebaque, rose from his chair to, I assume, heimlich maneuver me when I leached to my left and fell on the floor. Sebastian and a friend carried me to Manmohan hospital. I had a stroke. The second it appears. I had lost my eyesight in my right eye in the first, a month or two earlier. After MRI's and a neurologist check I was put on heparin to dissolve blood clots.

American's don't appreciate the quality of health care they receive in the USA. Here in Nepal and in India friends relatives have to go out and buy the prescribed medicine and administer it to their loved one. If you need to drink water you'd best do it when

Otherworldly Continued, Page 13...



Photos © 2011, Judy the Hun

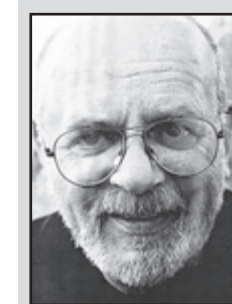
Why Ventura is The Broke Capitol of the World? Who's Money is It Anyway?

The City of Ventura LOST \$10 Million Dollars over 3 years ago (well before the recent economic crash), through their ambitious high-risk investment plan; having placed precious taxpayer dollars with Bear Stearns (BS) private assets, which went belly up in the JP Morgan fiasco. This reduced Ventura's get-rich-quick-scheme to pie-in-the-sky. Most cities invest their cash assets in highly safe Treasury instruments and other government-backed securities.

VIEW DETAILED FINANCIAL ANALYSIS Go To: www.ojaiandventuraview.com/OV-VtaArt/TheRoseVol.1.Issue1WebStealthkatGraphics.pdf

"We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately." — Benjamin Franklin

"Don't Tell Me Who I am... Let me guess!" Pt. II Are You Wearing a Mask?



Persona vs. Shadow Confrontation

Look at it from an energy viewpoint. The amount of energy we put into our masks looking industrious, entertaining, responsible, good or oppositional, macho, non-needy, and rebellious, is absolutely awesome. Doing 'Inner Shadow Work' liberates all of this energy to live according to our natural self, no longer living up to or impetuously opposing the demands and expectations of others, or

how we ought to live. As I am writing this I just remembered criticisms from two old friends of mine. Mountain Man Leo and Seminary James (AKA Los Cabos Jaime). According to them, my recent articles have been "too heady" and "too intellectual." "You're losing touch with the people, brother, who I thought you were writing it for to begin with." "Keep it simple, amigo!" I believe they were gentle with me this time (which is not always the case). In reality they probably felt I was on my soapbox, a bit arrogant, yet affirmation seeking, self-serving and ego strutting. Of course, all of these traits are in my personal Shadow's arsenal. The Shadow is both powerful and tricky and even though I've been doing this work for many moons, I still get overrun more times than I like to admit. Shadow work is a lifelong commitment; like the poet said, "Imagine Sisyphus happy!" Here we go again...

Conclusion When we run with our Personas in the first half of life to meet the demands of our parents, culture and religious institutions, we've pushed away and repressed large portions of our personalities. To make it in the outer world, we neglect our inner world and in midlife we pay the price, as our suffering becomes acute. The neglected parts of our souls (Levinson calls them 'other voices in other rooms') start screaming, if we can only hear!

Check Out My Website/blog: www.DrPeterMilhado.com

When we repress sensitivity it shows up as sugar-coated sentimentality or numbness; when we repress anger it shows up as passive-aggressiveness, cruelty and/or depression; when we repress spontaneity it shows up as boredom; when we repress creativity it shows up as inertia and resentment. The shadow not only includes our unacknowledged negative characteristics; it also includes our repressed positive traits and creativity. The shadow embodies all which has not been allowed expression. Here is a major point in mid-life psychology! The negative shadow usually has to be owned first, before our positive shadow and creativity can show up. This appears in nighttime dreams when the threatening, power driven, ruthless characters are slowly replaced by strong, humanitarian, creative and helpful characters. When we own our darkest impulses, we gain new energy and get our creativity back! Bingo! That's it - no mas! Only when we begin to tap our repressed potential do we free ourselves from the agenda of others! The more we know ourselves, our masks and our dark side, including scars, blemishes and warts, the richer our life will be. It's about wholeness, not about perfection!

Love to Mother Meera. One for all and all for one. PETER RUDOLF MILHADO, PH.D. Lic #MFT14142 38 Years Experience drpetermilhado@gmail.com • (805) 640-1810 Blog: www.DrPeterMilhado.com Extensive Experience With Folks Over Forty and Artists In All Creative Fields

Ojai City Council RAGGEDY EDGE

Continued From Page 2... about the 3 PIGS. Well all their hot air didn't work.

Well now, there ain't a Bull that can't be Rode and ain't a Rider that Can't be Throwned. We had one Battle Scarred Rhino, Stan Greene stand up and tell them they were threatening us in no uncertain terms and they were not welcome to be here and we had been threatened by much bigger companies that lost and had been sent scatterin' away from Ojai with their tail between their legs.

A young Rhino, Ryan Blatz also took them to task, as did a number of people. The City Council finally has come to the right decision and backed the FLOW movement to make our water supply fair for the people.

I reckon this is gonna hurt a little. When Mayor Carol Smith spoke at the Matilija meeting, she was a different person than the one that Whined about losing the Franchise tax. She then voted Down a chance to hire the Attorney that had already whopped "Tennessee Joe" from Golden Mistake Water.

Anyhow, seems ole GSW Joe had uh hum represented Cal-Am Water but they soon lost, finding themselves taken over by Felton FLOW and given over to the San Lorenzo Water district to operate responsible-like. They are a NOT-FOR-PROFIT WATER COMPANY.

husband and personal lacky Larry Yuva writes screwball threatening letters to Casitas (and everybody else.....) on a regular basis is beyond me. A lot of people would argue that it's actually the impetuous Carol who writes those letters - we've already seen way to much of her "Carol moments" - tirade's in council chambers to fill 50 episodes of Saturday Night Live!

Annual Franchise tax revenues from GSW to the city amount to a mere \$44,000 but cost the Ojai residents a whopping \$4,400,000! Not chicken Feed indeed!

How can the Mayor be so selfish?...The new Marie Antoinette... "LET THEM DRINK WATER", but force them to pay the franchise fee?! Ojai rate payers have paid GSW extra for years, well above the cost for the same water from Casitas, of \$4.4 MILLION. Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.

GSW can actually be purchased with the excess charges that we pay now. The Mayor, Carol had squandered our best chance to get out from under these outrageous rates. A couple years ago she thought it was more important to be Gone Fishin' on a faraway vacation than represent the people of Ojai at the P.U.C. in San Francisco...

to know much more about our 44-year-old Franchise Agreement than The City or GSW. Maybe she should be hired by The City to be an Intervener!

Basically The City IS holding the options; by contract it can kick GSW out of the Franchise Agreement to supply "our" water at any time and appoint a company, like Casitas, free and clear to handle it. Much of the Casitas' supply pipe runs right alongside the GSW pipes right here in town. Just a matter of The City calling in its markers on that Franchise Agreement it owns and controls. Time to call the plumber and take it back. Time is money.

City Staff had been dragging this out... why do you know? How many of "The Staff" pay GSWater rates? Oh really no pain for them, they don't live here.... Let them get (what on old man said) a \$500 dollar water bill.... but, no more than \$175 at Casitas. But someone else always drinks upstream from the herd.... Are you aware that Carol Smith pays reasonable rates at Casitas for her water, NO PAIN THERE EITHER!! Wild card.....She needs to be removed from all water votes!

If the voters stay on the sidelines... But guess what, 175 turned out at the Ojai FLOW water meeting on Nov. 9 at Nordhoff. This was a Real Good meeting. Nearly every council member and also members of the Casitas board attended, as well as GSWs "P.R." videographer to record the magic (or tragic) moments. Did the GSW honcho's attend? noooooo..... Now, if we don't build that GSW noose and hoist those boys up the nearest hangin' tree real quick.... then we'll all be payin' higher and higher rates with no end in sight.

What can we do to make this better? Call or write all council people for The City and tell or bitch about the need for urgency, (did I say I stopped watering my

appear as a magic wand to lessen America's massive contribution to global warming. It resulted from Congressionally-mandated targets for the level of ethanol in gasoline at your local gas station, now running at about 10 percent. The big fossil fuel corporations are putting most of their efforts behind biofuels, as opposed to other renewable energy sources such as wind and solar. Exxon, Shell and BP like biofuels because they are closest to what they already do - refine petroleum into gasoline for cars and trucks. Their refineries can be adapted for biofuels production.

As it turns out, the carbon footprint of corn-to-ethanol is massive. Because of the petroleum-based fertilizers, the manufacture and use of gas-guzzling farm machinery, the transportation and the refining of the corn crop, the fuel value of corn ethanol is about the same as the energy required to produce

force." First of all, I don't believe in "shoulding" on others. Being a productive member of society is a good thing. The disconnect is when this encouragement takes the form of tax dollars paid in by productive citizens. Rationalization 2: "It is in the best interest of our state's economy to have an educated workforce to provide the innovation necessary to keep California competitive in the global economy." I've got some bad news, at 12 percent unemployment, California is 33 percent higher than the 9 percent national average. California is not even competitive in the national economy. An educated work force is one thing; lack of jobs for existing citizens is another. Rationalization 3: "The California Dream Act of 2011 would be a great step toward meeting the goal for student access to our higher education system and increase our educated workforce population to rebuild and sustain our economy." Hold the phone! Whose goal is it to meet student access to our higher education system? The last time I checked, California universities are impacted (full) and the recently tuition just got

Orange Trees). We're getting the shaft every 2 months with our water bills, and The City had been sitting on their hands. The City had been talking about all kinds of things except those that have the biggest financial impact. Time to stop ALL other agenda item's till they solve this one? Do you know of anything more important than this?? No! They need a deadline.

It's apparent from the Group of Commissioners in the All-City Meeting that everyone was totally lost. No one had a clear map or direction, no one had been given clear instructions. This last year with this Mayor has been a disaster for Ojai. From the non-events in Libbey this year after breaking the Ojai City Bankbook and causing The City to get a LOAN, a line of credit while we Piss away money on every Consulting outfit we can find.

Take the Historic boondoggle.... how did we spend so much more on that bunch than we get from the entire WATER FRANCHISE TAX income (\$44,000) and soaring? Our Mayor does have company though, she looks and acts like that distinguished Governor of TEXAS -----PER-RY. Tax, Tax, Tax!!!

We sure got our money's worth didn't we? They got the franchise tax and you get taken to the cleaners. Hang 'em High!



Bitch Slap A Big F.U. from the P.U.C.....

Editor's Note: There are three (Cal. Public Utility Commission, C.P.U.C.) Public Participation Hearings scheduled in NorCal, one in the Central Coast, and none in Ventura County (or SoCal for Region 1). Given the factors stated below, how can their P.U.C. decision be defensible? This smacks like east-coast media and political bias. The P.U.C. does not think California exists south of their H.Q. in the Bay Area.

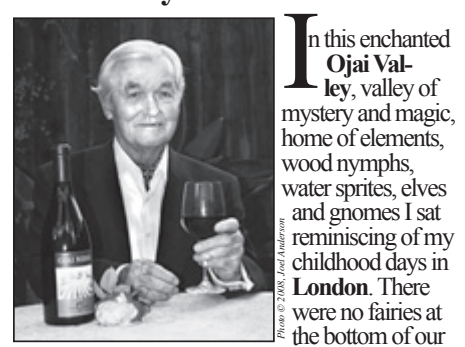
EMAIL From: Kotch, Andrew [mailto:andrew.kotch@cpuc.ca.gov] Sent: Friday, November 04, 2011 11:10 AM To: Steve McClary [Assistant to the Ojai City Manager] Subject: Golden State Water Public Participation schedule

Regarding your interest in the scheduling of Public Participation Hearing for the Golden State Water proceeding, Golden State serves more than 250,000 customers in dozens of communities throughout California. Many of those communities have expressed concerns about Golden State's application (A.11-07-017) and requested public participation hearings (PPHs) in their communities. The CPUC does not have the resources to hold PPHs in every community served by Golden State that requested PPHs. The Administrative Law Judge for the case worked with the parties to the proceeding and with the Public Advisors Office to select locations for PPHs. Factors considered included: 1) letters and complaints from customers, 2) communities that represent various Golden State service areas (i.e., urban/rural, coastal/desert, northern/southern California, etc.), and 3)

proximity to other Golden State service areas. Eight PPHs have been scheduled (more than any previous Golden State rate case). Your letter of concern has been forwarded to the Administrative Law Judge and our Public Advisor's Office. Andrew Kotch ~ Information Officer News & Public Information Office California Public Utilities Commission 505 Van Ness Avenue, Rm. 5301 San Francisco, Ca. 94102 Office: 415-703-1366 ~ Direct: 415-703-1072 ako@cpuc.ca.gov

Wine And Roses

by Ron Rowe



garden; only the roaring busy metropolis. The only magic we could find was at the local theater watching the variety shows.

One week, we were entertained by a visiting magician who mystified us with his feats of magic. After leaving his performance, I decided that was my ambition and in search of that ambition I answered an advertisement that appeared in the London Stage News. It said, assistant needed for the world's greatest magician. It was a golden opportunity to work with Raffaele Chafalo, the great international magician.

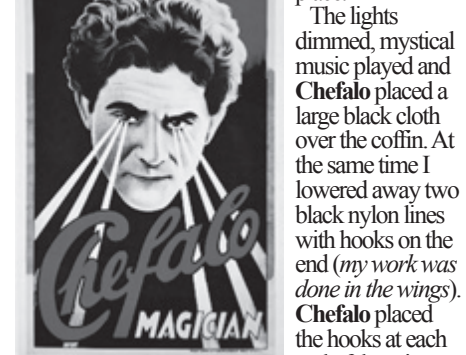
I rushed to the theater and was interviewed by Mrs. Chafalo who, much to my surprise, hired me on the spot. I explained to her that I had no stage experience, but she said I looked like a capable and intelligent young man and she was certain I could cope with any problems, if they arose. Then she added that I was the only applicant and the curtain was going up in and hour.

That proved a very hectic and interesting hour as all my duties were hurriedly explained to me. Our first trick was called The Flower Act. Chafalo amazed the audience by producing flowers from his top hat, coat, cape and from mid-air. For a finale he threw the last flower into the air.... that was my signal to pull the rope that would release about 100 flowers concealed in a long canvas overhead.

The flowers had a pointed metal base that would enable them to fall and stick up right into the stage and Chafalo would be standing in a sea of flowers. Alas, the rope stuck and the flowers did not appear. I had packed them in too tightly, but, showman that he was Chafalo quickly announced his next trick which was called Mummy Rising.

I wheeled a large coffin on stage. All four sides were opened by Chafalo to show there was

nothing inside. Mrs. Chafalo then placed herself on the bottom of the coffin and the sides were fastened leaving the top open. Concealed from the audience Mrs. Chafalo pressed a catch allowing her to hide in a false bottom and she placed a wire dummy in her place.



When it was at Chafalos eye level I was supposed to slowly lower it again. Unfortunately in my nervousness, I raised it again! Chafalo frantically signaled me to lower it and finally voiced his rage by yelling into the wings, lower the #@!@&! dummy. In my terror I let the nylon line slip through my sweaty hands. Down crashed the wire dummy but also down came the flowers, all 100 of them, one narrowly missing Chafalos head and another pinning his right foot to the stage. This did enable me to escape backstage before he could catch me.

The less said about the many other problems we encountered, the better. Rabbits hopping up and down the aisle.... I had forgotten to close their hutch. Also a magic card rise-trick that didn't rise. I had not wound up the timer. Doves flying all over the audience relieving themselves as they flew back-and-forth. A cigar that exploded too soon in Chafalos face... singing his beard and eyelashes. I had packed too much explosive powder in the wrong end.

The water trick was a complete disaster. Let's say Chafalo nearly drowned and his evening suit was waterlogged. We gallantly moved on to the grand finale. The Drum Trick. I wheeled large square, cabinet on stage and placed it against the back curtain. Mrs. Chafalo opened the front door to show it was empty, then closed it. Meanwhile Chafalo, who was behind the curtain in the rear, opened the door in the back of the cabinet that the audience couldn't see. He climbed inside.

Next, I lowered the frame of a large bass drum onto the cabinet. Mrs. Chafalo then placed a large piece of paper on the front and back of the drum

and tapped the top of the cabinet. That was Chafalos signal to open a door in the top of the cabinet and climb into the drum. Mrs. Chafalo then wrote the word "Chafalo" in large black letters on the paper. That was my signal to raise the drum about 3 feet off the stage. Alas, I was a complete nervous wreck... I pulled on the rope and raised it to 12 feet.

Mrs. Chafalo, who was facing the audience, fired a blank cartridge gun into the air and said, "Chafalo Appear," as she turned from the audience to see the drum dangling, 12 feet in the air! She had a horrified look on her face..... Chafalo was right on cue.... as the gun fired, he broke the paper of the drum and managed a brief smile as he fell 12 feet to the stage.

He was a great trooper. He managed a bow in his still-wet tuxedo and hobbled off stage on one broken ankle, the other still bleeding from the flower that had pierced it.

Later, Mrs. Chafalo found me hiding in the ladies room and informed me my services would no longer be required. She suggested I leave the theater immediately before Chafalo found me, as he wanted to make me disappear, permanently! I didn't think it was appropriate to ask for any wages so I left at once.

You might ask why I am writing about my experience with Chafalo. Last week I received a phone call from a gentleman in Italy, he said he was writing a biography of Chafalo and checking the Internet he noticed that I had mentioned Chafalo in an article I had written 12 years ago. He claimed I was the only person alive that had worked with Chafalo and he wanted to know all about his tricks, which I readily told him. He promised to send me a book when it was published. Ah, the wonders of the Internet. Peace to all living beings on earth.

Your comments are welcome - Ron Rowe, rhjrowe@aol.com

Event Calendar

Calendar for November 2011 with days of the week and dates.

Nov 29 - SIGNS OF A LOST CIVILIZATION MARKINGS, PART 3 - VITA ART CENTER EXHIBITION, the third installment of a three part exhibition by Erik Reel, featuring the biggest and best of the selection along with select smaller pieces. Reel works primarily in liquid acrylics combined with various drawing media, such as soft pastels, Part of a continuing exploration of human markings, or "proto-markings".

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ink paintings on paper by Suha Sin with elements of powdered stone, and an excerpt of Jack N. Mohr's "Bound" series of white wall ceramics with black lace and rubber. INFO, ARTAMO GALLERY, 11 W. ANAPAMU ST, S.B. PHONE: 568-1400

Nov 13 - AWWFL PEOPLE - GEORGE STUART HISTORICAL FIGURES, Museum of Ventura County. Some of history's most reviled and frightful people portrayed: Vlad the Impaler, Jack the Ripper, Nero, Adolph Hitler, Joseph Stalin. INFO, 100 E. MAIN ST., VTA, PHONE: 653-0323

Nov 11-13/Fri-Sun - OJAI CELEBRATES ART IV, Ojai Valley Museum, Juried exhibition of Fine Arts with an open theme. INFO, 640-1390

Nov 19/Sat, 9 - 2 pm - HANDSON Volunteer Opportunity at the Krishnamurti Foundation of America (KFA). Enjoy the pleasure of working outdoors at the former home of world-renowned philosopher and educator Jiddu Krishnamurti. The KFA community invites you to join us at the Krishnamurti Educational Center & Pepper Tree Retreat. No experience needed... just enthusiasm for your local area. There will be light pruning of trees, small to medium rock removal and picking oranges. Please bring pruning equipment and gloves. INFO, LOCATED: 1130 MCANDREW ROAD, OJAI. TO SIGN UP OR TO MAKE A DONATION, PLEASE EMAIL US AT VOLUNTEER@KFA.ORG

Nov 19/Sat, 6-7pm - OAK VIEW CIVIC CENTER MONTHLY MEETING, OV Community Center. Members/Public welcome. INFO, WWW.OAKVIEWCA.ORG

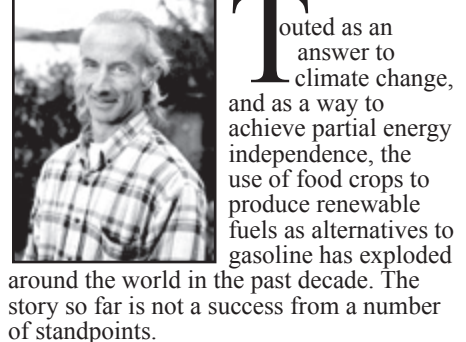


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Finding a Better Source for Our Fuel Needs

by Alasdair Coyne



Touted as an answer to climate change, and as a way to achieve partial energy independence, the use of food crops to produce renewable fuels as alternatives to gasoline has exploded around the world in the past decade. The story so far is not a success from a number of standpoints.

Biofuels Boondoggle Crops intended for fuels rather than food have helped push up the global prices of basic grain supplies to record levels. While this may not affect you and me very much,

it certainly makes hunger more real for those in poor counties whose diet consists mainly of corn or wheat.

This also puts pressure on uncut forests adjacent to acreage that has been turned over to biofuels production, either for growing food for people - or for even more biofuels production.

The U.S. and Brazil have traveled farthest down this agricultural path. Brazil makes about 6 billion gallons of ethanol a year from sugarcane, equaling a third of all the fuel used in Brazilian cars. The U.S. makes about 10 billion gallons of corn ethanol a year, using an incredible 38 percent of our nation's corn crop.

CORN ETHANOL DOES NOT RELIEVE GLOBAL WARMING The U.S. corn ethanol industry did not

California Dreamin' - A Recurring Nightmare

by Jefferson Pinto

Oct. 8 California's governor-elect Jerry Brown signed the DREAM Act. The Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minor Act (not to be confused with the federal version) is so disturbing on so many levels. In a quest to identify the benefit for taxpayers, I'm still left wanting. California's DREAM Act allows illegal minors to be eligible for public financial aid to fund their college education.

Someone once said to me "I don't know if it's a good tax law or a bad tax law, but most people who benefit from it perceive it as a good tax law. Those who are on the losing end tend perceive it as a bad tax law." The Great Rationalization I reviewed www.californiadreamact.org. The home page features a form letter with a "put your name on the line" and send it to your representative. The rationale in the "canned" letter includes: Rationalization 1: "These future citizens should be encouraged to become teachers, doctors, and engineers and productive members of our work-

FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

Continued from page 3...

higher rates. The majority of the City Council, reflecting the wishes of the City Manager, disagreed and approved the indeterminate renewal.

It was further reported at the time that the franchise agreement renewal was not exclusive and was not an impediment to the City or another entity buying out the system at some future date. The franchise agreement was characterized in the press as a right to run distribution lines under city streets. It also was reported that the franchise payments were per state law and state regulations at the time. Much of the language in this franchise agreement does in fact mirror language in the California Public Utilities Code.

The City's renewal of the franchise agreement did not stop the race between VRMWD and SCW to install pipes to serve the Maricopa Hwy. area. (OVN, 5/14/67, p.A-1) At one point, the VRMWD asked for a restraining order against the actions of the SCW in this regard.

The majority of the City Council repeatedly expressed their preference for SCW, including discussing of legal action in favor of SCW in the dispute over service areas (OVN 6/21/67). The majority of the City Council apparently backed SCW at the time, but did not see the franchise agreement as including the right to stop the efforts of VRMWD to serve city customers in the annexed areas around Maricopa Hwy. Contemplated legal action involved provisions of the state Public Utilities Code, not the Franchise Agreement.

The repeatedly cited reason for this backing of SCW can be seen (OVN, 3/29/67) where the City Manager (Jack Blalock) made a statement to the press that "The city stood to gain financially if the disputed area were served by SCW", citing the Franchise Agreement payment.

The VRMWD continued to lay lines for this service area after adoption of the new Franchise Agreement despite the opposition of the Ojai City Manager and the majority of the City Council. Clearly, this franchise agreement was NOT an exclusive right to service City of Ojai customers.

It was clear from reporting before and after the renewal of the Franchise Agreement that the desire to receive payments from SCW drove the City's position, even though VRMWD's rates were much higher than SCW's. Back in 1967, the majority of the city council (Voogd, Burr, Remund, Huckins) and the city managers over this period (Blalock and McKinney) apparently put revenue for the city above costs to the rate payers. It certainly seems that City of Ojai ratepayers have been paying relatively higher water rates because of this desire to obtain franchise fee revenue for more than forty years.

Part II. Comments

The franchise agreement itself mirrors the State Public Utility Code in most of its provisions, such as the franchise fee percentages, the assertion of the right of eminent domain for authorized legal entities to buy back the system, the need for the filing of statements regarding gross receipts, and the need for the Grantee to have a written acceptance on file with the Grantor.

It seems clear that the Franchise Agreement only covers the water distribution/treatment system. If does not cover the extraction sources. The extraction rights appear to be unadjudicated. It appears that a "municipal or public corporation duly autho-

riized by law" has the right to acquire just the distribution system by eminent domain and choose its means of supplying water to the distribution system. This could be new wells or connection to another supply system.

Given this, why cannot the buyout value simply be the distribution/treatment system cost, excluding any consideration of extraction or water rights? The Golden State wells would not have much value without the right to distribute. Faced with this prospect, Golden State would have every incentive to be more reasonable on their buyout price. In other words, the cost of any needed new wells should be the upper limit on the value of Golden State's alleged, unadjudicated, water rights.

Why cannot the Casitas District be duly authorized by the City of Ojai to be the "municipal or public corporation thereunto duly authorized by law" mentioned in Section 3 of the Franchise Agreement to purchase the distribution system by voluntary agreement or power of eminent domain. Would not the Casitas District receive quite a bit of legal cover and effective indemnification from the City by being designated the City's authorized entity for asserting its right of buyout?

For that matter, why cannot the City adopt a second franchise agreement with the Casitas District to convey this authorization? It does not appear that the existing Franchise Agreement is exclusive.

- William Weirick, Ojai

THE POWER OF NAPPING

by Mary-Jo Murphy

When I was a child and would get particularly crabby, my mother would smile knowingly and recite the letters, "t-i-r-e-d." Shortly after that, she would tell me that I needed a nap. It didn't take me long to figure out what she was spelling. I would complain loudly, "I'm not tired." My protests, "No nap. No nap," would be overruled. To my chagrin, I would always wake up refreshed and un-t-i-r-e-d!

As I sit at my computer writing, I can hear my dogs snoring. It's just after lunch, and I find myself also considering a short snooze. I reason that I have too many things to do. Besides, I can't be that tired. I slept last night. This fatigue must be post-lunch slump. But then, why wasn't I tired after breakfast?

Sara C. Mednick, Ph.D. in her book, *Take A Nap! Change Your Life*, tells us that "the unseen hand guiding sleep and waking is our so-called biological clock or circadian (circa = around, dia = day) rhythm. There is sort of an internal clock in the part of the human brain called the hypothalamus that affects circadian rhythm. Two large clusters of neurons, located on either side of the brain are considered to be our master clock and one of the tools that our body uses to keep track of time. The way these neurons interact with certain hormones and chemicals is how the body knows when it's time to do certain activities, such as fall asleep, wake up, eat, and others."

Back in the Stone Age, our ancestors likely slept both at

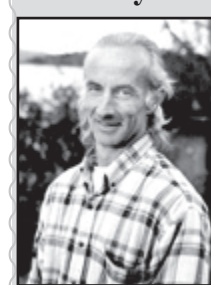
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Fall Gardens

by Alasdair Coyne



With the cooler days of fall now settling in, and the daylight shrinking towards the winter equinox, it is pleasant indeed to spend some time in the garden. The first stop, of course, is **Ortiz Nursery in Meiners Oaks.**

The struggle to keep on top of watering chores in the summer heat has relaxed with the lower temperatures, and the busy pruning season for roses and dormant fruit trees awaits the birth of the New Year. Some of the gardening tasks that fit this season well are mulching, sowing fall vegetables, trimming bushy perennials and planting new additions to your landscape. Fall vegetables that can go in now and on through the winter include lettuce and other salad greens; root vegetables such as carrots, radish, turnips and beets; green onions and leeks; and all the members of the brassica (cabbage) family - kale, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, and the various Chinese greens such as bok choy and mustard greens. Don't forget delicious snap peas! Fava beans are another great winter crop. All these can be easily

planted from seed, though young plants available at Ortiz Nursery can give you a head start.

Mulching with the excellent products available from **Ojai Valley Organics** on Old Baldwin Road, the recycled materials from our yardwaste bins, accomplishes three great benefits to your garden simply by laying down two or three inches around your plants. Mulch helps to retain moisture in your soil, it will inhibit weed growth, and it helps to enrich your soil as it breaks down over time.

Ojai Valley Organics also sells mulch from construction lumber, which looks like wood chips rather than coarse compost. This is excellent material for pathways; lay some down now, before the weeds get too tall in the rainy season, and your garden paths will stay weed and maintenance free all winter.

One word of warning - do not plant any of the cabbage family listed above from nursery plants, as they have a habit of going to seed before producing the mature vegetables you were expecting. Plant these from seed for the best results.

Fall is an excellent time to fill in gaps in your ornamental landscape, too. You will have to keep new plantings watered until the regular rains take over this job for you, likely quite soon. That means you can put off adding these new plants to your irrigation system until April or May next year. Unless you are in the coastal zone or a frost-free area, be careful not to plant

Continued next page...

DREAMIN'

Continued from page 4...

TAXPAYERS' NIGHTMARE ACT? It's sad parents illegally brought children across the international border, but since when is it the role of government to make children whole for alleged harm their parents may have caused. Let's see; a free high school education, but that's not enough. Now we are supposed to pay for a college degree. So do we owe you a master's degree in four years too?

Everyone is entitled to a dream; but, the dreamer of the dream must also be the payer for it. **Jefferson Pinto** is a retired CPA, and holds an MBA from one of the finer accredited universities in the country.

jefferson@ojaiandventuraview.com

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Fall Gardens

frost-sensitive ornamentals, or citrus and avocados, this late in the season. They are better planted in the Spring; with all summer to get established in your garden, they will have a much better chance of surviving frosty weather the following winter.

- Alasdair Coyne

Photos © 2011, Joel Anderson



A wonderful selection of roses, in a number of different colors. *Ortiz Nursery offers a fine selection of citrus and fruit trees.*



Delmer Rose *Agave shares space with Society Garlic (above)*

Mums in Autumn colors welcome visitors to Ortiz Nursery

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THE LEASHES END



Ron and his companion, Dudley.

A mystery solved. For years Californians have reported Bigfoot-like sightings of a 100 pound plus rodent near Paso Robles. Now photos snapped by a sanitation worker with his cell phone prove that the creature isn't imaginary. It's a Capybara, the world's largest rodent, native to South America lakes and swamps. Officials think the giant rodent, which lives around a pond at a waste water treatment plant, was kept legally as a pet before it got away. **Game spokesman Andrew Hughan** says despite its large size it is not dangerous, just a weird looking plant eater. The fight to ban Greyhound racing is now becoming a national debate. Life for most greyhounds is not pretty as they are routinely caged over 20 hours per day and perpetually muzzled. Each year, an estimated 24,000 Greyhounds



are killed because they don't turn a profit anymore. In the last 10 years, over 90 media cases were documented of cruelty and neglect involving thousands of Greyhounds. They were shot, starved, bludgeoned and sold for animal experiments. In Alabama, a dog track employee has been shooting losing Greyhounds for 40 years. An estimated 4,500 greyhounds are thought to be buried on his farm. Greyhound racing, dog fighting and cockfights should all be banned in the U.S. For more info write P.O. Box 44217, Somerville, M.A. or call 866TWOGREY2K.

Shark populations have plummeted worldwide due to China's appetite for shark fin soup. More than 70 million are killed every year by fishermen who cut off their fins and toss them back into the sea to die a painful death.

New on the market, **The Canine Calming Wrap**, used by veterinarians it is a wrap that calms a dog during stressful situations like thunderstorms or being left alone. The wrap exerts a gentle, constant compression around the torso so similar to the sensation of a hug. It helps soothe the canine nervous system, reducing anxiety without sedatives, when they hear fireworks. Made from soft breathable cotton the Wrap forms to a dog's body. It is machine washable and runs \$39.95, call 800-543-3366 for more information.

You could try little yoga your dog. **Master Yoga Teacher Suza Francina** is offering private lessons to dogs and their owners, appointments are available. Check www.SuzaFrancina.com.

An eager crowd of 400 people in San Bernardino got a little less than they hoped for. They turned out to see local radio host **Nicky Valentine** make good on her bet to walk naked as part of a fundraising for the local animal shelter. **Nicky** didn't renege on her bet. She turned up with a **Great Dane** from the shelter named **Naked**.

A stray dog in India is being voted one of the most fervent of Muslims devotees. **Soxksky**, a stray black mongrel, responds to the call to prayer five times a day. Whenever the faithful are called to prayer, **Soxksky** is the first in line and begins to wail and howl in tune. He hasn't missed a single prayer session in 10 years.

Did you know you can book a massage treatment for your dog? It's true there are great health benefits you and your dog can receive from a professional massage. For more information, www.buddhadog.com

Gordon Flavia, 56, of Washington state backed his car into a condos carport demolishing it. When police showed up, **Gordon** fled into a portable toilet and doused himself with human waste hoping to evade police dogs. It didn't work. The dog found **Gordon** who was drunk and is now in jail.

Dog walkers beware... Foxtails are still with us, dogs are very vulnerable to thistles and Foxtails that stick to their coats, ears and paws. They get into the ear canal and abscess deep within the ear. If you walk in the **Ojai Meadows**, give your dog a good brushing, check ears and paws and remove fox-tails before they cause a serious problem.

A 10 foot long, 1,300 pound **Tuna** was caught by a **Scottish** fishing boat off the coast of Ireland. **Tuna** normally swim in the warm waters of **France** and **Spain**. Scientists claim this is proof that global warming is spreading to **Europe**.

Beware of owning a red car. According to a scientific study, birds see red very well, red reflects their behavior, they flash red feathers to indicate a fondness for each other. You will attract birds if you wear a red coat while walking a nature trail, if you have a red car, avoid parking it under a fruit or insect laden tree. Also, according to police statistics, red cars receive more traffic tickets. Does **Buddy Wilds** drive a red car?

In Germany

a man called police when he thought he heard a burglar on his roof. When police climbed a ladder to the roof they found two hedgehogs noisily mating, their report read, "Noise caused by two hedgehogs having enthusiastic and noisy sex." It turns out the mating of hedgehogs is a worldwide problem. In **New Zealand** a **SWAT** team with dogs swooped down on a house to arrest burglars only to find a pair of happy hedgehogs mating.

A rare white hedgehog was saved from death after being mistaken for an old hairbrush, it was found unconscious in the driveway of **Deborah Scott** who picked it up and was about to throw it in the garbage when it started to walk around, it is now a house pet named **Lucky**. Time to think on the following, *Half the misery of human life might be extinguished by mutual officers of compassion, benevolence and kindness to all living beings.* And so it is.

Peace to all living beings on earth
Your comments are welcome
- Ron Rowe, rjrowe@aol.com



Are Pit Bulls Bad Dogs?

by Kristie

I often hear people claim that pit bulls are dangerous dogs. I have even heard people claim that the breed should be destroyed. Then I have heard others claim that they are wonderful dogs and gentle pets. So what is true?

A pit bull can be a vicious aggressive dog. A pit bull can be a sweet and loving dog. It depends on the individual dog.

To own a pit bull is a great responsibility. Pit bulls were once dogs that fought other dogs in the fighting pits back in the days when dog fighting was legal. They were selected for their strength in fighting, and bred to have powerful jaws. They are very strong dogs that CAN bite with ferocity and power. There can also be an genetic tendency for dog aggression.

This does not mean that all pits are mean. I have trained some powerful but gentle pit bulls that have not been dog aggressive at all. But I have also worked with dog aggressive pit bulls. I have worked with confident easy-going pits. I have worked with fearful, aggressively reactive pits.

All pit bulls need to be trained because they are powerful animals that need to obey their masters. Some are born with sweet temperaments and others with aggressive temperaments. Some have been made aggressive by improper handling.

All pits need to be thoroughly socialized from puppyhood, especially around other dogs. Any display of unwarranted aggression must not be permitted. Leaving dogs enclosed behind fences, or tying them out defines territory and breeds aggression.

Although an owner may have to leave his dog in a fence enclosed yard for a period of time, complete training and socialization in and outside of the dog's territory is necessary; and it must be realized that if a dog is left alone in a fenced yard, passers by both human and canine may intentionally aggravate the dog because they know the dog cannot get at them. This will cause the enclosed dog to become aggressive. Even innocent passers-by of a fenced in yard containing a dog can fire up the dog's protective instincts.

All pit bull owners must be constantly aware of the potential for danger and act accordingly by having their dog trained, understanding their dogs individual temperament, and not exposing any people or animals to danger if they know their dog is aggressive.

- Kristie, Animal Instincts Dog Training
800/688-8822

WHICH BIO FUEL IS THE RIGHT ONE?

Continued from page 4...

and refine it. Which gets us exactly nowhere with global warming relief. It would be better to eliminate the \$6 billion, 45 cents per gallon federal subsidy for ethanol, and let the U.S. corn crop be used for food.

In ideal terms, a renewable energy crop would simply absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as it grows (*plants breathe in carbon dioxide and exhale oxygen, for those behind on their high school biology*), and release that carbon dioxide back into the atmosphere when the biofuel is burned in your car's engine. It's like breathing in and out - taking carbon dioxide in as the plant grows, and letting it out as you use the biofuel, with no longterm addition to the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere as the years go by. With the massive energy inputs required to grow and refine corn ethanol in the U.S., this balanced equation is blown out of the water.

Here's a tricky question - on what biofuels-related matter do the **Sierra Club** and **Koch Industries** (the global-warming deniers' prime U.S. funders) see eye to eye? The elimination of the 45-cent per gallon tax credit that ethanol refiners (note, not the farmers) receive from the federal government. This \$6 billion subsidy survived a sensible attempt to kill it in the U.S. Senate this summer.

CAN WE FEED THE WORLD AND GROW BIOFUELS FOR OUR CARS?

Basically, our world population is growing by a billion new people every few years now, and limited farmland is already under pressure to provide basic food grains to this expanding population base. The U.S. Congress has mandated a target of 36 billion gallons of biofuel production by the year 2022.

Do the math - with over a third of the U.S. corn crop now going to produce about 10 billion gallons of corn ethanol, it will take more than the entire U.S. corn crop to produce 36 billion gallons of ethanol.

There is a smaller biofuels crop in the U.S. also - soybeans are turned into biodiesel, but production peaked at way under one billion gallons in 2008 (691 million gallons, to be precise).

Globally, it would take around half the planet's farmland just to produce enough biofuels for the world's vehicles (not counting airplanes).

Clearly, biofuel production and world hunger are on a collision course. Forty nine nations, including the European Union, now have targets for percentages of biofuels in gasoline supplies, ranging from 5 to 20 percent.

ARE THERE BIOFUELS THAT ARE BETTER FOR THE PLANET?

The ecological position is that biofuels should not compete with food production on available farmland. There are a number of sound proposals out there, but none has been tested on a large scale yet.

One is the use of biowaste materials for biofuels production. This includes crop residues, such as the rice stalks that used to get burned off each fall in the Sacramento Delta farmlands, as well as municipal greenwaste supplies, though these are also useful to home gardeners as locally-produced mulch. The idea is that waste agricultural products have minimal carbon footprint of their own. Then there is the potential

to grow crops for biofuels that do not compete for farmland with food supplies. These are crops, such as switchgrass, that can be grown on marginal farmlands, without much input of petroleum-based fertilizers. Another idea is to convert algae grown in ponds to biofuels, though algae would need some fertilizing to be viable. Algae ponds could be located on lands other than farmland.

One local entrepreneur is working hard on the angle of biofuels from biowaste. **Maresh Talwar**, a native of India, is also experimenting with growing castor beans for fuel on his **Somis** ranch.

He calculates that California has enough biowaste to produce half its liquid fuel requirements. **THE UNSPOKEN TRUTHS ABOUT STOPPING GLOBAL WARMING**

When you read about how to reverse climate change, the impression is that modern society gradually shifts to green energy, and we continue on happily ever after. The truth is somewhat more complex. The modern consumer society will have to shrivel up.

Let's face it - there are not enough natural resources globally to provide a current American lifestyle to the two billion citizens of **China** and **India** whose wealth and resource consumption is increasing.

Let alone the citizens of other fast-developing nations. Besides the resource consumption, the energy required for billions more people to live like Americans would render impossible all attempts to slow global warming. **Europeans** tend to use only half the energy we do, by having smaller cars, and gasoline at twice the price, by commuting shorter distances and living in smaller houses.

In other words, **Americans** must devise ways to drastically reduce their consumer lifestyles. This does not mean we revert to living in caves, but it will necessarily mean less traveling, less shopping, more public transport, more energy-efficient homes, more foods grown locally (including in our own gardens) rather than thousands of miles away, less stuff in our closets - and a renewed sense of community. We'll get there eventually, because there is simply no other sustainable future possible.

The philosophy of endless growth is banging its head on our planet's limited resources. Will the planet's changing climate manage to provide for our food and fuel needs, while we transition to a simpler way of living, or are the changes we have already made to planetary climate equilibrium so drastic, that our life-support systems are already in danger?

The answer lies with how each and every one of us responds to the challenges of global warming. Don't expect the politicians, most of whom are versed in the philosophy of endless growth and the gross domestic product, to legislate our way out of the global warming nightmare - it's going to have to be a groundswell at the grassroots.

- Alasdair Coyne, www.SespeWild.org

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Shelley and Gina Mark



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Otherworldly

Continued from page 3...

a friend is visiting because an efficient nurse in a pristine white uniform will not offer you a sip.

You lay in a bed that is pre-World War II era, with peeling chipped enamel paint on dingy sheets with a single blanket. The walls have not been painted or washed for years and bear the stains of far more gruesome illnesses than your own. At night you hear the sounds of death... someone gasping their last breath, coughing, wheezing, crying. There was a pregnant woman in labour to my left and two men with typhoid to my right. On a bed in the corner was a man who had a heart attack.

A friend, **Gasha Bhatt** and **Mina Vitro-koti** took turns staying with me at night. When I needed to use the toilet **Maresh Pal** was called at the laughing **Buddha Guest House** and he rushed over and carried me to the facilities. By morning there were only 3 of us left in the room. My family in **America** were called. The **American Embassy** was contacted. I was stunned at the events and my predicament. Having had previous experience in third world hospitals I arranged, with the help of friends, to **SPRING ME FROM THE JOINT**. **Maresh** carried me to my room, **Mina** and **Gasha** arranged for my medicine while **Mingmar Lama**, a nurs-

ing student, assured doctors she would monitor my heparin and blood pressure. **Maresh** was on 24-hour toilet duty. When the parade of us passed by the **Hotel Yanbu**, **Maresh** paused briefly so I could reach out and caress the **Pipal** tree for luck. **Lharkyal Lama** owner of the hotel, who had previously assaulted, spit and hit me, stood with a small smile of triumph on his face. It's been two weeks and I can sit without tipping over, walk with assistance and my drooling is under control.

A **Nepali** festival just ended, the last for sometime. It reminded me of how lucky I am to be alive, to have good friends, to be in **Nepal**. I plan on living for a while longer... promised a friend I'd go and experience the anguish and hopelessness of **Bangladesh** with him. The **Counselor General** at the **U.S. embassy** visited me to assure my family of my safety and well-being. My **Visa in Nepal** has been extended to **January** and I exercise daily so I can make that para gliding adventure to **Pokhara**. Namaste!

- Judy the Hun

POWER NAPPING

Continued from page 6...

Twelve hours later, a mini-slump would send them back to bed for a nap.

If you are still chanting, "No nap," consider this - It was once thought that by working at midday one could subject one-

Michael

- Written and Performed by The Brian Faith Band

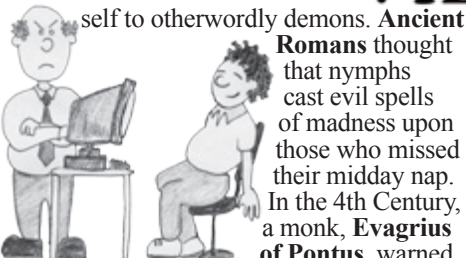
Born with a beauty, unknown to us all, and he knew just what the meaning of love was. Oh don't you know, he was a well-liked man, You know he'd always understand.

The call of the soldier, he went off to war, but he didn't know, he would never return. Oh don't you know, he was a well-liked man. You know, he'd always understand

We all loved you, and when you returned, you know we wanted to be there. Oh don't you know, he was a well-liked man. You know, he'd always understand

Chorus: Michael, where did all go wrong? We all thought you had the world at your feet.

Michael, where did all go wrong? We're gonna miss you now.



self to otherworldly demons. **Ancient Romans** thought that nymphs cast evil spells of madness upon those who missed their midday nap. In the 4th Century, a monk, **Evagrius of Pontus**, warned his fellow **Christians** about the *spirit of acedia*, who attacked souls in the midday. **Jewish** literature spoke of **iharire**, midday spirits who hovered just above ground and threatened mayhem. **Arabic** mythology believed in a midday demon, **Qeteb**, and in **Slavic** countries a young woman dressed in white, was said to roam the fields carrying shears and twisting off the necks of noon-day workers and grabbing children who weren't napping, baking them and eating them for lunch.

These days, when the world seems too much for me, I remember my childhood meltdowns, and opt for 10-15 minutes with my eyes closed. Maybe my mother was on to something. Maybe the **Power Nap** she insisted I take is why I didn't become some evil witch's snack. Do you want to take the chance?

- Mary-Jo Murphy, MS, RN, CDE, Health and Diabetes Educator Motivational Speaker mjmurph221@yahoo.com

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It was a splendid Halloween Bash at **The Wrec Room** in Ojai - featuring **Jon Long** and **The Taylor Brothers**. Also recently performing at the Matilija St. venue were **Joneane Neville**, **Thom Thomas**, and **John Samos** (below) who kicked out some genuine **Appalachian Folk Music**. For more entertainment info, phone **The Wrec Room**. - Joel Anderson



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LETTER - Leary Ojai City Council

To the Editor, Thanks for being at the Ojai city council meeting Oct. 25. After two long hours into the pre-agenda presentations I was about to leave out of boredom and frustration when you went to the mic and tried to inject a modicum of reality and common sense into the proceedings.

Following is the full text of my public communication which was prompted by your peer Logan Hall's article in the OVN. You two reporters and a few like

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LETTER CONT. - Leary Ojai City Council

FLOW give me hope that the Ojai community is not yet braindead and in need of life support intellectually and morally regarding the real and important issues. Ever since I came here I've said Ojai's education has been sadly neglected and for such frankness I've been rejected by such pillars of the community as the liberals at the Ojai Post.

My anguish at council helped me realize that these council folks are getting paid and I'm not. The dumbed down deadness is perfectly designed to prevent reality from intruding. I love the natural beauty of Ojai and genuine people of Ojai but the small mindedness is becoming intolerable the more I mature.

Now follow my remarks which because of the exceedingly long, tiresome and out of place presentations plus the mayor's illogical denial of the facts as presented in the Logan Hall article at the OVN prevented me from completing my three minute public communication.

"The rules require that I address you but I'm also speaking to the public about structures so don't take it personally. "By the way, putting long presentations with extended discussions which are not agendized before unscheduled public communications is one reason I dislike coming

here anymore, not to mention so much focus on narrow issues instead of more important general ones; but that is just my preference which may differ from yours and the general public's. My comments are based on the OVN article Mayor Smith referred to just now and because the OVN writer may be correct about a disconnect between the council and FLOW I will proceed as planned with my prepared remarks.

"The October 14 OVN headline reads: 'FLOW Confused by Council's Discussion.' You (mimis the absent Mr. Blatz), your staff and attorney, without your dissent, thought the FLOW project might 'not be the way to go.' I believe you don't trust FLOW because you're conditioned to favor corporate money elites who carry the kind of authority you do trust, even if they are liars and thieves morally but not legally.

"At the Golden State [Oct 24] meeting last evening members of the community were up in arms but I don't believe they see that corporations like Golden State are doing exactly what the public demands: to make as much money as they can for investors like

themselves. "What no one in the community dares question is investment itself which by and large is a ponzi scheme racket to divest people of their resources.

"The 40 grand is just an excuse because you hand over 40 grand easily to Beverly Hills lawyers or millions in cash and loan guarantees to music financiers.

"You instinctively trust supra structures but fear the public getting control over infra structures like water. "You spontaneously turn to \$375/hr corporate lawyers rather than to free FLOW volunteers for information you can trust. You fear independents like FLOW because they are not as dependent as you are on corporate approval.

Corporation addicts don't "flow" but "blow" off people like Golden State does Ojai, or blow them away with drones if they're poor and defenseless, or with controlled demolitions if they're caught in the cross fire of an inside job for global domination.

"The ultimate battle is not with pawns like Golden State but against a Golden King which is investment itself.

"Unlike Golden State which is safe to oppose, it is dangerous to speak against the Investment State because it will kill 3,000 of our own people as in 911, or millions of people worldwide for their resources, or kill presidents like JFK or activists like MLK who threaten their war and investment machines.

"The sticking point is that your predecessors sold us out no doubt for money and now force us to buy back the system by bonds which benefit investors. Sometimes we have to fight fire with fire and deal with the devil but we better know exactly who and what our investments are hurting or we will get burned in this life or the next.

"I'd suggest you set the record straight and return to your first position and this time without doubt, hesitation and reservation support FLOW. If the economy goes down we may not have as much money (or so we think) but at least we'll have enough water to drink, and without smart water meters which are sure to come in the wake of electric ones."

- Dennis Leary, Ojai

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