

The Ojai & Ventura



VIEW



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- **MUSIC/ART**
- **GIVING THANKS**
- **TAXES**
- **THIEVIN'**
- **MYTHIC SCREENWRITING...**
- **ETHICS**
- **THE TREE OF LIFE**
- **ALASDAIR COYNE**



Photo © 2009, Tim Hauf

• HONEST ABE

Mary Todd Lincoln once wrote to a friend that "Mr. Lincoln . . . is almost monomaniac on the subject of honesty."

- **R. ELLIS SMITH**
- **PETER MILHADO**
- **SURVIVIN'**
- **RICHARD SENATE**
- **HUMANE SOCIETY**
- **RON ROWE THEATER**
- **CAMARILLO**
- **WHITE HORSES**

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- **OJAI DAY/NIGHT**
- **JEFFERSON**
- **HEALTH CARE CRUNCH...**
- **LETTERS**
- **WACKY WARS**
- **THE MAIL MAN**
- **A B-ERROR**
- **BRIAN FAITH BAND**
- **SURF MUSIC**



Photo ©, 2009, Joel Anderson

Caught on Tape at www.youtube.com/ovvtaview

INSIDE: • **OJAI CITY COUNCIL** • Follies • **Rock n' Roll** • **POLITICS/SATIRE**

OJAI CITY COUNCIL RAGGEDY EDGE

- Dick Lynch

With Ojai City Manager Jere Kersnar's *arse* on the line in the form of Formal Evaluations of "performance" things are getting mighty heated around Ojai's hollowed city-halls. What with no skate park built yet.... and Ojai Unified pushing for a concentration-camp-style *expen-sieve* 8-foot-fence around the still impermanent skatepark, and Ojai's virtually-broke status, is it any wonder many are calling for Jere's early retirement Plan?

When you write your Christmas Card to Grandma, seal it with a kiss and put a stamp on it, you have the reasonable expectation that Grandma Ragged Edge Continued, Page 7...



Veteran's Day ceremonies at Ivy Lawn Memorial Park in Ventura Nov. 11th



STATEMENT - A B-ERROR

Did Fish and Game Do a Bear Autopsy?

The following email to the VIEW was in response to a series of questions we asked of Roland Takayama, California Fish and Game Captain. The Black Bear was treed on Aliso Street in Ojai, Oct. 10th, then tranquilized and euthanized by Fish and Game officers (see related stories, page 19).



was not necessary due to the circumstances associated with the capture and euthanasia of the Ojai bear. The bear was a male and from it's condition (good teeth, healthy pelage, 300-400 lbs.) I'd say it was fully adult and in good health.

There is no precedent for making exceptions to the bear season ruling. Field staff have violated policy in the past, and have been corrected. To my knowledge Wildlife Investigations Laboratory staff, the veterinarians and Directors office have been consistent in their insistence that tranquilized bears not be released into hunted populations during bear season. The fact that you ask this question at all illustrates the problems that arise when policy is not strictly followed.

I do not know where the idea that a released bear would turn on Fish & Game employees originates. These are wild, amazingly strong, surprisingly quick and potentially dangerous animals. Having said that, tranquilized bears can be handled quite safely. Prior to being transported, they are given an extra dose of tranquilizer, ear tagged, then hobbled or caged. Released animals are monitored from a safe location to ensure a full recovery from the effects of the drug (see attachment). I am not aware of any incidents where Fish and Game personnel were endangered by black bears. We treat them with a healthy dose of respect.

- Roland Takayama Fish and Game Captain

www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com Keep Smiling!

SHELDON BROWN'S HEIST

RLSON JEWELERS



Caught on Tape at www.youtube.com/ovvtaview

"...acted in a very stupid and juvenile manner and took the stack with me and threw it away. There is absolutely no excuse for what I did.... that is my problem to deal with."

- Sheldon Brown, editor/publisher Ventura Breeze



THEFT TIMELINE

- Sat. Oct. 17, Approx. 8:11pm **The Heist** - Theft of the VIEW
- Mon. Oct. 26, 4:59am **The Video Upload** - YouTube Confirmed.
- Mon. Oct. 26, 7:21am **The Delivery** - Video Link emailed to Sheldon Brown
- Mon. Oct. 26, 7:38am **The Denial** - "Sorry, but that's not me" - Sheldon Brown email response
- Mon. Oct. 26, 8:22am **The Beg for Mediation email** - "Why do we need to bash each other" - Sheldon Brown email
- Tues. Oct. 27, 7:35am **The Confessional** (laced with lame excuses) - "I am hereby sincerely apologizing for this incredibly stupid transgression on my part." - Sheldon Brown email
- Tues. Oct. 27 **The Police Report Filed** - California Penal Code, § 498.7 regarding the theft of "free newspapers"

the Ojai and Ventura Real VIEW

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NEWSPAPER THEFT - TRASHED ?

R. ELLIS SMITH I Was So 'Tired'



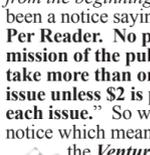
In Mr. Sheldon Brown's (Ventura Breeze), professional to stealing and disposing of a stack of the Ventura newspaper, The Ojai and Ventura VIEW, he noted that he had stopped to check on the stack of the Breeze in the "El Jardin" (actually the Zander Building on Security Videotape at www.YouTube.com/OVviaView) walkway and could not help but notice the stack of the VIEW that was there.

He stated in his rag (Nov. 4 Breeze, Pg 3) that he "had not seen that issue before so took a moment to read your [my] article." If the viewer were to look at the security video, linked at www.ojai-andventuraview.com, of Mr. Brown performing his criminal deed you can readily see that Mr. Brown simply walked into the Zander Building walkway and without hesitation picked up the stack of the VIEW. There was no time that he actually stopped to read the issue. For Mr. Brown to say that at that time he "noticed" the stack of VIEW newspapers is also very misleading. Both the Breeze and the VIEW have been displayed at that location for months. The business owner there (who owns the display case) had specifically placed the VIEW at a specific spot on the case over a year ago. In order for Mr. Brown to place his newspaper he had to walk directly past the stack of the VIEW many times.

Mr. Brown also stated (Nov. 4 Breeze, Pg 3) that he absconded with about "20 copies." Once again, if you look at the picture, that was taken by the eyewitness (on video at www.YouTube.com/OVviaView) showing the papers in the tossed city trash can, you can readily see the number was much closer to 70 copies. Mr. Brown realizes that the California law (California Penal Code, § 498.7) regarding the theft of "free newspapers" states that it is only concerned with numbers above "twenty-five (25)," so he of course used a lower number in his confession.

He asked to be forgiven; possibly a few friends of his will forgive him but not me or anybody connected to the VIEW. How do you forgive somebody whose "apologies" are so laced with excuses and rationalizations for his own admittedly childish and "unacceptable" behaviors? On the 2nd page of every VIEW from the beginning of time there has been a notice saying, "Limit: One Copy Per Reader. No person, without the permission of the publisher of the View, may take more than one copy of each View issue unless \$2 is paid to the publisher for each issue." So we steadfastly stand by the notice which means Mr. Sheldon Brown of the Ventura Breeze now owes the publisher of the VIEW a minimum amount of \$140.00, we are still waiting for the check.

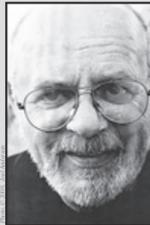
- Rellis Smith rellis39@sbglobal.net www.californiachile.com



"If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen" - Harry S. Truman

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

Are You Lonely ?



If we're honest with ourselves we have to acknowledge that most of the time we spent on this earth we're alone. In this sense we all share being exiles in the universe. The author Thomas Wolfe believes that loneliness, far from being a rare and curious phenomenon, is the central and inevitable fact of human existence. As we grow older we have to give up two main illusions: the first is that we're going to live forever and the second is that somebody outside of ourselves is going to rescue us from our existential loneliness and isolation.

Some people who were abandoned or rejected early in life have special difficulties dealing with the initial anxiety of being alone. Being rejected or abandoned at an early age is experienced as an annihilation of the self, therefore being alone is an "abyss" experience to be avoided at all costs. Others who were smothered as children also have difficulties being alone. Being smothered is just another form of abandonment as the child was not seen for his or her true self. The smothered child is alone all the time even when the smothering parent is present. There is no value attributed to being alone, only threat and fear. Aggression, contempt for love and cynicism can be disguises for loneliness. In addition, living in a society which is based on frantic activity and manic diversions supported by the god of television and our greed-based corporate media, being alone is discouraged, even judged as weak.

One way people deal with loneliness anxiety is via addictions. From this perspective all addictions are anxiety management techniques. Drinking, smoking, drugging, manic sexual escapades, buying objects to fill the emptiness momentarily heals the wound, but the terror of loneliness soon returns with a vengeance. Beneath addictions always lurks the great abyss of terrifying loneliness.

Check Out My New Website/blog: www.DrPeterMilhado.com New Article Every Two Weeks + Updates

When we get married we often have the unconscious wish and fantasy that our spouse will solve the problem of loneliness for us. Here is where Chekhov comes in when he said, "If you're afraid of loneliness, don't get married." No one but ourselves can solve the "problem" of loneliness.

Some people experience overwhelming terror of loneliness when they're not in a relationship, yet when they're in a relationship they sabotage it by making unrealistic demands and unconsciously push their partners away, returning them to the loneliness they feared to begin with. There seems to be an unconscious compulsion to repeat the early abandonment and rejection experiences. The only way they can heal this "abandonment cycle" is to become conscious of it, and to cop to the fact that they've become the agent of what they were the victim of as children. Salvation never lies in the hands of another, but only in one's ability to hang with aloneness and to look inward.

People make progress in therapy when (1) they take responsibility for their choices, (2) when they stop blaming others and give up trying to be rescued, and (3) when they acknowledge their pain of loneliness no matter how invested they are in social roles and relationships. (James Hollis, Ph.D.)

It is in our capacity to face our aloneness and not run away into frantic activity, t.v. or addictions that much healing can take place. When changes of mental attitude are required, when we have to sort out feelings and ideas and when we need to come to terms with losses we need to search out solitude. It is here where self-discovery and self-realization take place. The only antidote for fear is facing it. The only antidote for loneliness is embracing it. Making friends with loneliness breaks the tyranny it holds over us. It is in aloneness where we find out what we're made of, what resources we have and who we are. Aloneness is probably our major avenue for self-growth, it deepens our humanity. I know in my own life, the times I've gotten strongest were during periods of aloneness.

One for all and all for one. Love to Mother Meera

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Extensive Experience With Folks Over Forty and Artists In All Creative Fields

Spreading the Medical Costs The Devil is in the Details

by Jefferson Pinto

I remember when I was a kid. Every Sunday my family went to my grandparent's house for dinner. My grandmother got incredible personal fulfillment from feeding and caring for us. As a child I couldn't really appreciate that. Here's how the routine went: She would start spooning the food onto my plate and when I said "Thank you ... (pause) ... That's enough ... (pause) ... STOP!" She'd still add at least two more heaping scoops. Grandma's house rule was: you can't leave the table until your plate is clean. As a child I was overwhelmed when my stomach was feeling really full and my plate was still far from empty. It seems like I was always the last one at the table staring at a plate of food. I had two tactics for dealing with this situation. The first was to give the appearance of "mission complete." I'd spread the food on my plate. Sometimes I'd hide it under a piece of bread and smear a little on the other plates remaining on the table. This tactic worked fairly well since there were many other empty plates on the "kid's" table (a wobbly folding card table) that was far from the adult's table in the other room.

The other tactic was to wait until Princess (the 100 plus pound German Shepherd) was let into the house, and feed it to her under the table. Man, I really loved that dog!

The current 1,990 page version of the Health Care Reform Bill (HR 3962) is Health Care Reform Continued, Page 24...

LETTER - ST. MARY'S

11th hour, the 11th day, the 11th month 2009

- Steve Schleder

Dear Military Active and Retired,
I wanted to take a second and thank you all for your continuing support these last few years for the campaign to restore the 3,000 desecrated graves at St. Mary's/Presbyterian/Hebrew Cemeteries in San Buenaventura, California and in particular, the 82 desecrated graves of the United States St. Mary's Vets Continued Page 21...

PRICEY BEHAVIOR

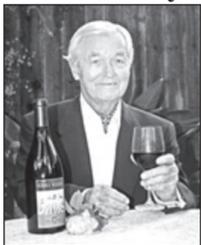
R. ELLIS SMITH But Mommy, all the other Kids are doing it !



In speaking about the recent increase of Water, Sewer and Trash bills in the City of Oxnard the Mayor of Oxnard has obviously decided to join other cities in the way the City Councils run their city. He stated, "the cities new rates were justified and still comparable to what customers in other cities in Ventura County pay." It would seem to the naive citizens among us that Mr. Holden has reverted to the method of City Administration used almost exclusively by the City of Ventura and other cities in the county. That is administrating by example; in other words Pricey Behavior, Continued, Page 21...

Wine And Roses

by Ron Rowe



Amazing, one week it is over 105° in Ojai, the next, down to 45°..... how capricious is mother nature and how mysterious she is. It rained for two days, then back up to 90°. It is so good to have Ojai back again after a hectic weekend. Why do all the fundraising and other events all happen on the same weekend?

Is it bad planning? Europe recently had a car-free Sunday in all city centers, to encourage people to walk and bicycle. Would this work in Ojai? Speaking of bicycles, I see Buddy Wilds riding his bike around town. Buddy, if you want to ride a cool bike check out the Epic Expert Carbon; it's the snappiest most responsive four-inch dual suspension bike out there. It's got a lightweight frame, stiff enough for speed. Check www.specialized.com, oh it's only \$5500.

Did you know in 16th-Century Turkey, coffee drinking was punishable by death?

Author Graham Greene entered a competition in the Spector magazine and came in third. Dolly Parton did an impression of herself in a contest and lost.

Hamburger eaters, did you know pre-packaged hamburger patties are an amalgamation of various grades of meat from multiple slaughterhouses? They contain heavily treated fatty scraps and trimmings and are sometimes contaminated with cow feces. Most meat processors do not test each batch of burgers for E. coli bacteria. Just thought you might be interested.....

It's house tax time, did you know in 2009, 47 percent of all US households or 71 million will pay no tax., most of the households that pay no tax earn less than \$30,000 a year.

Looking ahead for an unusual Christmas present? bid on a complete Tyrannosaurus Rex skeleton, found in South Dakota, the auction seller's minimum price is \$4 million.

Ammunition makers in the U.S. will produce an estimated 9.5 billion bullets this year, a 2 billion increase over last year. I should've invested in ammunition making stocks. Lawrence Keane of National Shooter Sports said nobody has ever seen this kind of demand before. Couldn't be the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan is the cause, could it? So some manufacturers are making money...

Remember the singer, Susan Boyle? Her debut album topped online retail sales charts recently; thousands of eager fans pre-ordered the record which won't be released for another two months.

If you are not very bright, don't become a crook. A robber has been identified and is now in jail for four years, after breaking into a house and leaving his cigarette butt behind. Police used DNA testing to match his genetic profile. If you are a burglar and own a cell phone, remember to turn it off when breaking and entering. Police arrived at a grocery store in Biloxi, Mississippi when a hold-up was taking place. The robber ran out the back door and went into a nearby woods. After searching the woods, police heard a cell phone ringing; it was the robber. He was arrested and is now in jail. A doctor's receptionist in Chicago was shocked when a masked man pointed a gun at her and said, *this is a hold up, give me the money*; the receptionist said, *this is a doctor's office we have no money*. The would-be robber paused then ran out into the street. Police thought the robbery was planned months ago as the doctor's office used to be a bank. A would-be-bank-robber, Todd Walker walked into the Washington Federal Savings Bank and handed the teller a note demanding cash. He left with \$5,000, leaving the note behind. When he got home police were waiting and they arrested him. Oh, on the back of the note was Todd's drug screening report with name, address and phone number.

British crematoriums have posted notices saying that bodies over 266 pounds need to be cremated before 9 am because, as the ovens get hotter later in the day, the large bodies clog up the mechanism with excess ash. A recent survey showed one in five British and American are obese. So, if you are obese and want to be cremated, start slimming. Ah, true love.... an Australian woman, Sandy Tedesco, age 36, is proving her love for her late

husband. She placed his cremated remains in her breast implants so he will remain close to her heart forever. Ain't love grand? Incidentally looking ahead, if you are going to be cremated you might want to buy Marie Garnier's funerary urn. It's a modern-glass design with a stainless steel base with a pair of oval shapes; one for the ashes, the other for a USB key to digitally store personal information forever. Contact www.matteogonet.com if interested; price is \$3,600.

A county in Florida has barred women from exposing more than three fourths of their breasts and two third of their buttocks in public. Chief Deputy David Preston is uncertain how to enforce the new law. Well, David, try giving your officers a tape measure.

Ladies, do you like to kiss, if so don't choose an Englishman. According to a recent study by publishers, Mills and Boon 47, percent of English women admitted their first kisses were sloppy, mushy miserable teeth bashing disasters. Women seeking a more fulfilling encounter to go to Australia where just one in 100 Australian women worry that their kisses may leave something to be desired. They all seem satisfied with Australian men kissing them. I say, let's not be beastly to the British, male accusing them of being the world's worst kisses; remember it's cold in England and it takes a little longer to warm up....pity they didn't interview the women that I have kissed.

I see electronic books have finally arrived in the U.S. Today's bestseller books now include data on sales of books for the Kindle Electronic Reader, as well as sales of conventional paperbacks.

Looking for a job? Despite the national unemployment rate of 10 percent, more than 100,000 nursing jobs are going unfilled. Rep. Robert Wexler (D-Florida) has introduced a bill that would allow 20,000 foreign nurses annually for the next three years.

Workers in an Irish peat bog unearthed one of the oldest and best preserved examples of packaged food; a 3,000-year-old oak barrel filled with butter. The barrel which had been cut from a tree trunk was 3 feet long and weighed 80 pounds.

Looking for an unusual red wine? Try Carm Grande Reserve 2005. It's an impressive structured wine, delicious, complex and certified organic. Escada 2005. Each sip of this wine gives an aroma of leafy tobacco and pruney flavors that brighten with air. For single malt whiskey drinkers, two of the world's best single malt distilleries, Laphroaig and Ardmore, have now available the worlds best single malt whiskey. Bottled in 2008 Laphroaig 25-year-old whiskey, rich and peaty flavor, only \$500 a bottle. Ardmore, 30-years-old, only 1,428 bottles of this Scotch were bottled, only \$460. I wonder if Buddy Wilds at Movino Wine Bar will be stocking them?

Time to be away and to contemplate on the mysteries of life.

Peace to all living beings on earth
Comments are welcome, Ron Rowe
rhjrowe@aol.com

Curtain Call

by Ron Rowe



Christmas is nigh upon us; the majority of theaters are in rehearsals for their annual holiday shows. At the Ojai Art Center, actor/director Buddy Wilds is preparing a holiday, joyous celebration.

We hear that new ideas for the show will flow from his artistic imaginative mind, sounds good to me. Better book your seats now. Show will run from Dec. 12 to the 19th, call 646-0117 reservations.

Over at the Sanger Classic Theater Company, rehearsals are going ahead with their Christmas production. *I Remember Mama*, directed by Francisca Beach. The show is about Mama, with the help of her husband and uncle Chris, bringing up their children in their modest San Francisco home. Mama's sisters and uncle furnish a rich background for a great deal of comedy, and a little incidental tragedy. The antics of the children keep everyone in pleasant turmoil. Show starts Nov. 27 through Dec. 20, reservations, 646-4885.

A Christmas Carol is in rehearsals. Directed by Gai Jones, Vocal Director Candace Delbo. Music Director

Jimmy Calire said, "I love the challenge of bringing new music to a very familiar story. I have tried to stay close to Dickens intent, the struggle to redeem a man's soul who has turned his back and heart from the world."



The Happy Hansons ~ The poor, but happy Hansons; (L-R) Kartrin (Hanna Aist), Nils (Alex Villarreal), Mama (Sigrid Bressler), Papa (Johnny Harnett), Christine (Alexandra Enoch), and Dagmar (Natalie Jones) holding the family cat, Uncle Elizabeth, in Senga Classic Stage Company's Christmas production of the inspiring American family classic, "I Remember Mama"

Producer Joan Kemper said a few years ago the Ojai Performing Arts Theater Foundation decided to produce the musical, *A Christmas Carol* as a gift to Ojai, with all proceeds going to local charities. Show runs Dec. 17 to the 23rd at the Matilija Auditorium. Better call now and reserve your seats, 640-6472.

Coming up at the Ojai Art Center, *Leading Ladies*, directed by Frank Malle. They are in rehearsal at present. I predict this will be the funniest show of the year. Call 646-8406 for more information.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever opens at the High Street Arts Center, in Moorpark. The show runs Dec. 4 to the 20th, fun for the whole family, call 529-8700 for reservations.

Opening Nov. 13, *Bert n' Eddie*, starring Cheridan Best and Larry Robinson at the Conejo Players, Thousand Oaks; call 495-3715 for more information.

Christmas Belles opens Dec. 11 through the 20th at the Simi Valley Cultural Center; call 583-7900 for reservations. The High Street Arts Center, in Moorpark is presenting *The Miracle Worker*, directed by Rachel Man Heiner. It's a classic story; tells of Annie Sullivan and her student, blind and mute Helen Keller. Show ends Nov. 15, check 579-8700 for reservations. The Ventura College Theater in Ventura is presenting a one-act Festival. Free preview performance Nov. 12; show runs through Nov. 22. Call Judy Carey, ext. 3236 for more information.

Curtain Call Continued Next Page, 5...

EVENT CALENDAR

- Thru Nov. 'Wearing Our Stories: Costume & Cultural Identity in the Latino Community' - Santa Barbara Museum of Art - 1130 State St. - S.B. info: 963-4364 or www.sbmuseumart.org
- Nov 19, Thu - 'The Forest Lover by Susan Vreeland' - CAM Book Club - Carnegie Art Museum - Sugg. Donation \$12 Museum Members - \$18 Nonmembers - info: 385-8171 or www.carnegieam.org
- Thru Nov 20, 'The Unique Print: New Works by R. Anthony Askey' - Architectural Foundation Gallery of Santa Barbara - 229 East Victoria St. - S.B. info 965-6307 or <http://afsb.orh/>
- Thru Nov 20, 'An Exhibit of All Photography' - Gallery Ten-Twenty-Nine - 302 East Cota St. - S.B. info 848-0459 or www.artfromscrap.org
- Nov 21, Sat 'Exploring Great Artists' - Parents and Children participate in a unique learning opportunity that combines art history w/ a studio art project - 10:15am - 12pm - Carnegie Art Museum - Sugg. Donation \$12 Museum Members - \$18 Nonmembers - info: 385-8171 or www.carnegieam.org
- Nov 20/21, Fri/Sat - Ojai Presbyterian Church - Household Gods musical event with special guests Tara Jeffrey & Jim Calire - Tickets, 646-4300
- Thru Nov 22, Sun - The Ojai Valley Museum "Ojai Celebrates Art" 4pm-5pm- Museum Hours Thu-Fri 1pm-4pm, Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 12pm-4pm - info: 640-1390
- Nov 21, Sat - Ojai Art Center - The Ojai Film Society 20th Anniversary Gala - Bass Baritone, Dan Tullis will headline the entertainment w/ songs from classic films, also special screening of "Une Vie Merveilleuse", Dinner & Silent Auction - 5:50pm - info: Fran Merkle 646-3350
- Nov 21/22, Sat/Sun - The 6th Annual Mega-Mixer - Ventura/LA County - Lyme Disease Support & Education Group - Dir. Micheal Bittner of the Hyperbaric Centers of California - "A Hidden Epidemic: Lyme Disease & Autism in California" - Los Robles Hospital East Campus - 105 Via Merida, Thousand Oaks info: 262-2446 M.O.D.4LymeDisease@gmail.com
- Nov 21/22, Sat/Sun - 13th Holiday Home Tour - presented by Ojai Festival Women's Committee w/four distinctive Events Continued on Page 11...

The Musical Children of Eden opens Nov. 13 through Dec. 20 at the Simi Valley Cultural Center, directed by Stephen Schwartz. It's freely based on the story of Genesis; a frank, heartfelt and often humorous examination of the age-old conflict between parents and children. The show appeals to both religious and nonreligious audiences. Check 483-5118 for reservations.

Coming Nov. 20 to Dec. 20 that classic comedy, *Harvey*, at the Santa Paula Theater; book a seat now at 525-4645. I chatted with Actress/writer Kimberly Demmary yesterday. This talented young lady is indeed blessed not only with wit, wisdom and intelligence, she is also a great actress and, I discovered, a playwright. Her latest play, called *Seatbelts Required* will soon be staged in this area - no definite dates as yet; discussions are being held as of this writing.



Kimberly has appeared in many theaters all over Ventura County and the West Valley area for the past 10 years. She is a three-time winner of the Ventura County Four Star Theater Award for best and supporting actress. She was also nominated for best supporting actress in the Valley Theatre Awards. Her theater credits include *Brighton Beach Memoirs, The Rabbit Hole, Tally's Folly, Choices, Detective Story, All in the Timing, To Kill a Mockingbird*. I last saw her at the Senga Classic Theater Stage Company in *Tales From a Woman's Dressing Room*, where she gave an electrifying performance in choices segment. I will keep you posted when Kimberly's play will be staged - you don't want to miss it.

Looking for a fun night out? Visit the Ventura Improv Company in Ventura. Every Monday night is drop in workshops for adults. Have fun while you learn; call 529-8700 for more information. The corn is still as high as an elephant's eye and the wind still keeps roaring down the plain. If you missed seeing that great American classic musical, *Oklahoma* then call 388-5716 and book a seat now. Show runs through Nov. 22 at the Camarillo Community Theater.

Sweeney Todd won eight Tony Awards including best musical in 1979. It is now playing at the Pepperdine University Fine Arts Division. Directed by Kathy Thomas-Grant. There is a cast of 27 with musical staging by Bill Szobody. Showtime is Nov. 12 to the 14th and Nov. 19 to the 21st. Call the box office at 310-506-4522 for reservations. Auditions will be held Nov. 15, 16, 17 at Conejo Players Theater in Thousand Oaks for *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Coat*, no appointment necessary. For a breakdown of roles visit www.conejoplayers.org; call Linda Stiegler at 492-8028. Coming Dec. 15, *Riverdance*, at the Arlington Theater in Santa Barbara. It a grand celebration of Irish music, song and dance, drawing on Irish traditions and combining the richness of music with the magic and sensuality of the dance. Book your seats now before it sells out, 888-407-2929. Overtures and beginners have finished; the curtains are opening. Time to sit back, relax and enjoy the show. Comments welcome Ron Rowe rhjrowe@aol.com

Screenwriting Through a Mythic Lens

~ by Jacqueline Feather

Various books have been written analyzing films for their mythic structure. For the screenwriter, an understanding of mythology and its meaning-making patterns is useful to be aware of long before completion of the final screenplay. Mythic themes, if used well, emerge out of the material inherent in a story and can visually and thematically hold a film 'in place.'



On an individual level, the myths I tell myself about who I am deeply pattern the way I move in the world. Each one of us is inhabited by stories; they come up through our family, ancestors, and culture.

These stories (myths) we tell ourselves bring structure to our psychological and emotional lives. They metaphorically connect our internal landscapes with the external realm.

"... it depends on how we tell a story that often decides its truth, slant or obfuscation."

The mythologist, Joseph Campbell said, "Myth and dream come from the same place." As writers we can intuit them, then describe metaphorically, through our story and characters.

As a map of a town shows all possible routes, without telling you which to take; mythologies are imaging blueprints that lie just beneath surface of the culture. For instance the American myth of 'progress.' Our culture sees progress as a linear unfolding inevitably leading to "better and bigger." For us, the future holds an almost transcendent power and we move toward it with hope and expectation. Other cultures value ancestral time and the past more than the future, or some notion of 'progress.'

The Greek pantheon of gods and goddesses were personifications of principles. Each divinity represented one principle (both its good and evil) and, as a pantheon, they maintained an overall ecological balance. Aphrodite represented love, but also the loss of that love. Hermes was the god of communication yet too, of liars and thieves (surely we, as com-



municators, know that it depends on how we tell a story that often decides its truth, slant or obfuscation). Eros, god of connection, shot arrows of gold for attraction, and lead for repulsion.

Thematically, when stories follow an archetypal theme, the visual images within each scene can connect to that theme and hold the story together. For example, a story about mothering might subtly use the imagery of milk; Mythic Screenwriting, Continued Page 8...

Computer Tech

Did You Know That...

by Mike Deering

Laptops: Many manufacturers sell "lower capacity" batteries standard with the laptops and offer a "higher capacity" battery for sale. That's why you see the "... can run up to 6 hours (or whatever)..." in the literature. But when you buy the machine, charge it up, use it, and find that the charge only runs the laptop for 3 hours, you may think something is wrong. But there isn't. The "... can run up to 6 hours..." means you have to buy the higher capacity battery.

Laptops MUST be operated on a surface where the ventilation ports are not blocked in any way. Keep these guys on a hard surface, no softer than your lap, and they will not overheat.

Software Updates

Let updates run and install on your computer. One reason is that the updates can make the difference between your anti virus software protecting you and not. Let these install: Microsoft, your antivirus program, Adobe, Microsoft Office and Java.

How Your Computer Works

A lot of people confuse memory with a hard drive. The hard drive is NOT memory. Memory stores the part of the program and data that the processor needs most immediately. When the processor is done for the time being, it tells the memory to place the program and data back on the hard drive, until it is needed again. Memory handles data much faster than a hard drive. Why? Because a hard drive has mechanical parts, while a memory chip does not. (That's only one reason.)

Factory Warranty Computer Service

Did you know that when a computer has to be sent back to the manufacturer for warranty repair, your data and programs are NOT backed up? When the computer is returned to you, it is returned to you in the same condition as when you first bought it. So, do your backups. Just a few thoughts. - Mike Deering, Computer MD local computer service

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- Emerson

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Will There be a New Climate Change Treaty in Copenhagen in December

by Alasdair Coyne

A summit meeting of world governments is scheduled for December 2009 in Copenhagen, Denmark, to sign a new international agreement to limit climate changing greenhouse gas emissions.



Europe has been leading the way for developed countries for a decade or more, in addressing global climate change. "China and India have announced very ambitious national climate change plans. In the case of China, so ambitious that it could well become the front-runner in the fight to address climate change." U.N. Climate Chief Yvo deBoer said in September. In November, he stated that China, India, Mexico, Brazil and South Korea were moving faster on climate change than the wealthy industrial countries. China will generate 15 percent of its energy from renewable sources within 10 years.

So where is the U.S.? The House of Representatives passed a climate change bill authored by Congressmen Waxman and Markey, to reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by 17 percent between 2005 and 2020. In the Senate, legislation promoted by Senate John Kerry is unlikely to pass before the Copenhagen Summit in December. Most Republican Senators are against it, as are some Democratic Senators from states that rely on coal power.

FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRIES FIGHT BACK

The lobbying power of the fossil fuel industry is enormous. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has spent millions lobbying against climate change legislation in the past months. The entire U.S. coal industry (the "dirtiest" energy sector in terms of greenhouse gases) gained an exemption till 2025 in the Waxman-Markey legislation in the House. And 2,340 lobbyists representing 770 corporations are fighting the legislation.

In August 2009 an email obtained by Greenpeace detailed plans by the American Petroleum Institute to fund and organize 20 "energy citizen" rallies in 20 states, opposing greenhouse gas legislation. Industry organizers were encouraged to turn out their employees for these events.

Exxon-Mobil, long a leader in funding climate-change denials, is still up to its old tricks, after promising to alter its ways. It provided \$125,000 in 2008 to the Heritage Foundation and the Dallas-based National Center for Policy Analysis, which both publish misleading and inaccurate information about climate change.

DOES IT COST TOO MUCH TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE?

Industry lobbyists often cite the purported high costs of climate change reversal as a reason for inaction.

In fact, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimated that the Waxman-Markey House bill would cause the economy to shrink by about one half of one percent - in 2020! The effects on the average household would be \$90 per annum in 2012, going up to \$925 per annum by 2050, forty years from now.

European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso warned in late September that further inaction on climate change would cut the world's gross economic output by 5 percent a year. "We must see that the costs of inaction are higher from an economic point of view than the costs of action."

WOULD THE U.S. BE PART OF THE SOLUTION?

Can there be a meaningful climate change treaty signed in Copenhagen, without action from the U.S., historically the world's leading greenhouse gas emitter? If climate change legislation hasn't cleared the Senate, and hasn't been merged with the House bill to go to the President by December, what will the U.S. stance be?

The Obama Administration has one strong card still to play, which we should expect to see unveiled in the coming few weeks. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has the power - seated in a Supreme Court decision when George Bush was President - to control U.S. emissions of greenhouse gases.

Under President Bush, the EPA sat on this power; under President Obama, it has already announced its intention to issue regulations limiting greenhouse gases. The EPA's proposals will not be subject to the approval of Congress.

The pro-global-warming lobby has already succeeded in inserting a clause in the Waxman-Markey House bill that would prohibit the EPA from exerting its Supreme Court-authorized power to regulate greenhouse gases. As a matter of timing, though, the House bill has not yet been signed into law - and EPA regulations are likely to be announced before the Copenhagen climate summit.

This would then give the U.S. some stature at the climate summit, where so many other world leaders will be able to list concrete steps they've announced or taken to combat climate change.

The greening of our global economy is bound to be the fastest-growing sector of the economy for decades to come. China and Europe are both heading down this road by investing in and encouraging alternatives to fossil fuels. The refusal of the fossil fuel industry in the U.S. to embrace climate change solutions is acting as a drag on the ability and readiness of our nation to participate on an equal footing in the new green economy.

It only makes sense for the financial power and technological know-how of corporate America to help lead the world into a greener future. If not soon, then when?

SOME ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENTS

The nuclear industry is pushing harder than ever to be a part of the climate change solution. Nuclear power, of course, releases no carbon dioxide into our atmosphere - though the construction of nuclear power plants and the mining and refining of the uranium fuel do contribute to global warming.

Nuclear power is boosted and fast-tracked in the Sen. John Kerry legislation in the U.S. Senate. However, nuclear waste is still an enormous problem with no sound solution. It is encouraging therefore, that Jon Wellinghoff, head of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, stated recently that renewable-energy technology is so far advanced in the U.S. that we may never need to build another coal or nuclear plant.

20 German companies have pooled resources to construct solar power plants in North Africa - enough to fuel Europe by solar energy within 10 years.

Ojai Solar recently installed 1,300 solar panels above carpools at Santa Barbara City College - enough to provide 30 percent of the West Campus' energy needs.

Green energy overtook fossil fuels in attracting investment for power generation, in 2008. Wind, solar and other clean technologies attracted investments of \$140 billion in 2008. The biggest growth in green technology came from China and India. China spends six times as much as the U.S., as a percentage of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP), on greening its economy.

Los Angeles residents installed enough energy-saving appliances and light bulbs in fiscal year 2008-09 to save enough energy to power 50,000 homes. The L.A. Dept of Water & Power handed out 2.4 million compact fluorescent light bulbs and 13,650 free Energy Star-rated new fridges, as parts of its comprehensive efficiency program.

In August, the Obama Administration announced \$2.4 billion in federal grants to develop next-generation electric vehicles and batteries.

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District started a program in 2008 to provide its customers with information on how their energy use compares with that of their neighbors. Peer pressure has led 75 percent of households to cut back their energy consumption.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed SB 488 into law in October to encourage California utilities to create similar programs. The bill's author, Sen. Fran Pavley (D-Agoura Hills) said, "These programs have been shown to be extraordinarily cheap and remarkably effective ways to increase conservation. If such programs were instituted statewide, they could have the effect of removing 300,000 homes from the electricity grid." Nationwide, such programs alone could save the equivalent energy of taking 6 million cars off our roads.

One million people worldwide will be employed by the wind power industry by the end of next year. Wind power maintained a 30 percent growth rate in 2008.

support literacy

Ten years ago only 500 homes in California had solar panels installed for electric generation. There are now 50,000 homes with solar panels in California (about two-thirds of those in the nation) with the capacity at peak hours to produce 500 megawatts of electricity. Germany, however, the world leader in solar power, already has 5,400 megawatts of solar power installed. As a cloudy northern European country, Germany does not seem the likeliest location for such a concentration of solar power.

What is the most ecologically sustainable urban area in the U.S.? Believe it or not, the answer is Manhattan. The city's density and compactness results in considerable energy efficiency, as its residents do without cars and detached houses, which are two of most families' biggest energy consumers. Then there's the fact that New York's massive apartment buildings waste less energy, as the heat loss from one apartment acts to heat its neighbors. Apartment buildings usually have basement washing machines for their residents - far fewer, however, than the one per family common elsewhere.

On top of that, families have smaller living spaces than in other urban areas, which means they have less space to fill up with stuff. The typical New Yorker's carbon footprint is less than a third of the average American's. If all the U.S. lived this way, our national carbon dioxide emissions would drop by 70 percent.

- Alasdair Coyne, Ojai, www.sespewild.org

PRESS RELEASE - REP. PEDRO NAVA

Putting the Brakes on Big Oil Theft

Oct. 26 - Assemblymember Pedro Nava (D-Santa Barbara) announced the introduction of The Oil Industry Fair Share Act, AB 6x1. The legislation will establish an oil severance tax of 10 percent on the gross value of each barrel of crude oil pumped by companies in California. This tax will provide approximately \$1.5 billion in additional revenue to the state General Fund. These desperately needed dollars could be used for public safety, education, health programs for children, human services, and other vital programs.

"California oil companies are getting a free ride," said Nava. "California is the only major oil producing state that does not charge a severance tax on oil extraction. It is time for California to catch up with Alaska, Texas, Alabama, and Arkansas. We need to collect the people's share of this potential revenue source by forcing Big Oil to pay its fair share." said Nava. "California Oil Theft Continued, next page..."

INCUMBENT GOOD OL' BOY NETWORK

R. ELLIS SMITH Oops Missed by That Much...

I have one question for the Ventura citizens (not many), that took the time to vote in this last election, if you voted "NO" on Measure "A" (Sales Tax Increase) why in the world did you vote to elect four people to the council that were adamantly for Measure "A"? This is obviously one of the perplexing questions that were raised in this election. You do know I hope, that by replacing Ed Summers with Mike Tracy you have greatly strengthened and entrenched the "Good Ol' Boy Network" that has been rampant in the Ivory Tower, (Ventura City



Good Ol' Boys, Continued, Page 24...

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView

"The spirit of resistance to government is so valuable on certain occasions, that I wish it to be always kept alive. It will often be exercised when wrong, but better so than not to be exercised at all. I like a little rebellion now and then." - Thomas Jefferson

Oil Theft Continued from previous page...

nia has been giving away public assets to Big Oil for far too long." Gina Goodhill of Environment California said, "Oil companies have been making enormous profits while depleting finite natural resources and polluting the environment. It is time they pay their fair share."

OJAI COUNCIL - RAGGEDY EDGE

Continued from Page 2...

is going to get the letter and also get one big smile on her face. Right? Now, if you're planning on sending a card or letter to one of Ojai's City Council Members, hoping to have a one-one-one with one of your duly elected (or appointed?) Ojai officials don't smile yet. You can just about be guaranteed they WON'T get the letter. You see for who-knows-how-many-years, Ojai's City Manager (White Horse Jere!) has been dutifully perusing mail, (including emails), which you, the John Q. or Jane Q. Public have been sending marked "CONFIDENTIAL" to a city council member... Now some people might think it's no big deal to have a city manager rifling through confidentially addressed mail/email, but generally the federal laws frown on this activity. A long time ago we figured that in a free country

like the U.S.A., hard working U.S. citizens had the right to send mail to people, like their duly elected (or in Ojai's case, sometimes appointed...) officials and expect it would arrive from point A to point B, and in the hands of the one intended, witness Paul Revere, the Pony Express and the lives lost to deliver the mail. In fact, federal law tends to frown on one who might rifle through another's mail; they call it mail tampering... with jailtime... Here's what it says at www.USPS.com, "If you know that someone has tampered with your mail, file a report with your local law enforcement and contact the Postal Inspection Service. You can file a mail theft report on the Postal Service website at www.usps.com or you can call the Postal Inspection Service at 877-876-2455."

The feds tend to take this pretty serious - they want Grandma to GET her Christmas Card !!! Hey Jere, I hear the old historic Ojai JAIL is haunted, so be sure to take your Cyber Probe II Meter. Council member Carol Smith seems to be more focused on her trips to the local grocery store than protecting a Free Speech, Right to Privacy, or c.Filling an Elected Seat said Carol, "I don't know what they expect of me, that I'm carrying a pail of hot tar... to deal with their pothole at the moment while I'm doing my grocery shopping... I want to see actual examples of where people have felt that they have had retribution from something in the city?" Fear not Carol, City Attorney Monte Widders will be all-to-happy to step in with a multitude of legal (and expen-sieve billable) seemingly endless generalizations and opinions; is it legal? is it illegal, what is mail, what is an email??? What is a council member? Who's elected? Who is King?

Now you have to ask yourself what's causing this odd reaction from Carol? You would think she would want everyone to get their mail, nice and tidy-like. Well here goes; remember that pesky little thing about Jere's evaluations, (due from council members by High Noon, Nov. 19)? Well, citizens can also fill out the evaluation forms (available at www.ojaibandventuraview.com or www.ci.ojai.ca.us) and deliver them (anytime before the Dec. 8 closed session evaluations) into the hands of a city council member, if you can find one, or their address... The Ojai City website advises citizens NOT to return the evaluations to City Hall. Sooooo, now the city council members can get a report on their unelected city staff, like Jere... Are you getting it yet??? How do our elected officials maintain a basic democratic balance within the structure of our government, if the potential exists for their

not receiving mail (input) from their constituents? Well, Jere made a backroom deal (what a 'performance'...) with the newly-acquired Ojai Unified School District (OUSD) Superintendent, Henry "Hank" Bangser to overruling the Ojai Planning Commission/Ojai City Council vote-approved city Building-Code-happy 3 foot fencing similar to that at Libbey and the Dog Park). Instead, "Cowboy" Jere undermined council authority and made this backroom deal to put up an 8-foot-gestapo-style-fence around the skate park... Is that what Ojai Needs ??? You have to ask yourself why they want the fence up? So the maybe-eventually-built-someday skatepark CONCRETE won't be stolen? Or to prevent skaters from either going in or coming out of the park? Seems like "Cowboy" Jere and "Hank" have control and punishment issues in mind for Ojai's skaters... By the way Ojai Municipal Building Codes permit public fencing in Ojai at just 6 feet, so why an out-of-code 8-foot-gestapo-style-fence in bucolic Ojai for the skatepark? The planning commission has denied private citizen requests for 8-foot privacy fences in the past.

Didn't Ojai Chief of Police Chris Dunn say he'd enforce the truancy laws, so skaters would not be skating during school hours? "Hank" and Jere must not trust the local police dept. to enforce the laws and keep everything copacetic....

Look, Jere made a back door deal on the skatepark, and to build chaparral city... jobs of low-income housing on the property... This already takes into account (in the expen-sieve OUSD architectural renderings) the demise-as-we-know-it of historic Chaparral School; with conversion to planned strip mall-retail stores, tri-plex theater, multi-storied hotel, convention rooms. Hey, what happened to the business of our kids public education? Doesn't have anything to do with the fact that the new superintendent Henry "Call me Hank" Bangser, who came all the way out-of-retirement (out of the kindness of his heart I expect...) to help little ole ailing Ojai Unified School District out of its financial woes (and money extracting a \$170K + benefit salary, in addition to his ongoing 'prior retirement' package of \$230K) because our superintendents were disappearing from OUSD, like water-out-of-a-leaky-bucket... and the fact it just so happens, he came way out here to Cal-if-orn-ia, and his daughter just happens to work locally for Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation.... yeah that same development company that's interested in turning Ojai's historic Chaparral/Ojai Elementary School into, you guessed it, chaparral city... Vacant store fronts in Ojai's Arcade's District are already nearly as plentiful as the vacancies beginning to appear on the Ojai City Council....

Why in the world hasn't Ojai City Attorney Monte Widders been given his severance and a swift boot out the door, given his serious conflict-of-interest in his longtime moon-lighting job as attorney for... you guessed it, for Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation. On top of all this, the Redevelopment Agency (community development...) has already burned through their 'mad money', but still paying director Kathy McCann a \$70K annual paycheck. Ojai is now looking at an \$800,000 shortfall, which was the same low-or-no-bucks predicament the community was in when Ridem-Cowboy-from-Lodi Jere swaggered into town to "rescue" us... Hang 'em High!

- Dick Lynch

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LETTER: OJAI CITY COUNCIL

City Manager: The Mail Man

- Pat McPherson

Email From: Pat McPherson To: Ojai City Council Members, Betsy Clapp, Joe De Vito, Sue Horgan, Carol Smith, Steve Olsen Subject: City Council Mail

Dear Members of the Ojai City Council, I am truly disappointed at the latest efforts to resolve the issue about not having the City Manager open mail that is intended to be read only by a member of Ojai's City Council. There is no argument that any written communications received by the council is public record. Carol said at one of the council meetings even her day timer is public record. I would bet written communications sent to your home is public record too if it pertains to City business. But we all know such information is not made public on a routine basis and made public only when requested. Focusing on this is a distraction from solving the real issue I and others have about the City manager opening and reading mail addressed to you, before you do, or maybe not forwarding it on to you at all. A simple solution, that would address my concerns and I believe the concerns of all others, would be to:

Put in writing that the Council interprets the April 10, 1956 ordinance 2-3.04 item "(r), to mean only mail addressed to the Council in whole, not mail addressed to individual council members. I can't think of anyone that would challenge this interpretation. DONE! If you still want to add a disclaimer to the web site about all information sent to the City may be made public, OK, No problem. But if you hear a bunch of hollering about this, you might want to ask why. - Pat McPherson, Ojai



FREE ELECTIONS - IN OJAI ?

by Joel Anderson

With Mayor Joe DeVito's vacancy on the Ojai City Council Dec. 31, the council is now wrestling with the two options to fill the vacancy; 1. Appointment by remaining council members, or 2. Special Public Election (cost \$6,000 in June). So far Council Member Carol Smith plainly favors a quick/convenient appt., while Council Members Steve Olson and Betsy Clapp have indicated a preference for elections.

"We are intelligent people, we have been voted in by the city and to fill this vacancy.... I don't even know what the fee would be for a special election. We have to inform the public absolutely, but there's a point where the public has to take the ball and run.... advertise that this is coming up so that the best candidates present themselves. And that the council makes the decision in January." - Carol Smith, Ojai City Council Member

Free Elections Continued, Page 8...



Carol Smith wants fast appointment

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Mythic Screenwriting
Continued From Page 5...

spilled, sour, dried, rejected, sweet or overflowing. Screenplays are a mythopoetic craft, and the good ones have an inherent, underlying logic to them, a *mytho-logic*. Take a look at **Jeff Nathanson's Catch Me if You Can** through a *mythological lens* and you'll see a mastery of mytho-logic at work. Even if the thread of this logic was done unconsciously, it was done extremely intuitively. The main character, **Frank**, has an extraordinary capacity to deceive. **Hermes**, as noted, is god of communication, with all its confusions and ambiguities. Language in the script is full of multiple meanings and nuance. The eternal *puer*, or **Olympian** favorite, **Hermes** is quick-thinking, clever, creative and ever alive to novelty. He travels with winged feet, swiftly and with stealth; the personification of trickster, energy, enchanting, seductive, shape-shifting and inventive. In the film, **Frank's** character is consistently and thematically true to this archetypal energy and imagery. The film opens on the mercurial land of a television game show. The show, **To Tell The Truth**, invites us into **Hermes'** realm, *patron to thieves and liars*. Three young men pose as **Frank Abagnale Jr.** and it will be up to the audience to make their way through *their truth and lies* to determine which of the three is the *real Frank*. The camera holds on **Leonardo Di Caprio**, as **Frank**, and we are lead into the back story. It is now our turn to decide, as the audience at the TV show, who **Frank Abagnale Jr.** really is.

"I'm going to tell you the truth. I'm a frank person and I don't know how to lie."

"It will be up to the audience to make their way through their truth and lies to determine..."

The structure of the film weaves back and forth in time, creating layers of story. It does not follow a linear direction but, rather, allows the viewer to experience the *trickster-mercurial movement of Hermes* in action. Using **Christmas Eve** as a pivot point, the story moves between **1969** and six years earlier, traveling between the two, until finally they conjoin. Though even the *end* does not prove a hard boundary, for we are surprised by a *super* that informs us of the ironic details of **Frank's** ongoing life.

Throughout the story there are references to *truth and lies*; who tells? who believes? *"Would I lie to you?"* **Carl** asks **Frank**, who can no longer tell the difference between the two, he is so immersed in the success of his new identities. How perfectly ironic that **Frank** takes on the identity of a **Pan Am pilot**, it couldn't be a better metaphor for **Hermes'** winged creature and swift spirit. **Hermes** is known to be a brilliant, magical liar from the time he is born; the child who tells **Zeus** *"I'm going to tell you the truth. I'm a frank person and I don't know how to lie."*

This, too, is **Frank**, with his youth, charm and seemingly *ingenuousness* character. *"People only know what you tell them,"* he tells **Carl**.

Myths are fluid. They are alive in the *poesis*; the *movement of their telling*. Old myths are outgrown and die, at least until they are revived in new form. If a myth means something to the person or culture, it stays alive in the re-telling. If the re-telling doesn't work, then it doesn't resonate, people don't respond, and the myth simply dies.

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One example is the cowboy mythology, which struggles to survive in a new form of re-telling, one that might still resonate with the culture. **Lucas' Star Wars** succeeded in bringing this mythology (*and the father-son mythos*) to a new realm of the bold re-imagining of the *frontier*.

What myths do you live now in your own life? What myth is the culture in? What are we *dreaming forward*?

New myths call for new characters, new positions, new terrain. They might draw on different archetypes. How many times do we do the **Hero's Journey** when there is a plethora of archetypal journeys?

Nor must these archetypes have the *faces* or meanings of the *Greek pantheon*. **Ogun**, the African god of metal, roads and war, is a powerful underlying entity in certain African cultures. The **Yoruba** understood that **Ogun**, after being immersed in his warrior archetype, must take time outside the village to *"wash off the blood,"* physically and psychologically, before transitioning into domestic life. This is an understanding we could well use today, *given those returning from Iraq*; the warrior archetype is fierce, fed on the war-cry. Turning this raw energy loose on the hearth and home before shedding its bloodthirst is something the **Yoruba** perceived as...*crazy*.

As writers, we follow images as they emerge from the darkness, not the darkness of the theater, but the shadowy edges of imagination. This edge is where mythologies come from. They arise in all of us, making stories and meaning and, in turn, making and possibly changing culture.

- Jacqueline Feather
www.jacquelinefeather.com

Jacqueline Feather Ph.D is a Jungian psychotherapist and screenwriter based in Ojai.

LETTER - RULING THE WORLD

Is the Swine Flu Vaccine Likely Toxic?

- Nina Remensperger

The ones who are presently ruling the world have said they intend to reduce the world population by 85 percent *"by any means."* This idea should send chills down our spines - for we are not mistakes of nature, we are - each one of us - meant to be here!

The very idea of a mandatory or even just a massive **Swine Flu Vaccine** program should be a red flag for all of us. The so-called swine flu pandemic has been clearly puffed up to look *"real"* by the media. My guess is that people will literally start dying mostly *AFTER* their nose spray and vaccines begin. In other words "what" they are actually injecting into our nose (*which contains live viruses that will be contagious*) and blood stream is highly questionable considering their stated intention!

City Council members, all you first responders, i.e. **Sheriffs, Firemen, Policemen, Cert Team** members, etc. - your first commitment is: *"to abide by the Constitution"* and *"to serve and protect the people of Ventura County from harm"*! Please, never forget this!!!

People of **Ventura County**

FREE ELECTIONS - IN OJAI?

Continued from Page 7...

Betsy Clapp, Ojai City Council member strongly urged holding elections, *"Personally, I am not a fan of appointments. I think that open elections are one of the pillars of our democracy. The right to choose representation is a sacred thing to me. I think it's very important to recognize that \$6,000 [June spec. election cost], which is very little to pay for the citizens of Ojai who are watching here tonight, and tomorrow night, that we have a right to choose representation."*

Council Member Steve Olson said, in reference to the *employee/public participation in city manager/attorney evaluations*, *"It seems like we have lost contact that we are a representative government and that's our job.... and I plan on doing it."*

EDITOR'S NOTE: The next **Ojai City Planning Commission** meeting is **Wed. Nov. 18**. The next **Ojai City Council** meeting is **Tues. Dec. 8**, and a **Special Skatepark City Council** meeting is scheduled for **Tues. Dec. 15**. The **Ojai Unified School District (OUSD)** also holds its board meetings on first Mondays of the month every few mos., which makes it impossible to attend both the city council meeting and the **OUSD** board meetings. The next **OUSD board meeting** is **Dec. 8 at 5:30 pm**. Location: **OUSD board room, Rm #1, 414 East Ojai Ave.**

Info. www.clojai.ca.us www.ojai.k12.ca.us

"Every government degenerates when trusted to the rulers of the people alone. The people themselves, therefore, are its only safe depositories"

- Thomas Jefferson

- you are responsible for taking cautionary methods for protecting your own health: First, let your **God** given immune system do the job it was intended for. Stress is not an option when you have trust in destiny. Be matter-of-fact and have the courage to confront this whole phenomenon *"wide awake."* Colloidal silver and certain homeopathic remedies work very well on influenzas of any kind and best of all, they have no side effects. Of course, eat plenty of fresh healthy food. Extra vitamins B, C, D3, and Zinc are said to be very helpful.

If this isn't a clear wake-up call for all of us - good Lord, what is? But guess what? *"The more awake we are, the more fully alive we are!"*

*See **H1N1 Vaccine** Insert at www.pandemicfluonline.com/?p=1248#more-1248 www.pandemicfluonline.com/?p=1248#more-1248

- Nina Remensperger, Santa Paula

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Evaluating How You Fell Off the Wagon

by Mary-Jo Murphy

All is not lost. You might need to hold on a little more tightly, but just as surely as that jury duty summons, you saw this coming. It's **CHEAT SEASON**.

If you feel the holiday sabotage is out of your control, be honest. Most of us bought our favorite brand of bite-sized, Halloween candies well in excess of the number of ghosts and goblins we anticipated. The truth is, we all kind of look forward to temptation, the Latin origin of which means to test, to try, to handle.

You will be tested. It will be trying. You will cheat, but you can handle it. So, even if your **Thanksgiving** dinner plate weighs more than your **Labrador Retriever**, even if after dinner you lie next to the table in a tryptophan stupor, you can still hold onto your good intentions.

Enjoy the day. It is one of my favorites, because I'm sentimental. The smell of turkey conjures up cold, **Connecticut** mornings, watching the **Macy's** parade on a black and white TV and loved ones long gone. If you get nostalgic, you are not alone.

Traditional dishes connect us to our past. That's one of the functions of food.

Many years ago, shortly after moving to **California**, my roommate and I hosted a **Thanksgiving** dinner party for the unfortunate interns, residents and nurses from the hospital who would be without kin on this family-oriented day.

My roommate had southern roots. We prepared two turkeys, one with her traditional, corn bread stuffing and one with my authentic, sausage stuffing.

Our guests could have chosen a variety of political, social or medical topics to discuss over dinner, but one subject dominated. Which stuffing was the real thing?

Since then, whenever I invite someone to my **Thanksgiving** table, I always ask ahead of time, *"What single item needs to be on our menu for this to truly be Thanksgiving for you?"*

Deprivation, like guilt, is the enemy of change. My advice to you is to enjoy that memory-laden food. What can't you live without? For me it's mashed potatoes, fluffy, buttery. The gravy is nice, but it's the potatoes.

It makes no sense though to decide that if you overdo you have to continue to overdo. Treat yourself, but remember to savor the pleasure. The first **Thanksgiving** was a celebration of a healthy arrival after a long voyage. Honor your individual journey. Stay on the path.

Recently I was giving a talk to a women's service club and had barely mentioned *Cheat Season*, when a member called out, "pumpkin pie."

My pumpkin research uncovered an interesting fact. For the pilgrims, the round orange thing was a stewed vegetable, side dish. Are you tempted? They didn't have sugar, so pie was not on the original menu. Nor was cranberry sauce. The bogs of **Cape Cod** were filled with sour, low-calorie cranberries. Yum!

Nemesis
by Roslyn Hammer

I have a pair of jeans that I wore in 1989 that are size 8. I thought I was fat then, which leads me to believe that the "fat syndrome" is something women must be born with. It has to be genetic a little gene hiding in the DNA. This gene is connected to a loud voice in my brain that surfaces whenever I dress for a special occasion. It reminds me that I've gained X amount of weight, that this weight is not in a good place, and whenever someone notices this weight, they are going to think that I'm a bad human being.

Fortunately, I clean out my closet only once or twice a year. I always find those size 8 jeans on a wire hanger smashed between sweat-

The pilgrims hadn't thought to put cows on the Mayflower, so there was no butter either. Potatoes, both sweet and regular were rare, as were, I guess, the marshmallows that frequently top the latter.

When you sit down next to your favorite **Aunt Esperanza**, be thankful that dinner table protocol has changed since that first feast. Then, the choicest food was placed next to the most socially prominent person. The rest of the guests ate what happened to be nearby. Imagine if you were really into Eagle or Swan, and you were sitting by the serving plate with Seal on it. Yes, those were actual items at the original table!

The pilgrims didn't use forks either. They ate with spoons, knives and their fingers and wiped their hands on large cloth napkins, which they also used to pick up hot morsels. The finger thing would definitely slow green pea and gravy consumption.

At the first **Thanksgiving** there were no hors d'oeuvre or dessert courses either. All the food was put out at the same time.

Research also tells us that the **Wampanoags** who shared the harvest had different eating habits than the colonists, whose set pattern was breakfast, dinner and supper. The **Native Americans** tended to eat only when they were hungry!

Did you know that on this one day about 690 million pounds of turkey find their way to our tables? That's about two pounds per person. Things could have been different if **Benjamin Franklin** had his way.

In a letter to his daughter in 1784, **Mr. Franklin** suggested that the wild turkey would be a more appropriate national symbol for the newly independent **United States** than the bald eagle. The turkey is *"a much more respectable bird, a true original Native of America, and though a little vain and silly, a Bird of Courage."*

As you approach this holiday table, here's more of my sage advice:

- Sage is good in stuffing.
- Sit close to your *favorite dish*.
- Savor every bite.
- In honor of the **Wampanoags**, get a bit hungry before you start, and consider if not the dancing that they engaged in, a post-feast stroll around the block, before the non-traditional pie course

- Unlike the pilgrim's event, our **Thanksgiving** doesn't go on for three days. One meal, one chance to cheat
- Being a little vain isn't silly, if you want to fit into your Holiday party outfits.
- Be grateful for family and friends.
- Celebrate your healthful voyage.
- Your struggles to change are respectable. Be a Bird of Courage.

May I recommend a well-written blog? A couple of pot-bellied mid-lifers chronicle their weight loss journey. www.128sticksofbutter.blogspot.com

Mary-Jo Murphy, R.N. M.S. CDE, Ventura
www.mary-jomurphy.com

Mary-Jo is a Health and Diabetes Educator, Registered Nurse, and Motivational Speaker
mjmurph221@yahoo.com



a body that didn't gain five pounds every time I ate pizza, and the many aches and pains in the many surprising places.

There are gifts that come with age. I no longer worry if someone doesn't like me. When asked to go someplace I don't want to go, I can say, "no." I don't always answer the phone or call someone back immediately, and most of all I can forgive myself more quickly and easily for the many mistakes I still make.

Someday I'm going to take those lousy jeans and throw them into the dumpster. I think I'll cut them up into a hundred pieces and then one by one I'll pitch those pieces into the trash, someday, but not today.

Someday I'm going to take those lousy jeans and throw them into the dumpster. I think I'll cut them up into a hundred pieces and then one by one I'll pitch those pieces into the trash, someday, but not today. **Roslyn Hammer** wrote for the **Ojai Valley VOICE** during the 1990s. She has a background in stand-up comedy and comedy writing.

LETTER: \$10,000 REWARD

Information Sought in Car Death

- Deborah Escobar

On Aug. 6, 2009 at around 7:04 am on the 101 right before the **Rose Avenue** exit, a small black or grey colored car forced my husband into the center divider, left him no where to go, and caused the accident which followed which took my husband's life. This gentle, educated man was with me for 28 years and the father of our three children. This man continuously improved himself, and sought to harm none, even as he hurtled towards his death that morning. He was the love of my life, and with me since we were 15. We went to high school, college, and then graduate school together, he and I side by side in almost everything we did in the last 28 years. We worked together in my business, **PartiAnimalz Petting Zoo**, where he was my right arm, he helped me in my other ventures, as I did him, we gardened and loved the earth and the animals over the years in every way we could, we loved being well read as well, and taking adventures on our anniversary each year.

This loss has ripped my heart and soul from me, and has destroyed my trust in mankind the rest of the way. Only a few persons have come forward with information, which has not been enough. The person responsible for killing my husband, lives as they have always done, without regard for what they have done. My husband, **Joe David Escobar, Jr.** was a chemist, and a chemistry teacher working two positions for the last 16+ years to try to support our family. He was my cheerleader, my champion, my companion, everything to me. He had recently finished his **California State** water board exam, and was **A.B.D.** on his **Ph.D.**, played basketball everyday at lunch, worked on everything in our home, and on our cars, and was an avid movie buff, loving **Dario Argento** the most. Over the years he successfully taught thousands of students a love of learning and of chemistry.

Since he has died, I have sought justice to have the person responsible come forward or someone to identify the person. No one has. The highway patrol has told me they have nothing to cause them to investigate and find this hit and run driver. The teachers union (**AFT**) has claimed that they can not find a piece of paper, and will not pay the life insurance or the double indemnity on the accidental death policies he had. Even further, **State Farm** has refused to pay out our uninsured motorist policy, even though the highway patrol filed this as a felony non-contact hit and run. I could go on and on of the things people have not done or have refused to do since he died.

My friends and I have handed out flyers, hung banners, tried to start a grass roots email campaign, and have tried to ask for support from local representatives. I have done this with all I can say is love, as that is all I have left.

The overwhelming response from all parties is one of silence. The amazing thing about this, is that this great man, this great teacher is dying in silence because no one will do the right thing. I pray continuously for this justice to happen and for peace for my children and I who suffer in some measure each day and will for the rest of our lives.

My husband was a young man of 43 years, and had much left to offer humanity. This was senselessly ripped away four days before our anniversary which he had taken the whole week off to spend with me. I buried him on our anniversary out of love and honor.

My plea, my cry is to the universe, to God, please bring justice, take care of my children and I.

Sincerely, **Deborah Escobar**
atnotary@earthlink.net

I started a web page and blog:
www.DrPeterMihado.com
Come and Join me!

OJAI MARDI GRAS ~ Thrill of Brazil



Photo © 2009, Joel Anderson

ade Ball. The dance party will take place Saturday night, Feb. 13, at the Ojai Woman's Club. King Scott and Queen Betsy Smith (pictured), the reigning monarchs of the Krewe, will pass on their crowns that night. They have declared "Thrill of Brazil" to be the theme for the 2010 event. As always, the Mardi Gras Ball will be a benefit for a local person in need.

The Ojai Mardi Gras Wake! Krewe is thrilled to announce that Brazilian dancer and percussionist Amen Santo will be a special guest at the 20th Annual Ojai Mardi Gras Masquer-



Photo © 2009, Joel Anderson

Amen Santo, a native of Bahia, Brazil, is the founder and director of Ballet Folclorico do Brasil. He has performed at Carnegie Hall, in Nike commercials, and in Hollywood action films and has taught in Europe, Canada, and L.A. His acrobatic dance moves have been described as "somewhere in between breakdancing and gymnastics pommel-horse work." Santo will join the Ojai Mardi Gras Band, led by John Zeretzke, as they blend samba and latin rhythms with their trademark New

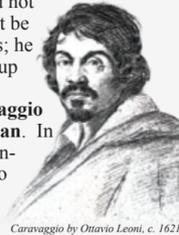
Orleans musical gumbo to suit the Brazilian theme. The Art Fools branch of the Krewe is now welcoming new artists to help make the 20th anniversary event better than ever. Artists of all kinds can contact Judy K. Nelson at 794-9228

Businesses can call Lanny Kaufner at 646-6281 to learn about sponsorship opportunities. For all other information, please call the Mardi Gras hotline at 646-7843

Michelangelo Merisi Da Caravaggio

by Mina French

I don't know how to say this any other way; Michelangelo Merisi Da Caravaggio was a violent man. He took part in many brawls and a few times he was wanted for murder. His patrons, who thought he was the greatest painter that ever lived, dead or alive, came to his aid to help him run from the law. But Caravaggio could not control himself; he couldn't just be calm and paint his masterpieces; he always had to fight. He ended up dead at the age of 38-years-old.



Caravaggio by Ottavio Leoni, c. 1621

Michelangelo Merisi Caravaggio was born Sept. 29, 1571 in Milan. In 1584, when he was only thirteen-years-old, he was apprenticed to the painter Simone Peterzano who was a student of Titian. His apprenticeship lasted four years, completing it in 1588. In 1593, Caravaggio went to Rome, eventually creating paintings for the Cardinal Francesco Mario Delmonte. His ideas involved use of dramatic lighting (most famously known for) with ordinary people; people from the streets, as models.

Caravaggio's greatest and most famous masterpiece is; *The Decapitation of St. John The Baptist*. It depicts grueling violence. The painting is seventeen feet long - seventeen feet of brutal drama. Caravaggio not only wanted to paint something to look at but wanted the spectator to feel like he was part of the scene. In the *Power of Art*, produced by the BBC, Simon Schama suggests that Caravaggio was full of guilt for his crimes and that he was seeking redemption. He even signs his name in *St. John's blood*. The only thing Caravaggio must have remembered while painting this scene was this verse attributed to John the Baptist, "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert. Make straight the way of the Lord".

When Caravaggio created this painting he was in Malta. It is located in the co-cathedral in Valetta. In Malta, he was knighted by the Order

Caravaggio Continued on Page 12...

Ventura Fall Art Walk



Ventura's Fall Art Walk...

...witnessed Oct. 24 by nearly the entire town including the fun loving Improvers, hosting a "Mothers of Multiples" Benefit, as Art Walkers kicked off the holiday season!

Photos © 2009, Joel Anderson

Diana Milan is a business major at Cal State Channel Islands (CSUCI), here sporting a hand-made crocheted head band and plaid fedora, both available at Le Monde in Ventura, at 542 E. Main St.

by Joel Anderson

Singer-songwriter Nancy Lee performs at Ventura's Fall Artwalk at Le Monde, reflecting the jovial holiday spirit as the season approaches.

"This is the hammer dulcimer that I am playing now. I play a little bit of bluegrass, and country western and I also play with Jason Haines. The music...I like to play? Well in here I like to do a lot of the Renaissance... This instrument is actually Irish, the Appalachian Dulcimer... the one that is hour glass shape and there are only about 6 strings on it. You play it with a goose feather. It's much smaller and is native to the U.S.

"It's how the piano started... this is the 'original' piano! So it started like this... then they had a harpsichord and then they got smart and got legs, so you didn't have to hold it on your lap. It's a traditional instrument, it's actually a pre-Christ instrument.

"When I was a little girl I saw a lady playing one at Knott's Berry Farm and I remembered it. So when I got into my twenties, I went out and tried to find someone to make one, and that's exactly what I did...I got one at the Sawdust (Art) Festival at Laguna Beach. It's



Nancy Lee ~ Singer & Songwriter

great for weddings and louder than a harp... This one is spruce on top, it's got walnut and a little bit of birch...I had it made...I picked out the wood. It's all scratched up from back from Big Bear. It's had its day, but it still plays. I do cowgirl music...I also yodel and stuff...I'm a California girl that yodels! info. nancylee11@verizon.net ~ Le Monde/Ventura 648.7463

EVENT CALENDAR

Continued From Page 9...

Ojai Valley residences decorated for the holiday season celebrating holidays from around the world - The home tour is a benefit for the Ojai Music Festival and its BRAVO! Education program - \$30 advance tickets - \$35 day of the event - 10am - 4pm - info. 646-2094 www.OjaiFestival.org

Nov 20 - 22 - Ojai Holiday Marketplace - Will feature over 40 vendors to help complete holiday shopping - 987 West Ojai Ave - adj. to Rotary Community Park. 11am - 5pm/ Nov 21 & 22 10am - 4:30pm info. 646-2094 www.OjaiFestival.org

Nov 22, 'An American Aesthetic Identity: Through the Eyes of American Women Artists, La Femme & Face to Face' - Carnegie Art Museum - Sugg. Donation \$12 Museum Members - \$18 Nonmembers info. 385-8171 or www.carnegieam.org

Nov 22, Sun 'A Celebration of the Life of Sally Phelps' 1:30pm Every First Sunday of the month, 'Local Aviation History Comes Alive' 10am-3pm - Aviation Museum of Santa Paula - South of Hwy 126 in Santa Paula between 10th St & Palm St exits - Santa Paula info. 525-1109 or www.amszp.org

Nov 22, Sun - Artists Alice & Richard Matzkin will be featured speakers - Ojai Valley Museum - They will give a presentation about their recently published book; *The Art of Aging: Celebrating the Authentic Self*, followed by a book signing/2pm - 4pm - info. Myrna Cambianica at 646-8405 or photomyrna@sbcglobal.net

Nov 22, Sun - Initiation "The Awakening" - A Unique One-Day Showing From the Creative Mind of Cavalari's Alain Gauthier & the Shamanic Vision of Andre Ripa - Center Stage Theatre - 5:30pm - 8pm, 963-0408 for tickets or for info. 971-322-6467- www.initiation22.com - tickets at www.centersstage.com

Nov 22, Sun "Carnival" - Channel Islands Chamber Orchestra Presents "Carnival" - Kuan Fen Liu, Artistic Director - First United Methodist Church - 1338 East Santa Clara St - Ventura - Sugg. Donation \$20 info. 643-8621 or www.cichamberorchestra.org

Nov 27 thru Dec 20 - "I Remember Mama" Fri & Sat 8pm/ Sun 2:30pm - Senga Classic Stage Company, by John Van Druten directed by Francisca Beach - Tick. \$15, \$12 (seniors and students), Ojai Valley Grange, 381 Cruzero St, Ojai, info. & Res. 646-4885

Nov 28, Sat - Ojai House Presents "Fused Glass & Functional Art Show & Sale" - 12-4pm - Ojai House, 304 N. Montgomery, Ojai - info. 650-1656 or www.ojaihouse.com

Thru Nov 28 - Ojai Creates Presents "Sculpting the Nativity" Classes with Valerie Freeman, a great class for families, you will be using 'sculpy' a clay that can be fired in a traditional oven, create a Nativity scene for the holidays - Sats 11am - 12pm - sign-up at Ojai Creates, 640-6558 or Ventura Creates, 641-2555; more info. or www.freemanart.com

Thru Nov 29, "Robert Townsend: A Pop Mythology" - Architectural Foundation Gallery of Santa Barbara - 229 East Victoria St - S.B. info. 965-6307 or http://afsb.org/

Thru Nov 29, "Fall/Winter Multi-Media Show About Aging" - San Buenaventura Artists Union - 330 South California St. - Ventura info. 643-3012 or www.venturaartistsunion.org

Dec 3, Thurs - Hueneme Beautiful Annual Holiday Party - Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club - 11:30am - Cost \$27 per person RSVP by Nov 20 - info. 984-8066 or 984-1436

Dec 4, Fri "Ninth Annual Candlelight Gala" - Camarillo Ranch Foundation - 201 Camarillo Ranch Rd - Camarillo info. 389-8182 or www.Camarilloranch.org

Dec 5, Sat - Naturally For Paws-Holiday Charity Gala, 12pm-3pm in Ventura - Photos with Santa and Four-Legged Family Members - Proceeds donated to Humane League of Ventura County in Ojai - info. 648-7297 - 1776 E. Thompson Blvd. (corner of Hurst)

Thru Dec 6 - "Anything Goes" Art Exhibit - Community Memorial Hospital - Gal-Brent, Ventura - www.cmshhealth.org

Dec. 11th (7:30pm), 12th (2:30-7:30pm) & 13th (2:30pm), "Twas the Night Before Christmas-On Ice 2009," Show & Fundraiser for the Children's Auxiliary to buy gifts for Ventura County foster children, The Oaks' Sheila Cluff will again be playing

Events Continued on Page 12...

Rug & Design: Aria International

Aria International Rug and Design on East Main Street is a treasure trove of international, heirloom quality rugs for the discerning buyer. They pride themselves at Aria in educating customers, explaining the origin and workmanship of each rug to the prospective buyer.

Handmade by the World!



The Tree of Life ~ Ben displays a rare Chinese rug (right). Aria is a finely tuned local business operated by family members who are experts in the field of quality international rugs.

Ben, the owner of Aria walks through his store which is wreathed in rugs from all over the world. Many of the silk rugs hang on the walls as tapestries while others line the floors both as a walking surface and art work to live with. As he talks about his rugs, he runs his hands over the carefully woven fibers with pride and appreciation of the one-of-a-kind workmanship they represent. "All rugs have history behind them. Each symbol has some meaning. No repeat patterns here; everything is different. We explain everything, each kind of rug, the country they come from. This one if from Turkey, for example, he explains, this piece is Chinese, but looks Persian. We explain everything to the client," said Ben.

Many things determine the quality of the rugs...whether or not it is signed, the material used to weave it, the dyes used, how many knots per square inch, how many years ago it was made. Unlike today's factory made rugs, the more you walk on these heirloom rugs the more valuable they become.

"You can walk 50,60,70 years on these rugs, he explains, with no problem at all. They take 2 to 3 years to make, some of them as long as 5 years. That's four persons every day 10 to 12 hours working on a rug. They are different, country to country, city to city," he said.

All cities have their own design, their own workmanship. Some are made in small villages, some of the rugs have all vegetable dyes. Toxic chromium dyes are not used. The higher quality vegetable dyes lasts forever....

All kinds of rugs are available for every taste, decor and budget. They have hallway runners of all kinds and shapes, different designs, all color combinations. If the customer needs help with interior decoration, they will provide the services of an expert designer who will coordinate their choice of rugs with their home decor.

Priding themselves on the services they offer, is something the whole family takes part in. Expect to see family members involved in the business when you stop by Aria for a tour.

When a customer comes in and asks the cost of shipping, they are likely to get a pleasant surprise. Aria will also deliver their rugs to the customer's home free of charge, even if the customer lives out of the area.

With Aria rugs in its current location for eight years they are building a reputation that they are proud of in the City of Ventura.

Ben adds, "All the rugs that I have sold in this city; everyone is happy with the rugs, everyone comes in and they give me complements. That's the kind of service we have here. Always we work with the customer to make them happy...yeah."

- Mary Long and Joel Anderson

"Tax the rich, feed the poor Till there are no rich no more"

- Ten Years After



Photos © 2009, Joel Anderson

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The Buoyant Darlene Roker!

Artist of the Month



Photos © 2009, Mary M. Long

Photographer Darlene Roker's photo exhibit runs through December; (above) with 'Fuschia Glory' taken at Nassau, Bahamas, and (left) 'Lifeguard Guard Tower' Ventura.

by Mary M. Long
Walking into Java Joe's, I was nearly knocked over as the door swung open to meet me and a bright voice said, "You must be Mary?" My introduction to "Hurricane" Darlene was like being swept into an energy vortex. "Retirement is the best job you can have" she laughs, and you have to believe her.

Sporting a yellow flower in her hair to match her poppy yellow t-shirt, she brings sunshine into the room with her 1K megawatt smile. Her passion for photography reflects her passion for life, with every second invested in her future and every learning adventure taking her further toward her goal, which is to perfect her photography. Go Darlene Go!!!

INTERVIEW: Mary: Your website says you are an educator? Tell me about your retirement party from Los Angeles Unified?

DARLENE: My retirement party was billed as a Strategic Career Move, to

photography. I didn't want it to be a ride off into the sunset.
MARY: What are your goals for your photography?
DARLENE: I want to work on refining my "photographer's eye," finding compelling subjects to photograph. I have several new projects I will be working on, in black and white and with slow-shutter movement. Of course I'd like to find more venues in which to show my work. But above all, I want to create images that make the viewer stop, ponder, reflect and say, "I never noticed that scene in just that way."

MARY: Tell me; what brings you to Ventura?

DARLENE: My boyfriend, Patrick Arcadi and I began visiting Ventura on vacation in 2003. Eventually we knew we'd like to settle here after he retires, so we found a little apartment that has become our second home. He still teaches at L.A. Unified, where I retired from, but we manage to get to Ventura most weekends, all holidays, and we were here all summer (yeah!).

MARY: Tell me about the classes you are taking at the Red Brick Gallery?
DARLENE: At Red Brick Gallery (www.redbrickart.com), I'm taking photography seminars (by Jen Livia) that pertain to the art of marketing my photography. I'm also taking glass mosaics taught by both owners; Jennifer Livia and Phyllis Gubins.
MARY: How did you meet Franco and come to have an exhibit of your work at Java Joe's?

DARLENE: As to JAVA JOES, I wandered in to the coffee shop one day, met Franco and had a cup of coffee. While there I asked about his current gallery of art, and if I could bring in my photos. This was in the summer, and we worked out a plan for November (now Nov. and Dec.) Not only is his coffee excellent, but he's easy to work with.

MARY: How would you describe your style and what are your favorite subjects?

DARLENE: My style reflects the values of the Impressionists, in that I look for common, everyday subjects, out in the open air ("en plein air"), with an emphasis on light (reflections, silhouettes, backlighting), line, pattern, color (most definitely color!), and water (the play of light on water). My favorite subjects are those I can get in close-up, such as plants. I also like "scenes," such as beach or desert scenes, where I can change the colors or lines, to create my "impression" of what was there.

MARY: What advice would you give women to enjoy their retirement?

DARLENE: First off, remember retirement is an alternative career, not just sitting around the house in your bathrobe. ;-) You need to have a plan for all that new time - volunteer, an avocation, even another job. But if you're lucky enough to get to retirement, take advantage of this new part of your life to do some of the things you never had time for before!

Java Joe's

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Featured Artist for November/Dec.
Darlene Roker
Photographer - Impressionist
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MARY: What camera do you use and how do you plan to market your images?

DARLENE: I use a Nikon D80, also a Canon G9. But I believe the camera you use is less important than looking around you and actually seeing all the beauty in this world. A good camera will not make up for a lack of focus within yourself.

Exhibit runs thru December at Java Joe's, 642-4332 info, www.enpleinairphotography.com

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Darn Good Reading!

Da Caravaggio

Continued from Page 11...

of Knights of St. John. He could have made a fresh start then, but Caravaggio was prone to violence and soon after being knighted, he got into a brawl and was thrown in jail for assaulting a fellow knight. Amazingly, he was able to escape and he made his way back to Naples. In Naples, Caravaggio was assaulted. Soon, he tried to make his way back home to Milan. In July, 1610 he was on board a ship that sailed from Naples. While going through the Parlo Coast, Caravaggio was thrown in jail again. By the time he paid his way out, the ship had gone. Caravaggio became feverish while traveling through the Maremma. He died in a monastery that same year and as Simon Schama said in the *Power of Art*, Caravaggio died without the "help of God or man".

The darkness that was inside Caravaggio lives on in his paintings. While it is unknown how many paintings he created, to this day, only 80 works have survived. According to many critics, Caravaggio is one of the greatest painters who ever lived. His name is alongside Velasquez and Rembrandt, as an incredible talent. Caravaggio had much influence over the Italian Baroque painters.

Mina French
artnews510@aol.com

EVENT CALENDAR

Continued From Page 11...

Mrs. Santa Claus - 830 Wagon Rd., Oxnard, Tickets: off ice \$10, on ice \$17-\$25, on ice tables \$40 per person (seats up to five) includes food and beverages

• Thru Dec 12, 'Colors Galore by Delys E. Robinson' info. 988-4440 or www.seabreezeartgallery.com

• Dec 12, Sat - Mysterious City Hall Ghost Tour w/Richard Senate - 7-9pm info. 658-4726

• Thru Dec 13, 'Noble Tombs at Mawangdui; Art and Life in the Changsha Kingdom' - Santa Barbara Museum of Art - 1130 State St. - S.B. info. 963-4364 or www.sbmuseum.org

• Thru Dec 15 - Kid's Art Reception & Show - The Oaks at Ojai, 122 East Ojai Ave - Open to public/ free of charge info. Eliz. Horton 646-5573 email elizabeth@oaksspa.com

• Thru Dec 15 - East/West Gallery's Final Public Exhibition - 714 Bond Ave - S.B. - 805-963-404 info@eastwestgallery.com

- Henri Bristol at 669-1311 or Hbristol@gmac.com

• Thru Dec 19 - Saturdays - Ojai Valley Museum Guided Historical Walking Tour - Ojai Valley Museum, A new series will resume in January - info. 130 W. Ojai Ave. - 10:30am - Res. call museum at 640-1390

• Thru Dec 20, 'California Calling: Works from the Santa Barbara Collection, 1948-2008, Part I' - Santa Barbara Museum of Art - 1130 State St. - S.B. - info. 963-4364 or www.sbmuseum.org

Events Continued on Page 18...

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LETTER - GOOD NEWS...

...on the Fifth Anniversary of the Ojai Peace Vigil...

- Clive and Marion Leeman

Today, November 13, was the fifth anniversary of the Ojai Peace Vigil, which started one week after Bush won re-election in 2004.

By fortunate coincidence, we also received the first sign yesterday, Thursday, November 12, that a huge policy change in the Afghan War may be coming.

News was leaked yesterday that U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan, Karl Eikenberry, a retired general and former commander of U.S. and allied troops in Afghanistan, has been advising President Obama by email not to send any more U.S. troops to Afghanistan. Apparently, the president has now scrapped the four military options he has been considering, all entailing an increase in troops.

Just as intriguing is the news presented on *The Rachel Maddow Show* last night that President Obama has been reading *Lessons In Disaster*, McGeorge Bundy and the *Path to War in Vietnam*, by Gordon Goldstein, which demonstrates how JFK rejected the advice of his generals on Vietnam and took control of the decision-making process himself, and how LBJ acquiesced to the generals and ended up with a disaster.

President Obama has asked all his White House staff to read Goldstein's *Lessons In Disaster*. Goldstein, a former security counsel

to the United Nations, points to a curious historical synchronicity: just as the former commanding general in Afghanistan who is now U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan, Karl Eikenberry, has been urging the U.S. president not to send more troops to Afghanistan, so the former commanding general in Vietnam and U.S. ambassador to Vietnam, General Maxwell Taylor, urged President Johnson not to send any more troops to Vietnam.

Unfortunately, LBJ paid him no heed. We hope Obama responds otherwise.

Today, three young men from Nordhoff High School joined us at the vigil. They seemed excited at the possible prospect of peace. For their sake, and the sake of all young Americans who may have to bear the burden of war, we pray that peace comes soon.

- Clive and Marion Leeman, Ojai

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Don Adolpho Camarillo, in Celebration of his Birthday



Xamarillo and Carmella La Dow



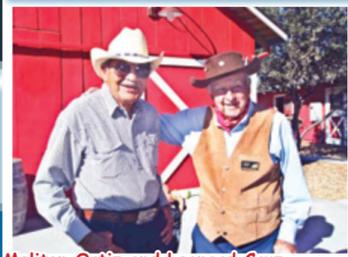
Gavilán



El Rey and Pati Neal



Michael Morgan Councilmember (right), wife Donna Morgan, holding grandson Tyler, & Tyler's Mom, Debra Morgan (far left).



Meliton Ortiz and Leonard Cruz



Visiting Pelon



OJAI DAY ~ OCT. 17

Don Adolpho would have been proud. Three gleaming arabaster stallions adorned the emerald green lawns of the timeless Victorian, which had been the homestead of his family, for his birthday party on October 25th. True, Carmen is no longer standing on the porch discussing the day's business with farriers and vaqueros, but still the tradition of the Camarillos lives on through the preservation of the Camarillo House and the revitalization of the Camarillo White Horses.

Prized for centuries as the horse of Emperors and sorcerers, the true white horse with its gleaming pink skin and dark eye is a rarity in the horse world. The early Celts believed that the white horse had special magical powers and would drive them into the surf as a sacrifice to their gods. On the silver screen, the white horse brought special glamour to westerns as the mount for the Lone Ranger and other luminaries of the old west.

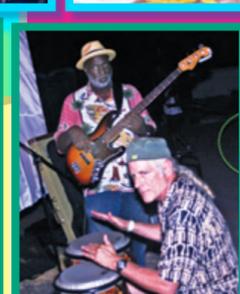
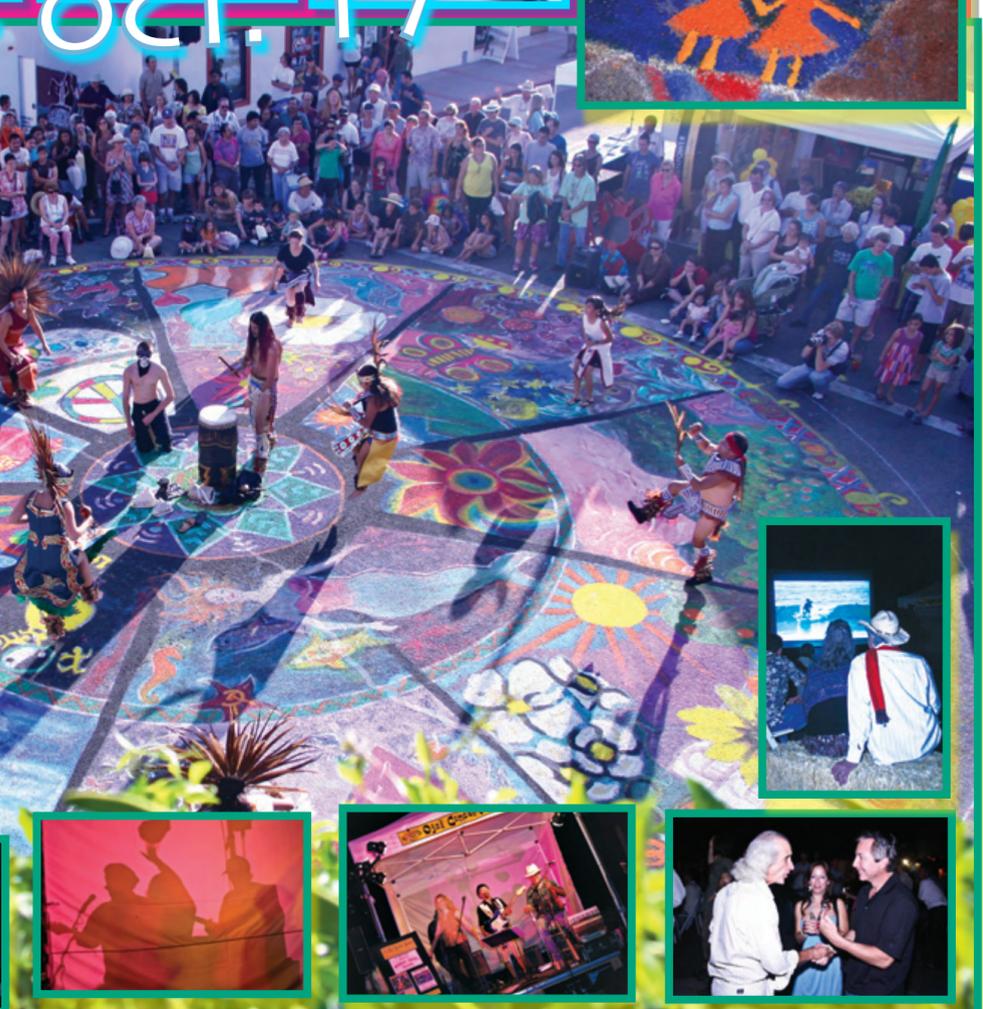
Disbanded after the death of Carmen Camarillo in accordance with her wishes, the Camarillo White Horses were lovingly restored, not just by those who were connected by blood with the Camarillo family, but by those whose hearts were drawn to the breed by sheer love of their beauty and their ability to inspire those who gaze upon them.

Two years ago an unprecedented event invigorated the breeding program when three pure white colt foals hit the ground in the same year. Three white colts destined to become stallions to carry on the ancestral lines of Adolpho's stallion, Sultan. Three white stallions to someday dance the parade route like their predecessors did when they opened the Bay Bridge in San Francisco, marching nine abreast in 1937.

White Horses Continued Page 16...



El Rey and Jay Moreno



Photos © 2009, Joel Anderson

Camarillo... The Last Decade...

White Horses Continued from page 14...

Three white stallions to follow in the hoofprints of Pancho, Paloma, Ramona, Petron, Diablo, Valentino, Millie's Juanita, Concha, and many others; each one prized by its owners, each one magical.....etereal.

Designated as a breed in 1991, through the efforts of the newly formed Camarillo White Horse Assoc., the horses have their hooves on solid ground at last, with the support not only of the people who revere them but the appreciation of the Camarillo City Council members.

These young stallions are being raised carefully by their owners who are making sure that they are living well-rounded happy lives as horses first, Camarillo Whites second. Xamarillo and Gavilon enjoy the beautiful, expansive pastures of the Parker Ranch in Ojai learning to run and play, stretching their legs while they build the heart and lungs of athletes.

El Rey is the crown prince of Nadin Webb's ranch in Ojai and is being carefully trained and handled by Jay Moreno. While Inez Parker La Dow and her daughter Carmella have high hopes for Xamarillo, they are building the herd for the future, with four mares expected to foal next year to Harold Parker's Camarillo White Horse stallion Panchito.

Tanya Langkopf's exquisite young stallion Gavilon is the realization of her dreams to produce a Camarillo White Horse. From a 12-year-old girl running down the parade route to keep Priscilla Galgas' horse Diamonte in sight, she now needs to look no further than her backyard to see a dancing white stallion that belongs to no one other than herself.

of horses will be ready and trained for exhibition. Always a favorite at the Fiesta Parade, the Camarillo Christmas Parade, the Harbor Parade and the Rose Parade, it would be a heartbreaking loss for the public and future generations if these magnificent animals were lost.

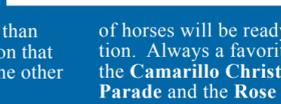
For a few exalted moments on the asphalt, thrilling the crowds of spectators who marvel at the carefully polished silver saddles and bridles, glittered hooves and iridescent white coats of the horses...hours of love, passion and work have gone into preparing these horses. Was Don Adolpho looking down, and enjoying his birthday party? Could you almost hear the soft and gentle sound of a Spanish voice?.....
Vaya con dios mi amigos.....

- Mary M. Long

Photos © 2009, Mary M. Long



Photos © 2000, Joel Anderson



The Camarillo House was built in 1892 by Don Adolfo Camarillo. Also known as Rancho Calleguas or the Adolfo Camarillo House, it is a Queen Anne-style Victorian, 6,000-square-foot house designed by architects Herman Anlauf and Franklin Ward.

In 1999 The historic Camarillo House was acquired by the City of Camarillo, to be preserved for present and future generations. In December 2001 the Restoration of the house was completed and celebrated with a Grand Opening. In 2003 it was

added to the National Register of Historic Places. Operated now by the Rancho Camarillo Foundation, it is open to the public for docent-led tours. The docents are volunteers who are versed in the history of the Camarillo Family and the Camarillo Ranch.

DOC JANET Vintage Pets: How to Collect and Restore Them

by Janet McNeil, D.V.M.



Dr. Janet McNeil and Devi, Ventura, 2006

It has been said, "It's not the age, and it's the mileage." Looking at my 40-year-old conure who likely has the mileage as well as the age, I can only wish someone would erase some of my mileage. Years of poor diet, respiratory problems, and misunderstood behavior have left their toll on Charlie, but he looks many years younger now than when I took him in about six years ago. Good diet (you will eat vegetables dammit!), recreational activities (throwing objects at the cats and dogs, running and dodging human capture), and patient counseling (your life will be over if you bite me again) have finally produced a bird with better feathering, smoother beak and feet, and a calmer and curious personality. Obviously thriving where planted in his old age (average life expectancy for conures, 30 years).

Animals past their prime can still have a lot to offer. Like most collectables, these vintage pets need a little extra care to keep them at their best. Cats, dogs, horses, rabbits, etc. may need more dental care as they age. Neglected mouths lead to dental disease and related organ failure, not to mention it smells like they have already died. Better quality diets are needed. As in our youth, animals can eat all kinds of things with no concern, but older digestions many not breakdown and absorb nutrients as well. Digestive aids like enzymes and probiotics can help. Excessive gas, diarrhea, and vomiting are warning signs that may need veterinary intervention.

Mental stimulation is an often-neglected necessity in older animals. Animals can learn at any age, but some of us may need a little more help getting things right. Military working dog retirees and rescued greyhounds show that older pets can learn new skills to cope. Charlie learned to go to a top perch at feeding time and not grab hands. Getting a younger companion has often perked up an older dog. The same could go for adding an older dog to a younger dog's family. Older dogs provide guidance and reassurance to younger dogs. Personalities should be compatible and supervision used at any age. Having an activity or task to do daily keeps many vintage models in good working order.

Older animals will need to sleep more. Sheltered beds and padded resting areas will help older joints. Slightly raised beds will help getting up. Good traction is helpful to those with weaker legs. If having to supervise an active youngster is not your thing, adopting an older pet should fill a niche nicely. Older animals are generally already housebroken and possibly obedience trained to some degree, making the settling in to a new home easier. A calm senior cat is less likely to get itself into trouble climbing the drapes and more willing to be a tea-time buddy.

- Janet McNeil, D.V.M.

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November is ASPCA Adopt A Senior Pet Month



photo © 2009, Mary M. Long



Like your favorite slippers, a second hand pet can be the most comfortable fit. Giving a senior pet a chance to retire in a warm and loving home can be mutually beneficial and rewarding for both of you. It's the holiday season so what better way to celebrate, than to open your heart and your home to a soft and loving pet?

Ojai Humane Society - 646-6505



Tanya Langkopf steals a kiss....



Ike, 20-year-old Belgian carriage horse escorts owner Debbie Fox with driver Darya Brutoco through the streets of Ojai.



info. Ojai on Horseback ~ 509.3991 photos © 2009, mary m. long

Pets at Work

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ADVANTAGE FRONTLINE

THE LEASHES END

by Ron Rowe

This is **Adopt-a-Shelter Dog Month**, so visit your local **Humane Society Shelter** and consider adopting a dog that is looking for a loving home. The recession is proving to be a tragedy for house pets. Many humane shelters are overwhelmed by the record number of dogs and cats being abandoned. In England, record numbers of strays have been picked up, a local **Humane Society** officer said. When people are short of money they're more likely to abandon their pets. It's all very sad; I have never understood how people can break the trust their pet has in them.

Many people love their pets and won't abandon them, even when a couple divorce. A three year court battle between a New Jersey couple has ended with a judge ordering shared custody of Dexter, the dog. The couple, **Doreen and Eric Houseman** broke up in 2006 and have been fighting for custody of their pug dog, **Dexter**. Good news from the **Humane Society** of the U.S. They organized the largest one-day string of animal fighting raids in U.S. history. The raids, across eight states resulted in the rescue of 450 dogs and the arrest of 175 people. If found guilty they could face up to five years in prison. **John Goodwin**, of the **Humane Society** said, "We have sent a clear message to dog fighting participants 'get out on the business or else face jail time.'"

The **Humane Society** is also teaching developing nations how to deal with strays. The **Philippines** has an estimated 10 million stray dogs living on the streets, **India** over 30 million, **Mexico City** more than 2 million. Spay/neuter programs are being introduced in an effort to diminish the stray dog population.

Now that **Thanksgiving** is coming, forget about eating a turkey, adopt one instead. For a one time donation of **\$25 Farm Sanctuary** will send you a color photo of the turkey you adopt plus a **Adopt a Turkey certificate**, call **1-888-SPONSOR** or **www.adoptaturkey.org**

How many times have you heard about a cruel or abusive practice involving animals and wondered how that can be legal. **Cheryl Woodcock** of **North Dakota** has an opportunity to take her idea and help shape future public opinion for public reforms for animals. The **Humane Society** launched a *there should be a law contest* and asked animal lovers to submit their concepts for a federal animal protection bill; the winning entry was selected by a panel of judges including lawmakers, legislators and lobbyists. **Cheryl** will receive a two day visit to **Washington D.C.** that will include meeting federal lawmakers. Her winning idea? Create a small tax credit for people who spay or neuter their pets. Check out **www.fund.org**

Police in **Plompton, England** pulled over a car for speeding and found the front seat passenger was a donkey. Its rear was on the backseat and its front feet were where the front seat should have been. The driver told police he had bought the donkey in **Penrith** and had no other way to get it home; the donkey seemed content, so police let them go.

If you drive through **Arizona** beware of leaving your dog in a car. A new law passed two months ago allows police to break into cars if they see an animal suffering in the heat. A car can go from being cool to 180 degrees in 20 minutes, said **Rep. Marian McClure (R-Arizona)** who backed the law. You want to know how hot it is? Count the number of cricket chirps in 15 seconds, multiply results by 80 percent and add 42 the result is the temperature in Fahrenheit.

Polar ice caps aren't the only things that are shrinking due to global warming. A new study by U.S. and **British** researchers found that sheep on a remote **Scottish** islands are gradually getting smaller. Dramatic evidence that animals are already evolving to adapt to climate change, scientists say, that milder winters allow the grass to grow later in the year, as a result, small lambs that would not have survived earlier winters are now living to grow up and reproduce.

If you would like to learn first aid for pets and senior pet care call 818-951-7962. The **Humane Society** is holding pet classes **Nov. 8**.

Jan Waddle of **Seattle** was walking her **Labrador, Jack**, in a local park when he ran off. Ten minutes later he came staggering back, falling down, looking like he had forgotten how to walk. He looked at his paw



Ron and his companion, Dudley.

and then the ground wondering why they didn't connect. **Jack** was rushed to a veterinarian. His stomach was found to contain a large amount of marijuana, he survived.

If you would like to communicate and understand your pet, forget paying your hard-earned money to a so-called animal communicator. Everyone can understand animals. To help you discover this inner sense, read the following legit. books; **Doggie See Doggie Do**, by **Kathy M. Rosenthal**. She explores the impact that human behavior has on dog behavior. Also, **How dogs Think, Understanding the Canine Mind**. The book claims the dog is the intellectual equal of a three-year-old human; they have thought processes, do rudimentary math and act as if they have a good memory. **The Hidden Life of Dogs**, by **Elizabeth Marshall Thomas**. **Best Behavior, How to Unleash your Dog's Instinct to Obey**, from the **Good Book Library**. **Straight from the Horse's Mouth, How to Talk to Animals**, by **Amelia Kinkade** and the latest book, **Ask Your Animal, Resolving Behavioral Issues Through Intuitive Communication** by **Marta Williams**. She also wrote other books, **Beyond Words and Learning their Language**, a very useful and intriguing book. **Martha** is a wildlife biologist and environmental scientist. **Your Outta Control Adopted Dog** by **Eva Adamson**. She breaks down complex relationships and situations into something that humans can understand. It reads like a chat with a really smart doggie friend, full of solutions for problems. Lastly, my favorite book, **The Dog Listener How to Communicate with your Dog**, by **Jan Fennell**. Let me know of any results or if you would like more information.

Did you know ants never sleep? A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes. Sheep can recognize faces. The sun has set over the yardarm, time to ponder on our kinship with all life.



Peace to all living beings on earth.
Comments are welcome
Ron Rowe, rjhrowe@AOL.com

EVENT CALENDAR

Continued From Page 12...

- sbmuseart.org**
- **Thru Dec 22, 'Salon Exhibit - Sea Breeze Resident Artists'** - Sea Breeze Art Gallery - 255 South Laurel St. - Ventura info. 643-3973 or **www.seabreezeartgallery.com**
- **Thru Dec 24, '3rd Annual Holiday Boutique'** - California Oil Museum - 1001 E. Main St. - Santa Paula info. 933-0076 or **www.oilmuseum.net**
- **Thru Jan, 'The Magical Realism of the Americas; The Art of Master Painter Omar De'** - Museum of Ventura County - 89 S. California St. - Ventura - 1130 State St. - S.B. - info. 963-4364 or **www.sbmuseart.org**
- **Dec 7 - Jan 25 - Lily Meehan Childbirth Education - For Feb and March babies** info. 647-6633 or **www.venturabirthclass.com**
- **Thru Jan 10, 'Exploring Space'** - California Oil Museum - 1001 E. Main St. - Santa Paula - info. 933-0076 or **www.oilmuseum.net**
- **Jan 10, 'Change' - Reception** - San Buenaventura Artists Union presents "Change" - San Buenaventura Artists Union - 330 South California St. - Ventura info. 643-3012 or **www.venturaartistsunion.org**
- **Thru Jan 31, 'Diana Thater: Butterflies and Other People'** Ongoing, "Poets, Courtiers & Lovers: Allusions to the Classical Poet in Japanese Woodblock Prints" - Santa Barbara Museum of Art - 1130 State St. - S.B. - info. 963-4364

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PRESS RELEASE - REP. NAVA OCT. 22 LETTER

Nava Demands Fish & Game Hearing/Investigation

Assemblymember Jared Huffman, Chair Assembly Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife
State Capitol, Room 3120, Sacramento, CA 95814
Dear Assemblymember Huffman:

Last week, **Department of Fish and Game (DFG)** officials were contacted to respond to a large black bear that had climbed a tree in **Ojai**. As I understand it, the animal was tranquilized while in a tree, fell approximately forty feet, and was subsequently euthanized by **DFG** personnel.

A number of community members have contacted my office since the incident to express outrage over the killing of the animal. Some claim to have been misled by **DFG** officials who promised the bear would be released back into the wild.

In light of both increased development in the urban/wildland interface and the proliferation of wildfires in recent years (which can destroy black bear habitat and move animals closer to contact with humans), it seems clear that wildlife incidents similar to that which occurred in **Ojai** last week will only become more frequent. Consequently, I am hereby requesting a hearing or investigation by the **Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee** into **DFG's** policy for handling situations like this.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, and please let me know how you would like to proceed with this matter.



Sincerely, **PEDRO NAVA**
Assemblymember, 35th District

or **www.sbmuseart.org**
• **Thru Feb 8, 'Change' Every Tuesday 7:30pm - 'Poetry'** - San Buenaventura Artists Union - 330 South California St. - Ventura info 643-3012 or **www.venturaartistsunion.org**

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TAKE ACTION - Tell the USDA
• **Protect calves from abuse**
• **Calves Abused at Vermont Slaughter Plant: Newly released investigation footage shows a USDA inspector apparently failing to enforce federal humane treatment laws at a Vt. slaughter plant while the plant co-owner and others viciously abused days-old veal calves.**
TELL USDA: PROTECT VEAL CALVES FROM ABUSE » | GET INVOLVED WITH THE CAMPAIGN »
www.USDA.gov

"I am affected not because you have deceived me, but because I can no longer believe in you"
- Nietzsche

PRESS RELEASE - DEC 5TH EVENT

Holiday Charity Gala: A Festive Event to Support a Great Cause!

Dear Editor of the View,
Naturally for Paws is holding a **Charity Gala** Event to benefit local animal care efforts. This will be a fun and festive celebration for pets and pet owners in the **Ventura** area. All proceeds from this special event will be donated to the **Humane League of Ventura County in Ojai**.

Please add this Holiday event to your calendar:
EVENT NAME: Photos with Santa and Four-Legged Family Members **DATE: Sat, Dec. 5, 2009**
LOCATION: Naturally for Paws **TIME: 12 noon to 3:00 pm.** **PRICE: \$1.00 only for a beautiful color photo**
The media is welcome at this event! It should provide plenty of fun photo opportunities.

Should you have any questions regarding our **Charity Gala**, please contact me at the phone number listed.
Best Regards, Pat Hyatt



REMEMBERING THE BEAR

A Gift from the Ojai Bear

by Kristin Deitz

I have not been able to get over my grief about the bear. I knew what the outcome would be as soon as I saw the bear in the tree because I had spoken to a **Fish and Game** officer regarding their bear policy about a month before. So I just sent the bear all the love my heart could hold as I told him my fears for his life. He turned around to face my direction and dabbed his upper lip with his tongue. I felt his gaze was directed at me and that he was telling me he felt my love and understood.

(When I train dogs many times the dog will turn to me and gently dab my hand with his tongue to show me he understands what I want from him and will comply. It is an "I get it" sign.)

Today my bear grief prompted me to ask the bear if he felt the love we had and still are sending him - or was he angry, did he suffer, what could we do, how can I get over my need to "see" him, (and other grief driven questions). The following is what the bear told me:

I felt all the love coming from you and all the others who were sending me love. I did not suffer in the way you would think because I am an animal and as an animal I am closer to my animal nature than are humans. Therefore I am closer to the awareness of the love that is the source of all animals, including human animals. You see, you too are an animal, but are less aware of your animal nature than a wild animal. We don't have the psychological overlay on our perception and responses like humans do. But we all come from the same source of love.

I simply respond to what is. I felt all the love and I also felt the threat to my safety. But I did not feel as if the threat had a planned, bad conspiratorial intent, it simply was a threat to my safety.

(At that time my eyes became misty with grief) The bear continued saying, "Even now your eyes are misting because of love, this is the love I feel." At that time I was just passing the tree where the bear was killed and I turned and saw the flaming red tin heart I had tacked to the tree, and felt overwhelming inescapable grief and tears flowed down my cheek. Then, in an instant my face broke into a huge involuntary smile even as the tears flowed and I was instantly in a state of great and joyous **CELEBRATION!** (How can this happen that one can be in a state of deep grief and in less than a split second be in a state of joyousness? Am I crazy?!)

The bear said to me: "This is my gift to you, this is where I am now, this is the love in your heart and in everyone's heart." (Then I said to the bear...but you are still **DEAD...DEAD...DEAD**, and I cannot get over it.)

The bear said to me: "Sometimes you have to die to know you are truly alive and will always be alive." At this point I broke down and wept and felt a great catharsis. This is a great big mysterious Truth the Bear taught me. What a gift. I'm still working on it!

Thank you, BEAR.
Then I walked into a store to buy food, not realizing it was **Halloween Day**. I turned my head and saw directly over my right shoulder a huge bear face! A woman behind me was wearing a big Bear mask!

- Kristin Deitz, Animal Instincts



The Bear's Experience in 'Peopleville'

Whitewashing the Death of the "obstinate" Ojai Black Bear

by Suza Francina

"It was dark on the street... but I could see the bear clearly, lit up by numerous flashlights, red tranquilizer dart in his butt, slowly loose his grip and fall 40 or 50 feet from the tree to the ground, slamming through some branches and bouncing off others"

- Chris Nottoli, Aliso Street resident who witnessed and documented the bear incident from beginning to end

Bears, like wolves, have been unfairly demonized for centuries. Exaggerated perceptions of danger historically led to eradication campaigns using poison, trapping, and shooting. Things have not changed much in our modern era. Black bears are still depicted as predators threatening to man. But, according to highly respected bear biologists who have studied wild black bears for decades, that perception could not be further from the truth.

The **Aliso Street Bear** was killed by the **California Department of Fish and Game (DFG)** on **Saturday night, Oct. 9th**. The bear's life ended when **Head Warden Roland Takayama** gave the order not to wait any longer, even though the area was never quiet enough for the bear to come down.

I was standing next to one of the police in the **Aliso/Signal Street** intersection and saw the game wardens shining lights up in the tree where the bear had been since early Saturday morning. Shortly thereafter I heard the sound of branches breaking and the bear crashing to the ground.

At that point I still believed that the bear would be transported somewhere safe. I asked if I could see the bear and was told they were doing some tests and had to shackle it. After the police removed the yellow tape from the cordoned area, my friend **Vickie Peters** was able to directly question the wardens. That's when we finally grasped that the bear was severely injured and was going to be killed.

Some are saying, "Why all the fuss over one bear; when every day millions of other animals and people are suffering and dying?" To that I say when you personally witness a murder you feel a sense of responsibility toward the victim and a sense of wanting the perpetrators of the crime brought to justice.

The outrage I feel is not only for the killing of the **Aliso Street Bear**, but for all the injustice and senseless death in the world. I cannot stand idly by and watch the whitewashing of this black bear's death - an innocent creature that never threatened to hurt or endanger any member of the public.

I read the interviews with **Mr. Takayama** in **Ventura** and **Santa Barbara County** publications. I also read the official **DFG** report on the bear killing as well as dozens of editorials, articles and letters. I read the **Oct. 16th** letter from **Assemblymember Pedro Nava (D-Santa Barbara)** sent to the **DFG Director**, requesting a review of the **Department's** policies in regards to tranquilizing and euthanizing wildlife that are deemed to be a public threat.

In the various interviews with **Mr. Takayama** he naturally portrays himself as an authority on bear behavior and even as someone who has spared the life of a few bears in the past.

Each interview **Mr. Takayama** and other officials seem to invent more reasons to justify the actions taken that resulted in the bear's death. Words like "obstinate" "confused" and "not behaving as expected," are used to blame the bear for instigating a series of events that resulted in its death. Not a single person in authority who was on the scene that day has stepped forward to question the decisions that were made.

Mr. Takayama can spin his justification for his decisions however he likes, but the fact remains that there were other options clearly available the day that the bear was in the tree.

Bears climb trees to escape danger, to eat fruits or nuts in a tree, or to rest. Bears are afraid of humans, and usually will run away if they see or

Whitewashed Bear Continued on Page 22...

Health Care: All the Fuss and Feathers

by Richard Senate



All this fuss and feathers over health care seems like a real mess that is destined to get worse before it gets better.

to carp and point out this flaw and that, but I believe Americans are better than that.

1. First, the real problem are the lawyers who sue doctors up the yazoo if they make a mistake.

2. Second, we need more doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners, and health care workers.

3. Third, we have a big underclass (illegal or not) that need health care - this is a fact.

4. Citizens should be able to purchase policies across state lines as well.

5. Laws must be passed with teeth to end corruption in services - rewards of a thousand dollars to anyone who turns in corruption.

6. More freedom for drug companies to bring their new drugs to the market.

perhaps you can see something better than our Congress for the needed changes in health care.

Richard Senate www.RichardSenate.com

Government Healthcare Our True Concerns

by Larry Naron

What are we really afraid of with government-run health care? The first thing that comes to mind are runaway costs.

I saw a TV show on medicare fraud and it has become a cottage industry in quite a few large cities.

Another fear that can't be ignored is people who care about their health subsidize those who don't.

The reason that Canada's health care works is that the government controls the distribution of liquor and uses these profits to fund the health care system.

clean coal; maybe we could tax them out of existence and the poisons that are emitted by this farce will be eliminated as a risk factor!

- Larry Naron

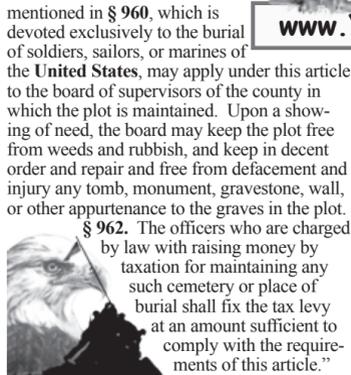
MILITARY GRAVES VIEW PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Honoring our Military is not just a moral responsibility, it's a legal responsibility.

The City of San Buenaventura is and has been, since they discontinued maintenance of Veterans graves, in unlawful violation of California Law.

"§ 960.5. Whenever in any cemetery or place of burial of human remains there is any known grave of a former soldier, sailor, or marine of the United States who was not dishonorably discharged from the service, the board of supervisors of any county as to territory, whether incorporated or not, within it, and the governing body of the city as to territory within it, with the consent of the officers who manage such cemetery or place of burial, if any may keep such grave properly marked and identified, and free from weeds and rubbish, and keep in decent order and repair and free from defacement, injury, and unlawful markings any tomb, monument, gravestone, wall, or other appurtenance to such grave.

§ 961. Any fraternal or benevolent organization which maintains a plot in a place of burial mentioned in § 960, which is devoted exclusively to the burial of soldiers, sailors, or marines of the United States, may apply under this article to the board of supervisors of the county in which the plot is maintained.



Honoring Our Ancient Ancestors

"Do not stand at my grave and weep. I am not there, I do not sleep. I am a thousand winds that blow. I am the diamond glints on the snow. I am the sunlight on the ripened grain. I am the gentle Autumn's rain. When you awaken in the morning hush, I am the swift uplifting rush, of quiet birds in circled flight. I am the soft stars that shine at night. Do not stand at my grave and cry: I am not there, I did not die."

by Lee Ann

This powerful Hopi prayer celebrates the belief that our ancestors live, just beyond our touch, and continue to impact our daily corporeal existence.

We recently had such a celebration of "death" in our local Los Dias de los Muertos, the Day of the Dead festivals.

As an Environmental Acupuncturist and Yin House practitioner (orientating grave sites) it is Los Dias de los Muertos' tradition of spiffing up the ancestral plots that grabs me.

It is a cherished knowing of many of Los Dias de los Muertos festivals that Monarch butterflies are actually the souls of our ancestors.

These structures may appear "normal" though slightly odd or may be more extreme.

Shapes of rooms can lend a strong influence as well as extreme angles, extreme colors, use of natural building materials, lack of air and or light, long narrow stairwells, funky shaped houses, age and or deterioration of structure can all create vibration that encourage spirits to hang out.

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView



Ventura Mayor Christy Weir attends Veterans Day services Nov. 11 at Ivy Lawn Memorial Park, Ventura. Abraham Lincoln spoke, "...that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that this government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

ST. MARY'S VETS

veterans buried there; Civil War, one MoH from the Indian Wars, Spanish-American War & WWI.

I am confident we will see some results the first few months of this coming new year, not only for here in Ventura at St. Mary's Cemetery, but also in Whittier at the 2,380 grave Quaker Cemetery and in San Diego at the 4,000 grave Cavalry Cemetery that the City of Ventura organized and supervised the illegally desecrations. They were asked by each city:

• City of Whittier: Mt. Olive and Broadway Cemeteries (Founder's Memorial Park) 2,380 desecrated graves (1968): They still have the headstones stacked behind their Whittier museum:



Steve Schleder, Ventura www.restorestmarys.org

"I am not among those who fear the people. They, and not the rich, are our dependence for continued freedom. And to preserve their independence,

PRICY BEHAVIOR...

if cities A-B-C decide to increase the charges for any service or to increase the pay or retirement for their employees, or to increase the sales tax in their city, or to all climb to the top of their respective City Halls and jump off, then by all that's "Whooley" we got to do it too!

Former Ventura Breeze Ad Rep., Oak View

we must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt.... And this is the tendency of all human governments. A departure from principle in one instance becomes a precedent for the second; that second for a third; and so on, till the bulk of the society is reduced to mere automations of misery.... the fore horse on this frightful team is public debt. Taxation follows that, and in its train wretchedness and oppression."

- Thomas Jefferson



VENTURA NOW Gettin' To Know Us! www.venturanow.web.officelive.com

www.theunforeseenfilm.com/blog/trailer

VENTURA COUNTY WEIRD VIEWS

The Haunted Mira Monte House

by Richard Senate



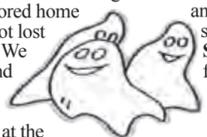
The cold was real; we could feel it on the staircase of the large restored home at the very place the witness had felt something brush past him

on the stairs. My cyber probe II meter went off with a screaming sound indicating that something paranormal was close at hand.

One of my older friends in Ventura County is Dr. Lee Fitzgerald, known far and wide for his popular cable TV show. He covers every aspect of Ventura County and is recognized for his services to the county.

He and his producer, April, contacted Debbie and I about doing another guest appearance on his show. It was for Halloween so naturally, it would be about ghosts. I have done his show in the past and just talked about local haunted places and some of my experiences with the supernatural.

I came up for the interview and ghost hunt with Debbie and my daughter Megan. We met with Dr. Lee and April and taped a short interview for his show. It was a breezy interview that Debbie and I knew would be trimmed in editing.



- Richard Senate www.RichardSenate.com

Happy Paranormal Activites

Lee Fitzgerald Show OJAI - Tuesdays Ch. 10 8:00 pm Wednesdays Ch. 25 8:00 pm

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It is grace, grace, God's grace
Keeps me everyday.
Grace, grace, amazing grace,
Holds me when I pray.

I was young, I've grown older
There were times I could not see,
How could I live without a
shoulder,
Strong enough to carry me?

When I no longer have a vision,
All the hope within me dies,
When all that's left of life's collisions,
Leaves nothing I can recognize,

It is grace, grace, God's grace
Keeps me everyday
Grace, grace, amazing grace
Holds me when I pray.

-Paula Klein

Grace

WHITEWASHING THE OJAI BEAR

Continued from Page 19...

smell a person in the vicinity. A bear in a tree is a sign of submission and fear, not of aggression.

The DFG report states, "The bear never made any attempt to exit the tree. Because the bear would not leave the tree, it had been in the 'same' location for approximately 24 hours and concern for the safety of the public, the bear was tranquilized at 2200 hours (10 pm) with telazol. The bear was transported to the Fillmore Fish Hatchery, humanely euthanized, and placed in a freezer pending necropsy."

Notice the term, "humanely euthanized." What a lovely way to whitewash the bears brutal death. Euthanasia comes from the Greek word εὐθανασία meaning "good death": εὐ-, eu- (well or good) + θάνατος, thanatos (death) refers to the practice of ending a life in a painless manner.

In the minds of many, including my own, the word "murder" comes closer to describing what took place the night of October 9 than "euthanized."

Missing from the DFG report is any acknowledgement of the fact that the police were trying to keep the bear up the tree during the day ("for the safety of the public."). There is no reference to the Saturday morning carnival atmosphere before the streets were cordoned off. Even when darkness fell, no bear in his right mind would come down from a tree with party music going on nearby, headlights shining, engines running, sirens on Ojai Avenue, and a multitude of other Saturday night noises.

This bear was seen drinking out of a fountain and could very well have been thirsty. It came to town three days before it rained, at the end of a long drought. I can't help but wonder how a bear expert like Ann Bryant and bear biologists such as Professor Lynn Rogers, PhD, would have handled this situation of a bear in downtown Ojai.

Here is what Ann Bryant, executive director of the BEAR League of Lake Tahoe (www.savebears.org) has to say: "The bear who inadvertently ventured into Ojai recently should most certainly still be alive today and would be were it not for the inappropriate and woefully disturbing actions of a governmental agency - the Department of Fish and Game - that answers to no one and blatantly disregards its own mission to protect California's wildlife."

"In Tahoe, a bear in a tree in a neighborhood is an everyday occurrence. Everyone here knows exactly what to do... clear the area, bring dogs inside, make sure the bear has a clear path of escape and let him come down when he feels safe. If a bear happens to go up a tree near a school or a busy road or any place where he may need assistance, the BEAR League is called (not the Department of Fish and Game) and we monitor the outcome so as to ensure public safety and to escort the bear back to an appropriate wooded area.

"We do this on a daily basis and no one ever overreacts, law enforcement helps us if we need them, and it's simply no big deal.

"In literally thousands of cases of 'bears in trees,' we have never had to even think about using tranquilizers, we've never had a bear or a human being injured, and the bear is normally so relieved to be back in his own woodland territory that he is most reluctant to come into 'Peopleville' ever again.

"A bear in a tree is a sign of submission and fear, not of aggression or 'something being wrong.' The so-called experts (DFG) have no clue how to read bears and should have taken advantage of offers of help from numerous people who do.

"My hope is for everyone to realize these animals are not vicious man-eating monsters (not a single person has ever, in all of recorded history, been killed by a black bear in all of California, Nevada or Oregon). I hope also that communities will call on legitimate experts when they aren't sure how to handle a situation like this instead of relying on unqualified incompetents whose only concern is for hunters."*

Bear Biologist Professor Lynn Rogers PhD, has studied wild bears for over 43 years, walking and playing with them, gaining amazing insights into their behavior.

Did you know that bears are considered to have the most powerful sense of smell of any animal on earth. The average dog's sense of smell is 100 times better than a humans. A blood hound's is 300 times better. A bear's sense of smell is 7 times better than a blood hound's or 2,100 times better than a human! His studies reveal the bears as peaceful, playful creatures, which even hum when they are content.

What is also glaringly absent from every interview with Mr. Takayama that I've read so far is any explanation as to why he refused the help of Julia Di Sieno, the Executive Director of Animal Rescue Team, who was on the phone with the officials on the scene several times that day. She offered the services of her veterinarian, a large secure trailer, and other services at no cost, to save the bear's life.

The public has a right to know the reasons that were given for not working with her, and whether or not these reasons were valid.

Mr. Takayama also neglects to mention the fact that after the sun came up on Saturday morning it was never quiet enough for the bear to come down.

Police were trying to keep the bear up the tree during the day. Numerous people have stated their concern over the zoo like atmosphere before the streets were finally cordoned off around mid-day.

I was there from 6 pm until Fish & Game left after 11pm. Cars were driving up the area that was blocked from traffic and shining headlights toward the tree. People with dogs were in the area. Party

Paula Klein on Open Mic Nights for Emerging Artists

Open mic nights are great because it gives the artist a

chance to perform their original work compared to performing gigs at clubs where they want covers. What's wonderful about playing at an open mic is that it's a relaxed attitude, so it gives the artist a chance to experiment and develop their own music.

Open mic nights in Ventura county...? Well... there's Rock City in Camarillo.

They are actually a recording studio. Last time I was there, open mic was every other Thursday

night. I used to perform at the Good Club but they aren't doing it right now. Then a friend I had met at the Good, called me and told me about Java Joe's in Ventura.

Java Joe's does an Open Mic on Sunday and Tuesday nights. It's amazing...amazing! It's very focused. The open mic on Sunday nights is hosted by musician and sound engineer, Jack King (Pacific Rim Records). He's an amazing artist, he sounds a lot like Cat Stevens. Oh yeah..and he will perform himself too.. A lot of people show up. It's an open mic where people actually sit down and listen to the artists. At Java Joe's they are all month long having a song writing contest. You can enter up to 5 songs and I think that will be through November. I just met the owner, Franco about a month ago when I went to my first open Mic.

Java Joe's gives people a wonder opportunity to listen to live music without having to go to a bar. It's a great alternative. They can enjoy the music in a coffee house. They, (Franco and Jack) are so supportive. The owner of Full of Beans in Ojai has invited me to do a few songs on Saturday with their regular artist

music going on nearby, police car engines were left running, cell phones, sirens on Ojai Avenue, and a multitude of other Saturday night noises.

The bear's life ended when the DFG wardens got the call from Mr. Takayama not to wait any longer, even though the area was never quiet enough for the bear to come down. There was nothing humane about a group of armed men shining flashlights up into the tree, causing the frightened bear to climb even higher and the horrific crash to the ground that followed.

George Lemire. At Movinos, Brad Buley began hosting a Wednesday night of original music. Three sets

sometimes two, usually a solo artist and then a band. He's had some really great musicians and it gives experimental music, alternative music a great venue.

As a singer songwriter, myself, I write all the time...songs just come to me... sometimes when I'm running. I

run four to five miles a day average. One of my most important musical influences was Carol King. I have always loved her. I also

really like Van Morrison. That's where I really would like to go. Lately, I've been writing whimsical songs and lyrics. I ask myself 'where does this come from', and I don't have a clue....

I think that a lot of women go through some difficult times approaching fifty. The older you get, the passions you have, the dreams you have.... you have to go after them. It's something that is in me, I can't stop writing, this is something that I have to go out and do. I will always give thanks to my God who has inspired all of my music. The heart of my music is to encourage people. I am so very thankful for my faith in God...that's what keeps me going. You can hear it in my lyrics.

Grace was written when I was doing the dishes and I was going through a time when I was extremely depressed. I had made so many mistakes, and I felt like such a failure.... I just looked up to God and these words just came pouring out. So my motto now? Fifties are for Fun!!!!

- Mary M. Long

Paula Klein will be appearing in concert at Java Joe's, Dec. 11 at 8pm Ticket info. 275-0304/cafejavajos.com



© 2001, Mary M. Long

The Sounds of Surf - Brian Faith Band

by Joel Anderson
The homegrown Santa Barbara based Brian Faith Band has always

been synonymous with waves, surfing and of course music. Ernie Joseph, lead guitar and vocals, grew up in Santa Barbara on the sands, experienced the evolution of surf music firsthand as an avid surfer, artist and performer.

"Surfing... it was just euphoric, the surf scene.... we did a lot of surfing... UCSB, Ledbetter Beach, Red Cod, you know, the usual, and it was great therapy for our band. We played a lot of surf music. The Chantays, The Surfaris, they used to bring those guys in... we got the best surf bands from L.A.... people loved them, packed the Ventura Recreation Center on Main Street... nothing but surfers... packed... 500 people, just lovin' it, and there were no fights back in those days... these people were just really mellow, and there were a lot of surfers, mixed in there..."

"Later, after our touring, we were the house band at Mr. Lucky's. And the Ventura bands like Prowler and The Press; Ian Stewart was in The Press and Sol Isaac... Sol Isaac and Ian Stewart were good friends of mine. I'd come to Ventura to visit them, Jam, play with each other; all of us were buddies. They had fictitious names... there was Big Bad Bob, bass, Killer Miller was the drummer, Bob Griffin

that was his name, and Ray Wood.... he still plays around, he's kinda coooool.... Ray Wood used to play with Brian Faith...."



Brian Faith Band - Johnny Podz, Bass Guitar, Ernie Joseph, Lead Guitar and Vocals, Brian Faith, Drums and Vocals, Karen Perry, Lead Vocals/Drums, and Cory Orosco, Keyboards.

jam with us and everything... and Ritchie Blackmore of Deep Purple back in the 80s... he would come into Mr. Lucky's and Jam with some of the local bands too. Yeah... he used to live here in Silver Strand Beach in the 80s; well he used to jam a lot with Prowler. I can't believe Richard Blackmore, that guy over here in Ventura hangin' out with us. Yeah... was kinda cool. And then Sean Bonniwell from The Music Machine used to hang out in Ventura a lot, he did "Talk, Talk" that song... yeah he used to hang a lot at Mr. Lucky's. The Camarillo hotspot was the Ponderosa Inn (P.I.).... Music Tues thru Saturday and of course the Whale's Tail.

Our latest release on YouTube is called Media Blitz, it should be out in a few days and it's got pieces of our hit surf tune, Perfect Wave with an interview with host

Ken Boxer 'Around the Town,' KCTV-Channel 17 and King Harrison, KEYT-Channel 3. It starts with the people in New York, 'New York Rocks' a tribute to 911, Time Warner Cable Network, Staten Island New York, featuring Nick St. Nicholas, Steppenwolf.

I also recorded with one of the top surfers.... Deiter Horniman, he was a guy that surfed a lot there in Ventura, he was real popular. He was pretty much at the top of the list as far as the locals and did lots of surfing in Ventura and Rincon. Then there was Shawn Claffey and there was a guy named Steve Tatro... was great... mmm hmm yeah they'd bring their crowd. We'd have a generator right there on the beach... we'd do the old songs Wipe Out, Green Onion, Surf Rider, Mr. Peppermint Man, King of the Surf Guitar, Rebel Rouser, Apache, Mr. Moto. Showed up in their Woody Wagons. All the grimmies and hod dads. Always upbeat, and the enthusiasm was overwhelming. That was very, very, big Surf. There was a band called the Chantays that did Pipeline, that song was a big hit. That was a big influence. They played here at the Earl Warren. We met them when they came here.... and then the Surfaris, they did 'Wipe Out.' The top surf acts... they played at the Roller Gardens as well over at the Wagon Wheel Junction....

Oxnard. Yeah, it was a huge popular hot spot for surf music... The Beach Boys played there, The Four Seasons, Surfaris, Chantays, Dartells ('Hot Pastrami') from Oxnard, they all went to Hueneme High, and Dick Dale and the Deltones, The Lively Ones, another big surf band on Delphi Records. It was a big explosion... Delphi Records in Los Angeles, Bob Keene you know he had a lot to do with the Surf bands that were popular here around Ventura, Santa Barbara and so forth... also had produced Ritchie Valens prior to that.... and Bob Keene was really a forerunner, he was a pioneer in that whole scene. He would always be influential, tell me what direction to go in during the surfing days. He helped us when I was a little kid, that's the beginning of our career right there we're talking about."

Other projects coming up with Brian Faith Band members will be supporting their other bro, The Brian Wise Project at the Creekside Friday, Nov. 20, starts at 9 pm, also supporting Brian will be ICU's Jimmy Le Roy and Johnny Podz. ~ Joel Anderson



Bates Beach at Sunset

© 2001, Joel Anderson

www.myspace.com/brianfaithbandsongs • youtube.com/brianfaithsongs • www.bwisemusic.com

THE OJAI BEAR

Continued from Prev. Page, 22...

dow of time (late Saturday night - early Sunday morning) when that investment might have paid off, was not observed. Does that make sense?

Mr. Takayama is known for organizing adult and youth pheasant hunts. A man in his position should be a steward of the environment. To meet hunter demand, wildlife agencies release hundreds of thousands of birds who have little chance of survival. Many scientists, policy makers and environmentalists question the "sport" of pheasant hunting in humane, ethical and scientific wildlife management.

In 2007, a boy participating in one of the youth pheasant hunts was shot in the eye. He lost most of his vision in that eye. This accident resulted in a lawsuit against the state. (Source: County of Santa Barbara Fish and Game Commission Minutes Meeting of 7/24/08)

Mr. Takayama's casual claim that bears would be too plentiful if hunters didn't kill them has been challenged by respected bear biologists. Biologists have not conducted a bear census here, and lack the data to estimate, or even guess, how many black bears roam California's hills, canyons, and wilderness areas.

Hunting is not an effective means of reducing bear-human conflicts and fails to target the so-called "problem" bears who may break into trash cans or tres-

pass near homes. However, removing attractants like garbage and bird feeders and using humane aversive conditioning have proven highly effective at reducing bear-human conflicts.

Earlier this year the DFG proposed a plan to make changes to current bear hunting regulations and expand bear hunting statewide. Due to the Humane Society's Wildlife Abuse Campaign and 40 other organizations the DFG halted proposals that would have expanded the trophy hunting of the state's black bears. The California Department of Fish and Game halted two proposals that would have expanded the trophy hunting of the state's black bears.

Proposed regulations would have allowed a trophy hunt of bears in San Luis Obispo County, where it is currently prohibited, and also would have allowed an unlimited number of bears to be killed in the state, in excess of the current statewide limits.

Trophy hunting is a recreational pursuit enjoyed by a small percentage of Californians, but it is not an effective method of reducing bear-human conflicts. Research reveals that as the number of bears killed by hunters increases, the number of conflicts with bears increases accordingly.

In addition to numerous practical concerns, there are also ethical concerns about how most bears are hunted. California is one of 17 states where trophy hunters are permitted to use packs of dogs to find



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and chase bears until the animal attempts to escape into the safety of a tree. The trophy hunter can then arrive and shoot the bear down from the tree branch at point-blank range. However, frightened bears, or bears unwilling to be separated from their cubs, will often turn and fight the pack of dogs.

California currently permits up to 1,700 black bears to be killed by hunters each

year. Approximately 33,000 bears are killed by trophy hunters in the U.S. each year, solely to become a head on the wall or a hide on the floor - not counting the thousands more killed illegally by poachers.

It would be interesting to know how many animals have been killed under Takayama's watch, as compared to the Ojai Bear Continued Next Page, 24...

THE OJAI BEAR

Continued from Prev. Page, 23...

warden before him. I was told that with the previous California Department of Fish and Game warden, Morgan Wehtje (a biologist and not a hunter), things were different. I would like to know if figures are available as to how many bears were killed on her watch (so far I have heard of only one) as compared to Roland Takayama (figuring in the number of years and other considerations.)

The story of this Ojai Bear is also about our wider responsibility toward wildlife and nature. It is about changing outdated government policies to reflect the times we currently live in. Fires, global warming, drought, advances of urban growth into wildlife habitat—all of this is changing the behavior of wild animals.

All eight bear species around the world are now listed as vulnerable, threatened or endangered in all or portions of their ranges. Remote habitats that once insured protection are now being occupied by people, and the attitudes of these people—including our own California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), will determine the future of the bear.

There is a huge need for accurate information about bears worldwide—including here in Ojai and rest of Ventura County. The newly formed Ojai Wildlife League (OWL) is joining forces with other bear and wildlife organizations dedicated to replacing misconceptions with facts.

Mr. Takayama did not attend the Oct. 13 Ojai City Council meeting when the public was given the opportunity to address these questions and concerns. I'm emailing a letter with a list of the questions and concerns posed in this article, (rtakayama@dfg.ca.gov) along with links to videos of the Aliso Street Bear. I hope he looks closely into the eyes of the creature he killed. I look forward to his written response.

—Suza Francina, Ojai
Suza Francina is a former Ojai mayor and City Council member. She is a founding member of the Ojai Wildlife League (OWL) www.OjaiWildlifeLeague.com

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Health Care Reform

Continued from Page 3...

scooping too much "food" and forcing everyone to "eat it."
Must I say it yet again? Forcing "insurance" on everyone does nothing to reduce costs. It merely spreads the costs around. It increases the size of the pond and gives the inefficient fish more places to hide. It gives us citizens less influence on the cost, outcome and success.

This legislation is inherently flawed in its form alone. At almost 2,000 pages, I'll bet dollars to doughnuts the elected officials who vote on it haven't read it in its entirety. Moreover, it's too colossal to comprehend if they did read it. This is by far the largest "piece" of legislation that has been excreted from the bowels of congress, and quite frankly it's stinking up the country.

Oh yeah about the content, that too contributes to the stench. Politicians (comprised mostly of lawyers) pick and choose when they want to communicate. They use big words in English and even bigger words in Latin to confuse you. Habeas Corpus - Give us the body. Ex post facto - After the fact. Per capita - Per heads. But when they really want us to understand, they choose fewer more precise words, "Please pay your bill now, Please vote for me."

There are undefined/open ended items that sign us up for a blank check. Specifically, \$202 requires all Americans to enroll in a "qualified plan." Later, \$224 states 18 months after the bill becomes law the Secretary of Health and Human Services will define "qualified plan" and how much each citizen must pay.

What the bill really says between these two sections is: If you're smart enough to put these two thoughts together, agree now to an unspecified amount. We'll send you a bill later. Don't worry about it. Trust the Dept. of Health & Human Services will take good care of you. It's really "best" for "everyone" because when politicians are insulated and when it screws it up (and it will) the elected official won't have any culpability.

This is sort of like trying to end malnourishment in this country by forcing everyone to buy a prepaid restaurant card for qualifying restaurants. We'll tell you later which restaurants qualify and how much the prepaid card will cost.

WRONG! Much like King Midas had the "golden touch," our federal elected officials have the "crap touch...." It is your fault for signing a huge incomprehensible poorly defined piece of... you get the idea.

Economic Incongruency
At a time when unemployment is in excess of 10 percent, the country is running a huge deficit and the national debt is at an all time high, does this seem like a good time to guarantee medical benefits of

trespassers in this country. In the words of Joe Wilson, "YOU LIE!" Albeit inappropriate, perhaps there was some truth in that outburst.

Religious Incongruency
The bill is also rife with religious conflicts and contradictions. Abortion is a "Bozo no-no" for the bonafide religions in this country and on this globe. (This is not to say 90 percent of Americans who attend those churches don't tolerate abortion, but their churches don't.) This bill allows the government to pay for it and the underage minor doesn't even have to tell her parents. This wrecks of the Freedom of Choice Act agenda. At the same time, a 17-year-old boy can't even get stitches in the emergency room without parental consent in triplicate. In reality, abortion is between the woman and whatever or whomever she believes. I'm not sure why I ought to pay for it. Tell me again how abortion is health care? Dang, we just lost another tax payer. Now how will we pay for this bill?

What if I'm a Christian Scientist and I choose not to seek medical attention? Why are you forcing me to pay for something that is against my religion?

The Beneficiaries
I hate to say it but the real "winners" of this legislation are the insurance companies. Force everyone to buy a policy. Can you say good for business?

Personal Responsibility vs. Freedom of Choice
Another true and counterintuitive fact is many obese people are malnourished. According to the American Institute for Cancer Research, obesity is the proximate cause of 100,000 cases of cancer each year.

Good Ol' Boy Network.... Continued from Page 6...

Hall), for lo these many years. So watch your back, these guys ain't done yet in trying to get into your wallets.

These stalwart city leaders (Gang in the Ivory Tower), have vowed to buckle down and really tackle the budget issues. Damn, if these guys/gals had buckled down a couple of years ago we definitely would not be in the pickle we are in now. Brian Brennan said they, the Gang in the Ivory Tower, were really disappointed in the vote that defeated Measure "A"; Gee Brian now you have a small inkling on how we, the citizens of Ventura, have been feeling about the way you guys have run our city for the last 10 or 20 years. Brian also said, "We have to make some tough decisions and we will." Then had the nerve to say, "People want more city services, but don't want to pay for it." The real truth is that we, "people" only want all of the services that we are paying our taxes for now.

Here's a few "tough" decisions for the Gang in the Ivory Tower. 1.Stop all unnecessary expense travel by employees and council members. 2.Remove all

Under today's legal environment, if a bartender serves someone alcohol and that person gets in their car and harms someone, the bartender is held liable. Applying this same legal theory, this sort of begs the question: If the employee of a fast food drive through serves an obese person, can they be held liable? No, and rightfully so. It's someone's free choice of religion, diet, or use of tobacco products. However, when they make such choices, they also choose to pay for the consequences of their choices: Higher health care costs, iron lung, two airplane seats etc. The current legislation spreads all the costs across all taxpayers' backs.

Stop the Insanity
One of my favorite definitions of insanity is: "Continuing to do the same thing over and over and expecting a different result." Remember the 700 plus page Stimulus Package? What about the Bail out Bill?

In short this legislation stinks. In the words of Spock/Leonard Nemo, "Were I to invoke logic, however, logic clearly dictates that the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few." Just say no to this stinky legislation passed off as a good for America. In its current form, it does more to damage health care than help it. It's too big, too vague, immoral, and ineffective as it does nothing to reduce costs.

Don't get me wrong, the health care system in this country needs some fixin' but this legislation ain't it.

Jefferson Pinto is a retired CPA, holds an MBA from one of the finer accredited institutions in this country, and is also a practicing Catholic.
jefferson@ojaiaandventuraview.com

transportation allowances. 3.Stop paying the State of California a million dollars a year to hold our place in the water pipeline cue. (Look what's happening to Oxnard) 4.Cancel the money gobbling contract with the RedFlex corp for the hated red light intersection cameras. 5. Stop spending our tax money on every harebrained "Artsy, Fartsy" idea that comes down the pike, IE: \$5000.00 bike racks, \$3,000,000.00 bus stop.
The city manager Mr. Rick (King) Cole said he, "Wants the council to once again take up a decision to dip into city reserves to temporarily pay for four police officer positions, downtown police foot patrols and a roving fire engine."
"There are no painless alternatives," Cole said. I must be really ignorant, but I feel the number of police officers the city of Ventura has now is more than sufficient, all it would take is some administrative personnel with a little forward looking imagination and brainpower, to manufacture a work schedule to sufficiently cover

Good Ol' Boy Continued Next Page, 25...

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OJAI-NIGHT ~ OCT. 17



Lots o' Lively Laughs at Movino on 'Ojai Night' as 'the life' was extraordinarily rich with spirits extraordinaire. Visitors jammed the streets on "Ojai Day" delighting the promoters of the 'event'.
PHOTOS © 2009, JOEL ANDERSON



Graham Chapman, vocals, bass, Leo Costa, drummer (left)
Fear Mia
At the Good Bar Ventura, Oct. 23
Abby Posner, vocals, guitar
photos © 2009, Joel Anderson



The VIEW
The Paper the VCShopper Loves to Hate!
Illustration of a car crash

OUSD SOLUTION
Ojai Unified School District's Solution to the Ojai Skatepark

Nov. 4, 2009 ELECTIONS

R. ELLIS SMITH No Taxes Here Boss



Congratulation to the Voting Citizens of San Buenaventura; you saw through the fog that was surrounding all the ballot propositions on this election cycle. "NO" on "A" means the Gang in the Ivory Tower will have to work harder to keep the ship afloat. Of course they will now start "getting back" at us for not jumping off the cliff with the rest of the Lemmings. I suspect they will try to cut back on street repair, tree trimming, park maintenance, and other city tax funded operations to prove that we were wrong.

However, we need to find out exactly what they plan on doing with the millions they will be collecting on the new backdoor tax increase they finagled with the increase in our electricity bills. The 1 percent increase that we will be paying that goes directly to the city coffers should more than make up for the loss of Proposition "A".

"NO" on "B" and "C" don't really need any explanation; they were doomed from the start. Exactly how stupid do those NIMBY'S and BANANA'S think the citizens of Ventura are? The folks proved once and for all that they are tired of being stooges for small one item personal gripes of these small minded people.

Good Ol' Boy Network.... Continued from Previous Page, 24...

the city at any time with the officers they have now.
Mr. Cole then made his most important "Spin" statement, he said, "The city was not counting on Measure "A" to bail us out; we are committed to living within our means." With all the

Now for the sad news.... the same people that used their common sense to defeat these ill-thought-out-propositions turned right around and threw all their good work right out the window with the babies bath water, baby included. The re-election of 3 incumbents and the inclusion of Mr. Mike Tracy really increased the strength of the "Good Ol' Boys" network. You can bet the "backdoor shenanigans" will increase 10 fold, so hold on to your wallets folks, we are in for a real bumpy roller coaster ride for the next few years.

Of course Neal Andrews, who should have been shown which way the door swings, said that the police union's campaign against him "has significantly undermined the integrity and the reputation of our police officers and that's a tragedy." What an ego this guy has, he thinks that because the police union told the truth about his penchant for spending our tax money on personal junkets to wherever the wind blows him means the police are now to be considered less than stalwart in the application of their jobs.

It should prove to be real fun watching the new council meetings, we have Jim Monahan, Brian Brennan, and Mike Tracy that are extreme friends of the Ventura Police Department and on the other hand we have Neal Andrews who thinks the police are a bunch of childish liars. Well good luck Mr. Andrews in getting any votes for anymore of your junkets.

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

hoopla, fear mongering, strong arming, and money spent on Measure "A", one would certainly have deduced a very strong feeling that the Gang in the Ivory Tower was absolutely counting on the sales tax increase to "bail out" the city. (They actually said as much).
My only objection to this election was that three incumbents got back on their thrones. Oh well voters, as they say, Ya pay's yer Money, Ya takes yer Chances.

Rellis Smith
rellis39@sbcglobal.net
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More Americans have died in psychiatric hands than in all the wars since 1776.

Although psychiatric facilities no longer make public the numbers of people who die in their care, one can easily extrapolate the current tally.
Those figures present a grim and shocking scenario—more patients dead than Americans killed in battle in the two Gulf Wars, the Vietnam War, World Wars I & II, the Civil War, the Revolutionary War, and all wars in between.
This is the outrageous outcome of an abusive and deadly mental health care system.
The Citizens Commission on Human Rights (CCHR) is an international voice for the people abused within the mental health system. If you, a loved one or friend has been forced into a psychiatric facility, to undergo "community mental health treatment," committed involuntarily or harmed by psychiatric treatment, contact CCHR. We will take action.

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17 Nov - Tue - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Willie (of Willie & Lobo) & the Locos, 962-7776

18 Nov - Wed - Wiltern/L.A., KCRW Presents The Swell Season 7pm, 213/380-5005

18 Nov - Wed - Hotel Utah/S.F., Chris Pierce, (415) 546-6300

18 Nov - Wed - The Buddha Bar/Agoura Hills, The Preston Smith Show playing souladelic, bluesrock & Funky Jazz 8pm - 11:30pm, 818/735-0091

18 Nov - Wed - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Future Wednesday 9pm, 646-1555

18 Nov - Wed - The Majestic Vta Theatre/Vta, GEAR w/ Job For A Cowboy, The Red Chord 8pm, 653-0721

18 Nov - Wed - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Laurence Juber/ Forro in the Dark, 962-7776

19 Nov - Thu - Wiltern/L.A., The Swell Season 7pm, 213/380-5005

19 Nov - Thu - The Majestic Vta Theatre/Vta, The Misfits w/ The Feisty Piranhas 8pm, 653-0721

19 Nov - Thu - The Canyon/Agoura Hills, Willie Barcena, 8pm, 818/879-5016

19 Nov - Thu - The Fillmore/S.F., Chris Brown, 7pm 415/346-6000

19 Nov - Thu - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Grover Anderson, Boombox Orchestra & Funky Shway, 962-7776

19 Nov - Thu - Giovanini's Ristorante/W. Hills, Preston Smith & Acoustic Jazz Band 8:30pm, 818/884-0243

20 Nov - Fri - Wiltern/L.A., Raphael Saadiq 7:30pm, Anjulie 8pm, 213/380-5005

20 Nov - Fri - It's All Good Bar & Grill/Vta, B Mikasa Band w/ We Govern We 9:30pm, 641-9951

20 Nov - Fri - Ojai Presbyterian Church/Ojai, Household Gods (with special guests Tara Jeffrey & Jim Calire, For tickets call 646-4300

20 Nov - Fri - Vinoteca/Paso Robles, The Preston Smith Show playing souladelic, bluesrock and Funky Jazz, 227-7154

20 Nov - Fri - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Mari Martin Band 9pm, 646-1555

20 Nov - Fri - HiCees BBQ Cafe/Vta, Alastair Greene Band 6pm - 10pm, 650-7773

20 Nov - Fri - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Pato Banton, 962-7776

20 Nov - Fri - Cold Spring Tavern/S.B., Stiff Pickle Orchestra, 967-0066

20 Nov - Fri - The Fillmore/S.F., The Disco Biscuits 9pm, 415/346-6000

20 Nov - Fri - The Canyon/Agoura Hills, KC & The Sunshine Band, 7pm, 818/879-5016

20 Nov - Fri - Creekside in Goleta, 4444 Hollister Ave/S.B., Brian Wise Band with bros. Brian Faith Band, 9pm, 964-5118

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21 Nov - Sat - Wiltern/L.A., The Sleeping, 106.7 KROQ Presents Hollywood Undead & Atreyu With Escape The Fate 8pm, 213/380-5005

21 Nov - Sat - Ojai Presbyterian Church/Ojai, Household Gods with Special Guests Tara Jeffrey & Jim Calire, For tickets call 646-7154

21 Nov - Sat - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Studebaker 9pm, 646-1555

21 Nov - Sat - HiCees BBQ Cafe/Vta, Baby Sister, 650-7773

21 Nov - Sat - The Hut/Ojai, Sonic Stew, 646-0670

21 Nov - Sat - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Erin McKeown w/ Jill Sobule, Beleza Pura, 962-7776

21 Nov - Sat - Cold Spring Tavern/S.B., Pat

Milliken & Friends 2pm-5pm/The Excellent Tradesman 6pm- 9pm, 967-0066

21 Nov - Sat - The Fillmore/S.F., The Disco Biscuits 9pm, 415/346-6000

22 Nov - Sun - It's All Good Bar & Grill/Vta, Los Dudes 4pm, 641-9951

22 Nov - Sun - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Tim Buley & Friends 1:30pm, 646-1555

22 Nov - Sun - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Glenn Phillips, 962-7776

22 Nov - Sun - Cold Spring Tavern/S.B., Tom Ball & Kenny Sultan 1:30pm - 4:30pm/ Spencer the Gardener 4:30pm - 7:30pm, 967-0066

22 Nov - Sun - Bernadettes/Vta, Sideshow Preachers Band 3pm, 643-6740

23 Nov - Mon - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Margie Nelson w/ Sandy Cummings & Friends, 962-7776

23 Nov - Mon - The Fillmore/S.F., Dir En Grey 8pm, 415/346-6000

24 Nov - Tue - Wiltern/L.A., (RED) NIGHTS Presents Wolfmother, 7:30pm, 213/380-5005

24 Nov - Tue - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., The Jazz Project, 962-7776

25 Nov - Wed - Wiltern/L.A., Wolfmother, 213/380-5005

25 Nov - Wed - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Future Wednesday 9pm, 646-1555

25 Nov - Wed - The Fillmore/S.F., Joe Perry Project 8pm, 415/346-6000

25 Nov - Wed - Shrine Auditorium & Expo Center/L.A., Tiesto 9pm, 213/ 748-5116

26 Nov - Thu - The Canyon/Agoura Hills, The Spazmatics, 818/879-5016

27 Nov - Fri - O'Leary's Sidebar/Vta, Sonic Stew, 644-4619

27 Nov - Fri - Shrine Auditorium & Expo Center/L.A., Tiesto 9pm, 213/ 748-5116

27 Nov - Fri - It's All Good Bar & Grill/Vta, Irie Smile 9:30pm, 641-9951

27 Nov - Fri - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Ray Jay Band 9pm, 646-1555

27 Nov - Fri - Cold Spring Tavern/S.B., Fingersmyth 7pm-10pm, 967-0066

27 Nov - Fri - The Fillmore/S.F., Toots & The Maytals 9pm, 415/346-6000

27 Nov - Fri - The Canyon/Agoura Hills, Robert Schimmel, 818/879-5016

27 Nov - Fri - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Hollywood U2, 962-7776

27 Nov - Fri - HiCees BBQ Cafe/Vta, Teresa Russell 6pm - 10pm, 650-7773

28 Nov - Sat - Shrine Auditorium & Expo Center/L.A., Tiesto 9pm, 213/ 748-5116

28 Nov - Sat - Wiltern/L.A., Peaches 8pm, 213/380-5005

28 Nov - Sat - It's All Good Bar & Grill/Vta, Inna Rude Mood 9:30pm, 641-9951

28 Nov - Sat - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Sugar Cream 9pm, 646-1555

28 Nov - Sat - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Lion I's, 962-7776

28 Nov - Sat - Cold Spring Tavern/S.B., Troubaduro (Bryson & Jill Marie) 2pm- 5pm/ Switchback 6pm-9pm, 967-0066

28 Nov - Sat - The Fillmore/S.F., Mario 7pm, 415/346-6000

28 Nov - Sat - The Canyon/Agoura Hills, Air Supply, 9pm, 818/879-5016

28 Nov - Sat - The Majestic Vta Theatre/Vta, An Evening with Switchfoot 7pm, 653-0721

28 Nov - Sat - HiCees BBQ Cafe/Vta, Preachers 5pm - 9pm, 650-7773

29 Nov - Sun - It's All Good Bar & Grill/Vta, Project "O" 3pm, 641-9951

29 Nov - Sun - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Tim Buley & Friends 1:30pm, 646-1555

29 Nov - Sun - HiCees BBQ Cafe/Vta, Blue Stew

2pm - 6pm, 650-7773

29 Nov - Sun - Cold Spring Tavern/S.B., Tom Ball & Kenny Sultan 1:30pm - 4:30pm/ Little Jonny & the Glants 4:30pm- 7:30pm, 967-0066

29 Nov - Sun - Wiltern/L.A., Straight No Chaser, 213/380-5005

30 Nov - Mon - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Jazz Jam w/ Jeff Elliott, 962-7776

1 Dec - Tue - The Fillmore/S.F., The Black Crowes 8pm, 415/346-6000

2 Dec - Wed - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Future Wednesday 9pm, 646-1555

2 Dec - Wed - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Diggable Planets, 962-7776

2 Dec - Wed - The Fillmore/S.F., The Black Crowes 8pm, 415/346-6000

3 Dec - Thu - The Canyon/Agoura Hills, Brian Wilson, 7pm, 818/879-3016

4 Dec - Fri - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Groove City 9pm, 646-1555

4 Dec - Fri - HiCees BBQ Cafe/Vta, Ray Jay 6pm - 10pm, 650-7773

4 Dec - Fri - The Fillmore/S.F., The Black Crowes 9pm, 415/346-6000

5 Dec - Sat - HiCees BBQ Cafe/Vta, Steve White & The Barstool Pigeons 5pm - 9pm, 650-7773

5 Dec - Sat - The Fillmore/S.F., The Black Crowes 9pm, 415/346-6000

5 Dec - Sat - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Somos Son w/ Salsa Lolita & Friends, 962-7776

6 Dec - Sun - Ojai Valley Woman's Club/Ojai, Tom Russell, classic folk-roots singer/songwriter, 441 E. Ojai Ave

6 Dec - Sun - HiCees BBQ Cafe/Vta, Blue Stew 5pm - 9pm, 650-7773

6 Dec - Sun - The Fillmore/S.F., The Black Crowes 8pm, 415/346-6000

7 Dec - Mon - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Nicole Luvoff, 962-7776

9 Dec - Wed - Wiltern/L.A., Go Country 1055 Winter at the Wiltern with Diorks Bentley 7:30pm, 213/380-5005

9 Dec - Wed - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Future Wednesday 9pm, 646-1555

9 Dec - Wed - The Fillmore/S.F., Son Volt 8pm, 415/346-6000

9 Dec - Wed - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Grant Lee, Phillips & Sara Watkins, 962-7776

10 Dec - Thu - The Fillmore/S.F., JJ Grey & Mofro 1/Shooter Jennings 8pm, 415/346-6000

11 Dec - Fri - Java Joe/Vta, Paula Klein 8pm, 275-0304

11 Dec - Fri - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Mari Martin Band 9pm, 646-1555

11 Dec - Fri - HiCees BBQ Cafe/Vta, Five Yard Dog 6pm - 10pm, 650-7773

11 Dec - Fri - The Fillmore/S.F., Los Lobos 9pm, 415/346-6000

11 Dec - Fri - The Majestic Vta Theatre/Vta, Morrissey TBD, 653-0721

12 Dec - Sat - Wiltern/L.A., Robert Francis, (RED) NIGHTS Presents Brett Dennen 7pm, 213/380-5005

12 Dec - Sat - The Fillmore/S.F., Los Lobos 9 pm, 415/346-6000

13 Dec - Sun - The Fillmore/S.F., Grace Potter & The Nocturnals 8pm, 415/346-6000

15 Dec - Tue - Wiltern/L.A., Etta James, 213/380-5005

16 Dec - Wed - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Alexandria King

16 Dec - Wed - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Future Wednesday 9pm, 646-1555

18 Dec - Fri - The Fillmore/S.F., Steve Kimock Crazy Engine 9pm, 415/346-6000

19 Dec - Sat - Wiltern/L.A., 106.7 KROQ Presents X 7pm, 213/380-5005

19 Dec - Sat - The Fillmore/S.F., Rickie Lee Jones 9pm, 415/346-6000

20 Dec - Sun - SoHo Restaurant & Music Club/S.B., Venice Holiday Concert, 962-7776

23 Dec - Wed - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Future Wednesday 9pm, 646-1555

27 Dec - Sun - The Fillmore/S.F., Railroad Earth 8pm, 415/346-6000

28 Dec - Mon - The Fillmore/S.F., Railroad Earth 8pm, 415/346-6000

31 Dec - Thu - The Shores/Ox, Sonic Stew, 984-5533

31 Dec - Thu - The Fillmore/S.F., Les Claypool 9pm, 415/346-6000

1 Jan - Fri - Movino Wine Bar & Gallery/Ojai, Groove City 9pm, 646-1555

9 Jan - Sat - Wiltern/L.A., Sonic Youth 7pm, 213/380-5005

10 Jan - Sun - The Fillmore/S.F., Sonic Youth (Presale Nov 5) 8pm, 415/346-6000

16 Jan - Sat - O'Leary's Sidebar/Camarillo, Sonic Stew, 482-5249

22 Jan - Fri - Wiltern/L.A., 106.7 KROQ Presents Cold War Kids 7pm, 213/380-5005

22 Jan - Fri - The Fillmore/S.F., CITY AND COLOUR 9pm, 415/346-6000

23 Jan - Sat - The Canyon/Agoura Hills, Ted Nugent, 9pm, 818/879-3016

5 Feb - Fri - Wiltern/L.A., Gabriel Iglesias 8pm, 213/380-5005

6 Feb - Sat - The Fillmore/S.F., The Anvil Experience 8pm, 415/346-6000

16 Feb - Tue - Wiltern/L.A., Los Lonely Boys 6:30pm, 213/380-5005

19 Feb - Fri - The Fillmore/S.F., Los Lonely Boys (Presale Nov 5) 8pm, 415/346-6000

20 Feb - Sat - The Fillmore/S.F., The Anvil Experience 8pm, 415/346-6000

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