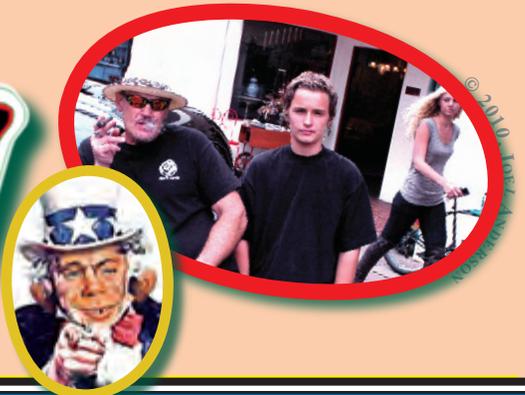




VIEW



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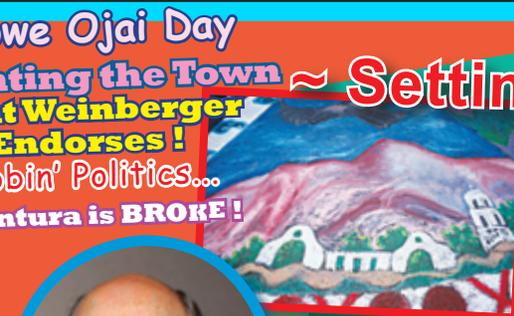
The **VIEW** The Battle for Ojai ~ Setting The Agenda For Ojai ~



And the Candidates are... almost



...all accounted for in this historic Photo Op of the Ojai City Council Candidates: 6 will go in... only 3 will come out. Pictured (L-R) Dennis Leary, Paul Blatz, Carlon Strobel, Lenny Klairf and Demetri Corbin. One of the more friendly candidates forums possibly on record... assembled at Ojai's Glen Muse estate. Missing from the pic was that other candidate who slipped away before the photo. She did attend the function earlier. For more pics of the event and many others, SEE INSIDE... ALSO EXCLUSIVE Videos of The Candidate Inaction... **BFB BAND** Go To www.YouTube.com/OVVtaVIEW!



CEO SCOTT EICHER
CHAMBER CANDIDATES FORUM SPARKLING SUCCESS
KOOKE COUNCIL CONSORTIUMZ
MILHADO ~ ARE YOU NEUROTIC?
"ALL THAT MATTERS IS WIN ~ J.R. EWING
TRUSTWORTH-LESS-NESS GREEN COALITION PARTY



Do Kids Rule Ojai ?



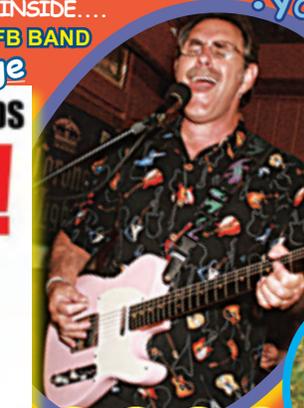
SKATE PARK OJAI !!!

ALASDAIR
BALLOT MEAURES
ROWE ~ SAVE THE ELEPHANT
HEATHER
THE LIFE OF SARA
 WHAT PRICE... FREEDOM OF INFO ?
CAMPAIN MUDSLINGER CENTRAL



VOTE

"WHAT • ME WORRY?"



ELECTION
YOU WON'T BELIEVE YOUR EARS
LIBRARY BIG BUCKS
MARY-JO/EYE CANDY
RICHARD SENATE
GOODBYE VENTURA
OPENING YOUR EYES TO OPTOMETRY
MENTORS
SOCIAL INJUSTICE



Winston with Waiters and Waitresses (left to right, back) Ryan Smith, Amy Smith and Kathy Watson

Metering: The Impact

by Joel Anderson
 When Winston Sullivan, owner of Tutti's Off Main inked the lease and set out to build his restaurant on Palm Street in Ventura in '03, he had no way of knowing the crash of 2007/08 would arrive just a few years later. The location had always exhibited great success (as *Cafe Voltaire* during a strong run in the 90s). He also had no way of knowing the Ventura City Council would vote to install parking meters outside his business, threatening and decimating patron traffic immediately to the tune of more than 30 percent losses, but we will get into that later.

www.RemoveTheMeters.com Meter Impact Continued Page 10...

Media View Letter to the Editor

Media Under Attack

Joel, I am sad about the state of the printed word. I know news has been reduced to bulleted five-sentence blurbs or a few words with visuals on TV. The discovery of the mess at Bell, the incompetent teachers on the payroll kept at home, the millions of welfare dollars spent at Vegas - none of these would have been aired on TV. Only print asks us to think. And, as you note, it is under attack on all sides - especially by an indifferent public that seeks entertainment and over-simplification. Off my soap box :-)

Letter Payne in The Rack

From: kpayne@ci.ventura.ca.us Subject: News Racks Date: October 5, 2010 1:53:26 PM PDT To: editor@ojaiandventuraview.com Good Afternoon Joel:

It was brought to my attention that your "View" publication is in news rack in the City of Ventura that do not have the proper permit sticker and are not bolted down. In previous correspondence we notified you of the new require

HALLOWEEN

by Roslyn Hammer



The first Halloween my son and I participated in was different from the way trick-or-treating was done back in New Jersey. In California you waited until it was dark and parents accompanied their children as the kids went from house to house.

I dressed Ralphy, my five year-old son, in a Batman costume and took him around the neighborhood. After an hour I was tired and decided to take him to his grandparent's house for a visit and to show them how cute he looked.

My parent's front door was open and the steady stream of kids was thinning out. "Let's play a little trick on Grandpa," I said.

Ralphy's eyes danced. In his usual hyperactive manner, he jumped up and down. "What can we do, Mom, what can we do?"

"Just knock on the door and don't tell him who you are. Keep your mask on and talk in a low voice," I said.

"Trick or treat?" Ralphy said in a voice that sounded like a frog.

"Who's this?" my father asked in his gruff voice trying to sound friendly.

Ralphy said nothing. "Well I guess you're Batman and I'm scared," my father kidded around.

He gave Ralphy a handful of candy. "Here you go, Batman."

Ralphy came back to the car. "Did he recognize you?" I asked. "No, No," my son said in an excited voice.

Halloween Continued Page 23... www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com Keep Smiling!

Ojai City Council RAGGEDY EDGE

Carol, after the candidates forum you brought music to my ears. Either Carol Kings "Your So Far Away" or Hall and Oats "Out of Touch, Out of Time". Saying the Dog Park was your "Greatest accomplishment" on the campaign circuit says you definitely are out of touch. The dog park is OUT of town, not IN town. The Skate Park was so far away - 8 years - and still not complete. Dogs won! That's it? How about the folks?? Where are they?? You have fiddled out of tune while the citizens of Ojai pay extra millions every year in Abusive water rates.

Excessive City salaries and benefits and still we don't have a ROOF at city hall. How good are you? Why were you surprised at the salaries of the recorder saying that you never made that kind of money? We have plenty of people that make almost twice that amount in this city and the city attorney's office at almost \$200k plus the Figg-Bigg extra legal cost of \$125,000 for an outside attorney!

You were Mayor for cryin' out loud.

What did you know? What didn't you know. Why don't you still not know? Not that the city is in desperate financial straits, not that the prior city manager made more per resident than even the manager of Bell. Telling everyone to drive into town (and park, where?) and take the Trolley for a few blocks and put their 25 cents in the box will solve the transportation problem in Ojai is really a combination of the two song titles, Carly Simon's "You're so Vain" and Hall and Oats "Out of Touch, Out of Time" as in "You're so...far out of Touch." You really don't get it! And your claim in the same ad that Mayor Steve Olson said, you had the intelligence and insight to come up with this genius (cat-skinning) financial plan for the Libbey Bowl redux? Genius plan? Well at the Oct. 12 city council meeting Steve said he had "No Recollection" of saying that! Carol, No Recollection?? Have you no shame? Raggedy Edge Continued Page 4...

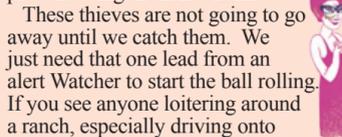


www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView

POLICE BLOTTER

Rural Ojai Beware

Good Evening Watchers, The rural property thieves have struck again locally! A ranch in Upper Ojai had their Connex boxes broken into and valuable equipment stolen. During the past few weeks the Fillmore area and now the Ojai area are being worked by these crooks. If you have a large storage container or isolated outbuilding on ranch property, take the necessary precautions to prevent being the next victim. These thieves are not going to go away until we catch them. We just need that one lead from an alert Watcher to start the ball rolling. If you see anyone loitering around a ranch, especially driving onto rural properties without any obvious business, please get the best vehicle description to include a license plate number and then call 911 immediately to report it. Pay close attention to vans and other vehicles that can conceal stolen items. These crooks usually check out possible targets during the day and then return in the early morning hours to complete their crime. Let's catch these thieves!



www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView

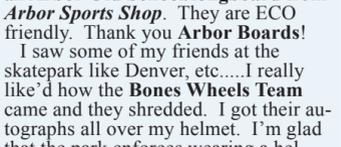
Be Safe, Randy Send your Letters! editor@ojaiandventuraview.com multiple publication submissions discouraged

Be Safe, Randy Send your Letters! editor@ojaiandventuraview.com multiple publication submissions discouraged

Letter to the Ed Thank You Skate Ojai



Hi, I'm Catalina and I'm 10-years-old. I skated the Ojai Skate Park at the Grand Opening. I like the skate park. It's a little small but cute (believe me, I appreciate it). I almost dropped in the pool, but I was a little scared. I received one of the tiles from the pool and got to do some FIVE O's, Rock the fakes and grinds. I entered in the raffle and won the Grand prize... an Arbor Old School/longboard from Arbor Sports Shop. They are ECO friendly. Thank you Arbor Boards! I saw some of my friends at the skatepark like Denver, etc.... I really like'd how the Bones Wheels Team came and they shredded. I got their autographs all over my helmet. I'm glad that the park enforces wearing a helmet. I already wear a helmet, of course you probably already know that because I said that the bones team signed my helmet! Thank you Ojai Skate Park!!! - Catalina Russel 10-18-2010



www.ojaiskatepark.com

A Dead Bloated Horse The Kookie Room

- Joel Anderson, editor

The Cookie Room in city hall is pretty much your standard low-budget cookie room, basically just a passage on the way to the rear entrance of the public seating area. You have your choice of generic coffee or generic coffee, octane or decaf and small packaged creamers and sugar, nothing fancy mind you. There exists a sparse variety of the simple packaged store-bought cookies laid out; although every once in a while there are some relatively nice chewy-chocolate types you can sink your teeth into, which I especially like (someone must spring some extra dough for those). I always manage to fill my pockets with a few of those for the ride home after the meeting - what are taxes for, right?

At any rate, it's usually a pretty cookie-friendly atmosphere there and a welcome respite during breaks from some of the longer, more tawdry council meetings, one might endure. I've become pretty adept at juggling my camera in one hand and assembling my cookie/coffee consortium with the other. I also get to learn more about the council coffee and cookie clatch from the other more-mindful sages who venture in for a similar caffeinated experience. Sometimes one hears the kookiest things in the cookie room.

The following Sept. 28 sharing, with Mayor Pro Tem Carol Smith, in all honesty has to rank as one of my more Salvador-Dali-like cookie-room experiences...

Carol: You are out of line. Totally.

Joel: I'm protecting my sources

Carol: hmmm? A dead bloated horse?

Joel: You're being recorded

Carol: I am not a dead bloated horse. Do I look like a dead bloated horse? Tell me the answer to you.

Joel: Go ahead

Carol: He called me a dead bloated horse.

Joel: I didn't say that.

Carol: Dale, tell him, Am I a dead bloated horse?

Dale: No

Carol: I am not, Say your name.

Dale: Oh, he knows me, haha - Dale, Dale Hansen, my name is Dale Hansen and I live in...

Carol: Ok

Dale:the City of Ojai

Carol: Am I a dead bloated horse?

Dale: No, you're not

Carol: Have I worked with Stop The Trucks?

Dale: Yes

Carol: With youth?

Dale: yeah

Carol: With Business?

Dale: yeah, yes

Carol: Ok, say that, you're being recorded. He cannot tell me how

Dick Lynch is...

Dale: she has worked with the youth of Ojai heh, and she has been very active on the Stop the Trucks

Carol: he won't write that, don't worry

Dale: and uh, she's not a dead horse, and don't eat all the cookies....

Joel: Carol, would you like a cup of coffee? some cookies?

WHO OWN'S YOUR THOUGHTS? When the News Becomes Just Another Racket

PRESS OWNERSHIP

• Ojai Valley News ~ Buchanan Publications Tuscaloosa, Alabama?

• Reuters ~ Purchased by the Rothchild banking family in the 1800s. Reuters recently purchased Associated Press Europe?

• Forbes Magazine ~ Malcolm Forbes (billionaire)/NYC?

• Getty Images ~ Getty Communications (J.Paul Getty...)/Seattle?

• VcReporter/Ventana ~ Southland Publications, Pasadena, California. (Paper-in-the-Pocket: Southland Publications was co-founded by Ventura City Manager Rick-'King'-Cole)?

• The Economist ~ Owner, The Economist Group, half of which is owned by the Financial Times, a subsidiary of Pearson PLC. A group of independent shareholders, including many members of the staff and the Rothschild banking family of England, owns the rest./London?

• VcStar ~ E. W. Scripps Co., Cincinnati, Ohio?

• Santa Barbara Independent ~ two silent partners from NYC, Marianne Partridge, Randy Campbell. NYC?

DRAINING THE POND In Corporations We Do Trust?

more info. www.editorforfreedom.com

The Homeless Hopper

by Rennie Rue

My name is Rennie Rue. I had the unfortunate experience of becoming homeless in Ojai the winter of 2009. Now I am somewhat recovered but think it wise to put the word out: Any "marginal" person (newcomer without solid employment, young person at odds with family, or senior on declining income, maybe with health problems) could be next - and you may want to help others who already are. Here are some things to consider.

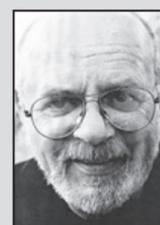
• Homelessness in Ventura County is estimated at about 8,000 and rising. Local numbers include 623 for the City of Ventura and 60 for Ojai, though one might multiply these figures by 3 or 4 to get the actual total as not all "homeless" - that is, persons identifiably "on the street" receiving services of some sort or in a designated shelter - are counted on the one night in January when the survey is taken annually. The above figures are from the year 2009.

Nationwide, the ongoing estimated figure is 1.5 to 3.0 percent of the population. More blacks than other ethnic groups, especially among veterans, seem to qualify. As I say, these are the identifiable ones. What's the definition of a homeless person?

Homeless Continued Page 28...

"What shall we think of a well-adjusted slave?" - Abraham Maslow

"Don't Tell Me Who I am... Let me guess!" Are You Neurotic? Check This Out!



In a previous article I distinguished between real suffering, which is imposed upon us by loss and fateful external events, and neurotic suffering which is 'inauthentic suffering', because we create it ourselves. The good news is, if we create our own suffering and are responsible for our neurotic symptoms of depression, anxiety, loneliness, obsessions etc., we can choose to undo them and heal. How? Here's an example. Many people were raised in a household of emotional chaos. At worst, their parents shamed them or intimidated them, overpowered and controlled them, or rejected and abandoned them, and so forth. In a subtler way, chaos also ensues in a family environment where father or mother were emotionally distant involved only their own self-centered universe or lost in frantic activity, which is the disease of our times. By the way, psychotherapy is not about parent bashing, but it is about having our patients make an accurate and realistic assessment of where they came from. Our parents were wounded too, and they just passed it on, most of the time without conscious intent. The defense against Chaos is Control!

The child tries to control his or her limited universe as much as possible. This makes sense in childhood and is a healthy response to a crazy family situation, but using power and control over others in adulthood leads to neurosis and isolation. So how does the adult neurotic control? There are many ways... i.e. through tyrannical control over others at work or at home, through intimidation and more poisonously through giving guilt, malingering, passive-aggressiveness and other devious manipulations. At bottom, neurosis is an ethical and moral problem. I know, I've been there.

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

In order for the neurotic to heal, he has to cop to being either overtly or covertly tyrannical, to being manipulative and often ruthless. This is a Herculean task because the 'neurotic tyrant' often views himself to be a 'nice guy'. For those brave souls, who can actually cop to their dark side and acknowledge that they're not who they pretend to be, the rewards are awesome. Their neurotic symptoms of depression and anxiety will drop by the wayside. They regain freedom by finally taking responsibility for their lives and lose interest in controlling the lives of others. Our personal strength doesn't come from what I call the 'General Manager of the Universe Complex' nor does our inner authority come from trying to control others and external events.

The brilliant bohemian psychologist Sheldon Kopp had this to say: "Neurosis is continuing to act as if we were coping with the problem of childhood. As grownups the world is not the same as in childhood...Neurosis is a way of behaving badly without feeling we are to blame."

The art of psychotherapy comes in telling patients painful truths about themselves they don't want to hear. This can only occur when there is trust and caring feelings between doctor and patient, without trust and love nothing happens. Intuition, the doctor sharing his own neurotic detours in life, as well as nighttime dreams can be very helpful. Sometimes only luck or the grace of God can intervene successfully. If we interpret our patient's 'controlling tyrant' too early, they leave therapy pissed off because they are not ready. You can't grow grass by pulling it. If we interpret too late, our patients leave because they don't get better. The old cliché, 'Timing is everything' is especially true in psychotherapy.

Finally, there are two artists who have their own view of treating the neurotic condition. The first is Blues artist, Keb Mo:

"If nobody loves you And your're feeling like dust on an empty shelf Just remember you can love yourself."

The second one is the soulful German poet Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, "Whatever you want to do, or dream you can do...begin it! Boldness has genius, power and magic in it."

Let's Save Our Valley! Julie Tumamait for Mayor

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

PETER RUDOLF MILHADO, PH.D. Lic #MFT14142

37 Years Experience drpetermilhado@gmail.com • (805) 640-1810

Blog: www.DrPeterMilhado.com

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

OJAI CITY COUNCIL RAGGEDY EDGE

Continued From Page 2...

Your ad also said you talked **Linda Taylor** into the **Skate Park**, but she knows *nothin' about the bad medicine* you printed in your ad. How can this be **Carol**? Your dark hat is showing. Why didn't you exercise your existing lease rights, which allowed the **Skate Park** in the first place? After all you let **Monte** Attack a citizen (*one of your neighborly "friends"*) in your personal feud, and exercise the cities rights and spend **\$120,000** plus, out of our Excess funds why not the school? Ohhhh, *we don't have excess funds*. How did that happen? We've been buffaloed.

It is time to **Cull the Herd** at **City Council Carol** and you're the **Stand-out**. Eight-years-ago you said you wanted a **Skate Park** and ran your **first campaign** on that fact. Eight-years and almost done. Eight-years, **Carol** Eight-years. Really **OUT OF TIME**. We can't afford your *shootin the breeze* time frame, and **NOW** folks are talking. In the last 8 years the shortfall on the Road and **UNDERFUNDED PENSION** have exceeded **\$15,000,000** and climbing. Maybe that's why we haven't repaired the roof at **City Hall**!

Speaking of Leaky water, lets get back to the Water. Over your last 8 years (*and I hope it's the last*) Water Rates have more than doubled. If it gets much higher we won't even be able to give water to our dogs, only at the dog park because it's **Out of the city** and the water rates are 40 to 60 percent less. So are your rates **Carol**, 1/2 of ours in town that's why you don't give a darn (*no, no Dennis*).

You are whining and whinnying about affordable housing, I support you on this. That's **WHY** we still have over **500 non-permitted units**??? Why has the city hoarded low-cost housing money and

not had a project in over 5 years? You have more ups and downs than the **Shelf Road Trail**. Now we stand to loose funding on your pet (*no pun intended*) project of affordable housing because you have too much money. Thank you for letting **Monte** speak or we would have never found out how you can *complain but not Perform* your elected duties.

Ok, so the dogs and kids have a place now. You have a city property and about 2 million dollars, will that project take 8 years? What is your next step?

I see that *you alone are responsible* for the Libbey project (*if one was to believe your ad*) and the **Skate Park** is yours – forget the 1,500 people that put money into the project and the countless hours and years the people from **Skate Ojai** put into the mix. It's really just about you. I can't wait for the next debate. You will be there right? What do you propose to do besides your 25 cents in the Trolley box? How about a date to **Fix the leaky Roof at City Hall**.

When is that **Ojai** public television station going to be online after you denied the school the opportunity to use it. What happened to **The Dr. Lee Show, Carol**?

You horse traded the useless 8 foot fence at the skate park for not giving the television station to the school, or was it that *special skate park wilderness porta-potty* that doesn't make sense, even to me, but what does, in **Ojai** these days? How fresh will **Sea Fresh** be when they get wind of **THAT**? Why would the school demand to have a *stinky third-world outhouse* without a place to wash your hands?? **Linda Taylor** needed to be talked into **THAT**!!! Why didn't you talk **Linda** into a 25-year-lease like **Libbey**, maybe you can trade the useless tv station???

You don't want **Mallory** with 7 rentals (*55 year restriction*) for low to moderate income but the **4,000 unit chain store in Ojai** is ok. **Sue** said it best *"Sure isn't the spirit of the ordinance"*. You have been fighting about everything these days – hissing, spit-

ting, telling **Monte** to shut up – and logic be darned (*better language than Dennis used*).

What is your timeline for success? You said you would not vote to put back the **Visitors Center**. Do you have any basic understanding of how **Ojai** gets it's money? Not from a lemonade stand. Not from the 25 cents in the **Trolley** box. **Carol** if you do win, two things will happen, you will be at the other end of a constant 4-1 vote Against (*out of touch*) and you will give me plenty of things to write about.

Again, I'm hearing what you are telling **The Ojai and Ventura VIEW** advertisers. From the soon to be *blighted and parched town of Ojai (go to the Lake Casitas web----- and put in your water bill on the calculator and)* find out how much you are really overpaying on your water bill, then call **Carol** and **Thank** her so much for her help.

She has **Casitas** at her *Pop-up-adorned-roost*, at Half our rates, Half!!! She is willing to let us eat crow paying an extra 2 million per year so the city can get a **\$20,000** franchise fee, now **That is out touch, out of tune and so far away!**

– Hang 'em High!

– Dick Lynch



Dick Lynch WATER CALCULATOR

To Find out how much **Golden-Stick-up-Water Company (Golden State)** is gouging you.... Go to the link below and go to the **"Monthly Bill Calculator"** and put in your water use.
www.casitaswater.org

PAUL BLATZ FOR OJAI CITY COUNCIL

PROVEN LEADERSHIP - RE-ELECT PAUL ON NOVEMBER 2nd

I believe

an incumbent City Council member should run based on what they have done in office. Since being elected in June, I have worked hard for Ojai. My record speaks for itself.



Paul Blatz

www.BlatzforOjai.com

A Paid Political Advertisement

What I have done on the Council since June:

- Advocated for replacing the City Manager
- Proposed the Blighted/Vacant Building Ordinance
- Proposed Strengthening the Formula Business Ordinance
- Moved the Libbey Bowl Project forward
- Supported construction of the Skate Park
- Working with "Heal the Community" to protect Ojai's Youth
- Spoke against the Golden State Water rate increase
- Supported Ventura County efforts to help stop the trucks
- Pushed for creating a new bus shelter at the "Y"
- Voted against the Mallory Way Project

What I promise for the future:

- Fight against Golden State Water's control of Ojai's water
- Explore ways to save money on Ojai's legal expenses
- Find ways to restore funding for Recreation Department programs
- Successful completion and management of Libbey Bowl Project
- Propose an Economic Commission to promote Ojai businesses
- Preserve the Ojai Trolley and implement Ojai's Bike Plan
- Start construction of the Bus Shelter at the "Y"
- Maintain and Promote additional affordable housing in Ojai



When issues divide us, I will listen.

When I don't know enough, I will ask questions.

When a leader is needed, I will lead.

I'd like to be...

Your Voice on City Council



Endorsed by Ojai Valley Chamber of Commerce

LEN KLAIF

Paid for by Klai4Ojai

Say NO to another term NO to CAROL SMITH FOR CITY COUNCIL

- Said She Had 4 Votes to Remove the City Manager, But She Didn't Act!
- Carol Voted "NO" on Affordable Housing!
- Jeopardized the Cities Affordable Housing Trust Fund!
- Said Skate Ojai was "Obstructionist and Elitist"!
- Flip Flopped on the Water Rate Issue Costing Ojai Citizens Millions!
- She is Obstructionist and Overbearing ~ Against the Visitors Center!
- Called the Ojai Chambers' Endorsement Untrue!
- Voted to Spend Millions of City Money for Outside Interests!
- Verbally Accosted City Council Candidates and their Supporters!
- Said that Kids Should Leave Ojai and Noone Under 30 Should be Here!
- 8 Years on the Council and Surprised at How Many Staff Are Overpaid!

Paid Political Advertisement/Diss-Endorsement

VOTE ★ Carlon STROBEL ★ VOTE

Defender of Ojai Taxpayer Dollars!

for Ojai City Council

"Carlon knows how city government works. As City Clerk Carlon protected the citizens right to access public records. The expertise she shares selflessly with us, as ordinary citizens, is invaluable."

Wendy Hilgers
community leader

"Carlon has the knowledge to deal with the challenge of building our city to a stronger and better future."

Don and Shiela Cluff
owner, The Oaks at Ojai

Longtime citizen activist **Pat Weinberger** says:
"Carlon Strobel has been the City's Rock of Gibraltar. She's very bright, and diligent is her middle name."

"A clear, concise and open public record is vital to real democracy. I support Carlon because she appreciates and will protect our right to know, in a timely manner, what is being done in our name."

Johnny Johnston
Ventura County CEO, retired

"Everyone respects Carlon for her independence, strength and complete integrity. She has the courage, vision and moral compass Ojai needs to guide our city into the future."

Carolyn Vondrisk
attorney and mother



Paid for by Strobel for Council 2010

It is time to:

- **Take back** - control of our water
- **Fix** - our crumbling roads
- **Reform** - the planning process
- **Create** - a strong local economy
- **Embrace** - our community volunteers
- **Change** - our leadership
- **Open** - City Hall 5 days a week
- **Restore** - recreation for everyone
- **Support** - our artists



OJAI CITY ATTORNEY HOW MUCH DOES MONTE MAKE? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR YOURSELF LATELY?

Table listing expenses for Ojai City Attorney Monte Widders, including Retainer (\$33,000), General Consulting (\$83,750), and various other fees totaling \$228,763.

Total Payment to Monte Widders, Ojai City Attorney - 2008/2009 Fiscal Year \$228,763

OJAI PUBLIC WORKS HOW MUCH DOES MIKE MAKE? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR YOURSELF LATELY?

Table listing expenses for Ojai Public Works Director Mike Culver, including Annual Salary (\$83,945), Administrative Leave (\$466), and various other benefits totaling \$140,936.

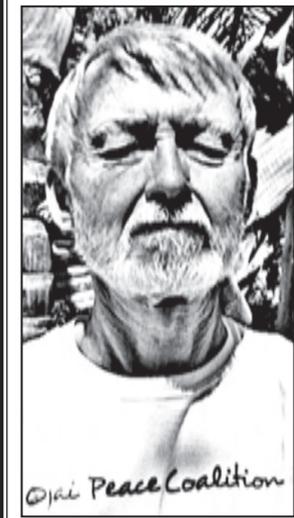
Total Payment to Mike \$140,936 Culver, Ojai Public Works Director - 2008/2009 Fiscal Year

Press Release Service Above Self Donations

The Camarillo Rotary Foundation is proud to report it contributed \$134,000 to 35 Camarillo Area and Global non-profits during its fiscal year ending June 30.

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView • www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView • www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView Continued on page 24...

LOVE OJAI - ELECT LEARY



Blatz works for the money interests, not the people of Ojai. He shut the people out of the decision on the Libbey Bowl lease.

and his backers. The new bowl is only the latest step in remaking Ojai into a world money class haven for the rich with Blatz as their counsel on council.

may be too naive about the ways of the world to realize he's being suckered into the plan and being made a pawn in their game. It doesn't matter if he's a willing or unwilling point man because the result is the same.

http://thelovegovernment.blogstream.com

Over the years Blatz and the city fathers, commissioners and assorted hangers-on have ignored the legal, historical, aesthetic, ecological, environmental, affordable, economic and ethical arguments which require Ojai to preserve her historical resources in their integrity and entirety.

Smith is the other incumbent candidate seeking re-election. To her credit she voted "no" on both Blatz backed votes in the Mallory case based on her love for the poor and low income people of Mallory.

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

Dennis Leary

The VIEW ~ Setting The Agenda For Ojai



Soule Park Cage Match - Six Ojai City Council Candidates enter, three will leave... (L-R) Paul Blatz, Carlton Strobel, Dennis Leary, Leonard Klaf, Carol Smith, and Demitri Corbin

Grid of photos with captions: Leonard Klaf - City Council Material; Carlton Strobel - City Council Material; Moe and Sunday couldn't believe their ears; Carol Smith - eight years career in office; Paul Blatz - City Council Material; Moe and Sunday couldn't believe their ears; Mel and Carol contemplate E.R. treatment; Dale Hansen and Suza Francina, former Ojai Mayor wouldn't have missed the debate for all the cookies in the kabal; Demitri presents his plan; Teamwork - Paul and Betsy Clapp; Watching the Clock - Bob and Darlene Daddi, Bob Kemper Chamber of Commerce President, and Pat McPherson - Ojai Democratic Club V.P. supporting Leonard Klaf.

Incoming ~ E-Mail "He is not trustworthy"

From: eandl157@sbcglobal.net Subject: Your figuers on Jackie Griffin's salary Date: October 13, 2010 4:57:43 PM PDT To: editor@ojaiaandventuraview.com

On September 30th I quoted your stats on how much Jackie earns and compared it with Super. of Inst. and the Calif state treasurer. I also asked why Jackie now says she has one large building to accomodate her staff, at a savings of \$31,000 a year.

Library Director Moving Up in the World

From: editor@ojaiaandventuraview.com Subject: Re: Your figuers on Jackie Griffin's salary Date: October 18, 2010 11:59:11 PM PDT To: eandl157@sbcglobal.net

The \$197,605 Salary figure reported in The Ojai and Ventura VIEW (each issue since Feb. Issue #23) as paid to Jackie Griffin, Ventura County Library Director was obtained from the "County of Ventura County Budget Form - Budget Unit Financing Uses Detail"

Mudslinger Central, Continued Page 12...

Your Taxes Pay Public Salaries

The President earns \$400,000 per year, along with a \$50,000 monthly expense account, a \$100,000 non-taxable travel account and \$19,000 for entertainment. The most recent raise in salary was approved by Congress and President Bill Clinton in 1999 and went into effect in 2001.

Table comparing Annual Salaries and New Dec. 7 salaries for various officials including President Barack Obama, Ventura County Library Director, Governor Arn. Schwarzenegger, and various state and local officials.

As a result of this Oct. 4 highly theatrical debate, held at Soule Park Golf Course, The Ojai Chamber of Commerce endorsed 3 candidates on Oct. 10 for Ojai City Council; Paul Blatz, Leonard Klaf and Carlton Strobel, in an overwhelming super majority vote. It looks like, for the most part, Ojai incumbent reruns are on the outs....

Wine And Roses

by Ron Rowe



October, this was the eighth month of the old Roman year. By the Slavs, this month is called yellow month from the fading of the leaves. To the Anglo-Saxons it was known as winterfylleth because, at this month's full moon, winter was supposed to begin.

October 31 is Halloween. The virgin of hallowmas or All Saints' Day is thought to be the night when witches, ghosts, goblins, devils and other mischief-making beings are broad on their baneful midnight errands, particularly those ariel people.

"...mischief-making beings are broad on their baneful midnight errands, particularly those ariel people... and in Ojai the wee-folk will be out trick or treating."

The fairies are said on that night to hold a grand anniversary and in Ojai the wee-folk will be out trick or treating.

Want to know who was the highest-paid CEO? It's Oracle Corps. Larry Ellison. He is the highest-paid CEO of the last decade earning \$1.84 billion over 10 years. He is followed by Barry Diller of IAC/InterActiveCorp and Expedia with \$1.4 billion. Four of the 10 best paid CEO's presided over companies whose shareholders lost money.

Have we really pulled out of Iraq? We still have over 55,000 troops to plus 100,000 private contractors, 94 military bases and an embassy the same size of Vatican City.

The average worker spent over \$4,000 for employer-sponsored family health care last year; 14% more than the year before. Since 2005 workers contributions to health care premiums have increased 42 percent while their pay rose only 18 percent.

"...the number of registered nurses is going to grow to 3.2 million by 2018... as baby boomers age the need for skilled nurses long term is still great"

Looking for the best occupation of the next decade? According to the American Association of College of Nursing (AACN), the number of registered nurses is going to grow to 3.2 million by 2018. The recent study related that the economic downturn has eased the overall need short term; however as baby boomers age the need for skilled nurses long term is still great, particularly in light of healthcare reform.

For someone who'd like to get away from all this tension and stress.... across from the Isle of Skye in Scotland on the Knoydart Peninsula lies a small village of Inverie with a pub that is regarded as the most remote pub in mainland England. Ian and Jackie Robinson, owners of the pub, have put it on the market for only 800,000 pounds (\$1,278,160.00 US). The peninsula is renowned as one of the wildest and most isolated landscapes in England. The population of the village is around 100.

Can the 1950 girdle make a comeback? I say of corset it can. Women of a certain age will shudder to learn the corset is back and men of a certain age will gasp in astonishment that the ultimate passion killer has returned. But they may be wrong; the girdle of 2010 is short and is allegedly very sexy. Unlike the long deterrent corset of the 1950s.... its shorter, lighter and more comfortable and sexier than its post war counterpart. I hear it's an instant hit among 25 and older professional women.

The supermarkets in England are introducing a new scheme where customers pay for their groceries using fingerprints instead of credit cards. Customers simply place their finger against a sensor and then enter the password. This will call up a previously registered fingerprint and bank account details. During a three-year test, the system did not misidentify any person during over 50,000 transactions. A spokesman for the company said chances are that criminals using another person fingerprints are virtually impossible. The benefits of the program is speed, convenience and security. Eventually it will be used in the U.S. and it could stamp out passport frauds.

Elizabeth Smith, age 28, of Sumter, South Carolina won

"The View is kind of funky" - Charlene Hartenstein, Ojai

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an award of a \$2 million jury verdict after a dentist extracted all 16 of her upper teeth by mistake. Smith's attorney said Elizabeth had trouble eating and covers her mouth during conversations, implants will cost \$80,000.

Unbelievable, a toilet used by John Lennon has sold for \$9,500, nearly 10 times its guide price at an auction in England. The toilet was used by the Beatle for three years when he lived in Berkshire west of London between 1969 and 1972. The toilet was expected to sell for \$1,000.

"....if annoyed she would pull them from her mouth and throw them across the room"

Also, a set of Winston Churchill's dentures sold at auction for \$23,700. Nigel Cudlipp whose father Derek made a series of dentures for Churchill, put the dentures up for sale. Churchill never got used to wearing his dentures and would bite down hard on them causing them to break or, if annoyed he would pull them from his mouth and throw them across the room. As a consequence he always needed sets made and kept in reserve.

Did you know the operators of British Petroleum's (BPs) US filling stations are considering a name change to the Amoco logo, which BP acquired in 1998.

Another huge successful Ojai Day. More people attended than any other year; there was a definite holiday, carnival spirit in the air. This year I noticed more families were in attendance; children were dancing and smiling all around. The only problem in my opinion, was parking. I had to part seven blocks away. Next year, I'm going to borrow Suza Francina's bike and leave my car at home.... any suggestions from readers regarding a parking solution?

On average, more than 125,000 people per day received a speeding ticket. That's close to 40 million speeding tickets per year. The average ticket costs \$150, more than 96 percent of people who receive a speeding ticket never contest it; they simply pay the fine. The average police officer will make a city the average of \$200,000 a year in traffic ticket fines. The average increase in insurance costs for speeding tickets over the course of three years is \$900. That amounts to about 12 billion extra the insurance companies make in a single year, just from speeding tickets.

If you want a companion but not a husband or wife, then you need a Honda Asimo. The people-friendly 4 foot humanoid robot will fit your needs, and won't tire of your complaints about endless city council demands, pesky citizens, Washington, the weather, or your neighbors parked car and uncultured pestilence. It can recognize 10 faces and carry on a conversation and even go on a slow walk or jog with you, alas he can't change his own batteries, and isn't quite as fast as a horse.

"...she won't tire of your complaints about endless city council demands, pesky citizens, Washington, the weather, or your neighbors parked car and uncultured pestilence."

Greece has given us democracy, salad and outstanding wines. Greek white wines don't taste like any others and they rival any Pinot gris or Sauvignon blanc. Try a 2008 Estate Argyros, about \$22. This Assyrtiko grape, from the ancient island of Santorin, is known for its mineralogy and dryness. A 2008 Enoteka Emery, around \$18 and native to the island of Rhodes. The Athiri grape produces wines with bright citrus notes. Or a 2008 Domaine Gerouvassi, around \$30, extremely fruity and floral.

Time to be off. The sun has set over the yard arm and a nice cold bottle of Pinot gris is waiting for me. Peace to all living beings on earth

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



See You in the Funny Papers!

Curtain Call

by Ron Rowe

Opened Oct. 1 at the Ojai Art Center. Wait Until Dark, directed by Tom Eubanks. This production has a great cast consisting of husband-and-wife team Cecil Sutton and Tracey Sutton Williams, also with Ron Felner, Chris Alton, Michael Philip's and the director's daughter Hannah Eubanks.



A sinister con man and two ex-convicts are about to meet their match. They have traced the location of a mysterious doll which they are much interested in to the Greenwich Village apartment of San Hendricks and his blind wife Suzy. Sam has apparently been persuaded by a strange woman to transport the doll across the Canadian border, not knowing that sewn inside were several grams of heroin.

"...with the help of a neighbor, she figures out she is a victim of a bizarre charade.... she knows the only way to play fair is by her rules"

When the woman is murdered the situation becomes more urgent as the crooks convince Suzy that the police have implicated Sam in the woman's murder. The doll, which she believes is the key to his innocence, is evidence. She refuses to reveal its location and with the help of a young neighbor, figures out she is a victim of a bizarre charade. Soon a deadly game of cat and mouse ensues between the two. Susan knows the only way to play fair is by her rules so, when darkness falls, she turns off all the lights leaving both of them to maneuver in the dark until the game ends. Tickets available at 640-8797 or www.ojaiact.com.

Rehearsals are underway at the Senga Classic Theater for their upcoming Christmas production of The Fardale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's production of A Christmas Carol by David McGillivray, directed by Francisca Beach.

I have read the script and believe me this is a very funny play with a talented cast of actors....don't miss it. Show opens Dec. 3 runs to the 19th. Call now and reserve a seat, 646-4885.

Upright Cabaret is now performing at the Scherr Forum Auditorium at the Thousand Oaks Civil Arts. This show is a new version of Cabaret, featuring Broadway stars, TV stars and up-and-coming local artists, with celebrities attend-

Vocal Development. Improve your voice and speech with Joyce McWilliams. Vocalist and actress. Learn to sing! Ongoing classes Singers and Actors! Adults, Seniors, and Teens 6wks-\$60.00 Children 6-12yrs 6wks \$30.00 Home visits Call 805-640-0419

ing. Upright Cabaret has become a hip and contemporary social swing of young Broadway and Hollywood performing with a level of excellence, authenticity and intimacy that brings the crowds back time after time. Tickets available at 449-2775 or www.civicartsPlaza.com

"...an exquisitely drawn and laugh-filled portrait of a woman on the verge of self-discovery in a Brooklyn brownstone.... their friendship is suddenly put to the test"

The Housewives of Mannheim opened Oct. 7 and runs through the 31st at the Ensemble Theatre in Santa Barbara. This is a West Coast Premiere of Alan Brodys touching and surprising new play. A memory play set in Brooklyn during World War II, the play is an exquisitely drawn and laugh-filled portrait of women on the verge of self-discovery in a Brooklyn brownstone in 1944. Three women are raising their young children while the husbands are overseas when a beautiful Austrian emigre moves into the building. The yearnings and desires can no longer lie dormant and their friendship is suddenly put to the test. Tickets available at 965-5400.

Opening Oct. 23 at the Pepperdine University Center for the Arts, Click Clack Moo. It's an underly fabulous show, hilariously moving. A new musical about a farmer and his amazingly literate cows that start a barnyard revolution when they begin to use an old typewriter to communicate with him. Interested? Call the box office at 310/506-4522 and reserve a seat.

Opening on Oct. 22nd through the 31st at the Cabrillo Music Theater, Happy Days. This is a Broadway blockbuster. Goodbye gray skies, hello blue, happy days are here again with Richie, Potsie and Ralphaliph and the unforgettable king of cool, Arthur "The Fonz" Fonzarelli. Based on the hit TV series, this takes place in Milwaukee in 1959 complete with jukeboxes, hula hoops, sock hopin and University sweaters. Tickets available at 449-2787.

"...determined to exercise control over the town's youth...but cannot control.... the wisdom of listening....guiding them with a warm heart and an open mind."

Opening Oct. 16 through the 21st at the Camarillo Community Theater, Footloose. When Ren and his mother move from Chicago to a small farming town, Ren is prepared for the inevitable adjustment period at his new high school. What he isn't prepared for are the rigorous local edicts including a ban on dancing instituted by the local preacher determined to exercise control over the town's youth that he cannot command in his own home. Footloose celebrates the wisdom of listening to young people, guiding them with a warm heart and an open mind. If interested call 388-5716.

The Ojai Art Center is auditioning for its upcoming Xmas show of the year. Looking for a female who can play 18-years-old, pretty, slim and who has the voice of an angel. A male or female, 14-years-old who also has that special voice. Eight to 10-year-old boys and girls who come into the theater with Santa Claus. You don't have to be a great singer but should be able to carry a tune. If interested, contact producer Howard Leader At howard@roadrunner.com.

Looking for help in your acting abilities director Andrea Tate is offering private and semiprivate lessons. Andrea is an award-winning director and actress with over 25 years of experience in film, TV and theater. Many of the actors she has taught and coached have played the leading roles in films and theater. For information, call 802-2620.

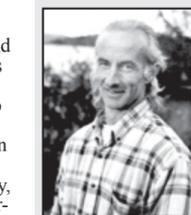
If you are a Shakespeare actor and don't think the audience appreciates your talents, take heart, British researchers have found that exposing cows to Shakespeare can increase milk production by over 4 percent. While a British dairy herd stood by, idly chewing, a theater troupe performed scenes from Shakespeare's The Merry wives of Windsor. The cows responded by giving more milk, so the herds owner asked the director Robert Forknal to use the yard for all of the rehearsals. "It saves us having to book rehearsal space" said the director.

The farmers are pleased to get more milk. The curtain is about to rise, time to sit back and enjoy the show. There's nothing better than live theater.

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

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView

Alasdair's Guide to Some of the Nov 2 Ballot Initiatives



YES on Proposition 20 NO on Proposition 27 by Alasdair Coyne

Proposition 20 builds on a successful 2008 California ballot initiative, which set up an independent commission to redraw fair legislative districts for state Assembly members and Senators. Prop 20 will extend this same independent commission's authority to redraw California's Congressional Districts as well.

As it stands, California's Assembly, Senate and Congressional Districts are all pretty much guaranteed never to change parties - Democratic safe seats are overwhelmingly so, as are Republican safe seats. This is what happens when the state legislature is in charge of redrawing the districts - political parties like the certainty of safe seats, which never shifts the balance of power.

Having a number of districts where there is a more even balance of Democratic and Republican voters will lead to the election of candidates with more centrist views, who may be more likely to - dare it be said? - compromise across party lines, thus relieving the current gridlock of partisan politics in Sacramento and in Washington DC.

The NO on Proposition 27 recommendation is because Prop 27 is written by political interests who like the status quo gridlock, and who want to abolish the new independent Redistricting Commission entirely.

The redistricting itself will occur in 2011, after the 2010 census tally is complete.

YES on Proposition 21 Let's face it, California State Parks are regularly threatened with drastic funding cuts and even closures.

Prop 21 will put an \$18 annual surcharge on vehicle licensing fees at the DMV, which essentially will give each car free day-use entry to all State Parks each year. The \$18 will go directly to the maintenance of the 278 State Parks Events Continued page 25...

EVENT LISTINGS

Nov 1 - Night of the Dead Meter Rally: The Beat Goes On ~ Save the merchant holiday season in Downtown Ventura. Anyone can sign the petition. Big Rally, from 7pm City Hall Steps. There is still some free parking left behind B of A and City Hall. Bring protest signs and feel free to dress up in costume as it is the Night of the Dead. Free cookies. info. www.RemoveTheMeters.com

Events Continued, Page 29...

WHAT'S HAPPENING? OJAI PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Nov 3, Wed - Planning Commission Meeting, 7:30pm
Nov 3, Wed - Complete Streets, 3:30pm
Nov 4, Thur - Parks & Rec Commission, 7pm
Nov 9, Tues - Ojai City Council Meeting, 7:30pm
Nov 18, Thur - Arts Commission Meeting, 6:30pm
Nov 23, Tues - Ojai City Council Meeting, 7:30pm
Dec 1, Wed - Planning Commission Meeting, 7:30pm
Dec 2, Thur - Parks & Rec Commission, 7pm
Dec 14, Tues - Ojai City Council Meeting, 7:30pm
Dec 28, Tues - Ojai City Council Meeting, 7:30pm

Young Adult - Health Watch Congresswoman Lois Capps. Representing California's 23rd Congressional District. PRESS RELEASE

Nurse Lois Capps

Knowing of your interest in issues related to students and young adults, I wanted to share with you some news about how the new health reform law will benefit them.

As a nurse and former teacher, it was important to me to ensure that health care improvements for young adults be a key element in the new law. As you may know, adults in their early 20s often find themselves uninsured following college graduation. And while many are relatively healthy, ensuring that they have access to quality health care coverage is important. Studies have shown that the uninsured

Health Reform Law Continued Page 24...

MOVIE TOWN



Movie Town's Josh Berman

"The Place For People Who Love Movies"

by Cinema Dali

Finally, there is a place where movie lovers, screenwriters, and aspiring filmmakers can discover everything from the latest new releases to cult classics. Not just a movie store, but a library of over 10,000 DVDs managed by someone like you, passionate about movies and the art of storytelling through film. The store offers films for rent or sale.

Located in Midtown Ventura where the parking is still free and the times are still easy, Movie Town was founded three years ago, not by a business conglomerate or an internet scam, but by an aspiring screenwriter and filmmaker. Holding a deep respect for the medium and wanting to share that passion with the community, Josh Berman ditched a cozy corporate job, took out a second mortgage, and disregarded the advice of well-meaning family and friends to forge head-first into the most competitive, cut throat industry in the U.S. today. DVD movie rentals.

"I realized this was going to be a tough market. I know all about the convenient cheap ways to get movies - but I hold onto the hope that there are enough people like me who want to discover film, experience it, understand it on a deeper level - not just be entertained. Those are my customers."

It remains to be seen if there are enough of those people to justify a store like Movie Town, but that hasn't slowed Josh down. He has recently wrapped his first mini production, a one minute film noir styled commercial for his establishment. The commercial will be airing next month on E, Spike, FX and Comedy Central between the hours of 4pm and midnight, and also on YouTube. He's also just finished construction on an impressive screening room, fully outfitted with comfortable sofa seating, a hi-def 73 Inch screen and

Movie Town Continued Page 27...

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Road Trip – Stopping Over in Ojai

That most men are slaves to their work and enslaved to those for whom they work, the great Philosopher and Naturalist concluded, "The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation. What is called resignation is confirmed desperation...."

— Henry David Thoreau, "Economy"

by Joel Anderson

There is tradition among some – the Inuit and some of the Eskimo that when the old people can no longer soften up the seal skin, that they have no utility; they go onto the ice flow and drift off.

Canadian Roger Corbeil, after years embedded in the successful corporate world, was looking at *The Iceberg*. "So I remember having those thoughts of I don't want to burden anybody and that is the day that I resolved to go my own way. I remember, my wife Paula... she was beating on me with her fists saying 'Oh you bastard, you.... we had an agreement and.... you can't do this.' At the time I knew what I was doing, I was going off on the ice flow..... So I went off and stayed with friends.... I tried to go back to work in the corporate world, but I fell flat on my face and I thought, Well I guess we're not going to do that again."

Roger seemed to have life made in the shade... living in Calgary with his wife and a couple daughters, at the time 2 and 4-years-old. He was successful as a top electrical engineer working for Ontario Hydro, and his wife, Paula? She was also successful, as a chemical engineer for a top oil company.

But one day all of a sudden things stopped going right. Roger just couldn't get up in the morning, couldn't move and really thought that there was something wrong with him – basically he just didn't want to go anymore. The engineer for the mega power company, which produced energy for many, had no energy himself. It was gone.

"...quite a few of the people that I had worked with were what I call, Dead and then as my new journey unfolded, I began to find some what I call Live Wires...."

Roger reflects, "I personally think the corporate world sucks the life out of you in the sense that they make you conform to their world. It's just too bad, but that's the way it is.... it took me a long time to realize that world just wasn't for me. I was finding that there was a lot they could do better. For instance, I go to get a battery for my phone, and they tell me 'Oh it's fifty dollars for a battery because we don't support that technology anymore'.....it's a planned obsolescence where they don't make a dishwasher, or a dryer, or a car or even a manufacturing plant with any longevity in mind. There are few companies here and there, who take a longer look and use thought, but for the most part we live in a world of master puppeteers...."

"Go ahead ya bastards, give it another turn, I work better under pressure"

And the people who work for the big impersonal corporations? They often wind up no different than the cold and contrived corporate policies – rendered obsolete long before their time.... throwaways, just as in the Michael Douglas picture, *Falling Down*.

"I guess I learned in working in the corporate structure.... some of the lessons I found; that there were a lot of people, a lot of what I call *not being alive in what they did*, just going through the motions, trying to do the least possible amount in whatever it took. Yes, quite a few of the people that I had worked with were what I call, *Dead* and then as my new journey unfolded, I began to find some what I call *Live Wires*.... some real people...." said Roger.

The man inside the engineer woke up one morning, looked around and thought 'You know this can't be any fun for Paula.' He thought 'This isn't right.' As he began to take back his life and take charge he was reading a lot, going to consciousness raising retreats, and soon although the marriage did not survive, his wife became his best friend. "My wife deserves a big medal, she has thanked me for doing what had to be done. I am really grateful to be here.... and my survival mechanism had been to just melt into the background...."

Roger indeed took responsibility for the situation and doing what he could, he started off working in a lumber yard. "I made

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView

"You have to leave the city of your comfort and go into the wilderness of your intuition. What you'll discover will be wonderful. What you'll discover is yourself." – Alan Alda



Roger Corbeil

and get a Class 8 big rig license...." Roger agreed, figuring he may as well while he was at it and "That's when the lightbulb went on." The days when he went to take his hour long lesson, driving the 18 wheeler, Roger began to notice he had a certain spring in his step – he was energized. What he has now come to realize is that the corporate world did not allow for his natural yearning and need for new horizons: "I found something in the challenge of seeing if I could learn how to drive this big sucker, but give me the same thing over and over again, I'll die on the vine." So I drove the trucks for a year....when I finally realized that what I like is novelty, learning things.... That is what I figured out.

Rogers quest had begun, but it was not about truck driving, electrical engineering or lumber, but it was about building. He went on to become a small engine repair mechanic, a plumbers apprentice for awhile, and then most recently has been renovating bathrooms; the whole deal from the subfloor up. He shined, "It's perfect for me.... and I always make my commitment clear. I've done probably ten, twelve bathrooms now and everybody is happy with the work I do – quality work." Rogers dad was a mechanic and so fixing small engines for a lawnmower shop came naturally. He now has his dad's tool box he works out of, and it still has his father's name etched on it. Roger said, "I felt with my own body how hard it is to make a living working tools.... and I did it.... it's greasy, it's smelly, people that you have to work with may not seem like the highest class of people.... But it's just a totally different world...."

"I survived and learned some things; when I apprenticed with the plumber he became this kind of father figure who showed me the ropes, showed me how it's done.... He was very fast, very energetic, and I learned a ton from him about drive, determination, learning a skill. He was a beautiful man. He thought he was punishing me by giving me rock hard stuff to go through with the jackhammer to lay some of our pipe in the middle of winter. He thought he was punishing me." As it turned out, Roger thrived on physical work.... the more physical the better!

"Have you ever seen the cartoon.... like those wooden wine presses where the guy head is being pressed by this thing and the caption goes something like 'Go ahead ya bastards, give it another turn, I work better under pressure.' Yeah it's like the screws are tightening."

"In school, I remember a university professor calling me *Master Corbeil* because he liked the philosophical essays I would write – it would have been good to get in touch with that fact back then, that I wasn't a corporate kind of person, but I thought 'Well I should do what people tell me I should do....' Now I realize, an unexamined life isn't worth living and that I like the idea of looking and feeling, getting in touch with what's happening," he said.

So Roger learned the value of working with people who perhaps came from a different socio-economic background than he. After all, he'd been used to working with engineers and those in the corporate world where everybody had a huge intellect. What did he learn? Roger said, "Some of the people with not the greatest of educations, sometimes had the biggest hearts.... and often they had the most beautiful disposition, and there I was looking at their attitude to life.... some people are Dead, others.... they had smiles on their faces, liked what they were doing.... It was a

Road Trip Continued Page 28...

Metering: The Impact

Continued from Page One...

Winston has been involved in the restaurant business literally since 1963. He had met his wife, Susan, and co-owner of *Tutti's Off Main*, when they were juniors in high school in San Francisco; she was a pizza maker and he was a fry cook. After high school, Winston obtained a Restaurant Management degree at City College in restaurant-savvy San Francisco.

"Back in those days to get into the hotel and restaurant program there was a two-year wait. You had to have three references from the industry to be considered. It wasn't like today where every junior college has a hotel and restaurant curriculum or you can sign up and take the class irrespective of experience," he said.

It's plainly obvious Winston loves the business that has supported the hardworking couple solidly for the past 39 years.

"The eating scene has certainly taken several steps up and along with it, the expectations of the customers, especially today with all the different food shows that are on TV, everyone's an expert.



\$2,000 to \$3,000 in lost revenues per weekend

"Every meal that we do at *Tutti's* is a test because you're no better than your last meal. First and foremost this is a people business. We happen to sell food, but it's dealing with the public.... that's what you enjoy. And if you don't like it, then become a bookkeeper somewhere.... That's the challenge, absolutely."

After Winston graduated from school, he went to work for the United Airlines Food Service. Working in their flight kitchen for about six years, he became coordinator; and also handled all the food for Japan Airlines, leaving only after Affirmative Action programs of the late 60s slimmed down the chances for promotion.

Shifting into health care, the couple moved to Southern California, as Winston picked up a job providing food services for hospitals and retirement homes for another five or six years. He worked as a waiter at the well-known and historic *El Encanto Hotel* in Santa Barbara in the 70s while his wife worked at *The Bakery* in Santa Barbara (now called *Elements*), where he later joined her there for four years. *The Bakery*, which also serviced the concessions for *The Santa Barbara Bowl*, overlooked the *Courthouse Sunken Gardens*. The couple then segwayed their careers, successfully establishing *Tutti's Restaurant* in Montecito, where they enjoyed a 20-year-lease before arriving at their present Ventura location, in 2003. The couple also owned the popular *Tuttini's Café* (caddie corner to *Sax Fifth Avenue on State St.*) in Santa Barbara for six years.

As I mentioned before *Tutti's Off Main*, has suffered significant losses do to Ventura's recent Parking Meter Program, however Winston is no stranger to parking meters.

"We lived and worked in Santa Barbara. You don't have the tourist volume in Ventura that you have in Santa Barbara and one of the things they're also fortunate in is the way they draw tourists. Ventura is getting there but they're not there yet.

"There you have the meter maids, which we had here, and was fine.... and then the Santa Barbara parking garages; the first seventy-five minutes are free and after that, it's so much per hour. If you want to park for two or three hours it might cost you five bucks, but you know that going in," he said.

Much of the criticism of Ventura's Parking Meter Program has to do with the "Must Pay" times: "10am til 10pm Sunday through Thursday, Friday and Saturday it's 10am until midnight," "So, if you're going to dinner and a movie, you've gotta figure out how to get out and feed that meter before it runs out, while back in the days of the single meters, pretty much six o'clock was the magic hour; the meters were in effect until six and after six o'clock it was free - open season.... but you know the rushed feeling around here we have now...."

"We've been talking to other merchants.... I also talked to Fed-X and they said, 'We were told to ignore it and if we get

Meters Continued next page...

Lovely Christie Meter-Maid



by Joel Anderson

Christie Weir (Ventura Council Member) comes in my store and goes, 'Oh I noticed you are in favor of the parking meters. Do you want to be part of our thing?' and I said, 'NO, and I'm Not in favor of the meters'....for some reason she thought I was in favor.... just because I had gone to some Downtown Ventura Organization (DVO) meeting at one time...." said Steve Tobey, owner of *We Olive*, a downtown Ventura Business, struggling with significant revenue losses due to the effect of Ventura's failing newly-installed parking



Steve Tobey

Metering: The Impact

Continued from previous page...

a ticket we'll worry about it then'. But I mean it's an expensive ticket. It has definitely impacted our business. I've cut shifts back... haven't laid anybody off yet but they are working fewer hours. Our business has been impacted – Bigtime. My weekend sales are off probably 2 to \$3,000 dollars a weekend," he said.

"Having grown up with parking meters in San Francisco as a child, I certainly don't mind them....well, I didn't mind the old type where you put a quarter or a dime or a nickel in and then turn the throw.... and a little green flag comes up and you know how many minutes you have left. And every now and again, you would walk by and see a Red Flag "Expired" and you....so.... Ok great, and you pull a nickel out of your pocket and drop it in some guys meter; you don't even know who he is, and save him a ticket, but here you don't even put your ticket on the dash so you don't know what is paid...." said Winston.

The meters are frequently double-paid (double-taxation) because it is impossible to tell if there is still surplus paid time remaining on the meter, from a previous driver who may have left his spot early. So the guy before you may pay, and you also pay for the same time and space.... and the city collects twice, with the overlapped time.

Some of the other criticisms are that seniors may find it more difficult to use the meters (no light at night), younger drivers may not be able to afford the meter fees, additional overhead tacked on to the consumer from merchants forced to validate customer parking to insure some kind of business, high maintenance costs on vulnerable meter repair, etc.

So where do you put your pocket change now? The Catholic Charity, the Homeless, or Ventura's big bad no-armed Blue Parking Meter Monster? They're all asking for change. Brother can you spare a dime? Thanks Randall.

– Joel Anderson, editor

To Sign the Petition www.RemoveTheMeters.com

meter program, activated Sept. 14.

Tobey said, "Yeah, I remember when they came by to say they were doing their whole little Ad Campaign, to sell to me."

The DVO, made up primarily of downtown property owners, is in support of the meter program; however the program is opposed by a significant majority of downtown merchants, including Tobey and many others, who agree that the DVO, with the city, has rallied against retail shops to support and market the their ill-conceived meter program. The Chair for the DVO is Dave Armstrong, an architect with "experience" (conflict of interest) in city planning. (more info. www.downtownventura.org/dvo-board.asp)

Ventura property and business owner Randall Richman, however has started a Petition to Remove the Meters (www.removethemeters.com) and said, "The city doesn't support business down here. They don't get it. This is Ventura-Village, but it feels like a police state now. It used to be really kind of mellow and laid back here. Ventura is not West Hollywood. We don't want paid parking on the streets. It's that simple. It's inconvenient and it's unnecessary.

"I'd like to know who signed off on this... was it the City Manager Rick Cole or someone in the administration of City Hall...? They should be fired - removed. And there are only two council members who voted against installing the parking meters. That was Neal Andrews and Jim Monahan, which means there are going to be three council members up for re-election next year; Christie Weir, Bill Fulton (Mayor), and Carl Morehouse, and they all VOTED "Yes" to Support the Parking Meter Program."

Gary Parker, owner of American Flags & Cutlery, and also a Vietnam Veteran (Seebas E4) said, "I know that on the 14th my business dropped, I'm down 33 percent.... so that means one of two things, it's either the economy, or the meters.... they're going to eventually destroy the downtown shopping people so it's a real problem. I am sixty-three and I'm going, 'What the Hell is Going On?'"

It's been estimated that costs to Ventura for the Meter Program, with the hardware, additional personnel and administrative infrastructures, so far is approaching \$1.5 million. It is also estimated this amount could have been used to purchase approximately 1,500 parking spaces, by building a double decker parking lot. Hauntingly this is all beginning to sound like the economically failed Red-Flex ticket camera fiasco, still operating in the red.

According to many other Ventura Merchants, at least 90 percent of whom are against the meters, business is also down over 30 percent for them (some say as high as 90 percent), with many small businesses already looking at vacating their leases and closing their doors altogether. If that



meter maid



Ventura/Cowtown – Now Attracting Tumbleweeds

happens, this could add significantly to the already numerous vacant storefronts lining Main Street, resulting in another huge sales-tax-revenue collapse; and more financial catastrophe to the city.

But look at it from the city's viewpoint; there will probably be plenty of police on the streets in the downtown area, even if they are just chasing tumbleweeds and a few parked cars. The city had tried to initiate a parking meter program at least twice, a few decades ago. The programs failed miserably and were discontinued, again reaping significant financial losses to Ventura.

Said Richman, "This was the absolute worst time the city could put in more fees and more taxes – in a recession – because there are businesses that are just getting by and this may put them out of business altogether."

The current "ghost town" effect, due to the new meter program, has shocked the already struggling economy of the downtown area. Many businesses are already right on the edge and the effect of the new meter program will likely push many more off the cliff.

Since the late 1980s and early 90s, when Ventura embarked on their ambitious redevelopment revenue-driven plan to generate "extra" tax revenues from merchants, many retail rents skyrocketed in the area. With Rents often tripling this caused many stores to be pushed out of town and out of business.

After the good paying tenants left because they could not afford the new astronomical rents, storefronts have been left empty up and down the street, often for well over a year or even two, resulting in further extended sales tax revenue losses to the city.

Flying in the face of longtime and established small businesses, the city has also been openly solicitous of the out-of-town big box chain stores (witness American Apparel, Urban Outfitters, Buffalo Exchange, Starbucks, etc.) which siphon more 'local' cash from the already stricken area. As city redevelopment schemes escalated beginning in the mid 90s, the city's grandiose policies overtly discouraged many "Mom and Pop" businesses.

With the meter program, yet another nail in the coffin was hammered into the ghostly downtown Ventura area economy. Surely Ventura's ineffective council members should be aware of the numerous closed

businesses lining Main Street, especially in the downtown area, hardest hit by the ongoing recession and with already extremely low consumer confidence.

Said Richman, "The city says it's not about revenue enhancement, but it really is because they project how much it costs, how much it will return.... and that's what their attitude is.... Not only could it be a big loser where folks don't want to hassle with the meters, but what you lose in Sales Tax is significant.... down now at over 30 percent.... most everyone I talk to is affected."

"And we seem to be losing 'the cool' in exchange we are becoming like Watermark-town or something.... We may, in fact, become a blighted and deserted town, when actually what we are is a Surfdown.... eventually they will want to put meters at Pierpoint, the Avenue, Mid-town, The Mall, the East End and the Foothills....all the rest.

"The city is just not with it as far as providing adequate parking for the amount of development that they are adding down there," said Richman.

A "Parking Meter Meeting" was held Wed., Oct. 20 at the Foster Library. In addition to the huge and determined number of Merchants and Citizens, both Ventura Mayor Bill Fulton and council member Christie Weir tried to put on a good face, but were non-committal in response to merchants like Gary Parker who asked for a moratorium, during the coming holiday season only or even six months which would suspend the financially damaging meter program.

The Star Free Press reported Oct. 21 that only a dozen merchants spoke out; however over 50 merchants were present at the meeting and many more citizens (up to 35) wished to

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaVIEW

granted the opportunity by Fulton or Weir. Citizens and Council Member Neal Andrews is considering placing a "Policy Change Consideration Request" on the Nov. 8 or 15th Ventura City Council Meeting agenda. The request could ask that the meters be shut down for further consideration, and possibly lead to selling the equipment back to the company that sold them to the city in the first place.

The timing of the meeting, scheduled during business hours; beginning at 8:30am on the business weekday, was just as bad as the timing of the Meter Program itself. Many business owners were conveniently unable to attend during the time selected; normal business hours of operation.

Weir also said that in the past public meetings had been held to present the city's plan to install meters, but that the city was unable to "reach merchants" for public input do to inadequate city hall email lists. Many merchants strongly disputed Weir's claim that adequate public meeting notice had been

Meter Maid Continued page 13...

NIGHT OF THE DEAD METER RALLY

THE BEAT GOES ON ~ Save the merchant holiday season in Downtown Ventura. Anyone can sign the petition. Big Rally, from 7pm City Hall Steps. There is still some free parking left behind B of A and City Hall. Bring protest signs and feel free to dress up in costume as it is the Night of the Dead. Free cookies.

NOV. 1



www.RemoveTheMeters.com

Payne in the Rack

Racklessness Continued from page 2...
ments for news racks. Attached you will find an application and the new news rack ordinance.

If you have any question please do not hesitate to call or email me.
Thank you for your attention in this matter.
Kathy Payne
Planning Assistant
Community Development Department
501 Poli Street
Ventura, CA 93002
(805) 658-4749
kpayne@ci.ventura.ca.us

From: kpayne@ci.ventura.ca.us
Subject: Re: News Racks
Date: October 5, 2010 5:26:50 PM PDT
To: editor@ojaiandventuraview.com
Hi Joel,
Attached is a photo of the rack, it is located Estate and Telegraph

VC Rack ~ A Screw Loose...



photo courtesy, Payne/CityofVta

From: "Joel Anderson" <editor@ojaiandventuraview.com>
To: "Kathy Payne" <kpayne@ci.ventura.ca.us>
Sent: Wednesday, October 6, 2010 12:49:58 PM
Subject: Re: News Racks
Kathy,
I noticed in the photo you sent me there's a screw loose in the reporter/shopper rack? How many anchor screws is the city requiring? Thanks, Joel A.

re Ventura's 'New' News Rack Ordinance

"Egads! Makes you glad to be available on line--what a chilling effect for print journalism!"
-Susan Cornner
Professor of Journalism, emeritus

LETTER -COWTOWN'S Frenetic Lock-step Side

Raping The First Amendment

Hey Joel,
get a grip. Ventura isn't restricting your right to distribute The View in our town. You can hand them out on street corners, deliver them door-to-door, even stack them in private facilities with the owner's approval. What you can't do is put a storage rack on a public walkway. And yes, if you leave one of your racks on our walkways, it will be considered abandoned property and removed like

The Beat Goes On, page 14...



DATE: OCT. 10, 2010
VCReporter Distribution Rack comfortably camped out on city sidewalk in Violation of Ventura's new Rack ban. City Manager Rick Cole, co-founded Pasadena-based Southland Publications, which owns the VCReporter.

City of Ventura Ordinance No. 2010-004 § 18.200.060, B. 1. "No news rack shall be located in the Downtown High Density Zone except within a special modular news rack cabinet provided by the City."

Collecting The Printed Word

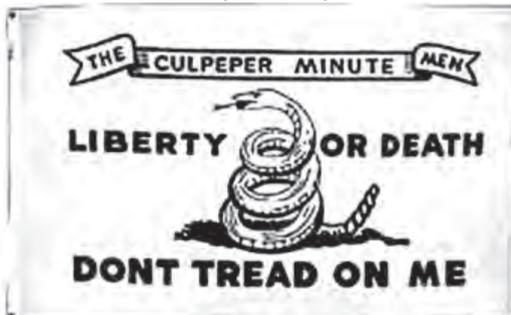
By Richard Senate

Some people like to collect bottle caps, others old beer cans or dead butterflies, stamps, or political buttons. I like millions of others, like to collect books. Books are an addictive thing to collect but one that has some real value. Collecting beer cans, can at least give you something to drink, collecting books gives you something to read as well as items that can go up in value as they get even older. But, books should be collected with some thought and your library should reflect your own interests.

I like the early science fiction author Edgar Rice Burroughs who created Tarzan and many other wonderful and sadly lesser known characters (a movie based on a Burroughs book, John Carter of Mars, is now being planned). I began to collect him starting at about age 16. Later I turned to the mystery writer and local author Erle Stanley Gardner. I have many of his 83 Perry Mason stories. I also collect books about one of my favorite subjects -- ghosts and haunted houses. I have the many works of Dr. Hans Holzer, Susy Smith, D. Scott Rogo and many others. My prized position is a copy of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Edge of the Unknown.

One of the best local shops to start your collection is the Bank of Books on Main Street, in downtown Ventura. I talked with the owner, Mr. Clarey Rudd about book collecting.

"People should start by collecting books on their favorite topics.... is it cars, local history, the ocean, anything they enjoy. Some collectors challenge themselves to expand their knowledge on a topic. For example you (Richard Senate) are an expert on Ghost, an expert on Erle Stanley Gardner. People should be like you, become an expert in what they want to know about, read books on that topic or discover a favorite author and read all their books, maybe collect first editions of that authors books." He



Read Alasdair's Guide to Ballot Initiatives - Page 9

pointed out that some books should be read then recycled, but a few books, ones that deeply influenced..... these books should be kept and collected. Around them you can build your own library. It will be a special library because you are a unique human being. Clarey went on to say, "Read the best of books on what topic you enjoy, and in most cases the best is not the newest book published on that subject (do not fall into that trap that says the newest is the best) Discover who are the authors that are the experts on that topic then seek out those authors and often the unique ones you will discover at the independent bookstore, like Bank of Books. "We have recently created a section of books arranged in time periods. For example books that are over 200 years old, books from the 1800s, 1900s, 1910s, 1920, 1930, etc up to the 1960s. It is fun to just look at a group of books from a certain time period. I have a high school text book from decades ago, and I have often found them on the level of a college text book of today."

Mr. Rudd went on to add that collecting books can be profitable. "Collecting books for the literary value or potential resale value is a challenge and one that takes a great deal of knowledge and a bit of speculation on what author will increase in value. Books can also be collected for a decorative look as well. People buy them because they look cool and they can become conversation pieces due to the look of the covers or the unique topics and authors."

The independent bookshops are the place to make the finds to add to a personal library. I was fortunate enough to recently add to my Burroughs Collection a copy of The Princess of Mars -- printed in Tarzana by Edgar Rice Burroughs himself. For a short time he had his own press in Tarzana -- the town he founded. These are very valuable -- but I was able to pick it up for a song. The bookstore owner didn't know this fact and had it marked down. The Bank of Books has a whole section on the works of Erle Stanley Gardner. It is one of the bests around. It's worth a few moments to wander through the stacks of books and I bet you find a book or two you might want to take home. - Richard Senate, hainthunter@aol.com www.ghost-stalker.com

Mud Slinger Central: Library Salaries... Incoming ~ E-Mail

Continued from page 7... "He is not trustworthy" - Carol Smith

expenditure payout accounts; Voice/Data, General Insur. Allocation, Memberships & Dues, Mail Center, Information Technology, Transportation Charges, Private Vehicle Mileage, Conference & Seminars Expense, Gas/Diesel Fuel, Miscellaneous Transportation & Travel, Serv. & Supp. Curr. Year Adj. Dec., Services & Supplies. The Next Issues of The Ojai and Ventura VIEW [This issue, Oct. #30] will reflect the actual Salary/Benefit Outlay for Director Griffin. I trust these figures are now more "trustworthy" and The VIEW Thanks You for your keen eye. We welcome constant new information updates. Perhaps Library Commissioner Carol Smith has had her hands full with her escalating-impossible re-election bid here for her Ojai council seat; she may have been a bit distracted if she went over Director Griffin's library pay figures.

At any rate, isn't it outrageous that the County is paying these astronomical salaries to the Library Director, especially in light of their having recently closed Ventura's Wright Library? Is it any mystery that the Ventura County Library Commission (again, which includes as a member, current Ojai Council Member Carol Smith) has driven the Ventura County Library System into near bankruptcy? It would seem that the library commission has switched the purpose of the library system from that of providing solid information for the people to that of taxing the people and passing on that excessive in-house library salaries. Their two purposes have become; A. Provide excessive salaries to at least one individual who is in fact supposed to be leading the county library system, and B. Closing libraries. Seems that providing books/information, serving the public has become a mere afterthought to the commission.

Perhaps you were aware that before arriving Mud Slinger Continued next page...

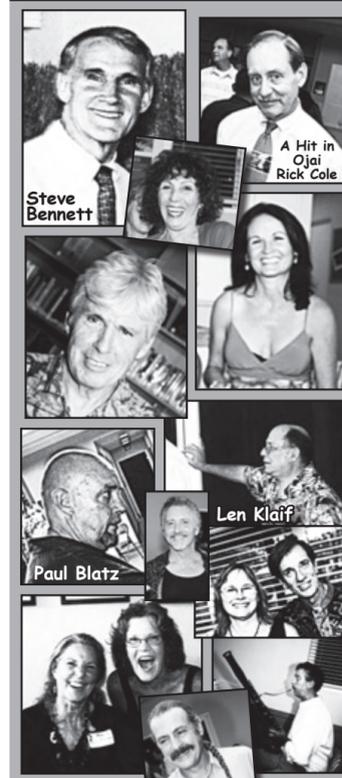
www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView

in Ventura County, Jackie Griffin (as Berkeley Public Library Director) resigned (June, 2006) amidst claims of "unfair treatment by library workers, staff reductions caused by budget cuts and the controversy surrounding radio frequency identification devices (RFIDs), which some say invade patrons' privacy and pose health risks," according to an article in the Walnut Creek based Contra Costa Times. (Source: http://www.highbeam.com/doc/1G1-147208085.html). Isn't information a wonderful thing? Thanks for the update, Joel A., editor, The Ojai and Ventura VIEW P.S. Re. The Selling of Public Resources: Any luck in Saving the nice new Camarillo Library or is that a hopeless cause too?

Joel Anderson editor@ojaiandventuraview.com www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com

"What shall we think of a well-adjusted slave?" - Abraham Maslow

Ojai Green Coalition Home Tour-Party Pics October First



Lovely Christie Meter Maid

Continued from Page 11...

maintained. Most agree that the city would have failed at any rate to recognize the overwhelming consensus against the meter program among citizens and merchants; that the financially struggling city would have moved ahead aggressively, steamrolling as they have right over any opposition to their Parking Meter Plan.

Public Safety is now also in question in the downtown area, as waitresses and barkeeps who are already suffering reduced wages, are having to walk alone often unattended for blocks late at night to get to their parked vehicles and head home.

Few support the Meters. Those who do, however, are made up primarily of people moved here from LA or other fast-paced big cities and are used to high-density parking fee situations, or those already targeted by the cities expensive meter marketing campaign.

Polling a downtown business, one employee said, "I think it's good, the people that want to shop and need to get something real quick, instead of mosey around...they can just jump out of the car and come park and grab lunch, bring business.... some people that can come in during lunch breaks and get a haircut real quick...I think it's really not bad if you really think about it....it's not like you're having to pay \$7 to park like when I lived in Santa Monica.... I'm used to paying for parking when I went to work for \$7 a day.... parking, compared to here? I mean if you know where to park, it's perfectly fine," said Celtic Carma Salon Stylist Maycie Oiam-petchakul.

One of the merchants asked Fulton and Weir if the city knew yet that it had made a big mistake. The city officials failed to respond to the question from the citizen.

The meeting lasted until around 10:45am as disappointed merchants emptied out onto Main Street in front of the library. The loads of empty spaces were a sad and unproductive sight reaching down the street during what should have been a bustling workday morning; as the frustrated merchants headed back to their quiet little stores.

Joel Anderson, editor To Sign the Petition www.RemoveTheMeters.com

"Honesty and taking responsibility for one's actions are essential elements in self-actualizing. Rather than pose and give answers that are calculated to please another or to make ourselves look good, we can look within for the answers. Each time we do so, we get in touch with our inner selves." - Abraham Maslow

Political Carnival is in Town

by Jefferson Pinto

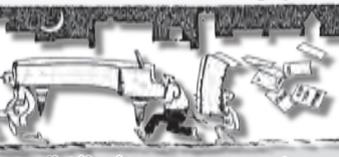
All the world's a stage. And all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances. And one man in his time plays many parts...

With politics, it seems the names change but the game stays the same. It goes something like this. Say whatever you have to say, and do whatever you have to do, to seduce more votes.

Endorsements "The league of one-armed-wall paper hangers endorses Fred for Congress." Or "Law enforcement endorses proposition 19." That's sort of like the owner of a restaurant recommending his own restaurant. Hey, if you really want good pizza go to Luigi's. Maybe I don't like that style of pizza. Then what?

I resent someone else telling me what to do or for whom I should vote. "Vote Democrat" or "Vote Republican." Please don't tell me what to do; instead, please tell me what motivates you to vote for what you do.

Political Carnival continued page 24...



"All that matters is winning." - J.R. Ewing

Last bit of Chinatown Leaving Downtown Ventura

By Richard Senate

Once 200 Chinese lived in Ventura's Chinatown. There were stores and businesses, a temple, a fire department, a barber shop, an employment office, a tong house, five laundries and two restaurants. It was a self contained community. But that was in the late 19th Century. Over the years the Chinese presence has little-by-little vanished. Mama SooHoo's Chinese Gardens Cafe left decades ago after the death of that wondrous and giving woman. All that remains was The Golden Lion Shop where items from the far east were sold. Its now leaving the downtown after many years.

There is still one link -- on Thompson Blvd, The Hong Kong Inn, but nothing remains on Main Street. There are plenty of newer shops with the foods of Thailand and Japan but, the last bit of old Chinatown with its distinct Cantonese cuisine and curios is no more. You will be missed.

- Richard Senate hainthunter@aol.com

www.RemoveTheMeters.com

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

The City of Ventura LOST \$10 Million Dollars over 2 years ago (well before the recent economic crash), through their ambitious high-risk investment plan; having placed precious taxpayer dollars with Bear Stearns (BS) private assets, which went belly up in the JP Morgan fiasco. This reduced Ventura's get-rich-quick-scheme to pie-in-the-sky. Most cities invest their cash assets in highly safe Treasury instruments and other government-backed securities.

VIEW DETAILED FINANCIAL ANALYSIS Go To: www.ojaiandventuraview.com/OVVtaArt/TheRoseVol.IIssue1WebStealthKatGraphics.pdf

www.stopbigmedia.com

LOVELY RITA

- Music and Lyrics by The Beatles and Paul McCartney Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band album

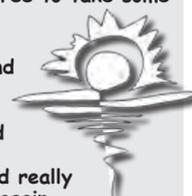
Lovely Rita meter maid Lovely Rita meter maid Nothing can come between us. When it gets dark I tow your heart away.

Standing by a parking meter, When I caught a glimpse of Rita, Filling in a ticket in her little white book. In a cap she looked much older, And the bag across her shoulder Made her look a little like a military man.

Lovely Rita meter maid, May I inquire discreetly, When are you free to take some tea with me? (Rita!)

Took her out and tried to win her. Had a laugh and over dinner, Told her I would really like to see her again. Got the bill and Rita paid it. Took her home I nearly made it, Sitting on the sofa with a sister or two.

Oh, lovely Rita meter maid, Where would I be without you? Give us a wink and make me think of you.



Raping The First Amendment

The Beat Goes On, from page 12...

any other object impeding foot traffic. The fact that our streets are "public" doesn't imply they are available for any and all storage, as you keep insisting.

One angry editorial was excusable, but the continuing drumbeat of frenetic charges against Ventura-Cowtown in your words—is beginning to piss me off. An offer: You stop calling us locksteps from cowtown illustrated by a picture of workers saluting Adolph Hitler [VIEW Oct Issue #29, pg 3, Avail. www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com]. I will stop describing you as a grammatically challenged snob from Ojai, the artsy-fartsy capital of America. Deal?

—Rick Scott, Ventura

EDITOR'S NOTE: Scott, Thank you for your gentle patriotic persuasions, keep 'em coming — good to see you're keeping in lock-step with current events. We love Cowtown too! ... and do appreciate your concern for pedestrians; however I must note The VIEW distribution racks have always been sensitive to 'walk around' traffic and located at pedestrian-friendly, and otherwise appropriate locations.

Perhaps you would like a small stack of this issue of The VIEW to distribute from your neck of the woods?

—Respectfully, Joel Anderson, editor



Found Posted: Ojai City Council Chambers, Oct. 12

At the Oct. 12 Ojai City Council Meeting the following oblique statement was made at the close of the evening by interim City Manager John Baker; (Baker was hired by council, in a temporary capacity, in July replacing fired former city manager Jere Kersnar. Bakers capacity as Ojai's City Manager prior to Kersnar made him the logical choice to fill in at his current spot.)

"...Conflicts with some of our... not the greatest system of television and what happens and also from some health issues so I know that makes some people not happy but it's something that we thought we should do," — John Baker

Having an interest in safeguards involving the First Amendment access to information, etc., especially during the election open season, I followed up after the meeting with the following interview with Mr. Baker.

Joel: I wanted to talk to you about the "No Flash" and you said there were two reasons, but you didn't expand on that. Something about the Video Cameras...?

Mr. Baker: Yeah I mean it, it, it...what it does is... for the...when the... the recordings... the flashes... it causes some disturbance from the camera action that's going on... I just... but uh.....

Joel: I've looked at the DVD's Online.....

Mr. Baker: Yeah but you... most of the time we don't have any flashes

Joel: What?

Mr. Baker:.....I mean.... Big flashes....

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

Buying or Selling Property? Call 310/266-7297 Licensed Realtor Bonnee Dillin-Fontana From Malibu to Santa Barbara DRE#01086030 Listing: Shopping Center in S.B.

www.YouTube.com/OVvtaview

we don't have 'em... a major impact.... That's all I'm saying, secondly it's...they... Big flashes do, that's what I'm told.... that's what I was told. Number Two is that there is a couple of Council Members that have a problem with their eyes....

Joel: Who would that be?

Mr. Baker: I said.... a couple of Council Members from.... and I'm just saying.... that's all....

Joel: Who would that be because you said a medical...?

Mr. Baker: Pardon?

Joel: Who would that be?

Mr. Baker: I don't need.... They complained to me and I said I would look into it.....

Joel: I've never heard of anyone having a Medical reaction to a flash from a still camera.....

Mr. Baker: But I have and I have the doctor's thing.....

Joel: Do you know what that medical condition is?

Mr. Baker: I don't know. I have the doctor's thing that says there's a medical....

Joel: Which city council member would that be?

Mr. Baker: I'll just leave it at that.

Joel: You said two [council members complained]?

Mr. Baker: I'll just leave it at that.

Joel: You're not going to say?

Mr. Baker: NO. A health issue.... those council members.....

Joel: I've never heard, 'I have a medical note....'

Mr. Baker: I have a medical note.

Joel: You do?

Mr. Baker: Yes I do.

Joel: You have a medical note?

Mr. Baker: A medical statement.

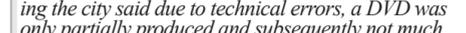
Joel: What person would that be?

Mr. Baker: I'm trying but.... I don't discuss personal issues.... and medical issues.... or....

EDITOR'S NOTE: Interestingly enough, despite there being "No Flash" at the Oct. 12 council meeting the city said due to technical errors, a DVD was only partially produced and subsequently not much made available to the public. Perhaps the City of Ojai should consider Upgrades to their Video System and low-lightish conditions, to better maintain the information pipeline to inquiring public. Perhaps the city could pull some strings and pick up a new set-up — perhaps a bit pricey these days, but what price freedom of information? Possibly around \$15,000?

To view some special videos of city council goes on, go to the VIEWS YouTube Channel; www.YouTube.com/OVvtaview

— Joel Anderson, editor



John Baker

Photo © 2010, Joel Anderson

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"Bless the beasts and the children For in this world they have no voice They have no choice Bless the beasts and the children For the world can never be The world they see" — karen carpenter

could cause any health related conditions, issues, or "things" which could damage, exacerbate or otherwise harm the eyes. He said, "Cataracts... you get from chronic light exposure, caused by UV [Ultraviolet Rays] from the sun, smoking is a big cause of cataracts, probably more so with Macular Degeneration."

A Real Eye Opener

With this news from Dr. Brockman, I was glad to say I never smoked (just my personal choice) and do try to protect my eyes from sunshine. He went on, "Just the cumulative effect of light rays entering your eye causes the lens fibers to yellow and thicken, then they get cloudy.... so we'll all get a cataract of some kind. It's just a matter of time. You're much more likely to have a problem with (cataracts) because of sunlight exposure, but not flash photography. We think it's more UV and real light, not from flash. It's more of an irritant than doing any kind of damage," said Dr. Brockman. Isn't this riveting? This saves me another library trip.

"You're much more likely to have a problem with (cataracts) because of sunlight exposure, but not flash photography. We think it's more UV and real light, not from flash." — Dr. Bruce Brockman, Optometrist

Well, as you can imagine by now, this news was music to my ears and just as easy on my eyes. I was finding the topic fascinating, but I still wanted to know more about the red-eye effect, which we're all pretty familiar with in this mass media, digital cam-facebook friendly age. Said Dr. Brockman, "The reflection of light from the camera comes back off the retina; the retina is a reddish orange structure, so you're getting a reflection off the back of the eye. That's what you see. That's why the pupil turns red from that," he also talked about the degradation of our eyes (macular degeneration) as one of the leading causes of blindness. This results from the loss of direct circulation and nutrition to the eyes from the natural aging process of cellular breakdown which is, to some extent, accelerated or regressed by genetic makeup. In other words, none of our eyeballs ultimately get out alive.

"Circulation, keeping the blood vessels open.... and nutrition to the eye is important.... once the macula, which is part of the retina, has not been fed properly, those cells die away and they don't recover. They don't regenerate.

"Our job is to be kind of like your family doctor, but for eyes. So we take care of eye diseases. The office is Topa Topa Optometry, but we just go by Doctors Brockman and Tsao," he added, "I wanted to be in the medical profession.... and when you go to the eye doctor you see better when you get done. They find stuff for you they can either fix immediately or point you in the right direction to get it fixed.... it's wonderful.... you can help people immediately.... it's fun, and we have a good time with it."

— Joel Anderson Information: Topa Topa Optometry, Inc. Ojai: 646-5109

Mud in Your Eye

Our friends over at Golden State Water Company even state in their 2010 Water 'Quality' Report, released May 29, that the municipal water contains lots of contaminants they say may not cause problems to the general population but that "Immuno-Compromised persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly persons and infants can be particularly at risk of infections". They even go on to state that these people should "seek advice from your health care provider" about your drinking water. Seek advice about drinking the local tap water? Doesn't sound too reassuring to me! — Marc Abbink

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Ojai's Future: Mayor for the Day Winning Essay



Andrew, Aubrielle, Karema, Aaron, Shelley, and Dan

that effective mentorship is our best model for success. Our homes and schools are the core learning centers of our future leaders. Therefore, resourcing parents and teachers is vital. Similarly, we need to equip coaches Aaron Nelson, 13, and Mayor Steve Olsen and art (right), Oct. 12 Ojai Council Meeting instructors in mentorship techniques. My fellow youth of Ojai deserve a thriving environment where the mind can grow and opportunities abound to develop leadership potential. Whether in academics, sports, or life choices, the role of a mentor during critical development seasons can produce fruit for decades to come. If we work together we can fix the flaws and make our town a better place.

Mentorship by Aaron Nelson

Growing up in the Ojai Valley, I have been richly blessed with the many benefits our community has to offer. Our town provides a lot of safe activities that are a perfect solution in the quest for after school fun. Having lived here almost all my life, local sports programs, including soccer, baseball, gymnastics, and tennis, have become integral parts of our family experience. I appreciate the many volunteers it takes to put together a full schedule of events for our youth. I also want to acknowledge the numerous self-sacrificing individuals that have brought us our wonderful new skate park. To make the best of the small town we all cherish, I propose a minor transformation is in order, however, in the ways we train up our youth. I believe we are missing some of our opportunities. We must recognize that our future mayors, council members, fire captains, police chiefs, and community leaders of all types, are among these young people that need us to value them. To pour into these children and teens is to invest in our shared future. This is why I believe

EDITOR'S NOTE: There were many other winners in this contest; including Ojai itself, all of those who put their thoughts to paper... thoughts toward teaching Ojai and all The Ojai Valley a Civic Lesson of improvement. This did include the many 'grown-ups,' groups (Ojai Youth Connect), families, friends and too-often-nameless caring individuals who truly made the commitment of time to Ojai's future, its finest resource - The Children. To read more great Essay Entries from the Mayor for a Day contest check with, www.OjaiandVenturaView.com — Joel Anderson, Ed.

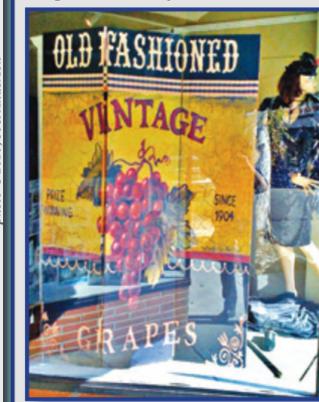
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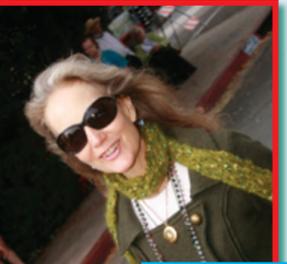
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Ojai Day - let the Games Begin

Oct. 17

Family Values



Lorna & Tina

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Carol and Lamay Pie

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Dwayne Bower's 1950 Dimond T Model 222 very rare (only 9 known to exist)

Aaron Neilson

Photos © 2010, Joel Anderson



Ojai Day - It Takes a Family Oct 17

A Skate Park is Born

THE LEASHES END



Ron and his companion, Dudley.

by Ron Rowe

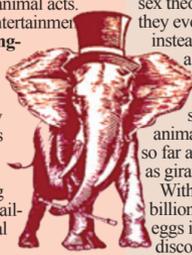
This month is elephants appreciation month. All humane groups are honoring and recognizing this event and you can help by not attending circuses that use animal acts. There are many non-animal circuses for your entertainment. **Tom Ryder**, who used to train elephants for **Ringling Brothers Circus** exposed the inhumane treatment they receive. They are made to stand chained for 22 hours a day. He also claims bull hooks are used to torture the elephants, that they are physically abused and beaten 6 out of 7 days a week. He said elephants are highly social and intelligent animals and it is inhumane to ship them by rail on a two-year work schedule, being stored in parking lots, basements whatever is available. Nothing could be further from their natural habitat. **The Neumann University Acumni Association in Pennsylvania** has dropped its sponsorship of **Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus** after animal advocates wrote to them explaining how the circuses take baby elephants away from their mothers and beat and tortured them with metal tipped bull hooks to make them perform silly tricks.

All elephants living in **Indian** zoos and circuses will be moved to wildlife parks and game sanctuaries. The government decision affects 140 elephants in 26 zoos and 16 circuses in the country. The decision follows complaints from animal rights activists about elephants kept in captivity and chained for hours. The elephants will be moved to elephant camps run by the government's forest department where they will be

allowed to roam and graze freely. **Angela Smith**, the **British minister of charities** is calling on the government to close all the zoos in **England**. She has started a campaign to phase out all zoos in the next two years, claiming the zoos are no longer necessary because movies and TV show documentaries serve the purpose of educating people about animals.

Did you know elephants around the world are dying off at a rapid pace. Only **35,000 Asian elephants** remain and the **African elephants** are reduced to under **300,000** due to ivory poachers.

Did you know a **Myrmecologist** studies ants? The **Pharaoh Cephane**s had 3,000 goats buried with him when he died.



New research shows that the long necks of giraffes have more to do with sex than as previously thought. To help eat leaves off tall trees, they fight for females by necking, they stand side-by-side and swing their heads at each other's ribs and legs. Giraffes with longer necks prevail in the showdowns. The neck for sex theory also explains why they evolved longer necks instead of longer legs. From a biological standpoint longer legs would make more sense since it's inefficient for animals to have their brains so far away from their brains as giraffes do.

With the recent recall of billions of contaminated eggs it's time the public discovered what goes on in these animal factories. A new book, **Animal Factories** by **David Kirby** explains about the looming threat of industrial pig, dairy and poultry farms to humans and the environment. Nature did not intend for animals to live and die in a factory assembly line. The book gives a human face to the terrible cost health and environment pay for this so-called cheap food. This is a story that

is seldom told and rarely with such force and eloquence. It's on the **New York Times** best-selling list; a book highly recommended for everyone.

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed a bill, **AB1437**, which prohibits the sale of whole eggs within state lines if the eggs are produced by hens who are unable to stand up, lie down, turn around or spread their wings. This means **California** has banned the sale of eggs from hens cruelly confined in battery cages.

Strange but true; **Jerry Douthles**, age 45 of **Michigan**, passed out drunk and woke to find his toe had gone. He was *The Leashes End Continued Page, 20...*

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Ojai's Animal Communicator



by Heather Green

Sara is a wise woman in her nineties. At this point in her life, with most of her family and friends gone, she has plenty of time to ponder the past. Tonight, as she sits by the crackling fireplace in her cozy wood cabin, sipping tea before bedtime, she contemplates her schoolgirl days. It is her old pony, **Haas**, who comes to mind first. Like waves in the ocean, long forgotten feelings of love, loss, and comfort easily surface in her mind.

Sara lived with her grandparents then. Each day after school she came running home to see her best friend. He would always be waiting for her in the barn, neck outstretched, whinnying at her prompt arrival as she gathered all the tack.

She would hop on his back and ride off down the trails of the back end of her grandparents' farm. Her hair flying behind her as they moved together in unison, **Sara** never felt so free. It was a freedom she would always treasure.

When **Sara** moved in with her grandparents that summer of her eighth birthday, she was scared. She could not remember much of the previous year. Vaguely, she had flashes of her mother's funeral, the anguished look on her father's face, and the inquisitive stares of family friends who watched her closely that day.

Then numbness would take over her body, and everything would go blank in her head. It was as if all memories were erased. Most of the time she felt like a walking zombie. She never felt any pain, but she did not feel good either. **Sara** missed weeks of school due to being so sleepy all the time, which her father decided was due to her loss. But missing school didn't bother her.

Sara had difficulty reading and the teachers always looked at her funny. She thought there must be something in her brain that didn't work quite right. This school year started out like all the rest. **Sara** felt timid and insecure. She did not want the kids to hear her read, fearing that she would be laughed at like all the other times. **Sara** desperately wanted friends. But this school year was unfolding in a familiar pattern. She found herself alone at lunch and on the playground.

The only thing that got her through was thinking of **Haas** eating grass in the barn, waiting for her to come home. Just one thought of him lifted the gloom and hopelessness, and at times brought a smile to her face.

The first two months sped by as **Sara** easily bonded with **Haas**. Sometimes after their rides together, **Sara** would stand next to him in the fields of her grandparents' pasture. She would just be with him, taking all of him in.

He was a milky chocolate color with a white snip down his muzzle. He had a comforting, sweet smell. Even though he was just standing next to her, there was power in his presence, and not just because they were friends.

Looking back now, **Sara** knew **Haas** had been protecting her through his love. He was like an anchor, helping her to sink back into life and out of her sleepy dazes of the previous year.

As time went on and school got worse, **Sara's** days with **Haas** became critical. She was bullied on the playground at school, which included hair-pulling and teasing.

Sara was taller than normal for her age, had unruly curly red hair, and wore glasses that easily hid her crimson eyes. Standing out like she did, she was an easy target. She felt shame from being recently diagnosed with **Dyslexia**, which was another target for the teasing. With such low self-esteem, she lacked the courage to report the bullying to

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the teachers. Her grandparents took her to a psychiatrist because of her isolation and withdrawal both at school and home. **Grandpa Jim** and **Grandma Jane** were conservative, simple-minded folks who were patient, gentle, and kind with **Sara** since the day she arrived to live with them. But she never felt like she could talk to any of the adults in her life, even though she knew they all meant to help.

Even her father seemed out of reach. He had given her over to her grandparents due to his own troubles, including losing his job after his wife died. **Sara** could never find the words even when the emotions would bubble up. It was just easier to swallow them down.

One day, everything changed. She was in the barn with **Haas**, grooming him after their ride. They were both hot and sweaty. It had been a long, powerful, and speedy excursion into the woods behind the farm.

Haas was always vocal and opinionated, but today his nickering and grunting was particularly louder and more frequent. He was also friskier than usual, as if he sensed what was building up in **Sara**.

Sara can still feel in her body the connection she felt with **Haas** in the barn that day.

He turned to look at her. His gaze pierced her heart with love. Time stood still in that moment. To this day, **Sara** can still remember the position of the sun in the sky. It was dusk. For the first time she really felt the ground below her feet, the breeze on her face, and her stomach muscles tensed as she was becoming aware.

And then she felt the pain. Tears welled in her eyes as she bent over in agony. Nausea overtook her as she recalled every moment of the last year, up to and including her experience at the new school. She broke into sobs.

She remembered the day her father told her about her mother's accident. **Sara** had brought artwork home from school; a special picture she had made for her mom. But her mother never came home that day.

She could not fathom how someone could be there one day and not the next. Then she had no more father, either. He took up drinking and **Sara** just stayed away. He had always been a smartly dressed, happy, laid back man. After her mother's death he appeared disheveled, moped around all

day, and avoided eye contact with **Sara**. Standing with **Haas** now, she felt everything. Her heart was broken. She was lost. She reached out to put an arm around **Haas's** neck. **Haas** placed his muzzle on her heart. As he licked and chewed, she knew he was healing her. **Sara's** legs felt weak as she struggled to keep standing. She had no parents, but she had **Haas**. By the time she left the barn that evening, **Sara** felt unsettled and raw inside, but she knew she would be okay.

Haas continued to be her support and confidante in more ways than one.

As Summer turned to Fall, by **Halloween**, the kids were no longer bullying her, and she was starting to talk to her grandparents and the psychiatrist. They noticed a light in her eyes that hadn't been there before, and a confidence in her step.

She would ride **Haas** every day after school. He always seemed to know when she was feeling the worst, and would pick up speed in his frisky way. The faster he ran; the easier her grief left her. Sometimes **Sara** wailed on those rides, but she also felt a powerful calmness in being with another this way. The movement of **Haas's** body soothed her and cleared her mind. The movement of **Haas's** body soothed her and cleared her mind. The movement of **Haas's** body soothed her and cleared her mind. The movement of **Haas's** body soothed her and cleared her mind.

She was eleven-years-old by then, and already interested in boys. It was a lucky thing, because it made the separation easier when her father tore her away. **Sara** remembered the immediate panic and devastation.

After three years, her father came to pick her up with no warning. He told her later in life that he had cleaned up his act and wanted to make things up to her as quickly as possible.

At the time, **Sara** thought he assumed it would be too hard for her to say goodbye to **Haas**. By the time she came home from school that day her bags were packed and loaded in the car. **Sara** could not look back as they drove away from the farm.

When a few months went by and she was no longer at the farm, she got in deeper with her friends and **Haas** went to the back of her mind. There were sleepless nights and crying jags, but overall **Sara** went forward in her life without him. But she never forgot him.

It was the summer **Sara** turned fourteen when she heard from

Sara Continued Next Page, 20...

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Sara Continued Next Page, 20...

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Ventura Superior Court to Launch Veterans Court

10/27 PRESS RELEASE: The Ventura Superior Court (VSC) will hold the first session of its new Veterans Court, Mon. Nov. 1, at 1:30pm, Courtroom 37. The specialized court will hear criminal cases involving veterans who suffer from the effects of combat-related psychological injuries or substance abuse.

Ojai's Animal Communicator

her grandparents that Haas was dying. Although busy with her high school life, one day she felt the calling to be with him. Sara rode her bicycle five miles from her suburban neighborhood to her grandparents' farm. She knew instinctively that it was her turn to heal him. When she arrived at his side that day, his breathing was labored and he was lying down. She looked into the deep pools of molasses that were his eyes. Sara felt the love they both had for each other in her heart, and she showered him with this love as she placed her hands on him.

For any Horse Boarding Facility or Rescue Sanctuary interested in hosting an upcoming horse clinic with Maggie Metzker, Horse Trainer and Human/Equine Partnership Coach, and Heather Green, Animal Communicator, or for questions, please contact Heather at 805-451-1585. Maggie Metzker is offering free training sessions for the owners of the facilities, their students, and horses one to two days before the clinic in exchange for using the facility for the clinic.



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THE LEASHES END

Continued from page 18... rushed to hospitals where doctors diagnosed him with diabetes and a potentially lethal infection in what was left of his toe. His dog, a Jack Russell named Keiko had chewed off the infected toe while Jerry had passed out. Keiko stopped chewing at the good bone of the toe, thus saving Jerry's life.

Another good book, Why Dogs Do That by Tom Davis. It helps you understand your dog's behavior. This is another highly recommended book. Now that the hot weather is upon us again, please don't leave your pet in a parked car. Even a few minutes could prove fatal. The heat brings on many problems with pets. We see more red eyes at this time. Lots of redness is simply from dust and pollen that gets into your pets eyes. A good eyewash will help to remove the gunk. Also check with your veterinarian.

Words of Alfred Montapert to think about. He wrote "Animals are reliable, many full of love, true in their affections, predictable in their actions, grateful and loyal. Difficult standards for people to live up to."

Sir Issac Newton: The Real Sherlock Holmes

History knows Sir Isaac Newton as the mathematical genius who wrote the classic work Mathematical Principals of Natural Philosophy (better known by its Latin name The "Principia"). He was a genius who would rise to become the head of the Mathematics Department at Cambridge University. But few know that this genius was the first scientist to be knighted by the British Monarchy and that he was appointed to serve as the Master of the Mint in 1696.

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position. He wasn't expected to do much work, maybe come down and sign a few papers once a week, and pick up his hefty check. He was a figurehead only. But, this wasn't Newton's way. He took the job and did something unexpected - he really did manage the Mint. He reorganized the making of coins. When a press broke down he took off his fancy wig, rolled up his sleeves and fixed it, improving the way the machinery worked. Newton wasn't afraid of hard work; he relished a challenge.

Newton discovered that many of the coins in circulation were counterfeit, made of debased metals. Counterfeiters, called coiners, were considered traitors to the Crown and when convicted they suffered hanging and drawing and quartering; a particularly painful and horrific death. Newton, as Master of the Mint, felt it was his duty to stop these coiners. He went out personally to find and shut them down. He would go out and collect evidence against them himself, even going so far as to wear costumes and go underground to pubs to gain information.

Back at the Happy Family Restaurant boisterous Italy now took the lead, sharing with us an Eastern United States Bed & Breakfast tale of a particularly interactive and insistent specter. This supernatural guardian of the B&B was deeply concerned about lodgers staying up past their bedtimes. She would lock these "night owls" out of their rooms, thump walls and fuss over the lateness of the hour.

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How Can I Scare Thee? Let Me Count the Ways

Have you ever experienced a truly haunted house? Aware someone or something unseen was seeing you? To my delight (and relief) not one of the lunch attendees rolled their eyes. Eye rollers can tend to be those unfamiliar with the idea of unseen influences impacting lives - regardless of the laws of nature and this certainly was not the case as I sat there at the Happy Family Restaurant.

The Florida home was built mid-twentieth century. In typical suburban fashion it appeared to be a normal, modest home. What is not typical about the neighborhood is the proximity to the graveyard - a rough 50 yards from the house in question. Some of the burial grounds' cold inhabitants fought in the Civil War, now sharing ground alongside fresher neighbors who arrived up to about half a century ago.

Today the necropolis breathes quietly, a rough 50 yards away...getting damper, getting older... The houses' young occupant has seen "a shadow crouching" just across the way for years. Just across the way there... look...down the homes' long, narrow hallway. No, this young occupant is not growing out of it. If anything the disturbance is intensifying.

This tale opened the ghostly flood gates; haunted house stories flew around the table. There were several points universally agreed upon and other new and interesting observations brought forward. Each case study brought me a deeper insight into what I call "architectural phenomenon" - or how certain structures or locales lend themselves to hauntings.

How Can I Scare Thee? Let Me Count the Ways

tional compass reading that is very close to or exactly on the line between two different directions, such as North and Northwest. These structures are referred to as "Out of Trigram" and indicate a structure that is caught between two energy readings. These types of structures are "lost" between two very different energetic influences.

The Olivas Adobe in Ventura are also good examples of near Out of Trigram structures - excellent and very strong hauntings! The Olivas Adobe had a truly extraordinary ghostly manifestation Halloween of 2007 that was witnessed by many people throughout the evenings' tour.

Contrary to popular beliefs, graveyards are not always a hot spot for spirit activity (or hungry zombies thus far, thank heavens!). This is not the case, however, when a body is newly interred. After the funeral a lingering spirit presence in a quiet graveyard is unusual as ghosts are drawn to Yang Qi - living energy, living people.

This influence can be especially intense if the exposed earth is to the graveyards' Northwest, North, Northeast or Southwest in 2010. Areas of the Graveyard with cracked foundations, broken mausoleums, broken or upheaved headstones are definitely disturbed. I experienced

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView small town snobbie... Thinking, Togetherness. "So when you think about where do you want to spend Saturday Night, Do you want to spend it in downtown Ojai? Do you wanna spend it in downtown Oak View?" - Carol Smith, Ojai City Councilmember, June 16 City Council Meeting

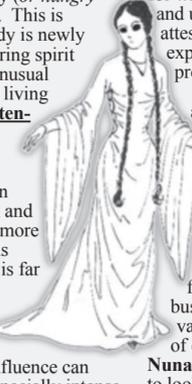
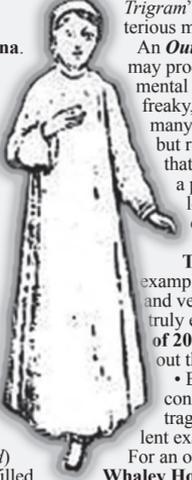
this first hand after a tornado in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The tornado had literally dug into the ground and dislodged several coffins almost completely. This graveyard became very very active... Best of all bets for hauntings; look for graveyards with remaining bodies but removed headstones or markers. Ventura's St. Mary's Cemetery, a.k.a. Dog Park, is a great example. Many folks local to the graveyard can attest to ongoing spectral activity. Van-dalizing headstones yourself may bring a very unlucky, very unfriendly invisible little pal that hangs around long after Halloween is over.

Moving on to Open Space hauntings, or supernatural activity without structure, the Ojai Valley, the Los Padres Forests and beyond are famous for their mysterious and largely unexplored remote regions. Observing the immediate Ojai land form, I suspect the sheer quantity of supernatural activities are being influenced by the valleys' history and the quality of the surrounding mountain range. Historically, Chumash presence in the area - some of it joyous and some very tragic - has resulted in land with a strong heartbeat of care and respect.

With its imposing dry guardian mountain range and surrounding lush, secretive forests, Ojai sports a safe haven for whomever or whatever may desire to remain unseen and undisturbed. A local artist client of mine can heartily attest to this as she rears deep in the hills of Ojai and has experienced wild things that seriously rival any witch project movie.

Annually, Ojai yields sightings of ghostly suicides and car crash victims careening around dark back roads in their phantom hot rods. Skin Walkers, Nunashish (evil spirits long pre-dating Chumash tribes that were carefully created and conjured to safeguard sacred land sites), nature spirits and half-humans dragging their knuckles through the valley are deeply embedded in Ojai memory. It is reported that after dark the likes of the infamous Char Man, Billywhack, flying chattering witches with mad familiars in tow, the motorcycle bride, phantom school bus riders, the Black Dog and an Eastern European vampire wander dimensionally - popping in and out of existence to their stunned observers.

So when you come upon a ghostly graveyard this Halloween, or some odd structure or exterior place that makes you hesitate...raises the hair on the back of your cold, damp neck, let yourself take a good long s-l-o-w look around. Check out what buildings or land forms may be encouraging the encounter. One more thing before you take a shortcut through the bone yard, Myth says that, in strong moonlight, 100+ year-old statues step easily from their ancient perches and come alive till dawn. Let me know if you see anything... - The Feng Shui Lady, Lee Ann, Ventura



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www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView small town snobbie... Thinking, Togetherness. "So when you think about where do you want to spend Saturday Night, Do you want to spend it in downtown Ojai? Do you wanna spend it in downtown Oak View?" - Carol Smith, Ojai City Councilmember, June 16 City Council Meeting

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Part III: The South East Tour with the Brian Faith Band

The Brian Faith Band, Johnny Maestro and The Brooklyn Bridge

by Joel Anderson

There existed a distinct sound and sense of idealism in the early doo-wop days of rock, and the U.S. was sort of between wars as Asia had not really fired up, at least not to the public yet. Some of the best sound and the greatest performances came out of Brooklyn, and raw talent? A great voice? You bet.

Johnny Maestro, as a member of the Crests and the Del-Satins, Italian street corner doo-wop, penned the classic hits *16 Candles*, *Trouble in Paradise* and *The Worst That Could Happen*, exhibiting the best from the age of innocence.

On that South East Tour....in Atlanta and at several other places said The Brian Faith Band's (BFB) Ernie Joseph, "I toured with The Brooklyn Bridge and I'll never forget those bros especially Johnny Maestro. At the time I didn't realize he had all those hits. He was so down to earth and modest."

"They were from the East Coast and had the New York Sound... A classic class act. They played in Atlanta a lot where I was able to do shows and hang out with them. Johnny Maestro, Freddie Ferrara, and Les Gauchi.... we shared a lot of music and good times," said Ernie.

"The Happenings was another East Coast band in the area...they had the hit song, *See you in September*. I remember they were perfectionists with a positive vibe. They were more pop, while we had the solid rock sound. They would joke about our wall of Marshall amps rockin' the house.

"Another one of our favorite New York bands was *The Illusion*. They had three albums on Steed Records and a hit single, *Did You See Her Eyes?*" said Ernie. The New York/Brooklyn area seemed to be cultivating at this time, an underlying social justice rooted in the ethnically rich neighborhoods. The simmering had begun toward the later more volatile times to come - the *New York State of Mind* had begun. BFBs Brian Faith adds "...Long Island rocker, Billy Joel was playing in one of his first bands, *The Hassles*... but that was long before the hassle with Christie Brinkley," said Brian.

Ernie added, "...and there was this other band *The O'Kaysons* from North Carolina. They did that song *I'm A Girl Watcher*...they adopted me as one of their own.

Ernie said, "I can't forget The Marshall Tucker Band. We played with them at a place called the Sitar Club in Spartanburg, South Carolina." "Yeah," said BFBs Cory Orosco, "Marshall Tucker was then called The Toy Factory because of guitarist Toy Caldwell. Later they had the hit song, *Can't You See*... we played with them before they had their hit. I remember seeing a ton of Ampeg and Peavey amps in their garage, and they loved to jam like real Southern Rockers. They were really cool bros. I remem-



Photo © Charlie Hardage

Television appearance, Atlanta, GA (South East Tour) BFBs Ernie Joseph with Ed King (Strawberry Alarm Clock/ Lynyrd Skynyrd), Greg Munford, (Strawberry Alarm Clock), Steve Dunwoodie (Grateful Dead), "Cuzin" Jerry Joseph (Marshall Tucker Band) & "Sambo" J. Robison (Big Brother)



Photo © Doug Wilcox

ber his brother, Tommy Caldwell very well. I really enjoyed jamming with him at their house."

There was another band at the time who was also a large part of The South East Tour. There were so many great bands on the tour in those days, just a constant wave of impressive music and musicians. Said Ernie, "Archie Bell and The Drells. *Tighten Up* and *I Can't Stop Dancing* were their biggest hits. I heard Archie was injured while in the Army - a great musician serving his country. Later, I discovered he was the older brother of NFL Running back Ricky Bell who played for USC, The Tampa Bay Buccaneers and The San Diego Chargers. Anyway, I played several shows with Archie - Huntsville, Ala., Greensboro, N.C., Jacksonville, Fla., and The University of Georgia in Athens."

"I really feel fortunate being part of The South East music scene. A California band living on the highway in a tour bus. The dream lasted almost five years....I'd say I was influenced... yeah mmm uh huh, home was.... Charlotte, N.C., Greenville, S.C., Atlanta, GA., Daytona Beach, Florida, also lived in Jacksonville for a while....and then there was that almost plane crash... Richmond in the lightning storm.....

- Joel Anderson

EDITOR'S NOTE: Keep tuned into the Brian Faith Band in coming issues of The Ojai and Ventura VIEW, as the Saga continues....

UPCOMING PROJECTS:

For The Brian Faith Band/SRS Studios include Max Jones, BFB's Johnny Podz and Karen Perry, ICU's Jimmy LeRoy, and Jenny Zimmer, The Snobs,



Paying Our Dues On the Road - BFBs Brian Faith & Randy Seol (Strawberry Alarm Clock), Long Island, New York, USA



Photo © Steve Isom

The consummate showman - Ernie Joseph with Greg Munford (Strawberry Alarm Clock), South East Tour



Photo © Greg Munford

BFBs Ernie Joseph with Ed King (Strawberry Alarm Clock/ Lynyrd Skynyrd),

Renaissance Rose, Nicky Shane Band, Orlando Napier, ICU's Eric Cuellar, Soul City Survivors' Jon Chapman, Jeff Elliott, Michael Kelly, Brian Wise, Jenny Zimmer, Tom Petra, Quinn Rollin, Blues Prophecy, Black Angel Band, Dave Fitzpatrick, Tina Stephens, Jamie Shane (Canned Heat), Christian Love (Beach Boys), Dylan Fleming and Sunshine, Sam Strange, Steve Henry, David and Ben Hazen, Josh Biegen, Mark Rainey, Shawn Ball, Richard Moore (The Trogs), Janie Reding, Linda Hart, Gail Fenton, Tommy "T" Perreault.

NEWS FLASH - Johnny Podz has produced two anti-war (you tube videos) "*Wake Me Up In The Morning*" Ernie Joseph, taken from Confusion LP & "On With Peace" Ernie w/ Bobby Harris - The Drifters & Jonn Principe "*Streets of San Francisco*, also BFBs "*Feel All Right*," "*9-11 Tribute: Michael*" featuring Nick St. Nicholas - Steppenwolf; Bass and Cornelius Bumpus - Doobie Brothers/Steely Dan, Sax. Also, check out S.K. Wallers' Website; Google "*Tribute to Ernie Joseph*." BFB's Karen Perry & Brian Faith just finished Lead vocal tracks on

"*Freaky Madonna*" which also features Doug Ingle (backup vocals, Iron Butterfly), James Antunez (Mojo) on the "Talk Box," Creed Bratton (backup vocals, The Grass Roots), and on drums Cougar Estrada of Los Lobos, who recently appeared at the Santa Barbara County Bowl. The titled LP TRACK "*In The Groove College Tour*" will be out soon..... Also coming on BFBs youtube, tribute to the Malia Mathis, produced by Johnny Podz.

- Joel Anderson, Ed.

END THE WAR NOW!



HALLOWEEN

Continued from page Two...

"Go back and say that he didn't give you enough candy."

Ralph ran back to the front door. "Hey, you were just here," my father said. "You didn't give me enough candy," Ralph croaked.

"I gave you the same as I gave all the other kids. No one else complained."

Ralph stood his ground. "Okay, here's some more. But don't come back, I never heard of such a thing."

Ralph came back to the door again and said, "More."

I told my son to go back to the door again and this time to just hold his candy bag open and say, "More."

"What! You again?" my father screamed. "I'm not giving you any more candy. Absolutely not. No more candy!"

I heard my mother come to the door. "What's going on here?" she asked. "This kid was here three times for candy. I ain't giving him any more candy."

"Oh, Chubby, give the poor kid more candy," my mother said.

"No. It ain't fair."

My mother reached into the big bowl and gave Ralph a big handful of candy. "You're being ridiculous, Chubby. He's only a kid and it is Halloween."

Ralph ran down the steps and back to me. "It worked," he said. "Grandma gave me more candy and she didn't recognize me either."

"This time go to the door without your mask," I said.

Ralph ran up the steps. "Hi, Grandpa," he said with delight.

My father looked at him closely. "Ralph, come on in. You're not gonna believe this. A kid was here dressed just like you and he came back three times for more candy. It was terrible! It's just not the right thing to do! Take all the candy that's left, before that kid comes back again and your Grandmother gives all the candy to him!"

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

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView



© 2010, Robert Best

Stiix Billiards Tournament Results

Seventh and 8th finalist 'Silver Strand' Arnie Green, from Pt. Hueneme, at the recent Semi-Annual Tournament of Champions and Barbeque at Stiix Billiards in Ventura. 'Silver Strand' Arnie is displaying some of the fruits of his labor...

Thirty-six entrants from Ventura, Oxnard, Ojai, Los Angeles, Thousand Oaks, Santa Maria, Santa Barbara, Camarillo, Simi Valley and other parts all were handicapped according to their skill level and dueled until almost midnight for coveted position of being # 1.

The double elimination format brought challengers and guests together for good competition, good food and door prizes on Sun, Sept. 19. Winner was Steve Choy, Oxnard; 2nd-Greg Niwa, Oxnard; 3rd-Brent Boone, Santa Barbara; 4th-Jerry 'Stiix' Matchin, Ojai; 5th-Sean Lane, Westlake and 6th-Ron Marshall.

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DANSKI BLUE has an amazing clothing line... the first words that popped into my head when I happened on to them at Ojai Day was wearable "art". Her clothing line is called DanskiBeautifulClothes, which is a very true statement because that they are! Each piece, unique with stunning colors and fabric.

How do you wear art? DANSKI has been collecting fabrics since the 70s and has a warehouse filled with incredible textiles where she creates one-of-a-kind and beautiful creations. She lives in Ojai and travels all over California doing shows each weekend.

As I spoke to her later she was on the way to San Francisco. She is such a warm, friendly and beautiful woman, I felt like she'd been one of my girlfriends forever as we chatted away.

You may reach her at 323-533-6504 or e her at Danskiblue@aol.com

Hint hint Christmas is around the corner !!!

- ChelShotz
Danski models her Green and White ~ Black Plaid Coat

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Danski Blue photos © 2010, ChelShotz

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BRIAN WISE PROJECT - Cory Orosco-Lead Guitar/Backup Vocals, Brian Wise-Guitar/Vocals, Antoine Richardson-Drums & Percussion, Ernie Joseph-Lead Guitar/Backup Vocals, and Colin Whittaker-Bass/Backup Vocals.

Rotary Club: Service Above Self Press Release

Care Services of Ventura County, the Rotary International Foundation, Turning Point Foundation, and the Ventura Community College Foundation.

According to this year's Foundation President John Bailey, funds for these gifts come from annual Club events such as the "Viva La Comida" Mexican dinner, the professional Magic Show, golf tournament and members in an ongoing basis.

The purpose of the Foundation is to improve the well being and quality of life of the citizens of the greater Camarillo area and our global community through the funding of qualified programs and services.

The Foundation reviews funding requests quarterly, as received by the 1st of Oct, Jan, April and July. The incoming Foundation Board for this fiscal year includes John Bailey-President, Jay Berger-Club President, Jim Brady-Foundation Treasurer, Max Copenhagen, Dennis Gaiser-Secretary, Paige Hibbits, Karl Keller, and Jane Rozanski.

Founded in 1955, Camarillo Rotary is a very active group of 75 members who enjoy fellowship, subscribe to Rotary's motto "Service Above Self" and the "Four Way Test" of ethics, and who either work or live in Camarillo.

Camarillo Rotary meets from 12 - 1:30 pm Wed. at the Camarillo Center for Spiritual Living, info. 485-2865.

What Color is Your Bus?

I've got some bad news. The two bus companies are not that different. They both claim to be better than the other bus.

The Red/Blue bus political slogans should be more truthful, "Go Red Bus and leave the thinking to us. Once you're on board, you're captive and have to remain seated until the next election." That is two years for the House and six years for the Senate and the local elections? Go figure, they're just as bad.

After the election, the unforeseen road problems begin, "Ladies and Gentlemen, this is your Blue/Red Bus driver speaking. We've experienced some unexpected head winds and it looks like we will be a little later than scheduled. Oh, yeah, one other thing. We have to raise the fair to cover the increased fuel costs," and "This is your Red/Blue Bus driver again. We're almost to our destination, albeit we're about 32 hours behind schedule, but we have a bigger problem. Due to the war in the middle east and the oil spill in the gulf, we aren't going to have enough fuel to make it to our planned destination. Unfortunately, we need to ask for you to pay a fare surcharge to ensure your safe arrival to the destination."

Then finally, "Ladies and Gentlemen, this is your Red/Blue Bus Driver. We are pulling into the depot. It sure has

been a pleasure having you on board. We take pride in serving you. Please contributed to my tip jar on the way out."

My bus company used to go where I wanted, but not any more.

If both bus companies consistently fail to arrive on time, are over budget to your desired destination, why do we continue to ride them?

I don't know about you but I'm flying. Jefferson Pinto is a retired CPA, and holds an MBA from one of the finer accredited universities in this country. jefferson@ojaiventuraview.com

The Political Carnival is in Town

Political Temper Tantrums

We've all seen the bull-in-a-china-shop political temper tantrums; the stomping feet, the whining lies about supposed unfair treatment, even blaming their own unresolved childhood issues with a brother to solicit "sympathy" votes. Sorry folks.... I'm not buying it. How much of the peoples' business can a whiney-sappy elected official get done anyway?

At some point the intention was to reveal the folks funding the advertisements. There is a requirement to specify. How helpful is it when the name is so nebulous it is effectively meaningless. "Paid for by citizens for equal rights for ultraviolet rays."

They are everywhere. You can't avoid them. They are all the same size and shape. Ninety percent of them are red and blue with an occasional white.

The format of choice is "Vote for Fred." Or just "Fred." Let me get this straight. I'm supposed to look at someone's name on a sign and be persuaded to vote for them. Is this some sort of subliminal approach? The more times they see "Fred", they're more likely to vote for him. If that's the best you can do, I may have to raise serious questions about your leadership qualifications.

Here's another standard format: "Vote for John Q. Politician." Then it is followed by a single sentence stating some alleged benefit. Once again, the problem is the single sentence alleged benefit may or may not be true and almost always bears little resemblance to any of the wording in the Proposition. Here are a few of my favorites: Save American Jobs. (Yeah, but how?) Protect our State Parks. (Yeah but you're jacking the vehicle fee by 18 bucks. That means the renewal fee jumps from \$31 to \$48.) Where did all the original parks funding money go? Proven leadership. Experience you can trust. (it goes on and on).

The number of people you can get to agree with you seems often directly proportional to the vagueness of the message. "I support John Q. Politician." What exactly does "support" mean? I understand support keeps loose body parts from jiggling apart. How do you support an issue? Why not be more specific in what the Voter can do, besides Vote? Things You Won't Hear

"I believe in stopping illegal immigration and will work to remove illegals, and streamline the process for gaining legal immigration to this country... and if you don't like that then I'm not your candidate. Vote for someone else."

"When I'm elected" (Note the use of the word when versus if) "I'm going to stop the pollution of our oceans and danger to sea creatures by putting a tax on plastic grocery bags." This is the classic "ready fire, aim" scenario. The politician offers a solution before defining the problem.

Here's what I've found to be true: Often statements made by one candidate about another are either partially true or completely false. Jefferson Pinto is a retired CPA, and holds an MBA from one of the finer accredited universities in this country. jefferson@ojaiventuraview.com

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView

East End Political Soirée



The Choice is Clear - Paul, Len, Carlon



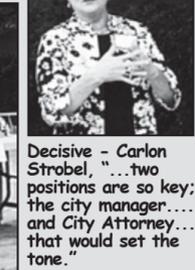
East End Ambiance was lovely at the beginning of the Kaplan event.



Legal Eagles - Cindy Latella & Ryan Blatz



And in This Arena - Incumbent Carol Smith marches in but may not run again



Decisive - Carlon Strobel, "...two positions are so key; the city manager... and City Attorney... that would set the tone."



People Skills - Len will be a great addition to the Ventura County Transportation Commission!



Better Than The Theater Dahling - Ojai Voters Loved the Show



Epitome of Finesse - the always artful Len Klaf and Linda Harman

Ojai Citizens of Distinction Jerry and Anne Kaplan (CNN, Ted Turner, etc.) graciously opened their delightful home for a political meet and greet the candidates for Ojai City Council, Paul Blatz, Len Klaf, Carol Smith and Carlon Strobel (unable to attend, Demetri Corbin). The ambiance of the event was shattered only when a few unleashed animals let themselves be known, to the chagrin of the horrified party guests. - Joel Anderson

Young Adult - Health Watch Nurse Capps

are less likely to access important preventive and primary care that can detect disease earlier and keep us healthier. And, of course, illness or accidental injury can strike anyone at any time.

The new health reform law specifically address access to health insurance for young adults in several ways. First and foremost, young adults can now remain on their parents' health plan until the age of 26. If that's not an option and they can't get coverage through a new job, they'll be able to pick from a choice of affordable insurance options available through the new "health exchanges" that will be set up soon.

In addition, the new law implements critical new consumer protections. For example, insurance companies will be banned from turning down a consumer with a so-called pre-existing condition.

"There is also a lot of good news for young people considering a career in health care. The new law will help more aspiring nurses, doctors and other health professionals get their education with a reduced financial burden. I worked hard to ensure students will have greater access to loans, loan repayment programs and scholarships as well as programs to encourage greater diversity in America's health care workforce. In addition, the new law provides greater opportunities to train in a variety of settings such as community health centers and nurse-managed health clinics.

The new health reform law is a win for young Americans who need affordable access to health insurance and who seek to pursue careers as health professionals. For more info, about the new health care law and Lois' work in Congress, www.facebook.com/loiscapps www.house.gov - Lois Capps, Member of Congress

Advertisement for Vicki's Pink Thrift & Vintage Store, featuring clothes, jewelry, furniture, and hand-made soap. Contact: (805) 646-1769, 922 E. Ojai Ave. Ojai, CA 93023.

reverse AB 32's mandates to move California towards a clean energy future. The choice could not be more clear - a NO Vote on Prop 23 will preserve AB 32, which aims to reduce California's climate changing emissions back to 1990 levels by 2020, and to reduce them by 80 percent by 2050.

Prop 23 has been backed by \$5.6 million from two San Antonio-based oil companies - Valero and Tesoro. It has also received \$1 million from the Koch brothers, whose company was recently described in a Greenpeace report as a "kingpin of climate science denial."

Further, the report states that between 2005 and 2008, the Kochs vastly outdid Exxon Mobil in supporting organizations fighting climate change legislation. YES on Proposition 25

"Prop 25 will also help to see a state budget passed on time by requiring that state legislators surrender their salaries and expenses for each day beyond June 15 that the budget has not been passed."

This is another ballot initiative designed to reduce the deadlock of the California legislature, by allowing the annual budget to be approved by 50 percent of legislators in Sacramento, instead of the current two-thirds majority.

A two-thirds majority of legislators would still be required for raising state revenues by increased or new taxes. Currently, California is one of only 3 states that require a two-thirds majority to approve its annual budget.

Prop 26 claims to be about requiring a two-thirds majority vote by the state legislature to enact new fees, which currently can be passed by a simple majority in Sacramento.

Prop 26 is backed by oil, alcohol and tobacco companies and developers that are seeking protection from such fees as may be levied to mitigate oil spill cleanup, hazardous waste spills, and fees on tobacco companies for the adverse effects of cigarette smoking. A two-thirds majority vote for a new fee or tax is pretty much impossible in the current California legislature, where the Republican minority always opposes new fees and taxes.

Alasdair's Guide to Some of the Nov 2 Ballot Initiatives

Continued from page 9...

where significant funding backlogs exist. Prop 21 will actually increase State Park and wildlife conservation funding by \$250 million a year. It should also encourage more families to visit their parks.

NO on Proposition 23

In 2006 California passed landmark legislation (AB 32) to gradually decrease the state's contribution to climate change.

This year, two Texas oil companies and two oil industry billionaires, the Koch brothers, have bankrolled Prop 23, which would

quantities of The Ojai and Ventura VIEW on Oct. 17, 2009 (See CAUGHT ON TAPE - Theft of Ojai and Ventura VIEW at www.YouTube.com/OVVta-View), he first lied, then tried to justify his snarky deeds. Finally, Brown disingenuously promised to pay reparations to The VIEW in an Oct. 27, 2009 email he said, "I would be happy to pay for these papers if you will tell me where to send a check."

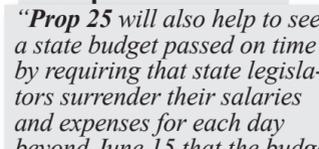
To Date Brown has Failed to pay a dime. Interest mounts. ADDITIONAL NOTE: On April 2, Brown was Convicted of California Criminal Code PC.490.7 (B) (A) Unlawfully Taking More Than 25 Copies of a Free or Complimentary Newspaper With Intent to Harm Competitor.

Editor's Note: After Sheldon was caught red-handed Stealing substantial

Nearly all the Ojai City Council Candidates (Dennis Leary, Paul Blatz, Carlon Strobel, Lenny Klaf and Demetri Corbin) jumped in front of the flash camera for this historic candid photograph at the Glen Muse.



Most Candidates seemed to speak from the heart



Engaging Conversation afterwards

Perhaps Ojai will take on more authentic Ojain spiritual renewal projects, which sadly began disappearing more rapidly over the past eight years. As misguided politicians from more urban/industrial climes sprawled onto the town, another already here in weakened state became lost in starry-eyed dreams from the distant past, eventually succumbing to the temptation of self-interest induced by sad spiritual bankruptcy. - Joel Anderson, ed.

Musings

Ojai's Glen Muse estate set the stage for an Oct. 20 candidates forum, sponsored by the Ojai Valley Democratic Club and moderated by Mike Weaver, president of the Rotary Club, Ojai.

Musings from candidates included descriptive biographical sketches, impassioned activity jingles, thrilling experiences, and ideas about the direction they said they hoped to send Ojai in the future.

Leary is 'Prophetic' Letter - Social Justice

Editor, I know and respect three of the candidates running for the Ojai City Council but only one stands out in my mind as a completely upright and resolute figure, Dennis Leary. Even though he is quiet and reserved, this man appears to have no fear when it comes to speaking the truth about the way developers have taken over Ojai with the complicity of the council.

Thank God he used the F word to wake us up into realizing how the developers are seducing the council and the Ojai community for their own gratification.

Perhaps we have to hear the prophetic words of a former Franciscan monk before we can truly come to our senses. - Clive Leeman, Ojai

VOTE for Carlon Strobel for Ojai City Council

Carlon Strobel is running for the Ojai City Council seat being vacated by the retirement of Steve Olsen.

Carlon Strobel recently retired from ten years as Ojai City Clerk, an elected post. She stands out for her commitment and dedication to the City of Ojai.

Longtime citizen activist Pat Weinberger says "Carlon Strobel has been the City's Rock of Gibraltar. She's very bright, and diligent is her middle name."

- Alasdair Coyne, Ojai www.sespewild.org

Ventura Superior Court Vet Intervention

PRESS RELEASE to county jail or state prison, and who have committed a criminal offense as a result of post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse or psychological problems stemming from service in combat. Veterans interested in participating in the program will be required to enter a guilty or "no contest" plea.

- Michael D. Planet, Executive Officer/Clerk and Jury Commissioner



Ojai's Rock!



Love'n it - Dennis Leary

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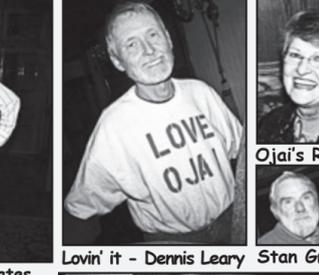
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Ojai's Rock!



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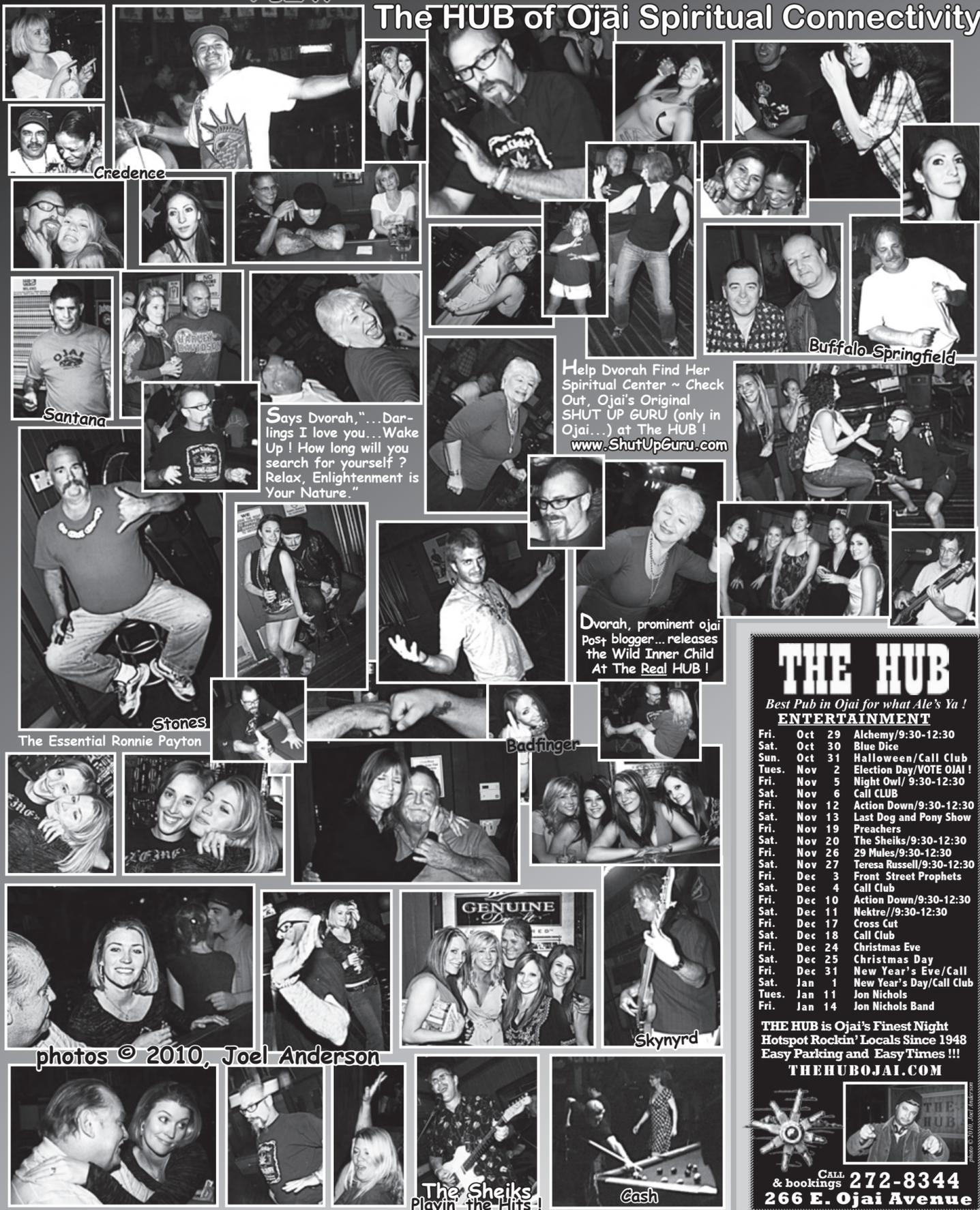
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Sat.	Nov 6	Call CLUB
Fri.	Nov 12	Action Down/9:30-12:30
Sat.	Nov 13	Last Dog and Pony Show
Fri.	Nov 19	Preachers
Sat.	Nov 20	The Sheiks/9:30-12:30
Fri.	Nov 26	29 Mules/9:30-12:30
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Sat.	Dec 4	Call Club
Fri.	Dec 10	Action Down/9:30-12:30
Sat.	Dec 11	Nektre/9:30-12:30
Fri.	Dec 17	Cross Cut
Sat.	Dec 18	Call Club
Fri.	Dec 24	Christmas Eve
Sat.	Dec 25	Christmas Day
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EYE CANDY

by Mary-Jo Murphy

In this month of goblins and ghouls, I wonder, do the beginnings of positive change always have to be scary? Couldn't we just imagine who we'd like to be and make it happen? Why can't the changes we'd like to see be charged with an exciting sense of possibility?

As children, my friends and I set about planning our Halloween costumes in the heat of the summer. We neighborhood kids would gather on warm summer nights and imagine our other selves. Then we would begin the process of collecting the pieces that would make our fantasy personalities happen. On bewitching night, our transformations were immediate, and if we had been very clever no one recognized us. We had become *someone else*.

Ask yourself, *who do I want to be three months from now? Six months? A year?* First you have to imagine and then believe the transformation can happen. As adults, especially if our health isn't optimal, we may daydream about being that fitter, more energetic self. But how many people ever put the pieces in place to make their dreams happen?

When famous people do, we hear about it. In the Sept. 26th issue of *Parade Magazine*, 52-year-old **Drew Carey** joined the long line of celebrities transformed by a weight loss; in his case 77 pounds. Maybe instead of the funny fat guy he began by seeing himself as the amazing vanishing man.

Neither the first nor the last celebrity to shed pounds and go public with their campaign, his story is particularly inspiring because of his honesty and the depth of his commitment. His father died in his forties, but Carey believed he'd be dead by 60. Why diet if that's how you imagine your future?

His prediction almost happened. Nine years ago, the former **Marine**, developed chest pain and was diagnosed with heart disease. Diabetes soon followed. He had a stent put in and, like most people who have been scared by a physical crisis, initially he embraced a healthier lifestyle. He exercised and lost weight, but life stresses interfered. Gradually he was back to eating hamburgers. By 2009, thousands of hamburgers later, he was 262 pounds, the heaviest he'd ever been.

Carey admits that he is wealthy enough to hire an array of specialists, a nutritionist and a trainer, but just like the rest of us who are trying to ward off disease by changing our habits; it was his personal commitment and vision, that he describes as 100 percent, that allowed him to succeed.

He tells a revealing story about his changing relationship with food. He set a goal for himself and ran a 10K race. Afterwards, he felt so great he ate his first ice cream cone in months. He

followed that with an entire pepperoni pizza and a cupcake. The next day he ate another entire pizza. He says he felt sick. The food was not a reward, but a punishment.

In the Oct. 2010 issue of *Diabetes Forecast*, actor **Anthony Anderson**, costar with **Carey** in *Me, Myself and Irene*, relates his weight loss story. Another overweight comedian, he was diagnosed with type 2 diabetes when he was 32. **Anderson** admits to looking for a quick fix. **Bob Harper** from *The Biggest Loser* told him there is none, but **Harper** gave **Anderson** a tip. "Cut your meal portions in half, watch and see what happens." **Anderson** stuck with the regimen and lost 40 pounds.

His nutritionist and doctor told him that everything is fine is moderation. "You can still eat certain things, you just can't eat as much of them." Now he imagines himself playing the leading man opposite **Halle Berry**. That's a great costume, the ghost of his former fat funny guy self, turned hot and handsome.

Halloween's history dates back 2000 years. My **Irish** ancestors believed that the night spirits returned to earth to cause trouble. We all have ghosts that cause us trouble, the ghost of past failures, the ghosts of our own predictions. It's scary to challenge our own negative self-image. It's a trick to imagine that we can treat ourselves to a healthier self.

I would be remiss if I offered only encouragement without practical advice, so here it is: Garlic! A vampire friend of mine, who is not **Robert Pattinson**, reminded me of the health benefits of garlic. He showed me his copy of *Diabetes Wellness News*, Aug. 2010, that says that *allicin*, the compound produced when garlic is crushed, may boost heart health and prevent some cancers. I'm not sure of any of that, but I do know that garlic is a tasty alternative to salt.

Over the centuries garlic has been given credit for curing everything from the common cold, to the plague. As you know it also keeps you safe from vampires, though aversion to the neck biters is on the decline in the face of the *eye-candy*, *Twilight* cast. Considering that, on the night of the undead, you may choose to forego the pungent necklace, but do think about leaving a bowl of garlic for the goblins on your street. Childhood obesity isn't on the decline.

Lastly, give some thought to candy, *eye-candy*. On bewitching night, imagine who you want to be next **Halloween**. Become the *someone else of your fantasies*.

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

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'The Man' Protesting 'The Man!'

chain (public/private sector execs.), rarely do. Workers in the government sector are no exception. Organized by the SEIU Local 721 (Southern California Service Workers Union), over two hundred general and public safety employees marched through the near vacant downtown Ventura area (see related *Metering: The Impact story*, page 1) to city hall **Mon. Oct 11th** protesting out-of-touch Ventura City Council plans to permanently freeze deferred Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) increases and healthcare premium increases, workers have suffered over recent years. The plan could amount to the equivalent of a pay cut of around 10 percent to Ventura police, fire and city workers. The Union is also concerned, as the city moves to close a library and fire station, that quality of life is eroding for Ventura residents.

In a move, largely seen as figurative, **City Manager Rick Cole** volunteered a 7 percent pay cut for himself. Negotiations have broken down between the two sides. info. www.seiu721.org —Joel Anderson

MOVIE TOWN

Continued from page 9...

surround sound that provides a genuine theater experience. "I wanted to be more than just a movie rental store. My vision is to be a film center where people can watch movies with their friends, or use the room to screen their own original productions."

In addition to facilitating private events, **Josh** also hosts weekly screenings that highlight different directors.

"Film is a director's medium, so naturally I'm drawn to films that way. I avoid the overexposed name directors and go with guys who fly under the radar. I've highlighted **Sam Peckinpah**, **Sydney Lumet**, and this month **Jack Hill**, probably the best exploitation filmmaker of the 70s responsible for classics such as *Switchblade Sisters* and *Foxy Brown*."

It only takes one visit to realize **Movie Town** is a unique place, offering a giant range of movies, many no longer offered by the big box outlets. Check out a real Film Store, owned and operated by an enthusiast who is driven and passionate about breathing new life into the brick and mortar movie store experience.

For information on hosting private events or attending the weekly screenings (like *Robert Altman* for the month of November) call 643-3400 www.movie-town.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.

REPORT PSYCHIATRIC ABUSE. IT'S A CRIME.

Contact: Citizens Commission on Human Rights International
www.cchrventura.org • P.O. box 449, Camarillo, CA 93011
805-371-1576

GENERAL PUBLIC WARNING:
Psychiatry is hazardous to your mental health.

Road Trip

Continued from page 10



joy to be with them; to just sit down have coffee and bread, have lunch...."

Rogers substantial skills and an ability to learn fast kept his interest going; basic carpentry, electrical, plumbing, and laying

tile, opened more doors along the way.

"There was a guy when I got to Vancouver - he's got a hoarding disorder and the city was on his case.... He was offering to help me with my motorcycle on some stuff I needed to do. I took one look at his place; it was a mess... forklifts in the yard.....his neighbors were complaining because and it looked like an industrial zone.... and the city was getting ready to shut him down and I thought, 'Here's a case of somebody offering to help me, when he needs my help?' so I stayed and helped him fix up his yard."

"I am grateful I was born a fairly smart cookie - to me the equation wasn't that I needed to have all this stuff, all this money to be able to retire at 55.... what I ended up working on was the other side of the equation. Now I've reduced my expenditures down to such a low limit that I am effectively retired now. I need never go back to work again if I don't want to. I'll spend the equity I've got from selling my house.... I would rather do that now, than have it occur to me when I'm seventy 'What have I done for the last fifteen years?'" I'd rather do things now while I've got the energy to learn.... I want to kite surf.... I've just got this desire to learn to do new things.

"I joke about it with my kids because sometimes in joking about it, it makes it real. I want engraved on my tombstone 'He never starved because he could always work. Now I am trying to ease into that feeling of I don't need a house and you'd be surprised how much money that frees up... no taxes, no insurance....'" said Roger.

One adventure led to the next, and with each, a new revelation. "I saw the redwoods.... I couldn't believe how expensive it was to camp in the bloody parks there.... like I went, 'God you guys aren't promoting people enjoying your parks when you charge \$30 for a night of camping.' That was one impression, based on the friends and family I visited in San Francisco.... your society is a very litigious society.... so big on rights and lawyers and getting 'My Voice' and da da, da da..... sometimes I just want to say, 'Give it a rest."

There was a richness in the diversity of people Roger met; from the guy whom he learned how to work on the engines at the motor shop, the way he took him in.... There were a number of people that he was amazed at how open they were to helping one another. At that time, he didn't feel worthy of anything, but people just kept giving him gifts.

The Iceberg issue began to resolve. Roger went bunji jumping just outside Vancouver. "I asked them to dunk me in the water. Well, after you've finished bouncing in the water, up and down, they'd lower you down to the water; these two beautiful blond girls would come out on this little dingy to come and get you, bring you into the boat...."

"I remember the feeling when I had finished the jump - hanging upside down.... a rush through my body of all this adrenaline.... just felt so alive! I remember that night, thinking 'God if I could only do this every couple weeks,' because my theory is if you want to die, here's a good way to test to see if you really want to; just go and jump off of a hundred foot cliff, get that feeling that you're about to die, or you feel like it.... and then you realize.... 'I don't want to die.'"

With that and learning how to fly an airplane, buying a motorcycle for a coming road trip (he had a bike in his twenties), Roger found the bigger sense of what his trip was about.... it was a test to see if he was better, and secondly a reward for having gotten better....

Part of the test which became a journey for answers had also involved a lot of consciousness raising, reading the biography of Werner Erhard on EST, now called the Landmark Forum. He found that he was now able to do the investigation he needed... to come to grips with why he had lost the energy in the first place. "Now I had gone from I didn't have any energy to do anything to now I don't have enough time to do all the things I want to do. It's like night and day" said Roger, "It's kind of like finding your niche.... finding what suits you - a suit that fits. I had amazing experiences.... all these different jobs and what I found was that I've gotten some closure on some things; I feel like I've walked a mile in my father's shoes."

Another big step in the healing process, came early in his semi-singular journey as he signed on for a weekend retreat of "train-

ing" at the Justin Sterling Institute of Relationship; a non-profit that helps men connect holistically with other men. Said Roger, "He kind of takes a page from when women have problems they kind of go to the well; they talk to other women and they're able to help each other, whereas men tend to be a lot more isolationist.... they don't go very deep.

"We would get together once a week around a fire for three hours; all that we were interested in was each other's success, taking turns and through activities we did, we went deep and supported each other. That group was instrumental for me because of all the transitions I was going through - they helped me to get some clarity.

"When somebody has to deal with an issue, a legal issue, a parenting issue, an employment issue, or whatever.... with fifty or sixty of us in a bigger group somebody has had the experience and can bring their experience to bear. There is a real trust that's developed by the nature of the way the training is structured.... you develop a common language," he said.

As Roger's strength developed, he decided to call together a board of directors unlike any he had ever been associated with before. Every two weeks they would meet. Roger paying for lunch. "For an hour and a half all they would do was look at 'Roger,' what he is, what he's been doing for the last two weeks. A plan would be mapped out - a plan for me, and I would just learn... it taught me how to take baby steps because you can easily get overwhelmed in your whole world."

"Now I don't have enough time to do all the things I want to do.... like finding your niche.... a suit that fits.... I feel like I've walked a mile in my fathers shoes"

One day a man in the group started talking about motorcycling - about the idea of going around the world so one thing led to another and.... "That's when I realized I want to go around the world. I just looked at it, worked, saved some money and said, 'I'm going to go on a trip.' I have this feeling that there is something more out there for me to discover. Maybe serendipity - maybe I've already found it in coming to Ojai. I found the farm and on an even greater level - within my overall plan, I have a theory of how I can help people who are suffering from the kind of thing I went through....to kind of slow everything down, that is my kind of over-arching goal, I think...." said Roger. Holding no regrets with the life he left behind, he's developed positive, healthy relationships with his family and the many friends cultivated everywhere.

"My career is shot, I don't really want to go back.... that career didn't work for me. I would like to make a contribution to people to show them what did work for me. It has to do with my two principles of helping other people who are worse off than yourself; and that Action Always Trumps Inaction. After the transformation people didn't recognize me, so I have a dream and this going off on a world trip to the very tip of South America - it's kind of... a step in that dream.

"I had felt like I led a really boring life and what I was really interested in was being able to look at a map, pencil in a little bit of a trail that I've gone somewhere. I've been to Mexico once, never been to Europe, to the states a few times for skiing, but basically lived my whole life... the whole fifty years, just in one place, keeping my nose to the grindstone," he said.

Ojai has been the favorite part of his journey so far. Winding down the West Coast on his motorcycle to visit some family and friends in San Francisco, a friend from Calgary was staying in Ojai and said, "On your way down come and see us for a couple days."

"The day after I came to Ojai, and I was staying in a house on Taormina Lane.... I phoned another good friend in Calgary, I said, 'Scott, there's something very, very special about this place. The energy is absolutely unbelievable. I don't know what it is but there's something amazing about it.' I had no idea what the history of Ojai was and, as it turns out I was right - there on Taoromino backing onto the Krotونا Institute and Ojai - the whole idea of it being Shangri-La as in Ronald Coleman's movie.... I love that whole concept because I'm a real idealist. If I had my choice I would put a Theosophy kind ruling peoples countries.... like it's crazy now the way we've got governments set up. It's just a makeshift kind of way of doing it. It's so crazy.... I just started poking around and saw there were all these meditation places.

"I was floored by what I call that radiant energy in the people walking down the street. The way the people would smile.... I really had thought I was in a weird town, but found there was what I call 'the friendliness aspect.' People were just very very open, I call it 'clean!' - or the Buddhist monk objective... I've seen pictures of buddhist monks and their faces look so calm, serene, happy and expressive. I always think if a monk can do it, why can't I? I see a lot of those kinds of people in Ojai...."

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView

There were a couple parties I eventually went to like at Glen Muse where I got to talking to people about the writer Aldous Huxley with Darakshan.... I was impressed with how open and friendly he was.... I am trying to absorb the culture wherever I go. It's kind of my intent; wherever I go I want to be part of the culture and feel it - I want to learn the language, work with them.

"I really liked Ojai and that's when I awoke at 4:30 in the morning with an 'aha moment' that said, 'What am I thinking of? My daughter is going to have her year-end presentation of her dance school.... graduating this year and I'm not going to be there?' Yes, this 'aha moment' that said, 'I have to go'...." That's when Roger found resolve in finding a more permanent place to stay in Ojai until it was time to fly back to Toronto and attend the graduation, and also be able to see his other daughter.....in third year, Vet school!

'Ahh, that '64 GMC Chevy truck of yours? I think it needs a good overhaul. I'm gonna give it a karma flush'

"I've been asking myself questions like 'How does Ojai do it?' Every time I ride back into the city on Highway 33.... the view from Pine Mountain, Maricopa.... I come into town, see the population of 8,202, elevation 752 feet, and I wonder, 'How is it this "Magic" of Ojai?' - I call it the bubble.... it amazes me that it's.... like this," he said.

Roger went up to The Ojai Foundation with the idea of approaching someone there to do a work-exchange for being able to stay. There was nothing available, but as he went to the parking lot to leave, a lady by the name of Colleen saw him in the parking lot, struck up a conversation.... and "This, for me, is my transformation; when she asked what was going on, I actually told her. I told her why I was there and what I was trying to find." She said, "Oh, well if that's what you're looking for, why don't you try Bob at the full circle farm down the hill. He's always looking for people."

Roger rode his bike over. Bob came into the kitchen, said Roger, "We had an hour long chat around his kitchen, discussing a few things and all I was asking for was a place to put my tent so I could live economically for a bit. He said 'Oh well, I think we can do a little better than that' and he arranged this beautiful little space.... what I like about that place is.... it's right!" he said.

So the deal was set and Roger began to engage more in the Ojai community, "I would go to The Ojai Foundation for their full moon ecstatic dances, listen to live music and be rubbing shoulders and connecting with these very beautiful people. Very very interesting group and community.... beautiful energy.... Bob Goddard, he's a beautiful man, his zest for life, sing/dance just so much in flow.... he's a grower, a cultivator and what he cultivates.....these relationships so that everyone feels special in this community....there is a real mix of people, young and old.... I have never been part of a group that does things by consensus; if there's one person that doesn't want to do it, you stop and you deal and you talk, figure it out until everybody is ready to move. For a corporate led life, this is like a whole different world for me," said Roger.

It wasn't too soon thereafter he got to working on the machinery around the farm - fell in love with the place. "I would go to



Bob Goddard, Ojai

I could to that truck.... it reminded me of an old truck that my father had. So here I was working on stuff that I liked.... I had to pinch myself, working in a beautiful area.... mind you March is not the warmest time, but for somebody from Northern Ontario, Canada, it was very warm.... Here I was, working and beautiful food is being prepared, music at night, people playing guitars and there was this common area.... I started to think, wow talk about a serendipity that I never knew....like I'm just "Roger" - I don't own a house now, and I started to look around at this and think 'My god, I could live here' virtually effortlessly....

"I loved the farm so much that I had them ship down my professional-grade chain saw. I've given it to the farm....they had a tree that needed to be cut down.... As I was riding down the mountain today, I was thinking about the essence; here's this wandering Canadian who's gone off on a year and a half trip and what he discovered was the Shangri-la, when he steps on what could have been any overlook over any valley, but I see it, the Matilija hot springs, the coffee shops and the people I

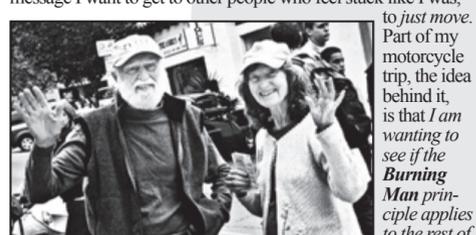
meet.... "Do you know what the biggest compliment I ever received in this town was, for me? When someone was talking to me.... I said I was from Canada and they said, 'Oh, you look like you're a native Ojain'! I wanted to kiss that person.... to think I actually look like I fit in someplace....this place? Made me feel like a million bucks.... was like finding the El Dorado and picking up the little nuggets and that is what I do, I'm looking for the little nuggets...." he said.

Roger discovered Burning Man in 2005 - he'd journeyed to the desert oasis four years in a row and by now, the search for a greater depth was strong.

At Burning Man he asked, 'Can you guys send me some energy?' and realizing he was afraid of a lot of things he chose to follow a book he'd read by Susan Jeffers called Feel the Fear... and Do it Anyway, so wherever there was fear he began to say 'Oh, that's what I'm afraid of so I'm going to have to go and explore that, feel it some more, until I've felt it enough....until it dissipates and I don't feel it anymore.'

There he was allowed to experiment with what it's like to be radical self-expression and radical self-reliance - doing stuff to grow. People there said, 'You know this whole place is your home, if you want to think of it that way,' so he would randomly stop in front of people's camps and think, Ok, NOW.... "I would walk in and sit myself down.... and I have a lot of social anxiety; like that's what people don't get....they look at me and they say, 'Well how can you be socially anxious if you can do that?'

Well, fact of the matter is how I may feel on the inside may be different from outside....but I don't let that stop me. That is the message I want to get to other people who feel stuck like I was,



Shep and Jaya

Ojai is the place I found along the way that I went, 'My god, the Burning Man spirit.... that spirit of community and artistic expression.... I can understand why a lot of people from around here don't bother to go, because when they're told what it's like, they go 'We've got that in our backyard.' it just seems to have the special energy. This is the closest I've found to what I think of as a really big extended Burning Man community...." he said.

Why leave Ojai? "Because I subscribe to Stephen Covey's formula for success which is Learn, Commit & Do and Repeat so I'm committed to doing my trip. I need to, then get the learnings from it, then I am going to connect to another plan of action. Certainly Shepard has been the guy.... I don't know if he's been designated by Bob, but he's been the point man on trying to convince me to stay in Ojai. It's so beautiful about how he's just so emphatic about all the benefits and how great it is and how well I fit in. I'm a kind of guy who I don't feel like I fit in anywhere.... I think it is absolutely hilarious and I call it the serendipity of I didn't really plan, or I wasn't looking for Ojai.... well actually, maybe Ojai was the thing that I knew was out there for me. It could be I've already done 'it.' I know myself as an engineer; I need goals.

"I set intentions before I left Calgary on the journey of wanting to help people.... I knew I was going to be short of money on my trip and so I just visualized myself in a port somewhere in South America...."

Roger has a plan; with his specialized Kawasaki motorcycle, he will be traveling down the Pan-American Highway through Central America, through Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Panama, and touching base in Belize to just say, 'I've seen that country.' Then continue following the Pan-American Highway all the way down the western part of South America along the spine of the Andes.

He said, "One of my roommates in Calgary is from Medellin, Columbia. Even though I receive all kinds of reports about how dangerous it is, I am going to go to Medellin... I'm gonna feel it.... go through that part of the fear. I will stay at his parents place in Medellin. Then I'm going to do some shamanic journeying with plant based medicines like lowaska, spirit-kinds of medicines...."

"Go into the Peruvian jungle, and spend some time getting in touch with some spiritual forces there, then Climb Mt. Aconcagua, the highest mountain in the Americas. A friend from Calgary went, and tried to climb it.... he got weathered out... the weather was bad. Well, I've got lots of time, I can wait that sucker out - it's 22,800 feet high!

"I will go on to the old mountain, Machu Picchu and continue down the Highway all the way down to the end of the world,

Ushuaia, Argentina at the very tip, Tierra del Fuego. I have to put the wheel of my motorcycle in that ocean - a friend of mine gave me something to throw in the sea there...." he said.

Once Roger reaches that point he plans on taking stock of what he's learned in the previous six months or longer. If all goes well he may find that he truly has it made in the shade... and if the energy is with him; if he survives that fairly well enough he has another plan for the next leg of his journey....

"I joke with people; I say my finances are such that people could take everything away from me and I would replace it twice over and keep going.... that's how determined I am. When my circle of friends in Calgary found out how serious I was, one of the elders on my team said, 'Roger; if you lose your things a third time be sure to give us a call.' That's the kind of team I have, so if everything goes well, it's back up along the eastern part of South America to Buenos Aires and, somewhere along there I plan on catching a boat and going to Africa with my bike. That's my bigger dream....to keep goin'.... just keep goin'...."

- Joel Anderson
More info. www.motorcyclatierradelfuego.blogspot.com

The Homeless Hopper

Continued from page 3...

My favorite is this: one who lacks fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. To put a finer point on it, if you sleep in your car, camp out regularly in non-designated areas or otherwise avoid paying rent because you cannot afford it, you probably qualify. Should the percentage estimate be even higher?

A tidbit from history: Following a peasants revolt in England in 1383, constables were ordered to arrest vagabonds and force them to show support. If they could not, they went to jail. A well-known bankruptcy attorney once advised me, "debtor's prison is no more." Lesson: Do what you can in the twenty-first century to avoid unnecessary hardship. This may include filing bankruptcy.

Another fact from the past: The first Rescue Mission in America was established in New York City in 1872 by Jerry and Maria McAuley. Kind of late to start, it seems to me, as so many so-called vagabonds were shipped to America in the 18th century (see above.) Why don't we ship a few back?

Then there were the hobos, supposedly dating from the post-American Civil War period though better known later following freight trains during the Great Depression and thereafter. I remember my mother telling me a hobo could stop by the back door and ask the housekeeper for a meal some evening. I don't recall ever seeing one, but approaching "senior" status now, I might have.

I do not know how the increasing numbers of single Hispanic men one now encounters in local homeless shelters are described. Certainly many of them came as legal workers in the days of the bracero programs or were born here. Perhaps a reader can fill me in on the particulars. I have heard there may be at least one unofficial shelter in Oak View that openly caters to illegal immigrants. The need is widespread.

How about a good read? I recommend Breakfast at Sally's by Richard LeMieux, available at bookstores and your local public library. This is the detailed story of a formerly successful businessman in Ohio and Washington State who found himself homeless and suicidal but for the love of his canine sweetheart Willow. There are descriptions of various "homeless" living arrangements one might find, including among youth, and significant male bonding. Lurking violence is well portrayed. The Salvation Army and a Methodist minister come out looking good. No further comment here except to say I'm glad I wasn't there.

Everyone has read or seen The Soloist. I hope. If not, put that on your list. These books and the film are about

the root of homelessness in America, which is urban/city based. Our own rural/semi-rural version appears more benign. In fact, the Ojai Valley Family Shelter with which I am familiar is considered something of a mecca to its supporters.

Nevertheless, it operates only during the coldest four months of the year, late November to late March. See the web site www.ovfs.org for details. Volunteer opportunities are available.

Was Johnny Appleseed

a homeless person most of his life? I think so. Perhaps some can do good. Of course, he never came to California. Still the apple trees grow. Who doesn't like an apple once in awhile?

Because I am proposing this column as a local forum for the topic of homelessness, let me conclude with some information about the Community Assistance Program and Valley Outreach office located at 108 S. Fox Street in Ojai. This is a first stop for anyone in the Ojai community with homeless concerns. A friend of mine in Ventura is going to provide information for that city and will include Turning Point for youths. Look for more Ventura information next month.

A new Health Care for Homeless Medical Clinic now offers the following services on the Fourth Tuesday of each month, 10am to 1pm: routine check-ups, immunizations, treatment for common acute illnesses and conditions of aging, minor surgery, health counseling, and referrals to specialized medical services. Any homeless or near homeless person without regular medical care should definitely take advantage of this clinic, in my opinion. Just by stopping by this office in 2009, I was able to obtain health coverage (not "insurance," mind you, but valuable basic health care, including screening for a potentially life-threatening medical condition) in an otherwise little known program called ACE. (The program closed on April 24, 2009. www.vchca.org/ace.htm)

The Help of Ojai's Community Assistance Program (CAP) office also provides sack lunches Mon through Fri for registered recipients. Note an intake interview is required for CAP services as well as the OVFS overnight program. One of CAP's volunteers recently offered the adjectives "kind, respectful and compassionate" to describe their services. Good luck, and enjoy!

- Rennie Rue, Ojai

EVENT LISTINGS

Events Continued From Page Nine...

- Oct 30 - Creek Restoration Project, Ojai - 9:30am, Volunteers meet at Libbey Park Gazebo, wear sturdy shoes, long sleeves & long pants, bring gloves & shovel/hand towel. info. www.OjaiValleyGreenCoalition.org
- Oct 31 - Meiners Oaks Community Festival - Free 12-8pm, features Day of the Dead Celebration with music and Danza Azteca, Black Feet (7-8pm) w/Bufalo, Whole Tung, Shnylah Ray sunshine, Pakolo, and spec. guests. Prayers will be offered to the ancestors & asking for wisdom and love to carry us through the shift of consciousness and new way of living on planet earth. Come pray and raise the vibrations. info. www.meinersoaks.org
- Nov 2 - Election Day: Ojai Valley Democratic Club endorsed Prop 19, also said Yes on Props 21, 24 and 25 - and No on Props 20, 23, 26 and 27, a neutral position on Proposition 22. Locally, the Dem club also endorsed Kathi Smith & Ricki Horne for the OUSD, Stan Green for Ojai Valley Sanitary District, Div 6 & Bill O'Brien for Ojai Valley Sanitary District, Div 4. Many incumbents

Events Cont. Page 30...

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30 Oct, Sat - The HUB, Ojai, Blue Dice, 272-8344 30 Oct - The Viper Room, LA, Where Angels Suffer, Metal Church, Animal, 310/358-1881

30 Oct - The Canyon Club, T.O., Kiss Army-Kiss Tribute, 818/879-5016 31 Oct, Sun - The HUB, Ojai, Halloween/Call Club, 272-8344 31 Oct - The Viper Room, LA, Bad Water, Purple Melon, Kav, Rat Salad, 310/358-1881

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music that feeds the soul

3 Nov - The Viper Room, LA, Savannah Ban Band, Traveling Lady, DJ Drea, Gedina Jean, Anita Maj, 310/358-1881 3 Nov - The Troubadour, LA, Glasser, Teen, Inc, 310/276-1158 4 & 5, 6 Nov - SOHO, S.B., Santa Barbara Music Festival, 962-7776 4 Nov - The Viper Room, LA, Matt Beal, Red Letter Agent, Wax, Acoustic: Deborah Crooks, Deepak Alypse, Nomi, Id Nash, Jomonee, 310/358-1881 4 Nov - The Troubadour, LA, Enter Shikari, Haste The Day, Sleeping With Sirens, Lights Go Blue, 310/276-1158 4 Nov - Chumash Casino, Santa Inez, Gladys Knight, 585-3737 4 Nov - The Canyon Club, T.O., Spazmatics, 818/879-5016 5 Nov, Fri - The HUB, Ojai, Night Owl, 272-8344 5 Nov - The Troubadour, LA, Bayside, Senses Fall, Title Fight, Balance and Composure, 310/276-1158 5 Nov - The Canyon Club, T.O., Smitherens, 818/879-5016 5 Nov - Santa Barbara Bowl, Massive Attack & Thievery Corporation, 962-7411 6 Nov, Sat - The HUB, Ojai, Call Club, 272-8344 6 Nov - The Troubadour, LA, Mike Gordon, 310/276-1158 6 Nov - SOHO, SB, New Noise, 962-7776 6 Nov - The Canyon Club, T.O., Five for Fighting, 818/879-5016 7 Nov - The Troubadour, LA, Bear in Heaven, Lower Dens, Sun Airway, 310/276-1158

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EVENT LIST Continued From Page 29...

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Nov 6 - 1pm - The Oak Grove School Annual Open House and All School Showcase, Guests invited to discover the art of living & learning at Oak Grove School. View student work, enjoy student performances, find out more about our progressive college-prep high school, boarding program, junior high, elementary & early childhood programs. There will also be campus tours & open classrooms, entertainments & award-winning vegetarian fare & complimentary professional family photos. info: Oak Grove - 220 W. Lomita Ave., Ojai, 646.8236, www.oakgroveschool.com

Nov 8 thru 12 - YMC National Week of Prayer (since 1904), Ventura events followed with a light lunch and by a 10-15 minute message, worship music and prayer time. Everyone in the

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView

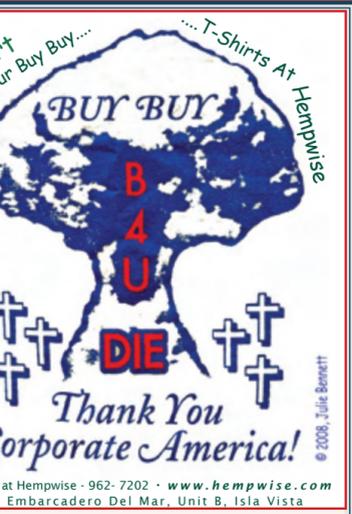
13 Nov, Sat - The HUB, Ojai, Last Dog and Pony Show, 272-8344 18 Nov - The Troubadour, LA, Freelance Whales, Miniature Tigers, 310/276-1158 18 Nov - Chumash Casino, Santa Inez, Sara Evans, 585-3737 19 Nov, Fri - The HUB, Ojai, Preachers, 272-8344 19 Nov - The Troubadour, LA, Tift Merritt, Elizabeth & Catapult, 310/276-1158 20 Nov, Sat - The HUB, Ojai, The Sheiks, 272-8344 20 Nov - The Troubadour, LA, Clinic, The Fresh & Onlys, The Loons, 310/276-1158 20 Nov - The Canyon Club, T.O., La Bamba's Big Band, 818/879-5016

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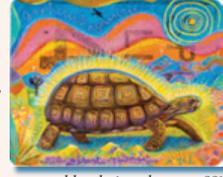
OJAI ARTIST: Living With Joshua Tree PRESS RELEASE: Joshua Tree Residency with Environmental Art - A Joshua Tree Experience Reflected in Artist Dianne Bennett's Work - by Linda Harmon

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OJAI ARTIST Continued from previous page... "I had an especially personal experience with the desert tortoise," said Bennett, adding that finding one to paint was an adventure in itself. "A ranger took me to find one they were monitoring. Using special equipment, she and I rock-scrubbed looking for a tortoise until we found one in his little cave they tunnel under the rock. I was so moved when we talked about the growing threats, obviously the habitat loss, but also that often even well-meaning people do environmental damage, unknowingly."



Bennett said the tortoise has been harmed most severely by people releasing pet tortoises into the wild. "These animals carry a virus that is deadly to a tortoise in the wild," said Bennett "Also, the ravens have increased tremendously in that area since the 60s, from a handful to thousands. All the debris from humans has attracted them. They are especially dangerous to the young tortoise. When they are young the ravens can punch holes in the baby turtle's shell, which is very soft. Another huge threat is the helium balloons people have at birthday parties, many of which end up as bits of colored rubber in the desert. The desert tortoise is attracted by their color, thinking they're flowers. They ingest them and die. They have a huge basket filled with bits of balloons in the ranger's office. The desert tortoise has also been in the news lately because of the threat that proposed solar panels in the Mojave Desert pose to their habitat."



"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, we must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt. - Thomas Jefferson



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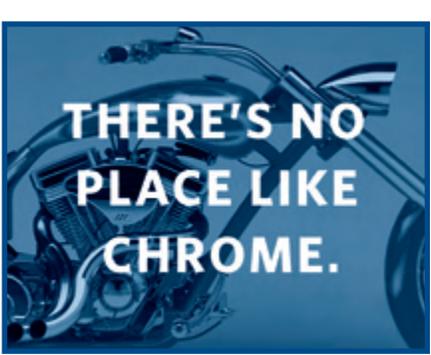
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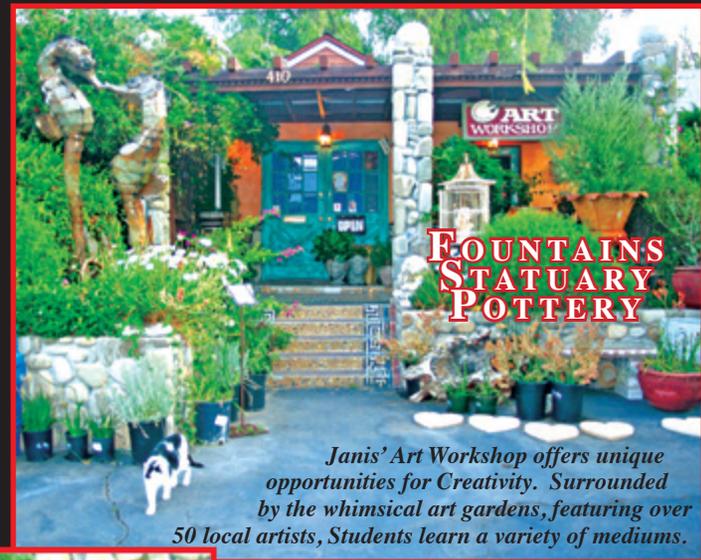
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