

The Ojai & Ventura



VIEW



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Staying Fit - Sheila Claff - The Oaks of Ojai



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- IRIS AND KIRK
THE ARTIST'S WAY
- EARL TURNS 100
- RICHARD SENATE
HAUNTINGS
- MARY LONG
OHACA

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What Can Obama Do ?

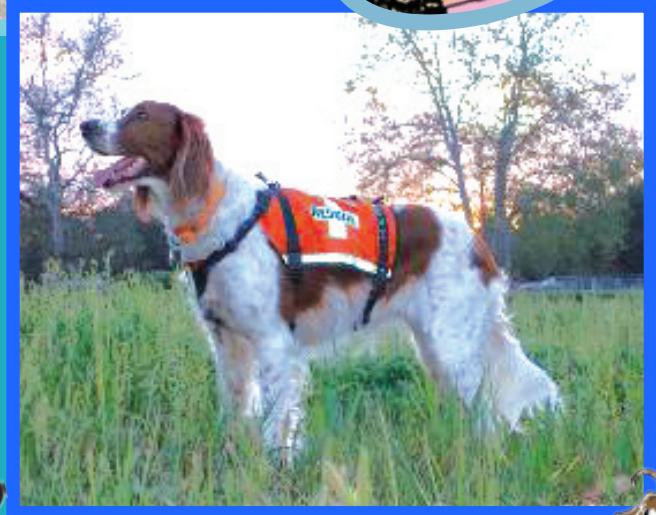
by Larry Naron

I hate being pessimistic, but do you ever wonder why **Obama** is being painted to resemble the second coming ? Don't get me wrong, I voted for this well-spoken educated man. The issue I see is that people are placing way too much confidence in the ability of any president to clean up the current mess.

We have an unfinanced war eroding our economy and adding trillions to the national debt. **Obama** has no ruby slippers to click his heels and immediately end that economic drain. All the reports I've listened to say, even with the will to leave, it's not feasible to immediately divest ourselves for at least eighteen months. This would not be a full-scale pullout but rather a gradual withdrawal. I've also heard that, because of escalating battles in **Afghanistan**, we will be diverting forces there. This is an economic quagmire we will be embroiled in for some time to come that costs several billion dollars every month. Did I mention, aftercare for wounded veterans and dependent family members of dead and severely wounded veterans, who will need support for years.

What Can Obama Do Continued Page 20...

- RELLIS SACKS THE CITY
- PETER - STEPPENWOLF
- OJAI CITY COUNCIL
- ALASDAIR CALTROUT SUIT
- RON ROWE - SHEILA
- ALI - *CAN YOU FIND CLOSURE ?*
- DOC JANET - RARE BREEDS
- POLITICAL PYGMIES



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INSIDE: • JEFFERSON: BROTHA CAN YOU SPARE A TRILLION ? • LOCAL PUNKS • AIR BUD

PRESS RELEASE

Channel Islands National Park Seeking Volunteers



Photo: © Tim Haug Photography.com

Channel Islands National Park needs Volunteers. Positions are available in the **Visitor Center**, providing information and orientations to people wishing to visit the **Channel Islands**.

Training is provided, which includes field trips to the islands. Volunteers will learn about the islands and their natural, cultural, and historic resource as well as the various travel opportunities open to the public. New volunteers will work along side Rangers and veteran volunteers until fully trained. Once fully trained, new volunteers will work one half-day shift per/week, or take a position as a substitute. Substitutes work when needed and available. Our **Visitor Center** is located in the **Ventura Harbor**. Call us today and discover the **Channel Islands**.

Contact: **Park Ranger Bill Faulkner** at 658-5734 or bill_faulkner@nps.gov

PRESS RELEASE

The **Ojai Valley Directory** was the recipient of three national awards for excellence in marketing and promotion at the recent semi-annual convention of the **Association of Directory Publishers (ADP)**, held in **San Antonio, Texas**.



Photo: © 2008, Ren Adam

Victoria Adam, co-publisher of the **Ojai Valley Directory**, receives one of three national awards for excellence in directory marketing and promotion at a recent convention of the **Association of Directory Publishers (ADP)**, in **San Antonio, Texas**. **Gary Shaw**, an ADP board member, and **CIO for Yellowbook USA**, made the presentation.

The Directory's well known pink **Volkswagen "Bug"** convertible was honored for **Excellence in Outdoor Advertising**; the **Directory** was awarded **Excellence in Event Promotion** for its part in co-sponsoring the twice-annual **"Shredder Day,"** along with **Ojai Community Bank**; and its third award was for **Excellence in Newspaper Advertising** and recognized the **Directory's** ad in the 2008 edition of **"Women of Ojai Valley,"** entitled **"Chicks Dig the Directory"**.

These three awards join eight other

national awards previously received by the Directory, in addition to being voted **ADP's National Gold Book Champion** and **Publisher of the Year in 2006**. ADP is an international association of independent telephone directory publishers, including **Yellow Book** and **Singapore Yellow Pages**.

The **Ojai Valley Directory** has served the **Ojai Valley** since 1926, and publishes a full directory, as well as a mini-directory, a menu and coupon booklet, and provides an award-winning website containing the entire Directory, just as it appears in print, at visitojai.com, or ojaivalleydirectory.com

Ren and Victoria Adam, Ojai

HOW MUCH IS A TRILLION ?

Million, Billion, Trillion, What's a few zeros between friends ?

- If you received a dollar a second:
- It would take just over 11 days to get a million dollars.
 - It would take almost 32 years to get a billion dollars.
 - It would take 32 millennia or 32,000 years to get a trillion dollars.

- PJP

Road Hogs

to the tune of Subterranean Homesick Blues...(more or less)

Look out kid you're gonna get hit ! Look left, look right, gonna be a big night Downtown light's out, sad to say it's LA Told off, cut off, gonna have to flip off Times have changed, you gotta beware Big city, big bucks, goin' far, sports car Why oh why, lady don't glare Small town, all gone, don't stop, don't walk Double Yellow line, doesn't even mean mine SUV says gotta have it my way LA bitch, thinking she's rich Gotta have the highway, don't care about the right way Grab that dog, here comes the road hog I'm mad, so glad, gonna lose her big pad Gonna have to put up, ain't never gonna shut up Fight back, right back, keeping on the same track

- M.M.L.

LETTER - CALIFORNIA BUDGET

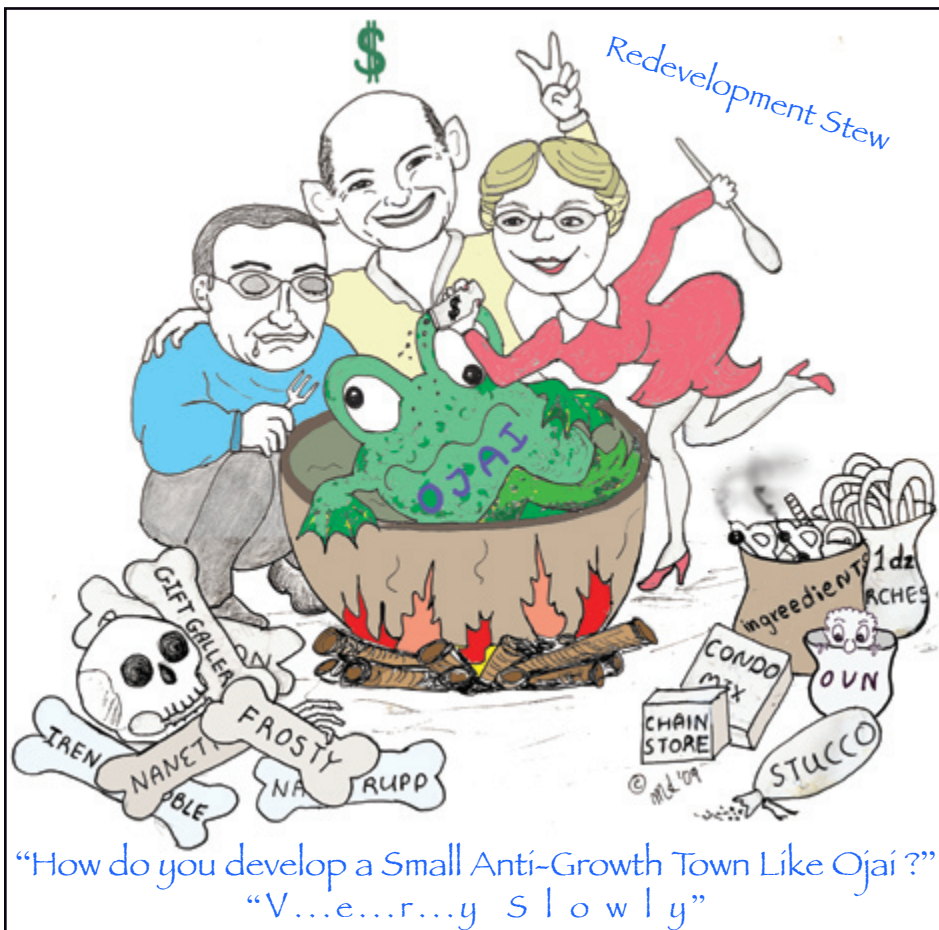
Fine Mess: Budget Blasphemy

- Art L. Isgur

As I write these words our state has taken some 80 days to produce...nothing in the way of a budget to close the fiscal gap that will probably start in a very few days. That gap, just in case you have not been keeping abreast of state current events is now greater than \$40 billion. We could have used a two-year budget process. But we don't have that in **California**.

We need, badly, a powerful stimulus program. We don't have the money so we must wait for help from **President Obama** and the **Congress**.

Let us look at a few of the gross gaffes that have recently been committed in your name. In an attempt to balance our budget with some combination of spending cuts and significant tax enhancements, the **Democrats** in the state legislature proposed a bit less than \$10 billion in spending cuts and about the same increase in 'new' fees, (taxes). That was in mid-December, 2008. No one is even sure that



this was legal, but **Gov. Schwarzenegger** solved that predicament. He vowed to veto the idea. The process died. Even if the **Democratic** plan had passed it did nothing to repair our long-term fiscal and budgetary problems.

The governor had his own idea. Now keep in mind that the money hole is more than \$40 billion over the next eighteen months. Mr. Schwarzenegger's plan is to put most state employees on furlough for two days each month.

That would amount to a 10 percent wage decrease for the effected state employees.

The governor also ordered that the least senior employees, in most departments, be notified that there might be layoffs, reductions, and other actions to reduce costs by

about 10 percent. Keep in mind that this does not mean that these men and women will loose their jobs, only that they 'might' loose their positions. This limbo would be in place until about June 1, 2009. Following that date positions might be lost,

wages reduced and/or personnel transferred. This sort of action does not make for

happy, contented employees. This does effect everybody that deals with the State. Think: **DMV** ! Will the governor's plan really help ? Well the spokesperson for the state **Department of Finance, H.D. Palmer**, on Dec. 21, admitted that the plan would 'save' about \$1.3 billion over the next eighteen months and will not cure our

Cal Budget Continued Page 4...

*"The people of Ojai have not gotten behind preservation."
- Jeffrey W. San Marchi*

*Letters are Welcomed
editor@ojaiandventuraview.com*

the Ojai and Ventura Real **VIEW**

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FBI: School of Spy - Jobs for Almost Everyone

R. ELLIS SMITH



The FBI said Jan. 5 it has launched one of the largest hiring blitzes in its 100-year history involving 2,100 professional staff vacancies and 850 special agents aimed at filling its most critical vacancies.

(Writer: this would entail a conservative cost to the tax payer of about \$500,000,000/yr. Yes Billy-Bob, that's 500 million dollars per year. At the present time the FBI's yearly budget is well into the Multi-Billion dollar category). Yet somebody was still able to carry off the 9/11 attack. Doesn't seem we are getting our monies worth, does it?

The agency, which seeks to protect the United States from terrorist attack, fight crime and catch spies, among other duties, said it currently has more than 12,800 agents and about 18,400 other employees.

"Doesn't seem we are getting our monies worth, does it?"

John Raucci, FBI assistant director of the human resources division, said the federal law enforcement agency is seeking to bring more people on board with skills in critical areas, especially language fluency and computer science.

He said the FBI, which has been investigating corporate wrongdoing in connection with the current financial crisis, also needs finance and accounting experts, along with those skilled in physical surveillance and various other employees.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE ?

Once again the Federal United States Government shows how it's priorities are classified. They want to hire 3000 FBI agents with skills in critical areas like language, computer science, finance and accounting experts. Not to mention the need for people skilled in physical and electronic surveillance and various other nefarious fields.

Wouldn't it behoove the government to use the massive amounts of money (\$500,000,000/yr) it will take to hire 3000 FBI agents, and instead use it for upgrading our educational system in this country. They could then train our own school age kids in the fields they are so in need of. Do we all realize what kind of a school system we could have in this country if only the schools had 1/2 the annual budget that the various government "law" agencies have?

For that matter think of what the schools could have done with the money that the various political parties recently spent (over a billion dollars), on the year long election broo-ha-ha !

Rellis Smith
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www.californiachile.com

LETTER - VENTURA SMALL TOWNIE

More Woes of Ventura's Fiscal Mismanagement: Officials Shutting Down Information Access

— Maili and Jason Brocke

Deputy Mayor Bill Fulton and Library Director Jackie Griffin are discriminating against the children and the elderly by supporting the closure of Wright Library. Wright Library is Ventura's main library. It supports the highest population, has the highest circulation and is in the densest area. Wright

support literacy

has six schools within walking distance as well as two retirement communities. It is easily accessible because of both parking and proximity. The service area of 93003 generates the most property tax revenue and should therefore be spent on Wright library. They are blatantly dismissing these facts and removing the service from the children and citizens surrounding them.

'...children's books are not as valuable as other books...' - Bill Fulton

Bill cites on his blog, www.fulton4ventura.blogspot.com, purposely misleading reasons for closing Wright Library. He underestimates the intelligence of the community and answers your complaints with Billism's that include telling you that children's books are not as valuable as other books and by devaluing Wright's circulation numbers because of the "nature of the collection and the nature of the library." This is in his paragraph referencing children's use and is meant to say that because children will frequently check out 20 children's books versus an adult who would only check out one or two books, that the circulation numbers should not have bearing in the decision to close the library.

Bill then writes on his blog that Foster will be safe for children because the downtown area is busier and there will be extra "eyes on the street" to watch your children. This would be comical if it weren't so scary. If you follow his leadership, you would drive downtown and drop your child off to be watched by the "eyes on the street." Bill's clear support of Jackie's recommendation at both the Monday night city council meeting and on his blog make sure that your children's books will be taken away from the close proximity and safety to your homes.

Bill also writes that "I am sure as I can be that the College will not renew the lease." Because the public is trusting, they would believe his sureness to be a fact. He is making gross assumptions about the future college leaders while underestimating the supporters of Wright library that would happily fund-raise to either buy the building or renew the lease at the current market value in 2015. Either way, 2015 is 6 years away. Just think of the enormous variety of books a child reads from age 6 to age 12. Removing the library would be the equivalent of taking

Library Axes-Access Continued Page 20...

EVENT CALENDAR

• Feb. 5 – Feb. 7, Please help support Ojai Valley Community Nursery School by shopping at Barnes & Noble, 4820 Telephone Rd., Ventura, on Thurs., Feb. 5 to Saturday, Feb. 7 with a bookfair voucher. Barnes & Noble will contribute a percentage of every sale made with a special bookfair voucher to Ojai Valley Community Nursery School! Vouchers will be available in hard copy at Ojai Valley Community Nursery School.
For more info., contact Kristi Bechtold, Bookfair Coordinator for Ojai Valley Community Nursery School
kdbechtold@verizon.net, 525-3871

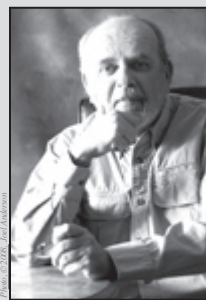
• Feb. 6 – Ventura Family YMCA Fundraiser Kicks Off; Goal to Raise \$115,000, Annual Campaign for Youth Helps Kids and Families in Need Take Part in YMCA Programs, Proceeds from Campaign for Youth will help meet the growing needs of Ventura and its surrounding communities by providing financial assistance for individuals and families who want and need YMCA programs but may not otherwise be able to afford them. The Ventura Family YMCA has made many changes to

Events Continued Page 7...

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

Are You a Caregiver ? Ψ

THE HEALTHY CAREGIVER



In order to take care of others, we also have to be able to take care of ourselves. Sacrifice can be misinterpreted as only loving your neighbor and not yourself. As adults, we have to Mother and Father ourselves from within. Unless we develop our "Inner Caregiver" we'll be dependent on others to take care of us. Men who can't get in touch with their internal caregiver, forever depend on their wives for mothering. They either live out their lives as eternally dependent "momma's boys" or they flip over into a power complex and become obsessively possessive, not letting their wives work, drive, have friends etc.

Healthy caregiving starts with the self and works outward towards family, work, the community and the planet. Think globally...act locally (Henderson). This is difficult for those who never received adequate caregiving...or for those on the other polarity who have been injured and spoiled by getting too much. It is difficult, but certainly not impossible, to give soulful caregiving when one has not received it or been spoiled.

Appropriate sacrifice of certain desires and wishes is necessary in life, not only for the sakes of our children and fellow pilgrims, but also necessary for a connection to our soul. Caregiving is an essential part of the second half of life. Internally that means denying the security based or narcissistic demands of the ego and saying "Yes" to the soul. The healthy caregiver also has to be able to say "No" and discriminate, "I can help this person, but not this one !"

THE SHADOW SIDE OF THE CAREGIVER

As all archetypes, "The Caregiver" can also have a negative side. For example, some mothers or fathers provide excessive caregiving, because deep down inside they want to be taken care of themselves. They provide that which they need themselves, because they never received it early in life. Generally, when we do "too much", when we spoil our kids, we need to look at our caregiving motivations. When we give care to avoid loneliness or when we are excessively emotionally dependent on our children, we do harm to them and ourselves. Some parents, wounded in early rejection or abandonment, sabotage their children's road towards autonomy, because they never want them to leave and emancipate. At worst, the caregiver becomes a castrator under the false mask of an altruist and being a loving, self-sacrificing human being. Some of the cruelest acts in this world are committed by folks who profess to be doing "good"! When smothering instead of mothering occurs, the child is actually psychologically devoured to fill the void in the parent's life. The irony here is that the parent devours the child, but also feels devoured by the caregiving role (Pearson).

The "suffering martyr" is another example of the caregiving role gone astray. Neurotic martyrs feel they're always giving and never getting enough back...partially, because they can't receive. They abuse power using guilt to get their own way. Obviously, the suffering martyr's needs for control is a compensation for tremendous feelings of impotence and unworthiness. "Neurotic caregiving" is an addiction...underneath "good deeds" lies co-dependence, enabling and unacknowledged fear.

CONCLUSION

In our modern society the most pervasive illness is alienation and meaninglessness. The trashcan of television "gives care" to too many...promising happiness, but delivering emptiness, numbness, and addiction to consumerism. Obsessive and frantic activity, food, drink and drugs can all be defenses against emptiness. The opposite of "delusions of grandeur" and equally damaging are "delusions of insignificance"- the delusion that we do not matter. Inner work requires that we leave behind the illusion of our own insignificance! Genuine caregiving gives meaning. When we get frightened we hoard, we don't give...so identifying and challenging our fears becomes important.

Many of the heroes in our society are unseen caregivers. Those who clean house and wash dishes, empty bedpans in nursing homes, educate the disabled and young, take care of the weak and the sick, volunteering in a meaningful way, etc. Unfortunately, they are often seen as servants or drudges. There is nobility in the humility of their work. They may not make much money or have worldly power, but their lives have meaning and value...their souls are alive! For those unseen heroes, here's a little Dylan, who also knows about the dignity of receiving:

"May God Bless you and keep you always
May your wishes all come true
May you always do for others
And let others do for you"

Special thanks to Carol Pearson, Ph.D., for her many contributions to this article. I also wrote another article on page ten...check it out!

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

PETER RUDOLF MILHADO, PH.D.

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PRESS RELEASE

**Ojai Recreation Department
Winter/Spring Offerings**

The Ojai Recreation Department is proud to announce the release of our **2009 Winter/Spring Brochure**. The brochure is full of wonderful recreational activities for both youth and adults. We offer sports programs, after school classes, tennis classes and leagues, weight and strength training, gymnastics, and youth dances just to name a few. Please check out our new classes: **Aerial Dance, Freshi Films, Sandcastle Music, and Knitting**.

If you've never participated in any of our programs, we hope you'll give us an opportunity to serve you. For those who are loyal participants, we appreciate your involvement and look forward to seeing you in the New Year. The brochure can be picked up at our main office located at **510 Park Road, City Hall** or the **Ojai Library**. Brochures are also distributed to all of the public elementary schools in the valley. You can also view the brochure and or register on-line via our websites at either www.ojairec.com or www.ci.ojai.ca.us.

If you have need for further assistance or would like more information on our programs, please contact us.

Dale Sumersille, Director of Recreation
City of Ojai, 646-1872, 646-0201
sumersille@ci.ojai.ca.us
"We create community through people, parks & programs."

CopWatch – Ojai

Greeting Watchers,

Since the first of the year we have had a number of thefts from vehicles in the housing tract behind Vons. Items have been stolen from unlocked vehicles, gas stolen and in one case tires slashed. It is very important that we all keep our cars locked at all times. Leaving them unlocked provides and environment for crooks thrive. If you live in this area and see people walking the streets late at night, call the police. We need to try and put a stop to this. Your deputies are providing extra patrols to the area but they need your help. Please pass this information on to all your friends who live in that area.

Our friends in the **Monte Via** track have again been targeted by a thief looking thru un-locked vehicles. Last night two vehicles were entered and items taken. This area has been free from this type of theft for several months. Our detectives will be looking into who might have just been released from jail in that area. In the mean time we need to start watching out for people walking the streets late at night in that area. Lets start calling the police on all suspicious people loitering in that area.

Last night one of our residents living in the area of **Rice Road** and **Woodland**, woke up to an intruder being in their home. The intruder gained entry thru an unlocked door. Nothing was taken and the intruder ran away before your deputies arrived (*deputies arrived in less than two minutes*). This is a very unusual crime for our area. We take this type of crime very seriously and are working hard on identifying this suspect.

We all need to lock our homes at night when we go to sleep. We spend good money on our door locks and need to use them every night. This is the first crime of this type reported to us in some time.

If you know anyone who has been victim to a similar crime and did not report it, please have them call. We need as much info on this type of crime as we can get.

If you live in the area of **Rice Rd.** and **Woodland Ave.**, and saw a male subject wearing a gray hooded sweat shirt in the area last night (Friday 1-16-09) around midnight, please let me know. We need all the help we can get and all leads will help.

This is not the start I was hoping for to our new year. The only way to make it better is to catch these crooks and let them know we are all watching.

Thanks for everything you do and keep up the good work. There is no "I" in Team and we all can and will make the difference in our valley.

*Your neighbor, Joe
City Watch, Ojai*

CopWatch II – Ojai

Good Evening Watchers,

Just three more weeks of working nights and I will return to day shift.

Well from time to time we have door to door sales people come up into our valley and make many of our citizens feel uneasy. While not all door to door sales people are crooks, we do find that many times these people are from out of the area and sometimes out of state.

This last week we responded to several calls of illegal solicitors. We make contact with these people and make sure they have the needed permits and that they are not wanted by police in other areas of the county or state. Many times these people have active arrest warrants from the areas where they are from. In those cases we arrest them and send them back to where they belong.

If you have solicitors come to your door and you do not feel comfortable talking with them, please call us. We do not want these people coming into our area and looking for opportunities to commit crimes against our citizens. Your deputies are very pro-active when it come to these type of crimes. If we can get the crooks out of the valley before they have the chance to strike we will all be safer.

So please when in doubt call. remember the telephone numbers directly into **Sheriff's Dispatch** are **654-9511** or **646-1414**. Remember if you do not want to give your name you do not have to. Just tell them you are a member of **City Watch**. If you do call the police, please send me an e-mail and tell me about it, this way I can track exactly how many crooks we are putting in jail.

Our new re-unite program should be rolled out the third week in February. I am waiting until I go back to day shift so I can coordinate the starting of the program. I plan on press coverage as well as visiting all our adult care homes in the valley. If you can think of anyone who you would like me to contact, just send me the info. I will give it my personal attention.

*Thanks for all you do, Joe
City Watch*

California Budget

Continued From VIEW Page 2...

cash problem. Remember, just two days earlier, **Schwarzenegger** had threatened to veto a **Democratic** plan that proposed some \$20 billion in savings and revenue increases.

Our history of poor judgements just keeps getting longer and longer.

By early January **Schwarzenegger** was already planning a **'California stimulus**

package' born and raised in **Washington, D.C.** To be amongst the very first to put his hands on all that **Federal** money he planned to eliminate environmental rules and protections on ten large state highway projects. He must have thought that would be easier than attempting to move the real roadblock towards fiscal sanity – the absolute unwillingness of his fellow **Sacramento Republicans** to consider any sort of revenue enhancement, (tax increase). This came from the guy that received so much national publicity in his attempt to protect the environment by limiting global warming.

California has fast-tracked projects in the past without destroying the environment, but **Schwarzenegger's** case is not receiving a welcome in most parts of the state, including **Ventura County**. The governor's plan would not only replace, for some extended period, our protections, but all the state's resource protection agencies, would not be allowed to intervene.

The legislature has a plan. The governor has a plan, (his would involve alienating either his political friends that want to protect our air and oceans, or his supporters in business). We have this standoff just as we are on the verge of going broke! This is not a pretty picture.

There are, right now, more than one hundred twenty projects, all around the state, that are ready to start that do not require the suspension of state environmental regulations. These include rehabilitation of bridges, highways, as well a repavement of roads. Spokespersons for the governor say he wants to put shovels on the ground to stimulate the economy.

They have no explanation why the ten **Schwarzenegger** projects are more stimulative than the hundred twenty that do not require resource protection suspension.

Maybe, just maybe, it is time for **California** to try another tack. Let us not look at guilt, (*and there is plenty of that for the governor, the legislature and the two major political parties*). Maybe there is a different way of coming to the aid of our state.

Mr., Mrs., Ms., California, how about pleading/demanding that **California** call a state constitutional convention? It is easy to dismiss this idea, at first, as the work of a crackpot writer from a small town, (**Ojai**). But do not dismiss this idea so quickly.

A business group consisting of mostly moderate men and women called the **Bay Area Council (BAC)** is already deep into the planning stages. If they have their way there will be a series of workshops around the state, explaining and exploring the idea of just such a convention.

A constitutional convention really does need some rather specific guidelines. Without such parameters we just might produce a real **Frankenstein** of a document. The convention, as the **BAC** has outlined, cannot be under the control of the state legislature. That would be like the proverbial fox guarding the hen house.

Mr. Jim Wunderman, president of **BAC**, has said that the need is now because the state may be on the path of falling apart.

Mr. Wunderman would like to see two ballot initiatives. They would both appear on the same ballot and both must pass at the same time. The first would bypass **Sacramento** and enable the people to call a convention. To add a measure of safety to the process the second initiative would list the areas in our present constitution to be revised.

Without the slightest doubt, one area to be revised must be our fiscal system. A constitutional convention would reexamine the need of a two-thirds requirement to pass a budget, (our current system), rather than a majority vote. Such a convention might reexamine the need to balance the budget each year. Into the pot would also go so many voter approved measures mandating fixed percentages of the budget be spent for certain programs.

There are still serious problems with a constitutional convention. Would the **Sacramento** politicians decide who would serve? If we decide by election does that mean that only the wealthy could afford to run for election and serve. After the convention how would the proposed changes be ratified.

There are many questions about a constitutional convention. The questions, however, should not cause paralysis on our part.

*Arthur L. Isgur
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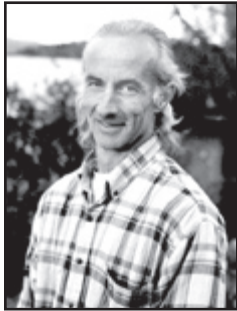
Sign up for Quickbooks Classes – Instructor *Julia Pfeifer* will be teaching Quickbooks from 5:30-7pm, Tuesday, February 24



Integrity and Service that Can't be Beat !!!

Caltrout Files Lawsuit Seeking Steelhead Passage at Freeman Diversion Dam

by Alasdair Coyne



After years of negotiation, CalTrout filed a lawsuit in federal court in early January against the **United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)** and **United Water**

(UWCD), claiming that both agencies are continuing to endanger the **Southern Steelhead** by refusing to comply with the **Endangered Species Act (ESA)**. This is with respect to the inadequate fish passage facilities at the **Freeman Diversion Dam** at the **Santa Clara River** near **Saticoy**, where adult **Steelhead** are blocked by the dam from accessing their historic spawning grounds upstream.

The **Bureau of Reclamation** is involved because the loan it provided to **United Water (United)** for the construction of the **Freeman Diversion Dam** carries with it the requirement to consult with the **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)** on endangered species, including the **Southern Steelhead**.

The lawsuit was filed, after seven years during which time **United Water** consistently delayed and argued against improvements to fish passage at the **Freeman Diversion Dam**. In fact, the **Southern Steelhead** was originally listed as a federally endangered species back in 1997!

CalTrout has long been actively involved in working to secure adequate fish passage at this dam. They filed a **Notice of Intent to Sue** in 2004 for **United's** failure to consult with the **National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)**, as required by the **Endangered Species Act (ESA)**.

This led **United** and the **Bureau of Reclamation** to begin the consultation with **NMFS** that eventually resulted in the publication of a draft, and then four years later, a final **Biological Opinion** by **NMFS** in July 2008.

In order to insure compliance with the **Endangered Species Act**, the operations of the **Freeman Diversion Dam**

must adhere to the provisions of the final **Biological Opinion**.

United was required to set up a panel of fish passage experts to come up with a design for adequate fish passage at the **Freeman Diversion Dam**; this design is meant to be both engineered and actually constructed in the next few years.

While **United** has belatedly established a panel of fish passage experts, *they then took off in a direction of their own, unrelated to the direction called out in NMFS' Biological Opinion*, by instead giving the panel the task of how best to improve the existing, inadequate fish ladder at the **Freeman Diversion Dam**.

This is merely the latest in a long series of delaying and evasive tactics



Winter storm flows passing over the Freeman Diversion Dam on the Santa Clara River near Saticoy.

dreamed up by **United** – a move which will make it impossible for **United** to fulfill the requirements of **NMFS'** legally-binding **Biological Opinion** by 2011.

NMFS estimated in their **Biological Opinion** that the best likely fish passage facility at the **Freeman Diversion Dam**

"These steps were meant to have been implemented by January 01, 2009. United, however, has indicated they have no intention of implementing these changes."

Dam would be a broad rock ramp, to be constructed midstream below the dam (though the panel of fish passage experts will have to study this thoroughly and come up with specific design parameters).

By going off on their own tangent, **United** is, in fact, shooting themselves in the foot. The rock ramp fish passage

proposal represents a solution to the main complaint that **United** has brought up over the past decade – that a fish ladder will likely take water away from their diversions at the **Freeman** for agriculture and homeowners. While a fish ladder does require a dedicated water flow that **Steelhead** can use to climb the ladder, the rock ramp proposal will require no water to be taken away from **United's** diversions for families and farmers.

The rock ramp fish passage will work only when high creek flows pass over the top of the **Freeman Diversion Dam**. It is a completely natural design that mimics the small jumps of a foot or so in height that a **Steelhead** is used to making when ascending a river full of rocks and pools.

The rock ramp should be **United's** goal – it requires no loss of diverted water, no engineering or mechanical facilities to be maintained and operated (*which a traditional fish ladder needs*), and no manpower for oversight and management. It's truly the low-maintenance fish passage future for the **Freeman Diversion Dam**. Of course, it will be costly to install, but federal and state grants are available for fish passage facilities.

If **United** chose to return to the steps called out in **NMFS' Biological Opinion**, the rock ramp facility could be in place in only a few years. The fish passage at the **Freeman Diversion Dam** would be secured into the future, and **United** could even take some credit for doing the right thing for the **Steelhead**.

It is the intention of **CalTrout's** lawsuit to get **United** back on track with the requirements of the **Biological Opinion**, progressing promptly towards permanent and adequate fish passage at the **Freeman Diversion Dam**.

As well as laying out the steps towards permanent fish passage facilities a few years away, **NMFS' Biological Opinion** also requires **United** to take steps to improve the currently-inadequate fish ladder at the **Freeman Diversion Dam**, in the interim. These steps were meant to have been implemented by January 01, 2009. **United**, however, has indicated they have no intention of implementing these changes.

Another wrinkle was added by the **Bureau of Reclamation's** letter of Dec. 18, 2008, in which the **Bureau** indicated it has no authority to be involved in the **Section 7 Endangered Species Act Steelhead Lawsuit Continued Page 13...**



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Financial Analysis**Bail-Out: "TAX Act of 2009": 10 Percent National Debt Increase...**by **Jefferson Pinto**

Last month I presented a framework for evaluating solutions. This month, I'll address the **American Recovery and Reinvestment Tax Act of 2009**.

There's an awful lot of media "stimulation" (information overload) surrounding this legislation. The version that passed the house is only 680 pages. As my philosophy professor always said, "If you can't convince them, confuse them." (Ok, I admit it, I never really took philosophy, I was just making a point). I like to start with the core facts. Nevertheless, I find myself struggling to grasp the germane concepts.

The Sell Job Stinks

We are lead to believe things are really bad, and swift government intervention in the form of a stimulus package is imperative.

"Other Americans are losing their jobs and these folks are having a banquet at our expense."

I keep hearing the same rhetoric, "It's urgent; if we don't pass this bill the consequences are unthinkable."

Earlier this month, the front page of the **Wall Street Journal** (Jan. 10) headline shouted "Yearly Job Loss Worst Since 1945." If the **WSJ** (Rupert Murdoch...) says it, it must be true, right? They got it half right. More people lost jobs since 1945 but the unemployment rate is only 7.2 percent. Bear in mind during the great depression the unemployment rate was more than 25 percent.

In reality, things aren't good. Jefferson must attempt to speak with the voice of reason and say during a crisis, rash acts more times that not, create a bigger problem than the original disaster.

It sounds sort of like a car salesman pressure tactics. "I can offer you this price for the car if you buy it from me today." Yea yea. You are asking me to spend 40 percent of my annual income on this car without the opportunity to sleep on it?"

The same thing, put another way, as it relates to the annual federal budget: you want to spend over half of the annual federal budget with the stroke of a pen and don't offer more than one alternative?

Background

Let's start with what we do know:

- The economy has a normal cycle that oscillates between a high and a low every four to seven years.
- Loans were made to people who couldn't afford them.
- On the up swing, the economy flourished far beyond its sustainable growth. The economy peaked and started to correct (downward).
- Many people defaulted on their loans.
- Lots of banks/insurance companies lost lots of money.
- Banks/Insurance companies played "economic possum" and got a piece of the "bailout pie".
- Lots of people lost their jobs.
- The **American** citizens bore the cost (\$2,500 each) to fund the "bail out"
- More companies among the likes of the auto/transportation makers like **Harley-Davidson** are also trying to jump on the "**All American Apple** (bail out) pie" bandwagon.
- More people lost their jobs.
- Bail out money was dispensed.
- The **Federal Reserve** lowered the interest rates banks pay them.
- Banks didn't lower interest rates. Banks hoarded the cash and didn't loan the money out.
- The banks aren't stalling the sale of defaulted houses because they want to see if there will be further handouts. (If you feed the kitty, it will always come back).
- More people defaulted on their mortgages.
- Recipients of the bail out cash had the audacity to pay huge bonuses. The most disturbing thing about this is the unmitigated gall to reward the same behavior that was the proximate cause of the company's near demise. b) Other **Americans** are losing their jobs and these folks are having a banquet at our expense. c) Clearly, the rapidly designed

bail out legislation failed to give the **American** people their money's worth. (Remember the don't be in a panic rush thing I warned us about last issue?).

What Is Being Sold

- The current plan carries a price tag of **\$819 billion** a (CPC or Cost Per Citizen \$2,730)
- Each adult will receive \$500 and \$300 for each child
- That means that each citizen also pays \$2,230 for the rest of the package.
- The package includes the expansion of the following departments already in existence: **Social Security Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, Homeland Security, Department of Defense, National Institute Of Standards And Technology, Justice Department, Department of the Interior, Department of Education, Department of Agriculture, Federal Aviation Administration, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control, Department of Energy, Smithsonian, Endowment of the Arts**, etc. (Maybe, in the interest of saving paper, I could have listed the portions of the Federal Government not expanded by this bill).

Some of the more egregious expenditures are:

- **Agricultural Research Buildings** (Aren't food prices up, with **General Mills** posting healthy profits?)
- **More Barracks** for all branches of the military (Where are they sleeping now?)
- **Mississippi and Tributaries** (Sounds a lot like fix the dykes and levies in **New Orleans** we already paid for at least once).

- **Electricity Deliver and Reliability** (\$4.5 billion). Sounds like the feds are paying to clean up what the former governor of

California created).

- **Federal Building for Administration** (\$7.7 billion)
- **Small Business Loans** (SBA) (A mere \$3 billion: Is this enough to stimulate the economy?)
- **National Park Construction** (\$1.7 billion).
- **Education for the Disadvantaged** (\$13 billion).
- **Special Education** (\$13 billion).
- **Student Financial Assistance** (\$16.1 billion).
- **School Modernization and Renovation** (\$14 billion).
- **Higher Education Renovation** (\$6 billion).
- **Military Defense Construction** (\$3.7 billion).
- **FAA Airport Expansion** (\$3 billion).
- **Highway Infrastructure** (\$300 billion).
- **Federal Transit Assistance Grants** (\$6 billion).
- **Public Housing Expansion** (\$5 billion).
- **Community Development** (\$5 billion).
- **State Fiscal Stabilization Fund** (\$79 billion). (Folks, this is in addition to the amount already in the budget).

We've all heard the old saying *too little too late*. In this case, it's *too much too soon*.

I don't want to be completely negative; a little nudge would be nice, but **\$816 billion dollars**? What kind of dope are the legislators smoking? I think it's a drug called "buy votes with the other taxpayers' money or maybe it's the government employee expansion and job reclamation project for government employees."

This legislation reeks of the government stimulating themselves. (Get you mind out of the gutter. I didn't mean

it that way).

Why is this an "all or nothing proposition"? Very few of the line items or departments listed above will directly stimulate the economy, save homes or create productive jobs. (Remember...the original problem we are trying to solve?)

Thanks for the stimulus check. The stimulus check written to citizens is really a rebate; it was our money in the first place.

As we tighten our belts and dig in for a long cold winter, the federal, state and local government (the same incompetents who primarily contributed

to the cause) is expanding.... That sounds a lot like the Mafia is selling us protection. Here's a \$500 rebate, now we are going to spend \$2,250 on our pet projects and hope you find it stimulating.

Let them eat cake. The alleged fixes in the "Stimulus Package" (yes I added the quotes intentionally) don't treat the problem. Yes the economy is malnourished. Most can agree the government is in a good position to help. However, if malnourishment is the cause, don't give me potato chips, soda and pork rinds.

It sort of reminds me of an old **Bill Cosby** routine: Mom is sleeping in on a Saturday morning and it's dad's turn to feed the kids. "Hey Dad, we're hungry can we have some of the leftover cake?" "I'm not sure your mother would approve of cake for breakfast. Hmmm, let me read the ingredients. Flour, milk eggs, this looks pretty nutritious. Yeah you can have cake for breakfast."

One for you, four for us. OK little citizens, here's \$500. Be fruitful and stimulate. Oh and, by the way, we are spending an additional \$2,230 to expand government by building more bridges, barracks, and stuff. You know, create jobs. After all more bridges will contribute to the economic health for many years to come.

What's the deal with our politicians/legislators? Are they ignorant, stupid, selfish or narcissistic or something else? Candidly, I don't know. I have a difficult time understanding how, with the stroke of a pen, they can be OK

with expanding the **National Debt** by 10 percent (\$700 billion bail out + \$819 billion stimulus = \$1.5 Trillion or 10 percent of \$10.6 Trillion.

In summary, the smoke and mirrors continue; problems are vaguely defined, the proposed solution is too voluminous to comprehend and the media is crying wolf (or maybe I should say bear).

If you are having trouble sleeping, I know a great non-addictive way to cure your insomnia: read the **American Recovery and Reinvestment Tax Act of 2009** (all 680 pages).

Jefferson Pinto is a retired CPA, holds an MBA from one of the finer accredited universities in this country, and is the VP of corporate operations for his day job.

"...it's the government employee expansion and job reclamation project for government employees."

"The stimulus check written to citizens is really a rebate; it was our money in the first place."

"I can offer you this price for the car if you buy it from me today."

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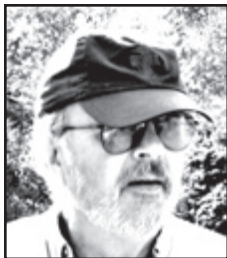
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Do You Have a Steppenwolf Inside of You ?

by Peter Rudolf Milhado, Ph.D.



In my thirty-five years of practice in psychotherapy, never have I seen and experienced as much fear, anxiety, and emotional pain as I have in the last six months of 2008. The collective psychic atmosphere was dark, sinister and threatening. By the end of the year, I was exhausted bordering on depletion. I was tired...so I took

two weeks off to do absolutely nothing. It was a good decision. At dawn, I walked into **Java and Joe** for a steaming cup of coffee, perused the paper, watched **Ojai** slowly wake-up and then wandered back to my cabin in the orange groves. I spent many hours every day staring into a mesmerizing and healing campfire in my backyard. Sometimes friends would come over, but mostly I needed to be by myself. To top it off, I read the brilliant and soulful **German** author **Hermann Hesse's Steppenwolf** again, sentence by sentence, what a joy.

I had just finished the book when an old familiar **Chevy** van sputtered down the driveway. It was my old friend and hermano **Luis Fernando Castillo III**, better known in our circles as **'Loco Luiee'**.

"Hey Peter, are you still shrinking heads? You oughta be expandin' 'em, especially your own. Why don't you get an honorable vocation?!?!?" **Luiee** is a portly man in the mode of **Friar Tuck** and **Falstaff** and has the clearest eyes of any man I know. He was trained by the **Jesuits**, attained priesthood, has a keen intellect and a devilish grin. He was asked to leave the church after **Gloria**, an ebullient, enchanting and rubenesque black woman took him down to taste the sins of the flesh after her 17th confession right there in that tiny booth.

"Well, Hallelujah, Glory be... If it isn't the church's **Don Juan** or is it the **Marquise de Sade**?" We go through a similar greeting ritual every time we meet. **Luis** walked over and we embraced.

"Good to see you brother...I brought some luscious red wine from **Santo Tomas, Mexico**. I live close by in **Ensenada**, my new wife and ...". He stopped mid-sentence when he saw my copy of **Steppenwolf** next to the campfire. "Holycow, I just finished reading that book... That's one of the main reasons I spontaneously invited myself to your casa. Peter, I know we both have a strong wolf inside of us...mine is beginning to pull real hard on me and it's complicating things with **Angelina**."

I put more wood on the fire, opened a bottle of **Luiee's** wine, played **Van Morrison** on the tape recorder, sat down and got ready for my old friend's words. He's a bit longwinded but always fascinating to me.

"Alright **Luiee**, your wolf already got you ex-communicated, and for the safety and grace of all human beings kept you out of the **Vatican**...what's he up to now?... Cheers!"

"**Salud companero**. Like many artists I know, I feel like I am split into two personalities. One part of me loves family life and the security of belonging to a community. That was one of the reasons I joined the **Jesuits**. There is something attractive to the safety and contentment of belonging, whether it's a religious order or now a middle-class life. **Angelina** has a large family and I love them all. But after a certain period of time I get more uneasy everyday and it steadily escalates into turbulent restlessness. The daily routines become empty and meaningless and soon I begin to choke on the

contentment I searched out to begin with. The wolf starts howling with increasing intensity. He wants to go out and blaze a new trail, live with fiery passion and most of all he wants to be free. He hates the orderly suffocating dictates of middle-class life. Working for governmental or corporate bureaucracies would be the kiss of death for him. He has no social ambitions. He loves revolutionaries, artists, eccentrics and hates the silent majority and the temples they worship like malls, large arena sports events and television. My wolf, Peter, demands absolute freedom no matter the cost."

Van Morrison just finished singing 'I'm searching for the philosopher's stone'. I was going to hit **Luiee** with **Gregorian** chants, but decided on **Irish** music instead. After we stared into the fire for a long time, **Luiee** continued,

"These two parts of my personality have always wreaked havoc in my intimate relationships. When

women fall in love with the educated, responsible, slightly off-beat but yet dedicated and apparently civilized man, they were first aghast, then horrified and finally terribly disappointed when the wolf showed up with zero regard for social conventions.

There were other women who fell in love with the wildness, freedom, dangerous strength and untameability of the wolf in me, but couldn't handle it when I just wanted to be still, reclusive, listen to **Bach** and **Mozart** and quietly settle down. I brought unhappiness to all of those women and they to me...So how are you handling your wolf? I do know this...you were an absolute madman in your younger days. Remember the times I came for visits when you lived in the **San Fernando Valley**? You were in your early years of practice, slept in your office in that high rise by bribing the security guards downstairs with cases of **Corona**.

We'd head down **Highway 101** in your **VW** camper on a Friday afternoon. When we got close to the **405** you'd ask me to flip a coin...Heads left to **Vegas**, tails right to **Tijuana**. Thank God we went to **Tijuana** most of the time. So tell me... in regards to your wolf...do you have a grip on him?"

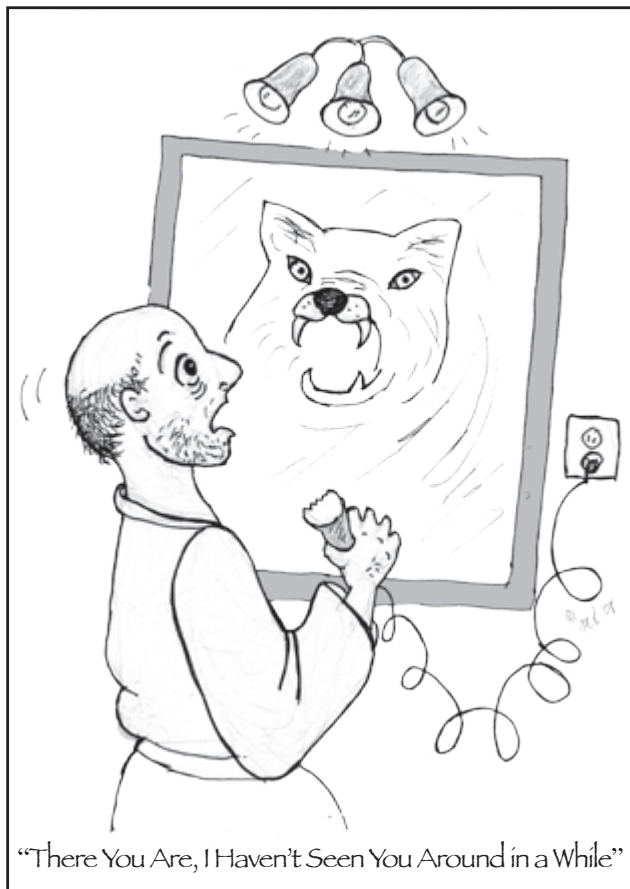
"I don't think we can ever have a total grip on **Steppenwolf**. Quite a few years back I had a powerful nighttime dream where this bulky, trembling, enraged hairy wolf-man was locked up in the small **Ojai** jailhouse in **Libby Park**. He was rattling the bars with all his might getting ready to break free. When I told this dream to a friend/brother/mentor of mine he walked over, got close to my face, looked in my eyes and whispered, 'Keep that wolf on a leash, man!' He was right, of course, and I try to do that...most of the time successfully these days, but every once in a while I gotta let him run. It's essential that I stay conscious and drink three glasses of wine instead of eight...get the drift? Only consciousness and humor, especially the self-effacing kind, will help us carry the ambiguity of our inner wolf, otherwise he has the potential to take us down."

"I know that Peter. It's like the greed possessed get destroyed by greed, the power possessed by power, the passive/submissives by service and if our wolf is successful in his uncompromising demand for absolute freedom, with his lack of relatedness, we'll eventually choke on our loneliness and die alone."

Luiee stayed three days. He was a godsend and a blessing at the end of my vacation. As he drove out, he screamed, "I'll miss you Peter." I yelled back, "I love you too, Luis. Next time bring **Angelina**."

One for all and all for one Love to Mother Meera

Peter Rudolf Milhado, Ph.D.



"There You Are, I Haven't Seen You Around in a While"

EVENT CALENDAR CONT.

Continued from Page 2...

ensure that no one is turned away from the YMCA due to their inability to pay, especially during these tough economic times. The YMCA's Open Doors scholarship program allows children and families the opportunity to benefit from, family strengthening, YMCA programs such as child care, day camp and programs for at-risk youth. Campaign for Youth also supports members in programs such as aquatics, resident away camp, youth sports and helps assist members in need with membership fees.

This year's campaign theme, "Red, White, and Blue" was designed to symbolize the patriotic resurgence that Ventura is sharing along with the rest of America. Last year, the Ventura Family YMCA Campaign for Youth raised \$110,721, which allowed more than 1,200 kids and families the opportunity to participate in programs. These funds were made possible through the hard work of over 80 volunteers and generous contributions from more than 359 local business and individuals.

Events Continued Page 23...

LETTER - VENTURA SMALL TOWNIE

City of Ventura: Shameful Grave Robbing of Cemetery Park

EDITORS NOTE: The following letter was forwarded to the VIEW by the authors. It is reprinted below in its entirety. January 26, 2009

Dear City of Ventura Officials:

As we read the article in today's **Los Angeles Times** about the destruction at **St. Mary's Cemetery in Ventura**, we thought maybe it was April 1st and this was just one big joke - a stupid one at best, but a joke. Obviously it is not a joke - actually the only joke is the city officials in the 1960s who did this to the 3,000 people buried in this holy ground, and now the city officials who won't lift a finger to make it right.

What else does a person have left after they die than their scared resting place? How can anyone, including elected officials, take it upon themselves to do such a dastardly thing as this. Where does your moral authority start and end? When does shame kick in?

We thought the last time we would ever hear of such horrible atrocities was when the **Nazis** did this to every **European Jewish Cemetery** they could get a hold of and destroy. What was done to **St. Mary's Cemetery** and what is now (not) being done really isn't any different.

We live in **Ventura** and have for fourteen years - and you know what, we are ashamed of our city, and we are ashamed of the people who did this, and now more ashamed of you people that don't seem to care.

Why is there even a debate? How can one compare a park with benches or a playing dog to a cemetery with buried grandparent, parent, husband, wife, child, sibling, or friend resting in peace and honor? This decades-old wrong must be corrected.

Your values and judgement need some serious realignment. You have delusions of adequacy.

Sincerely, **Linda & George A. Weinstock**
Ventura
gaw13@mac.com

EDITORS NOTE: George and Linda, Much of the mainstream and 'faux' alternative press operatin' in Ventura enjoys comfortable 'down-cozytime' relationships with government and redevelopers. Perhaps an explanation?



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Wine And Roses

by Ron Rowe



Emerson wrote, "so nigh is grandeur to our duty, so near is God to man, when duty whispers low, thou must, the youth replies, I can." And so did Barack Obama heed destiny's call. The nation, nay the world looks to him for leadership. It is quite a burden on his shoulders. Let us hope and pray he will not fail and lead this great nation back once again

to its former policies and destiny of leading the world in peace and compassion...and so it is. H.G. Wells once wrote, "civilization is a race between education and catastrophe," and Nikita Khrushchev once said to a fellow politician, "politicians are the same the world over; they promise to build a bridge, even when there is no river." Strange, didn't we have a senator from Alaska, who did just that?

I see that the word billion as in dollars, has now been replaced with trillion. Nearly every government official speaks of trillions of dollars when explaining government spending. The US Budget Office is about to release a new baseline budget of roughly 950 billion annually. It now takes 1 trillion to get the public's attention. Next, I predict will be a quadrillion. The budget office is now forecasting a US budget deficit for the 2009 fiscal year of nearly 1.2 trillion. That's close to \$4000 for every man woman and child in the US.

I do see that Zimbabwe has now released a new 50 billion note. It's worth about two dollars. Not to worry, dear reader, as it is only paper and words.

Sadly, about 300,000 veterans of the Iraqi and Afghanistan wars, 18 percent of those who have served, are now suffering from depression or post traumatic stress disorders, according to a comprehensive new RAND Corporation analysis. More than half of those affected are not receiving adequate treatment and the study warned of long-term consequences for the vets and the nation. Yet another example of George Bush's botched and misguided policies. Oh, and do shed a tear for the millionaires in the US, according to Bloomberg News over 20 percent of them lost more than 40 percent of their net worth. How sad.

For readers, that still have cash and time to spare, if you want to get away from all these little problems in the US and get back to early Western basics, (no not in Texas, in Australia.) From March 23 to 25 and May 11 to 13 the Prairie Hotel in South Australia offers a 3 day cattle roundup. The cost, \$2,500, includes meals; (lots of beans), two nights in a tent. Interested? Contact prairiehotel.com.au and good on you mate, hope you get to throw another Barbie on the fire. If you want to stay in the US, the Albuquerque Police Department is running want ads for informants. It says, "People who hang out with crooks and who want to make money by sharing the information with police you can make \$50 for drug crime information, \$700 for drug murder, etc." The advertisement assures potential applicants that their resumes will not be scrutinized, drug use and criminal records okay.

If you keep losing your personal items, car keys, etc. not to worry, buy the credit card size, Loc8tor Lite. It keeps trace of easily misplaced items, weighs less than an ounce with two mini homing tags, is small enough to hang on a key ring or hide in a wallet, and uses audio and visual cues. The device will guide you to within an inch of your tagged items. Price \$79.99 contract, loc8tor.com

I say, if you lose your glasses and can't find them or if

you don't remember you wear glasses, then you need one of these devices.

If you find an artificial leg, contact Scott Westerman, 47, he lost his leg while skydiving. His jump instructor is optimistic. Oh...there is a \$12,000 reward.

Want to impress your friends by speaking like Prof. Spuffelman? Say, *fac-ut gaudeam punc* -- It's Latin for *Make my Day Punk*.

If you have any original music written by Beethoven, keep it, it's worth a fortune, his earliest draft of Ninth Symphony sold for 2 million pounds at Sotheby's Auction House in London. Poor Ludwig only received \$100 when he sold the original to a friend.

A recent survey by *That's Life* magazine showed that most women admit they are shameless liars. The most frequent whoppers range from, "you were fantastic in bed last night" to, "this dress only cost me \$20." Three quarters of women lied to get out of lovemaking; 46 percent say, "I am too tired", 35 percent say "I have a headache." Ninety percent admit feeling guilty when they tell big whoppers. Only 12 percent feel guilt over telling little lies. The magazine editor, Christabel Smith said, "if women were to stop lying, if they told their friends the truth such as, you really look fat in that cute little black dress or your choice of house furnishings is terrible, they would have no friends." As Professor Higgins said, in *My Fair Lady*, *men never lie*, why can't a woman be like a man. Why indeed?

Oh no, a Canadian man insisted in court that he should not pay child support for his child on the grounds that he was fast asleep when the child was conceived. He claims, he was visiting this woman when he awoke in the middle of the night to find she was having sex with him. He said he demanded that she stop immediately. Nine months later, she gave birth. The father is now suing her claiming she caused him serious mental distress. Well, I believe him, I think. People want to know.

Astronomers catch light sent 10 billion years ago and 10 billion light years away, but that long ago the universe was much smaller. Why did it take so long to reach us? Was it traveling in circles?

What is the name for words spelled the same but not pronounced the same and have different meanings? Why is it if the world revolves east to west, weather patterns move the same way, effectively going faster than the earth's rotation, one would suspect the earth's surface to slide under the atmosphere. Any answers?

A \$90 bottle of wine really does taste better than a \$10 bottle even when it's in a \$90 bottle in disguise. A new study has found that the higher prices prime the brain to expect pleasure, causing people to experience what they actually expect. Researchers at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) asked 50 subjects to trace a selection of wines. When wine drinkers sipped a five dollar bottle of wine, they rated it much higher when it was disguised in a \$50 price tag bottle. Drinkers enjoyed a \$90 bottle much more when it was priced at \$10. Brain scans showed that the pleasure centers of the wine drinkers had lit up when they saw a high price, so that their tongues mistook value for quality. Subjects believe that more expensive wines are likely to taste better, said economist Antonio Randel, and these expectations influence their actual experience.

If you really want top-quality wines at a reasonable price, pop on down to Ojai, Old Creek Winery, at 1002 for Old Creek Road. It's a pleasant experience to enjoy a glass of wine in a winery.

A new California law now allows wineries to sell wine by the glass. Most wine at the Old Creek Winery starts at a moderate seven dollars a glass, excellent Cabernet Sauvignon, Pinot Noirs are \$10 a glass. They also have monthly specials. This month is a Merlot/Syrah blend, plus a Famiglia del, din Italian blend will have 10 percent off.

Do check out the Old Creek Winery...always something exciting going on, plus excellent wines for sale.

Time now for a glass of Merlot and to think on the words of Longfellow who wrote the following, "Nothing that is can Pause or stay, the moon will wax, the moon will wane, the mist and cloud will turn to rain. The rain to mist and cloud again, tomorrow will be today."

Remember dear readers, go forth, tomorrow will be today so live in the moment. Live in the now...ever onward, devote yourself to good deeds, as tomorrow will soon be upon you. Smile more easily, think big love, be kind and read THE VIEW.



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

Tea Grounds: What is Rooibos?

by Lorraine Mariz



Rooibos Tea is made from the plant *Aspalathus Linearis* which grows in the Cederberg area of South Africa near Cape Town.

The tea has a slightly sweet, refreshing flavor with woody, grainy notes. It is available loose and in bags. Often it will be combined with other flavors such as vanilla, cinnamon or mango. It is sometimes marketed as Red Tea or African Red Bush tea.

At Java & Joe we have loose Rooibos in plain organic; with vanilla - called Rooibos Bourbon; with orange and other fruit; with chocolate and caramel (*sounds weird but is popular*), and with Indian style spices that make a nice herbal chai. In tea bags we have the plain, the Rooibos fruit blend mixed with Chamomile (*a favorite with kids*), and the vanilla mixed with vanilla black tea. This is Joe's favorite. Most tea shops and health food stores carry Rooibos Tea in some form.

Rooibos contains potassium, magnesium, calcium, sodium, iron, copper manganese, fluoride, zinc and has no caffeine. Health claims (*anecdotal, of course*) are that Rooibos helps relieve colic in infants and digestive problems in adults; lessens discomforts related to pregnancy; and relieves allergy symptoms. Rooibos is also said to have anti-spasmodic and anti-inflammatory properties.

Lorraine Mariz, Java and Joe, Ojai

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Sheila Cluff: Radiant Energy and Health

by Ron Rowe

Meeting Sheila Cluff for the first time is the equivalent to entering a vortex of energy and health. She absolutely radiates positive vitality and fitness which envelop you when you enter her energy field. This bouncing bubble of energy was born in **Canada**. She has achieved an incredible success in life, both in business, and the health and fitness fields. As a child she was interested in ice skating and began training to become a professional, moving rapidly along from amateur to professional status. She became a top **Canadian Figure Skating Champion** and performed for many years with **Olympic Winner Sonja Heini's Hollywood Skating Ice Review**. Putting away her ice skates, she moved along life's path and became a high school physical fitness teacher.

Her interest turned to health fitness fields and she began concentrating on developing her fitness and health business. She became a star and host of her own fitness shows on **NBC**, and **KABC** television. **Sheila** is considered a fitness pioneer in the health industry. She is a motivational speaker, author of four books, producer of four fitness videos and a leader of more than 40 fitness and beauty cruises.

She was also named **Woman of the Year by the City of Hope Foundation**. Many more awards and plaques from grateful communities have been given to her. **Spa Magazine** recognized her as a health and fitness trailblazer in 2001.

Sheila serves on the **Board of Directors** of the **Ojai Film Festival**, is a past member of the board of directors for both the **International Spa Association (ISPA)** and **The Committee of 200 (C200)**, which fosters, celebrates and advances women's leadership in business. She also publishes the **Spa Update**, a newsletter with over 40,000 circulation. In addition, through her **Ojai spa, (The Oaks at Ojai)**, she now circulates a monthly e-newsletter called **The Acorn**. She also, for the last several years, has played **Mrs. Santa Claus** in the annual ice show fundraiser put on by the **Channel Islands Ice Center**. All money raised from the show is used to purchase **Christmas** gifts for foster children in **Ventura County**.

Amazingly, this dynamic lady also found time to marry, have four children, and become a grandmother of seven. After acquiring several fitness businesses, **Sheila** and her husband moved to **Ojai** in 1977 and they bought an old 1920s hotel on **Ojai Avenue**. They converted it into the now internationally famous **The Oaks at Ojai**, which is now rated in the top 10 by **Spa Finders** magazine and **CONDE NAST TRAVELER**. It is the winner of best health related programs, best creative workshops, best fitness programs, and I might add, best value for your money.

A complete remodeling and renovation has just been completed with more changes coming up. At **The**

Oaks, professionals cater to your physical, mental, and spiritual bodies, offering everything from guided hikes into the nearby mountains, **yoga sessions, aerobics, stretch classes, treadmills, jacuzzi, racquetball, tennis, swimming**. There are at least twelve **massage services** available, including **reflexology, Swedish massage, acupuncture, Reiki, hot rock steam, plus a Watsu**. What is a **Watsu**? It's my favorite, reminding me of my old flotation tank days. You float, and are gently stretched in water heated to body temperature, which provides incredible relief from pain. This unique treatment gives total relaxation, calms the emotions, increases circulation and range of motion.

At the heart of **The Oaks** program is its serious focus on health and fitness, utilizing rhythmic stretch, **Tai Chi, and qi cong**. A wide selection of services is available to suit your physical requirements and interests. These include; clinical treatments, waxes, facials (*designed to address the needs of the skin*), private consultations, nutritional counseling, personal fitness training, and body composition analysis.

Gymnasiums are full of the most modern equipment, available at all times. There is also a large outdoor swimming pool where guests can splash happily around. The large ballroom, where once elegantly dressed couples danced gracefully to the melodic strains of a waltz or fox trot now echo to the sounds of a different beat, the rhythm of aerobic exercise. Classes are held daily. Incidentally, **Sheila** was the first

to introduce cardiovascular dance to the world in the 1950s; it is now known as aerobic dance. Not forgotten in this temple of fitness are the meals. They are limited to 1000-1500 calories a day. They also offer athlete portions for those doing advanced hiking and workouts. Now when you think of low-calorie meals at a physical fitness spa, you probably think as I did, limp lettuce, celery and carrot sticks and an uninteresting dollop of tasteless cottage cheese. Not so, **Eleanor Brown**, originator of **Spa Cuisine** is the spa's menu food consultant. Author of six publications on the art of low-calorie cooking she brings 40 years of food expertise to her consulting practice, and her recipes have appeared in many national publications. The daily food offered at the spa features foods that are low in salt and sugar and high in protein using the freshest fruits, homegrown herbs, and vegetables. Din-

ner is a three-course affair. The soups are sensational, salads are scrumptious, main courses are magnificent. Can you imagine **chicken enchiladas, fish kabobs, teriyaki, Italian stir fry with linguine, baked sea bass**? Desserts are devastatingly appealing. **Strawberry chocolate eclair, blueberry mousse pashica, and Greek cheesecake** are just a few of the selections available. For people that require more than three regular meals, there is a morning broth break, afternoon **fruit smoothie, a vegetable break**, and an after dinner evening snack.

You'll never feel hungry in spite of the physical yoga and gym workouts. The spa is surrounded by native plants and the inside is graced with **California** artist's original works which lends an artistic ambience to the great rooms and dining hall. Local **Ojai** artists are also featured at the spa. If you are interested in visiting the spa for a complete rejuvenation of body and spirit, by all means call **805-646-5573** or visit www.oaksspa.com

Ask about the special programs, such as mother/daughter weekend specials. Although the spa programs are designed for women, men also are accepted. They can share rooms with their wives and watch the weight disappear on them...when you leave you'll feel a complete rejuvenation, you will be in physical, mental, and spiritual attunement with the universe, and you will soar with the Eagles. So if you are becoming a couch potato, don't despair, there is hope no matter



Sheila Cluff, pictured here holding her Terri Figure Skates, custom made in 2006. At her feet, the Harlick custom skates made for her in 1950 by the same craftsman who is now joined by his son in the business.

Photo © 2009, Joel Anderson



what your age, as physically fit grandmother **Sheila** can prove. Soon, you will be one of the many who return to **The Oaks** again and again. Call and make your reservations now **646-5573**. Your body and mind will thank you.



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VENTURA COUNTY WEIRD VIEWS

Spookville: Community Founded by Spiritualists

by Richard Senate



Some have suggested that I should open a ghost museum to highlight all I have learned in my 30 years investigating psychic phenomena. If I ever did, I know exactly where such a place might be built; in a community founded by **Spiritualists** in the 1880s. The town was given the name of the lowest of the seven heavens in classical spiritualism — **Summerland**. It's just up the coast, south of Santa Barbara.

Spiritualism was a novel religion based on séances and medium ship that swept over the nation in the 19th Century. It was so popular that **Abraham Lincoln** even held séances and talked to the spirits in the **Red Room** of the **White House**! It was not accepted by all; church leaders and religious groups branded it nothing short of sacrilege. Those that followed this new teaching faced persecution as laws were enacted to forbid "fortune telling" and spiritualist teachers were routinely arrested when they spoke each Sunday. (This became such a problem that every spiritualist church was equipped with a safe full of money — to bail out the minister!)

A group of **Spiritualists** came to **Santa Barbara County** and set up their own community where, they hoped, they could practice their faith without prejudice. They hoped to set up a retirement home for burned out mediums, as well as a place where they could live the values of their religion. One of the first structures they built still stands; it's now a popular restaurant called the "**Big Yellow House**" (now closed but soon to re-open). Here they held séances and performed meetings and lectures. In time, they would build a large two-storied church they called "**Liberty Hall**." Rather than decorate the building with a cross (a thing used to kill people), they flew a large **American flag**.

Summerland's streets were given spiritualist names and, as they were a very literate people, they set up their own lending library. They also started two newspapers. **The Golden Banner** was the more popular of the two and featured news of the spiritualist community from all over the world.

Local Santa Barbara residents didn't embrace the newcomers and treated them with scorn. **Summerland** was referred to as "**Spookville**" and **Liberty Hall** called "**Spook Hall**." The **Spiritualists** held on until one of their number, drilling a water well, happened to hit oil. The rush of oil workers undermined the colony and most of the followers drifted away. A few spiritualists continued their beliefs in the town until the freeway came and their church was demolished. The few believers re-established themselves, in **Santa Barbara**, a new site on **Garden Street**. The **Church of the Comforter** is the direct descendent of the **Summerland** colony.

The spiritualists may well be gone but they were the ones, with the help and advise from ghosts, set up this beachside community. It is my hope that they will embrace their heritage and once again tell of their rather unique founding. **The Big Yellow House** is well known for her many ghosts. **Hector**, a playful phantom, was rumored to haunt the basement wine cellar and the library on the second floor. The restless spirit of a 19th Century woman, perhaps a medium, haunted the ladies bathroom. And many strange things were reported in the place. Let's hope the new management will respect the ghosts; after all, they were there first.

Richard Senate
www.RichardSenate.com



Ojai Chamber Mixer at Casa Barranca

Casa Barranca Wines and Art Gallery, located in the **Arcade** hosted the **Jan. 22 Ojai Chamber of Commerce Mixer**. Some of the partygoers who kicked off the new season in style were **Cathy Barnett and Steve Brandt, David Whipple and Mary Distin, Scott Eicher, Sheila and Don Cluff, Steve Olsen, Christine Fenn, Jeff Hoefling, Rick Harrell, Nathan Kaehler, Ren and Victoria Adam, Martha Dowden, Tom Farmer, Katrina Sexton, Rick Frash, Randy Burg, and Ryan Elliott**.

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Celebrate Your Child!

by Mariaemma Pelullo-Willis



Whether your child is in traditional school or is homeschooled, here are some tips taken from the C.A.R.E.S. and F.I.T.T. principles from *Discover Your Child's Learning Style*, co-authored by **Mariaemma Willis & Victoria Kindle Hodson**:

1. Celebrate your child!

Please, please, remember to

celebrate your children for who they are, NOT for the quality or quantity of their school work. Get into the habit of pointing out what is RIGHT about your children. Encourage them to pay attention to their own positive characteristics and actions, to their interests, talents, and accomplishments. Compare these two sets of comments:

When are you going to get it right?...Well, if there's a way to mess it up you'll find it...You're so clumsy...I know you'll lose it...You'll probably forget like you always do...

Wow, thanks for remembering to pick that up...I noticed you put your ring in a safe place...Thanks for helping your brother...That was tricky but you managed to get it done...I admire your willingness to do a few math problems even though you really dislike math...

If children live with the first set of comments, it's not a big surprise if they themselves say things like, I'm so clumsy...I'll lose it for sure...I can't do it...I never finish things, that's just the way I am...

Children who live with the second set of comments learn to be confident and to pay attention to what they do right. You are liable to hear them say things like, Well, it's hard but I can try it...Next time I'm going to do it this way...Maybe I can make a plan so that doesn't happen again...I know I can do it...I did it!

2. Focus on solutions

Instead of blaming and punishing, form a team with your children and work together on solutions.

Here's a typical monologue:

You forgot your homework again - what is wrong with you? Do you like getting bad grades? You'll never get to college and you'll never get anywhere in life with that attitude...etc.

How about changing this to:

I see you forgot your homework and you're feeling frustrated about it. How about if we come up with a solution for remembering your homework?

Then brainstorm together, draw things out, use a white board, make a chart if this is helpful, etc.

3. Take the pressure off

Sometimes it's appropriate to back off of something that is causing great upset, sadness, fear, and/or frustration. For example, if math is literally making your child sick, it's time to talk to the teacher and come up with an alternate plan. If you are homeschooling, you can stop math for awhile. Continue to be in dialogue with your child so you can re-evaluate when it's time to bring math back and in what format.

Remember, a person cannot learn when in a heightened emotional state - so if something is forced on a child when the child is upset, the brain will shut down and not much learning will take place anyway - plus the stage is set for a life-long belief that one "can't do" the particular skill or subject.

To sum up: Remember that school is not life. In the end, in the real world, it won't matter whether your child conquered dangling participles or still doesn't get Algebra...what will matter is whether your child believes in himself, whether she is confident about her own abilities and what she CAN do.

Be your children's LearningSuccess™ Coaches and bring out the stars that are shining inside!

- **Mariaemma Pelullo-Willis, Ventura**
www.learningsuccesscoach.com

Consultant, Educational Therapist, and Co-author of
Midlife Crisis Begins in Kindergarten, Discover Your Child's Learning Style, and The Power of You Now!
m@mariaemmawillis.com

Transformations

Conscious Parenting Class - February 21st

When I'm in session with a client, I experience a field of unconditional love all around, an open state of Beingness. No matter what I may be going through in my own life, a beauty opens up when I am of service. By helping another, any challenge I am holding shifts as well. We are both transformed by our experience of the truths we uncover in our synergistic journey."

- **Kristi D. Bechtold, Educator/Healing Arts Practitioner**

Ojai resident, **Kristi Bechtold** is an innovative **Educator and Healing Arts Practitioner** who has studied **Personal Growth and Transformation** since 1987. She holds a **Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Human Development, an Interdisciplinary Psychology Program**, from **Cal State University, Hayward (CSUH)**. **Kristi Bechtold**, through the healing center she founded and directs, **Open2Now and Synergistic Wisdom**, offers individually tailored counseling, coaching, and energy balancing sessions.

Bringing these components of mind, body and soul awareness together creates a dynamic experience for her and her clients. Kristi's unique approach to personal growth has resulted in hundreds of people leading lives full of possibility, free from self-defeating beliefs. As a member of the **International Massage Association** and **The American Council of Hypnotherapist Examiners**, she has worked with employees of **Chevron Corporation, Kaiser Permanente, Dean Witter Reynolds** as well as local businesses.

Kristi's background also includes 1-1/2 years extended education in the **Consciousness Studies Graduate Program** at **JFK University**, studying the **Nature of Consciousness**. She also has



over one thousand hours of training in the **Holistic Health Field**, and holds **Certificates of Completion in Stress Management Consulting, Reiki Master, Massage Therapy, Accupressure, Clinical Hypnotherapy, Holodynamics, Matrix Energetics and Yuen Energetics**, as well as studies in **Arts and Consciousness**. She has taught workshops in expressional arts, meditation, and energy management.

Additionally, Kristi specializes in assisting parents and children through difficult times of transition, such as divorce and real life family relations. She helps empower parents, children, teachers, and highly sensitive people transform blocks and outdated patterns, becoming more successful and fulfilled in their lives.

Kristi is currently facilitating **Conscious Parenting Workshops** in **Ventura County** and treats clients in two locations: downtown **Ojai**, and **Ventura near Community Memorial Hospital**, either in person or over the phone. Her sessions include any combination of gentle bodywork, guided visualizations, consultations, and energy balancing designed to assist you in:

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- **Increased Spiritual Awareness and Energy Management**

Kristi will be holding a **Conscious Parenting Class Feb. 21.**

For info., www.synergisticwisdom.com/open2now_Classes2.html Visit www.synergisticwisdom.com or contact **Kristi** directly at 805-284-3303, or 525-3871.



Victoria Shoe Repair

Jess Victoria celebrates the return of his display to its streetfront location, where it had been for 30 years. In a drawn-out battle with Santa Paula Code Enforcement/City Hall, which had forced to retire his display to the interior, it appears that Jess has been 'Victorious' at last. Cities everywhere hopefully will follow suit with a more liberal policy for local merchants to display their goods to help promote sales.

Pictured here with Jess are local beauties, **Bianca Gonzalez, Caro Virto and Cristal Alvarez**. All the beautiful people drop in and visit Jess where he dispenses political savvy, wit, poetry and prose, along with outfitting some of the best shod feet in town!

"There is no sense for living without love, the flowers and women." - **Jess Victoria**

The Sadness of Sicily

by **Mina French**

Carla Maria D'Amico died at 5:50 pm on January 8th in a semi-private room at **Mobile Nursing and Rehab**. I was the only one with Carla when she breathed her last breath.

After Carla passed, they said a special mass for her in her hometown, **Palermo, Sicily**. Her four sisters were heartbroken. She was born during **WWII**, in 1941.

Everyone from Germany and Sicily called to give their condolences. My cousin, **Sylvia** and I talked at great length about **Carla's life**. Presently, I am preparing an illustrated book in **Carla's memory** which will commemorate her life and loves.

Mina French
artnews510@aol.com

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**Earl Faith – An Autobiographical Excerpt
Pearl Harbor, WWII**



© 2009, Mary Long

I went home before daylight Monday morning, got a few hours sleep and was called back in to take a crew to the **Oklahoma** that was sunk in 20 minutes, after receiving 5 torpedoes.

The ship rolled over until her masts hit the bottom of the harbor. Over 400 men lost their lives and about 18 were trapped alive in the sunken ship. That's where the welders come in. They wanted us to cut holes in the exposed part of the ship's bottom to try to rescue the men. There's no way we could cut holes until we knew what was on the other side; was it oil tank, ammo, storage, or what? So they got compressors to drill holes to test for safety reasons. In the meantime, we were listening to the hammering of the men trapped inside. No way could we tell where they were.

Well, the test showed highly explosive. No matter where we drilled, it was unsafe. The only thing left was cutting with chipping guns. It took hours to do what a burner could have done in minutes. The hammering kept on. The welders were called off the job and it was a few days later that they finally located the men. They had to be carried out and some did not make it.

– Earl Faith, Ojai

American Hero: Earl Faith at 100



© 2009, Joel Anderson

Marlene Spencer, daughter-in-law, Earl, Kylie Stump, Great Grand Daughter, and Ritzi Tolabing (back), caregiver.

by Mary M. Long

Earl Newton Faith celebrated his 100th birthday At Home in Ojai Jan. 13, surrounded by friends and family.

During his retirement years, Earl wrote his autobiography, which chronicles an interesting life from his birth in Illinois to his residency in Ventura in the early 1950s. Earl grew up in a time when large families supported each other, and each member of the family was expected to learn trade skills.

Every summer Earl's father would send him out to ranches to learn to ride, herd, plow, and mend fences. During one of these summer adventures he became best friends with Glen Randall who went on to become Hollywood's most famous horse trainer. From a boy on a farm training his stock horse to rear, Randall went on to train Roy Roger's famous horse Trigger as well as horses for the movies Ben Hur, the Black Stallion, and others

Leaving agriculture behind, Earl and his older brother Clarence decided to set off for California, taking any

kind of job that came their way. Looking out for each other as they went, between the two of them they nearly always had work. Clarence found Earl a job welding where he learned the hard way, by his own mistakes. Being an "adventurous type" by his own admission, Earl never shied away from a challenge. When the Great Depression hit, welders were in demand and Earl's skill developed as he went, landing him a stint at Mare Island, Vallejo, working on ships for the U.S. Navy. When word went out that welders were needed at Pearl Harbor, Earl and his wife put their house up for sale and were off for the greatest adventure of his life, WWII.

Earl's memoirs tell the story of the night of December 7th, 1941, when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, with a detail and perspective that needs to be preserved in the journals of history. In 1942 Earl became Chief Welder in charge of all other welders, burners, and burner drivers at Pearl Harbor. Welders worked in shifts, under blackout orders, round the clock to keep the damaged fleet on duty, and it was Earl and his crew who were called in to free the men trapped inside the sunken ship, the Oklahoma, after it received 5 torpedo hits. Keenly aware of the safety of his men and well known for thinking independently and "getting the job done", Earl invented the first safety welding hat for his men who had to weld in a battle zone.

After the war ended, Earl and his family finally settled in Ventura, with Earl finding work at Port Hueneme. Earl's life is rich with adventures, living through momentous events in the course of history with a zest for living, and an appreciation of the varied individuals that life threw in his pathway.

At 100 years of age, Earl is now enjoying life at the residential care facility, At Home in Ojai where he is visited by his friends and family. Happy Birthday Earl!

Mary M. Long

VENTURA COUNTY WEIRD VIEWS

A Psychic Investigation at the Glen Tavern Inn by Richard Senate



The moment Debbie Senate opened the door of the room she felt the icy cold seeping out. She quickly closed the door. She wanted the rest of the team to feel the wave of supernatural cold. This was part of a psychic

investigation conducted Oct. 28, 2008 of the historic Glen Tavern of Santa Paula by the Ventura College Community Services class on Ghosts and Haunted Houses. The team was on the second floor and when they caught up with Debbie, she opened the door. The cold greeted them as they stepped into the tastefully decorated and furnished room. The cold seemed to sink into the skin driving to the bone. It was the first time that the ghost hunting team struck pay dirt in their investigation of the 1911 Inn. The Santa Paula landmark has long been rumored to have ghosts wandering her halls and they graciously permitted the class to come and try their hand at ghost hunting. The students were not disappointed.

The minute they stepped over the threshold of this room they began to rub their arms as they

smelled the sweet odor of perfume. Legends say this was the room where a French Perfume saleswoman collapses of an aneurism long ago. The scent of her many floral perfumes linked to her sad ghost. She had just checked in after arriving by train with her samples when she was stricken. Some of the students with ghost hunting tools got reactions from the bed, the modern bed, perhaps on the same location as the one where the Frenchwoman collapsed so long ago. Some believe that when people die suddenly, some form of amnesia takes place and the spirit doesn't realize that they are dead, that is why some linger on in a house or building as ghosts.

The team continued on and found more evidence of ghosts in another room. This time it was the mischievous spirits of young children. There are no known reasons why ghost children would haunt the Inn but they have been reported running down the stairs and playing in the lobby. This time they were sensed in one of the second floor rooms. One man snapped a photograph of a blue "orb", a mysterious glowing ball, in the



bathroom. It didn't seem like any sort of reflection. He then used a tape recorder in an attempt to get an Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP). He asked questions then, left the recorder on in the room to record answers. He did not hear anything, but when he played back the tape, at the point where he asked "Do you want to play?" there was a harsh whisper-like child's voice saying clearly "Yeah."

The target of the investigation; the cowboy ghost called Calvin, didn't manifest himself but enough evidence was collected to confirm to the team that the Glen Tavern Inn was still haunted. The historic Glen once again lived up to her reputation as a place where the past is never really gone and the essence of her former visitors lingers still.

If you wish to enjoy a step back in time, the old restored Glen Tavern can provide an entrance to another realm. If you dare, you can even ask for one of the haunted rooms!

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Steelhead Lawsuit...

Continued From VIEW Page 5...

consultation with NMFS and **United** at the **Freeman Diversion Dam**.

CalTrout has challenged this change of position, in their recent lawsuit.

The relationship between **United** and the **Bureau of Reclamation** at the **Freeman** arises from the **Bureau's** funding contract for the construction of the **Diversion Dam** in the early 90s. Without their connection, there would have been no basis for the **Bureau** to have been involved in the consultation with NMFS and **United** about fish passage at the **Freeman Diversion Dam**, which has now been ongoing since 2004.

In the unlikely case that the judge in **CalTrout's** lawsuit determines that the **Bureau of Reclamation** is not required

any more to participate in the Section 7 consultation (*under the **Endangered Species Act***) on fish passage at the **Freeman Diversion Dam**, **United** is *not off the hook* with regard to its responsibility towards the endangered **Southern Steelhead**. It will instead be legally liable, under Section 9 of the **Endangered Species Act**, for the harm its operation of the **Freeman Diversion Dam** causes to migrating **Steelhead**.

United is currently working on its own towards yet another form of consultation with NMFS on **Steelhead** fish passage at the **Freeman Diversion Dam**. This is a Section 10 consultation which, while it sets slightly higher standards for the species' recovery, has no time limits for recovery actions. This is right up **United's** street — they plan to stall and delay as long as needed to avoid doing the right thing, which would be to provide permanent fish passage for **Steelhead**.

CalTrout's court case will be heard in **Federal Court in San Francisco**, possibly in around six months from now.

Meanwhile, yet another winter rainy season is passing by with no adequate fish passage facilities at the **Freeman Diversion Dam** for upstream migrating **Steelhead**.

— *Alasdair Coyne, Ojai*
www.sespewild.org

A Moment Lent

Here we are in the dead of winter's thralls.

We've pushed past dreidel play and deck the halls.

The malls lay barren a shopping reprieve.

Leaving loved ones settled and playing with what they've received.

When occasions are upon us a purchase is easy to make.

The look on their faces and emotion you can't fake.

Gift giving occasions are ever encroaching.

So is it back to the malls for more reproaching?

This kind of pressure is silly to bare.

Swipe our guilt away; is that fair?

Reach deep be strong and rise above.

Time; time spent with those we love.

It's not the gift or money spent.

But the selflessness of a moment lent.

Charlie Aslin Vanoni
Cottontail Creations

Closer View: Featured Biz

Nature's Household

For a lot of people having an eco-friendly housekeeper is a brand new concept! Many of the harsh chemicals that other companies use to clean your house or business are toxic not only to you, but to your pets. Did you know that when your cat walks across your floor and licks its paws it can sustain permanent liver damage?

At **Nature's Household** only safe, natural chemicals they mix themselves are used to get the house sparkling clean, but without the negative side effects of toxic chemicals. Harsh chemicals can damage the immune system and make you more susceptible to illness. This can be particularly dangerous to children, invalids and the elderly. Many of their first time clients remark at how the energy in their houses feels "right" after cleaning.

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— editor



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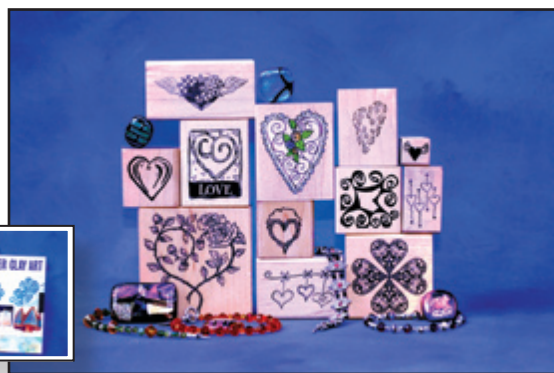
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Only Happy Trails From Now On.....

by Mary M. Long

Three horses stand patiently on an overhead tie line waiting for the boss. Last year's crop of colts pop their furry heads over the buck and rail fencing to see who's coming in for a visit.

The clank of the blacksmith's hammer can be heard from the 100-year-old barn and a friendly voice calls out "howdy, did you have any trouble finding the place?"

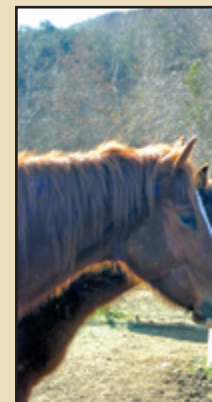
Jay and Jeff OHaco have brought their love affair with the old west right here to their little homestead in Ojai. Growing up on ranches, horses were "in their blood" so when they met and married in 2000 it seemed to both, like finding the other piece of the puzzle. Jeff comes from a family of stunt riders and has appeared in major movies for many years including doubling for Sylvester Stallone in the movies Cliffhanger, and Rambo III. Tall and lean, with crisp clean features, Jeff looks the epitome of the "born-in-the-saddle" stockman. Jay, with her tanned skin and easy smile radiates the friendly, trustworthy demeanor that was the hallmark of the American West.

Despite her affinity for the old west, Jay's expertise with horses covers all disciplines and she moves easily from her chinks and cowboy boots to her breeches and boots. At home on the Cross Country, Dressage Ring, or out herding cattle with the boys, Jay is, as the horsemen state "the real deal". There's more, though, to the picture perfect presentation of this gorgeous couple. Adversity has tightened the ties that bind them through Jay's bout with cancer a few years ago. "I'm in remission now" she says proudly, "I believe my faith in god, and my love of horses is keeping me well."

Jay's small string of personal horses include the Mexican Barbs, that she has grown to love for their intelligence, sturdiness and quiet natures. "This one is my beginner horse," she says as she points to the small black gelding, who looks like he belongs on the set of Gunsmoke. "I want to use him to give lessons and trail rides to children with cancer" she said. "It's my turn to give back". While Jay and Jeff both travel to jobs, they keep their little sanctuary in Ojai a quiet reflection of their personal heaven. Jeff is developing his farrier business, which includes the horses of Thacher school, as he continues his movie work in Hollywood.

Jay's Border Collie lies patiently at her feet, making sure the boss is safe. He's not the only one keeping her safe though. Jeff, too, keeps a watchful eye on her as does the Big Boss in the blue frontier sky.

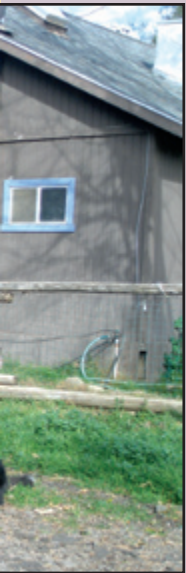
To contact Jeff OHaco, call 558-4420 or see adv. Page 19. To contact Jay for horse sales, or beginning riding lessons English or Western call 310-422-1564 or e-mail Jayatwillrogers@sbcglobal.net



Photos by Mary M. Long



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*Ojai Art Center – Jan. 11
Paintings by Kirk Lowry and Iris Williams*



Photos by Joel Anderson

THE LEASHES END

by Ron Rowe



Ron and his companion, Dudley.

With so much inhumane treatment of animals worldwide, it's time to start the new year with a little positive animal news. First, is of course the passage of **Prop 2 in California**. **Gene Bauer, president of Farm Sanctuary** said, the passage of proposition two in the U.S.' largest agricultural state is a monumental victory for millions of farm animals. It raised public awareness about the cruel treatment of farm animals. Hopefully this will set a precedent in the animal welfare movement.

For more information go to www.farmsanctuary.org **Mexico** has signed into law a bill banning the capture and export of **Mexican wild parrots**. According to the **Defenders of Wildlife** organization, over 70 to 80,000 wild parrots and macaws are captured illegally every year, with over 75 percent of them dying before being illegally exported. **Mexico** is home to 22 species of parrots and macaws, of which six are found nowhere else in the world. For more information go to www.defenders.org

A soup kitchen, exclusively for dogs, has opened in **Berlin, Germany**, providing food for pets of homeless and unemployed owners.

Ebay has banned the sale of ivory in an effort to protect **African and Asian elephants**. **Ebay's** decision to wash its hands of the uncontrollable bloody ivory trade is commendable, said **Teresa Telecky**, policy director of the **Humane Society International**.

A \$15 million veterinary hospital has opened in **San Antonio's Lakeland Air Force Base**, offering long overdue medical treatment for combat wounded dogs. Many dogs are trained to find explosive devices and landmines, and are wounded and maimed doing their duty and left in the country or destroyed. The dogs are also left in the country, even if fit, if retired and no transportation funds are made available for their return trip to the states.

The **Indian** army will now help protect endangered **One-horned Rhinoceroses** from poachers. The rhinos live at **India's Kaziranga National Park**, a 267 square mile park that is home to 1800 of the world's estimated 3000 One-horned rhinos. Poachers have killed 28 of them in the last year.

Pennsylvania, known as the puppy mill capital of the East is about to change. A new law signed by **Gov. Ed Rendell** imposes strict restrictions on commercial breeding kennels. At least three other states have passed crackdowns on puppy mills. Join the fight against puppy mills, go to www.bestfriends.org for more information.

When artist **Cyrus Mejia** first heard that over 6 million animals are put to death every year in animal shelters, she realized that meant that over 600 animals are killed every hour. It inspired her to create an art installation called 575 Project, now on display at **Dixie State College** in **St. George, Utah**. As part of a multi-artist exhibit called, **Art for Animals** the installation portrays animals as sentient and intelligent beings. The exhibit includes a doghouse labeled, **Carry Me Home**, which is covered with 575 dog collars. **Artist Cyrus** said, "I hope it will inspire people to adopt pets from animal shelters rather than buy them from pet shops. I hope they will realize they are saving a life by doing so."

For more info, call 435-652-7500.

Thanks to the hard-hitting campaign by the **American Humane Association** for a **Veal Boycott**, sales on veal

have dropped from 3.4 million to 2.5 million calves. Many thanks to all animal activists for their efforts in saving the calves and exposing the veal industry's use of that toxic and illegal drug, **Clenbuterol**.

The 2008 top 10 names for dogs has just been released; they are #1 **Max, Bailey, Bella, Molly, Lucy, Buddy, Maggie, Daisy, Sophie, and Chloe**. Hope your dog's name is on the top 10 list. Alas, my dog's names **Dudley** and **Winnie**, were not even mentioned. A dog bus runs each weekend from **Loral Gen Park in Tustin, California** to the **Huntington Dog Beach**. Driver owner, **Corey Brixon** not only doesn't charge for the 35 minute ride, he also plays a doggy CD for the four legged pets. Great idea for a pet lover with a van to operate in **Ojai**, taking pets to the doggy park. Check out www.doggybus.com

Did you know the movie dog, **Rin Tin Tin** was rescued as a shell-shocked **German Shepherd** puppy from a bombed out kennel in **Lorraine, France** by **Cpl. Lee Duncan** during **World War I**. **Duncan** brought the dog back to **Los Angeles** where he landed his first starring role in a 1923 movie, **Where the North Begins**. He was so popular he saved **Warner Bros.** from bankruptcy. Also, **Toto**, the little terrier, earned \$125 a week in the movie, **The Wizard of Oz**, which was more than many of the human actors earned.

Many thanks to all the readers who e-mailed me regarding, pet psychics. One e-mail in particular from **Charlotte, in Ventura**, who wrote, "I recently lost my doggie friend of over 14 years.

"...about the pet psychic...supposedly contacts dead pets, I was appalled at the person taking advantage of a pet loss grief."

After reading about the pet psychic that supposedly contacts dead pets, I was appalled at the person taking advantage of a

pet loss grief. I'm sad to hear there is no law prohibiting this charade. Please recommend a book to all your readers to help me in my grief. It's called, **Saying Goodbye to your Angel Animals, Finding Comfort after Losing your Pet**, by **Alan and Linda Anderson**, published by **New World Library, 2008**. It's a wise and comforting book that really helped me overcome my grief."

Thank you **Charlotte**, hope the readers take your advice and save their money. Another good book titled, **Bees Dance and Whales Sing**, the mystery of **Animal Communication** by **Marjorie Facklan** explores the mystery of legitimate **Animal Communication** and behavior of elephants, ants, birds, whales, gorillas etc. It's a fascinating book, I assure you.

For all bird watchers, check out **birdpost.com**. **Avian** enthusiasts can share lists of their sightings, browse birds by name, regions and physical characteristics and locate other sightings on satellite maps. You might find the location of those elusive **Purple Peaked Pulp Peckers** or **Yellow Bellied Sap Suckers**. I have been searching for years for a glimpse of them.

Visitors to the gorilla compound in **Chesington zoo** complained about the foul smell filling the air. The **Zookeeper Michael Rossi** said, they had fed the gorillas a special treat of **Brussels Sprouts** - alas, it had embarrassing side effects in that it caused flatulence in the gorillas. **Michael** admitted none of them were prepared for a foul smell that strong.

Incidentally, did you know it's dangerous to throw peanuts or bananas at the gorillas in open spaced zoos...many of them will throw them back at you. Also, many of them are inclined to urinate on any spectators who get too close to them. Did you know, male cuttlefish guard their female mates to keep away other suitors. Some males have developed a trick for sneaking past the guarding male...they

cross dress; holding their arms like egg laying females, acquire a feminine skin pattern and hide their sex organs. This is reported by a marine biologist in **Nature Magazine**. People want to know.

Why don't sheep shrink in the rain? Why do birds of a feather flock together? Is it fair for an endangered animal to eat an endangered plant?

Finally the words of **Albert Schweitzer** who wrote, **Good**. "We must fight the spirit of unconscious cruelty with which we treat animals. Animals suffer as much as we do, true humanity does not allow us to impose such sufferings on them. It is our duty to make the whole world recognize it, until we extend our circle of compassion to all living things, humanity will not find peace." Peace to all living beings on earth.

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

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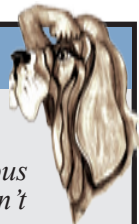
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PET VIEW

News for Pet Owners! **Anja Crosby-Hunter** is back! **Anja** is a holistic Veterinarian who trained with the famous **Dr. Pitcairn**. For those of you who can't visit **Anya** at the **Cat and Bird Clinic** in **Santa Barbara** she has just opened a mobile practice and can be reached at **451-7097**.



DOC JANET

Rare and Well-Done

by Janet McNeil, D.V.M.



Dr. Janet McNeil and Devi, Ventura, 2006

Antiques are always in vogue, heirloom crops are gaining interest, classic cars never fail to turn heads, but rare breed dogs appeal to only a select group. The qualities that have been selected for and endured over centuries in these breeds are most often not picturesque as much as functional. In centuries past, dogs were cherished for their working prowess, unlike the present times where visual presentation is most important. Except for fancies of the aristocracy, animals who did not earn their keep were not valued. This was especially true at points of history when food was scarce. The true benefit to this purposeful selection is that those breeds have endured with the soundest physiology. The **Irish Red** and **White Setter** can be seen in artworks dating to the 1600s in virtually identical form to the present. This is a breed that was designed to work over rough terrain for long hours. The fact that it is a good-looking dog was incidental; good looks do not put food on the table.

Dr. Janet McNeil and Devi, Ventura, 2006



Photo © 2006, Joel Anderson

Devi (Affinity's Dancing Queen) is a representative of the **Irish Red and White Setter** breed that has origins in the 1600s.

The breed nearly died out in 1914-18 (WWI) due to food shortages and dwindling stock. A handful of dedicated enthusiasts revived the breed in the 1940s. The **Irish Red and White Setter** breed is now found all over the world. Prized as a hunter, dogs like Devi, have been trained in search-and-rescue, agility, urban mushing, rally obedience, formal obedience, freestyle as well as therapy. **Devi** won the **Third Annual (not-so) Great Serum Run 1-Dog/1-Mile Race** in December, and is a member of the **Ventura County Sheriff's Search and Rescue K9 Unit**.

In the modern day, compared to the **Irish (red) Setter**, the **Irish Red and White Setter** is less flashy in the show ring, but does not have the hip problems, allergies, digestive problems, and flighty temperament. It is still the versatile working dog it was in past centuries with the benefit of modern health care and better diets.

Many of the soundest breeds are those that have not strayed too far from the basics. Breeding for a purpose and a certain environment rarely encourage extremes. **National Geographic's** television show on dogs pointed out that

pariah breeds around the globe share similar traits: medium size, short coats, light colours, pricked or semi-pricked ears, and slightly curled tails. The **Kittitian Hound** is a good example of a self-made breed. The island setting enclosed a population of dogs that include sight hounds, pointers, and terriers brought by the **English** and **French** and dogs that probably came from **Africa** with the slave trade.



Photos ©, Patsy Jones

Tripper (Affinity's Day Tripper - above and below) goes through a competitive course in agility. **Tripper** (full brother to **Devi**, at left) is the first **Irish Red and White Setter** to represent the breed in a major agility competition.



The breed resulting from this homogenized population was honed by the tropical environment (*dark dogs not favored*) and scant food (*lean, efficient body types*) and thrives today. In effect, nature designed this dog. If you didn't thrive, you didn't breed. My **Kittitian Hound** had an x-ray at 14-years-old that scarcely showed arthritis and had showed hips virtually all **German Shepherds** can only dream of.

In our society, it is hard for dogs like the **Norrbottenspets (Nordic Spitz)**, **Boykin Spaniels**, and **Treeing Walker Coonhounds** to have enough of the work they were originally designed for, so aficionados of these breeds have to divert their talents into other activities while maintaining vigilance over the traits that have made their breeds unique and functionally sound. Hunt trials and other breed-specific venues can be found, but require time and dedication to participate. (*Dog World magazine is a good place to see some of these events listed.*)

If the aggressive legislation to spay and neuter is allowed to pass, rare breeds will be the most hurt since their populations are low. Fashionable breeds will go on being produced without a need to prove worthiness while the healthy and sound rarities are lost.

Janet McNeil, D.V.M.



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Kathy Shafer of Houndstooth non-anesthetic teeth cleaning, gives Scout a check up at Linda's Claws and Paws. Look for Kathy's dental cleaning to visit the Yuppie Puppie in Ojai on February 12. www.hounds2th.cib.net



Photos ©, 2009 Mary Long

We Are Fundraising Again We have these two boys that are in medical need Sly



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If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to help these boys, please make it out/send it to: Aussie Rescue SoCal, Inc. 22265 Lantana Drive, Perris CA 92570

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In the wild, carnivores do not develop tartar; however the site stated, domesticated animals are not eating their natural diet but instead eating much softer food which accumulates on the outside of their teeth, where it can't be easily cleaned off.

Dr. Pitcairn also recommends **CoEnzyme Q10** (10 to 60 mg per day, depending on dog, cat, size, etc.) as a safe nutritional supplement to counter years of bad food.
— editor

Scout gives his approval to the Ojai and Ventura View. The View donates more space to animal rescue than any other local publication. A round of A - paws if you please.



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Company Cat of the Month Old Creek Winery "Bronco"

John Whitman, holds "Bronco" a handsome black and white tuxedo cat who has retired at Old Creek Winery after giving up the movie business. "He's a character" says John, fondly.

Bronco likes to spend his days greeting wine lovers, managing the winery, and tooling around in the ranch truck.



Photo © 2008, Joel Anderson



Adoption Links

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— Doc Janet



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What Can Obama Do ?

Continued From VIEW Page 1...

Not our problem ? They volunteered ? Well, if that is your attitude, then when all the social problems that combat stress engenders knocks on your door, remember you read about it somewhere a long time ago in a free paper. Drug addiction, alcoholism, domestic violence etc. are all manifestations of war.

The **CIA Director** at the time we invaded Iraq (**George Tenet**) wrote a book that we had absolutely no proof of **Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)** and **Bush** was made aware of this before the infamous *We need to kick the Iraqis' butts* speech. When the **CIA**, who was directly responsible for coups in **Guatemala, Chile, Cuba, Vietnam** and many other places we don't know about, tell you "No weapons of mass destruction" perhaps you need to listen. We fund the **CIA** to the tune of several billion dollars for spy satellites, spies, and a network of brilliant minds to analyze said intelligence data. At a whim the **President**, whose father was the former **Director in Chief of the CIA**, chooses to ignore the **Iraqi WMD** data....Does anyone get it or am I the only one in the dark. I repeat what can **Obama** do ?

I think that most people believe the mortgage crisis is totally responsible for the meltdown, so I needed to throw out the financial strangulation caused by unfinanced wars before I lept into the other unacknowledged problem of our current economy.

Economy 101 for Business Success; you need to have a product people are willing to part with their hard-earned greenbacks to acquire. For a country this is finished goods or raw materials. Luckily our country had, at one time, both in abundance. Then some financial whiz said "Hey, I figured a way to save on production costs." No, he didn't invent a new machine that did it automatically. He realized that most industrialized nations have the highest labor costs. *Let's build it elsewhere...*

When I was a kid growing up this would have never worked. We always checked the *Made in* label. If you were unfortunate enough to purchase something made in **Taiwan, Hong Kong, Korea** or **Japan** you knew it was junk. If it lasted more than a couple of days you were ecstatic about your good fortune. The quality of goods produced in these countries has steadily risen and we have become a throw-away-society. We no longer expect a wrench to outlive us but if we are guaranteed a new one if we bust it, that suffices for the quality we once expected.

After **NAFTA**, I watched whole manufacturing plants auctioned off and sold to cross-border or across-the-globe business interests.

I worked for **McDonnell Douglas** in **Long Beach** on the **MD80** line during the mid-eighties. I remember the company offering workers free trips to **China**. The only catch was that you had to *train* the **Chinese Workers** how to build the plane. I explained to fellow workers at the time, that it was

economic suicide and some actually listened. Far more went to **China**. There is certain technology you never give out in any manufacturing process. This is called core technology. If you do give away this technology, even in a partnership, you have betrayed your employees as now their job security is threatened.

You always hear the government complaining about trade imbalances; yet I don't remember the government stepping in and quashing that deal. Oh, yeah, that was before the **Chinese** air force forced one of our planes out of international airspace and ransacked it.

Back to the point, that we need manufacturing in this country. We need automobiles, boats, airplanes, tools, appliances etc. *made in the USA*. People need to have jobs to buy houses, cars, boats and other things they need to support their families. Without the manufacturing and jobs that come with it, we will forever be a debtor nation and never escape this economic quagmire.

The next thing we need is protection from the **Ken Lays** of this world. **White Collar Crime** needs to be prosecuted with a new zeal so average Joe can actually believe in justice again. The fact that **Kens'** family was allowed to keep his ill-gotten gains because he died after his conviction, but before his appeal was heard is unacceptable. **Bernie Madoff**, who ruined countless peoples lives, needs to be incarcerated; not mailing an estimated \$1,000,000 (one million dollars) in jewelry from his \$7,000,000 (seven million dollar) **New York** apartment while he awaits trial.

Maybe **Obama** can do this. Stop exporting jobs. End the wars. Punish the white-collar criminals responsible for the meltdown. Institute a farm labor green card program for agriculture only. If an illegal immigrant is doing construction, truck-driving, working in fast food or the myriad of other jobs there are plenty of **Americans** for, they should lose their green card and future **SSN** benefits. I respect **Obama** but personally I don't think he has the political will to resolve these issues.

— Larry Naron

Ventura Library: Axes-Access

Continued From VIEW Page 3...

books away for almost half their childhood. There is no ethical justification for this.

Another disturbing issue is that Bill was one of three people who recommended hiring **Jackie Griffin** to the **Library Commission**. Jackie had a very troubled past in **Berkeley**. "77 of **Berkeley's** 120 union members signed a no-confidence statement regarding **Griffin**" (*Library Journal, May 2006*). She then hired a lawyer to sue the city for wrongful termination. She resigned after a settlement agreement that included pay and benefits. In **Berkeley** she had "overflowing rooms of angered and concerned citizens and union members" with citizens writing "Wake up, **Berkeley!** The nightmare is here!" (*Berkleyans Organizing for Library Defense*). In **Berkeley**, which has double the tax dollars for libraries than **Ventura**, she was paid \$131,494. However **Ventura**, with our significantly

smaller budget, hired her for \$141,804. In addition to this generous salary she was given a \$25,000 housing allowance, and a car allowance (*Berkeley Daily Planet, Oct. 2006*). So this director who is telling you that you should drive your children downtown to **E.P. Foster** because it is only 4 miles away, is actually paid by your property tax dollars to drive her car. Bill has yet to explain if he even did a background check or to give justification for hiring someone who brought so much

"Jackie has ignored the countless letters and pleas from children..."

turmoil and controversy into her former position.

Jackie has ignored the countless letters and pleas from children and her community. The mission statement on **Ventura County Library's** web site says this: "The mission of the **Ventura County Library** is to meet the general reading, life-long learning and informational needs of the people of **Ventura County**, with special focus on children, youth and families." Jackie is ignoring this mission statement by removing the most used children's library in the city from its community. She is removing it from the very school children and residents it is meant to serve.

The city does not need to subsidize the library, nor do taxes need to be raised. We have \$2.5 million to run these city libraries. **Wright** is the model of efficiency and only uses only 34 percent of that money, yet generates 58 percent of the total budget. **Foster** needs to tighten its internal structure. A strong director and commissioner would be looking for the various ways to keep libraries open to best serve the community. They would come up with numerous solutions instead of dismissing all alternatives with the excuse that we need to make "tough choices" to close the library that serves the highest population.

Maili and Jason Brocke, Ventura
"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has". -- Margaret Mead



Ventura Small Townie

Eyes on the Street
Poor Little Graffiti Bums
R. ELLIS SMITH



Oxnard finally got fed up with the poor little graffiti bums defacing their city and causing thousands of dollars of clean up and repair,

so they increased the fines for graffiti up to \$1000.00 per occurrence. That means if they can prove that one person placed their "tag" on multiple locations they could be fined \$1000.00 for each one. This means the little darlings could be looking at fines in the thousands of dollars.

Now, along come the bleeding hearts, obviously conservative morons, saying "Gee, we don't think you should have fines that large", "after all those poor little graffiti bums can't afford to pay them." An **Oxnard** attorney, wanting to make a name for herself, **Barbara Macri-Ortiz**, stated that **Oxnard** didn't take into account the person's "ability to pay". Did this bleeding heart ever consider the fact that the little darling graffiti bums didn't take into consideration the business owners ability to pay for ruined panes of glass or having to repaint a wall on their store ? Plus, I wonder if **Ms. Macri-Ortiz** ever takes into account the ability of her clients to pay her "lawyer fees" which if she is like all other lawyers are massive.

Then another bleeding heart was heard from **Deborah De Vries**, a trustee for the **Oxnard School District** said, "too many children lack an outlet for creativity." **Ms De Vries** needs to rethink her position as a trustee of the school district. It is *their* responsibility to assure that the school kids have everything needed to provide a good education. If this means giving them an outlet for creativity, then the board of trustees should work on that matter.

Recently, a couple of those wonderful, uneducated, graffiti bums went down **Main Street** in **Ventura** and defaced the front windows of 18 businesses; some of those plate glass windows cost upwards of \$1000.00 or more to replace. But hey those little darlings just didn't have any other release for their creativity.

I say Kudo's to the **City of Oxnard**; the rest of the cities in the county should follow suit. Maybe **Ms. Macri-Otiz** and **Ms. De Vries** and all the other bleeding hearts should volunteer to pay for the destruction these little "misunderstood" darlings do on a daily basis.

Rellis Smith
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It's Annihilation Time as a Last Priority at the Red Cove !!!

Headbangers from all over the County, and beyond, converged on Ventura's Red Cove on a recent Saturday Nite for a round of ear bleeding, head banging, knuckle-splitting heavy metal Punk mania -- in the form of locally motivated *The Last Priority* and *Annihilation Time* (the last of which was passing through on tour, having just played a couple gigs with *Amebix*), and a few other bands.

Justin Stowe, *The Last Priority*, Bass Player kept a few incendiaries happening, "...for me personally, this is my second show with the band. The band's been together for about 10 years. I just joined, I had a blast. The show was supposed to be at a private venue but they couldn't get their permits so we came here. The bummer is because it's a bar the younger kids couldn't come out to see "Annihilation Time". There's a bunch of people out here though, who're having a good time so that's what it's all about. Cool....cool....."

Chris Grande, *Annihilation Time* Bass Player, also had a minute, or two....to chat socio-political economics... hahahaha, "I'm from Oxnard..a couple dudes are from Ojai in the band....singer's from Cleveland, drummer from Goleta.... we all live in Oakland but our singer lives in Pittsburg Penn...We're on a little tour. We got asked to play with *Amebix*...for a couple shows in California...an old... --- band they said they'd never get back together but they did. They rule, we saw them last night, they're f___in' kickin' ass."

Alotta Body Slammin' ...maybe what the U.S. Corporate Economy and those faux alternative media types, need ? A good SLAM BAM POW ! Now THAT'S Accountability...

info. www.myspace.com/thelastpriority
www.annihilationtime.net

Photos and Text, © 2009, Joel Anderson

Small Townie

Words of Udder Wisdom or Cowtown Credo !

R. ELLIS SMITH



50-50-90 Rule, anytime the **Gang in the Ivory Tower** has a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90 percent chance they'll get it wrong.

If the shoe fits, hell, get another one ! This is why our **Ventura City Manager** has 25 right footed shoes.

Give a man a fish and he'll eat for a day, Teach a man to fish and he'll sit in the boat and drink beer all day. This is why the **Gang in the Ivory Tower** took fishing lessons.

As long as there are tests, there will be prayer in schools. As long as there are **City Councils**, there will be prayer in the streets.

A fine is a tax for doing wrong; a tax is a fine for doing well. The **Gang in the Ivory Tower** hopes everybody does real well this year.

Light travels faster than sound, this is why most politicians appear bright until you hear them speak.

The **Gang in the Ivory Tower** ascribes to the old saying, "**The Buck Stops Here**". This is the year they hope the buck does stop here; they started the year with nothing and it looks like that's what they'll wind up with.

P.S. remember this wise ol' saying: *When you go to court you are putting yourself in the hands of a dozen people that were too stupid to get out of jury duty.*

Rellis Smith
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City of Ventura Iron Curtain

*Business as Usual...
Ventura's Age of Opaque Problems*
R. ELLIS SMITH



I don't really know for sure but the following memos are reputed to be issued from the *Office of the Ventura city manager*.

1. As of tomorrow, for security reasons, employees will only be able to access the building using individual security cards. Pictures will be taken next Wednesday and employees will receive their cards in two weeks.

2. This project is so important, we absolutely cannot let things that are more important interfere with it.

3. Teamwork is a whole lot of people doing what I say, so what I will need immediately is a list from each department of specific unknown problems we will encounter in the near future.

4. We realize that lack of communication is a problem with the morale situation, but the administration is not going to discuss it with the employees. Also from now on, e-mail is not to be used to pass on information or data, it is to be used for city business only.

5. This is to inform you that a memo will be issued today regarding the subject of the memo.

Finally the gem of all memos:

6. The **City of Ventura** is endeavouringly determined to promote constant attention on current procedures of transacting business focusing emphasis on innovative ways to better, if not supersede, the expectations of quality.

Is it any wonder why the **Gang in the Ivory Tower** always has such a blank look on their faces ???

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

So, What Have We Learned in Two Millennia ?

"The budget should be balanced, the Treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed lest Rome become bankrupt. People must again learn to work, instead of living on public assistance."

— Cicero - 55 BC
Evidently nothing.

Public Access Update...

Citizens Need to Speak UP for Public Access

— April Rogers

Several months ago I predicted that our Public Access Television on Channel 10 would end. I was right. It has been gone since December 9, 2008.

Two months ago we lost our Community Programming. Our illustrious **City Council** ignored the issue altogether until it was too late to renew the franchise agreement with **Time Warner** including the **Public Access** use of **Channel 10**. I find it quite interesting that the **City of Thousand Oaks** chose not to ignore the **DIVCA Act of 2006** and they renewed their franchise agreement with **Time Warner** and are continuing with **Public Access**. Now why didn't the **City of Ojai** do the same thing ? One could only guess.

A committee was formed to look into the issue of how to bring back **Public Access** but unfortunately, not all of the players are willing to work with the group, and do not return any phone calls regarding the **Public Access** issue. How can a committee work on an issue if one person on that committee isn't willing to do their part, especially

Paula Klein celebrates at the Jester



— Paula Klein

On January 11th I woke up with the bright idea that I just had to give a concert for my 53rd Birthday. Like they say, "just do it", so I did. The 23rd of January just happened to be on a Friday Evening, which made it a perfect night. I chose the **Jester in Ojai** because it happens to have a lovely little **Spinet** piano. **Nigel**, the owner, was kind enough to grant me permission, and in spite of the rain, it was a great turnout.

I began writing songs at the age of eight, and mostly accompany myself on piano. I took guitar lessons in Jr. High and did my first public performances at a talent show. I received a standing ovation for "**House of the Rising Son**," clueless as to what the song was about.

I married at 19, began having children at 20, so naturally my music was placed on hold. At 30, I performed at a church talent show for the first time since Jr. High. After that, I became involved in the music department of several churches over the next decade. This included being on a worship team, leading worship, performing solos (always originals), and writing original music for the congregation.

It wasn't until my 51st year of life that I began to venture out in bars and expose myself to live music outside the church walls. I also experimented with a few open mikes along the way.

I have a collection of lyrics in journals, music in my heart and keep writing on a regular basis. It just happens, as songwriters know, and if you don't give it expression, you break down inside.

I recently went to **Nashville** and had the opportunity to stay with **Martin Young** (former guitar man for **Clint Black** 16 years), and do live recordings in his studios.

What I'm learning is to "just do it," do what it is that **God** has put in your heart and share it with others.

I'm not sure where my music will take me, but I want it to honor **God**, bless others, and leave a legacy worthy of the children **God** has given me.

In closing, I give heartfelt thanks to Mary and Joel of the **Ojai View**, **Nigel** (for opening the **Jester**),

when they have done everything in their power to block **Public Access** from returning altogether ?

The **Ojai Unified School District** has submitted a **Memorandum of Understanding** as their intent is to take over the operation of broadcasting **Public Access** and **Educational Programming**. I do hope that the **City Council** unites and votes that the **School District**, specifically **Nordhoff High School Media Academy**, can take over the **Public Access** and **Educational Programming** for the **Ojai Valley**.

Originally, the **FCC's Mandate** was for **PEG, Public Access, Educational and Governmental Programming**. Right now, the **City of Ojai** is airing the **City Council** meetings, no community programming, no bulletin board, only the **City Council** meetings. The audio they are airing is **100.7 FM** out of **Ventura**, a commercial station, and the audio is very poor quality, sounding very distorted.

So far, the **City** has read the ordinance and will have the second reading on the 10th of this month at their regular meeting.

If you are interested in quality programming returning to **Ojai**, please support this effort by attending the **City Council** meeting on **Feb. 10th**, fill out a card and speak in favor of it's return, otherwise we will no longer have parades, festivals, tournaments and other events aired here in **Ojai**.

— April Jo Rogers, Valley Video, Ojai



Photographer **Bobbie Bennett**, Musician **Paula Klein**, and Actress/Model **Carla MacEwan**, of **VH1** fame.

Photos: © 2009, Joel Anderson

Continued...

Steve Welbourne (my guitarman), and to the many dear friends, old and new, near and far, **Starr**, **Pete Howard** (songwriter, producers), **Michael Kauffer**, the **Merewethers**, **Christina**, and my good friend, supporter and encourager of my music **Wayne Killian**.

Thank you all for making my birthday concert beautiful !

Paula Klein, Ojai



The lovely **Andrea** has everything to do with making Paula's **B.D. Party** a success !



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Fri. Night, Mar. 20 - Steve Hills Band

Sat. Mar. 21 - Musicians to date include, *Tony Perry, Bob Jones Blues Band and Ojai Valley Boys.*

Sun. Mar. 21, Pancake Breakfast

info contact: *Jeffray Fargher 805-525-4344*

EVENT CALENDAR CONT.

Continued from Page 7...

viduals. This year, The Ventura Family YMCA is asking for help from the community. The goal is to raise \$115,000 in one month. To reach this goal the YMCA is looking for team campaigners, phone campaigners and donors. In addition to monetary donations the YMCA is looking for food donors to help support campaign report night dinners as well as product donors for door prizes, which will be given to campaigners to show appreciation for their efforts.

If you would like to donate or volunteer during Campaign for Youth 2009 please contact Amy Bailey at, *amy.bailey@ciymca.org* or call 805-642-2131 ext 24.

• Feb. 12 - Apr. 5, Event: Feb. 15, Awesome Art 2009, Ojai Valley Museum. Six Ojai High Schools participate in this exhibit that showcases ceramics, sculpture, drawing, painting, photography, graphic design and digital art. The exhibit will run through April 5th. Grant sponsors, Karen O'Neill and Michael Burgos, will present the "Marion E. Smith Excellence in Art Awards" at the reception on Thursday, February 19th, 4 to 6 p.m. The awards will be presented in memory of their mother, Marion E. Smith. The reception is open to the public. There is no charge for the reception; however, donations to the museum are always welcome. Students will have free admission for the duration of the exhibit.

info. *www.ojaivalleymuseum.org*

• Feb. 13 - Mar. 22, "Some Like it HOT!" 7th Annual Sensual & Erotic Exhibit, Artists Union Gallery, 330 S. California St., Ventura, Opening Reception: Fri. Feb. 13, 6-9 pm, Admission Free. A perennial favorite of both artists and art patrons alike, this exhibit is an indulgence you'll want to experience "in the flesh".

info. 643-3012

www.venturaartistsunion.org

• Feb. 13, Fri, Dance Jam Ventura, 7-10pm, at

Events Continued Page 25...

Small Townie: City of Ventura

Uhhh Happy New Year....

R. ELLIS SMITH



The New Year is here, it's called two thousand and nine, Were still in a pickle, but I'm sure we'll just shine, A small handful of folks, have taken a toll,

When they went last time to the election poll, They punched all the tickets, dropped them into the box,

Now our city is worse off, then if we all had smallpox!

Our city is small, but big in it's fame, A Cowtown we're called, it's a hell of a name! We have banners a flying, declaring such things, as Waterfront, Harbor, Cultural District, that stings,

Our council is nestled, at the trough they are fed, While wasting tax money, races fast through their head.

Our city is broke, lost all of our cash, a few people in charge, had thought's that were rash.

They say we'll be back, in a couple of years, in the meantime the council is shedding some tears.

They say that they thought they were doing things right, who could say that things would become such a fright!

They now need millions to pay all the bills, the thought that it will get worse just adds to the ills.

All I know is the folks were all told, yet they gave away their votes and that was so bold.

They put the same people back up in the tower, so don't be surprised that you lost all of your power.

They sit on their thrones, they laugh at your woes,

they really don't care about stepping on toes.

Oh yeah, they installed cameras on the streets, to catch the un-aware,

...Uh don't look now, but in your houses they could stare...

Couldn't happen in our town.... could it?

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

Let the Good Times Rock n' Roll
Chronic Stew Rocks Oxnard's Old Dublin



www.myspace.com/chronicstew



Photos & Text © 2009, Joel Anderson Dan havin' a great Rockin' Time to Chronic Stew!

Ojai based band, Chronic Stew performing at the *Old Dublin in Oxnard* recently for an entertained group of rockin' revelers.

The "Stew" is made up of four members (top left) Trip Brown, (Michael Tobias Design - MTD handmade) Bass, Patrick Duffy, (D.W.) Drums and B-Vocal, Rick Zavadil, Vocals, and Richard Metcalfe, Guitar and Vocals.

Check out Chronic Stew (always booked) for a nice array of Rock n' Roll. Line-up includes Zepplin, The Eagles, The Beatles and more as well as a lot of new originals.

call Chronic Stew Booking, 805-640-3600
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Psychiatry has as many kids on drugs as the populations of the 4 largest U.S. cities combined.

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L.A. TRASH - Are you concerned Greedy Soulless Developer Corporate Types are moving to Ventura/S.B. Counties & bringing their nasty habits with them; trash, smog, and smarmy business practices? Are they trying too hip to be cool?

email: editor@ojaiandventuraview.com

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FOUND, KEYS and USB DRIVE belonging to writer, Peggy Kissner. Contact Lisa or Mary at Lisa and Mary's Boutique, 307 E. Ojai Ave. Ste. 100, 646-3100

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THE DATING CONFESSIONS

Closure and Clarity Isn't Such a Bad Thing - Is it?

By Ali K.

When men get lost while driving - especially with his significant other, it is highly unlikely he will pull over and ask for directions. Men are wired to be independent and to be the provider. If a woman says,



"Don't you know where you are going?" this really makes a man feel bad. It shows the woman lacks faith in him or worse - doesn't trust him.

Is this why, when a man and woman date and she wants clarity on the relationship - the man doesn't understand? Does he think she should be independent and figure it out on her own? Does he think "I can't believe you don't know where this is going? It's going nowhere."

Women more often than not want to be going somewhere and sometimes women need a little clarity along the way. I can just see guys now rolling their eyes. "Oh no... she wants to have the relationship talk." The funny thing is guys seem to think they know what a woman wants, but if they just took the time to ask - he may be oddly surprised.

Sometimes a woman does want to get serious, but sometimes she is just wanting a casual good time. Maybe she wants to make sure he isn't getting too attached. I have come to learn that men are incredibly feeling creatures, maybe more so than women, sometimes. My guy friends tell me tales of heartaches and woes - so much, that I often break out with tissue. They haven't gotten closure.

Women break men's hearts every day. Recently I had a fling with a guy and after sex... he started crying over his ex. I didn't know what to do. We were past the tissue point... and I realized he didn't need sex... he needed closure and a good therapist. It's these men that usually turn into morons or players to avoid getting hurt. A woman who has been burned one too many times - usually either gives up on men and men-bashes or gets into relationships with 'unavailable men' - thus preventing her from unwanted pain and heartache.

To me, clarity is about expansiveness. It's about really understanding the situation or connection at hand, and it's about two people being on the same page. There is no shame in pulling over and asking, "How are you feeling about us?" or "Where would you like this to go or not go?" I think when men assume what women want, they make a huge mistake. I believe many men end relationships thinking the woman wants something greater than she does. Of course sometimes women really do want a relationship, and these men can't handle the commitment factor, the closeness and have intimacy issues - so they end it. These men repeat the cycle

over and over, and wonder why they are still single - or maybe enjoy their 'player status.'

I am a fan of clarity. I have no problem stating my intentions, needs and desires to a man. I think it's great he hears them and lets me know his too. If we are not even close to being a match, then why continue the connection? It's the non-clarity that really hinders a connection. Closure is the other side of clarity. Closure is something most people (women) need to move on.

Men mistaken closure as the woman still having feelings for him - this could not be farther from the truth. Sometimes a woman just needs to hear an apology, have some type of healing or say something to her ex to fully move on. There is a great saying: *Great endings make great beginnings.* If a guy cheats and lies to his girlfriend and doesn't apologize and just dumps her; it's a guarantee his next relationship won't be that great. Unfinished business is what prevents people from moving on - it also affects the next relationship, which is called "baggage." People tend to repeat pattern - especially in dating.

I wish that more men would be open to the idea of clarity when dating, and closure when ending a relationship. It's sad to me that men don't want to honor a relationship by ending it peacefully. Why would anyone want to carry hurt or heavy heartache around for years? I did get a message from a friend recently and she said, "You have to make your own clarity." I have also heard "You have to find closure on your own." It's true... sometimes we don't get what we want from an ex. Sometimes we are forced to forgive, let go and move on without closure from an old love. It's much harder to do it this way, but it can be done. However, I think there will always be a little bit of that 'nagging' feeling inside that can only be healed from an ex. Sometimes an admission of guilt or a simple, "I am sorry," to an ex can really seal up a wound.

I believe clarity and closure are amazing things.

I was shocked and surprised recently when a recent ex admitted, "When you broke up with me... it really hurt me." Another ex told me, "I was mad at you for eight years... but I see everything wasn't your fault. I am sorry." A former lover I was involved with said, "When you didn't say goodbye to me... it really hurt me. Why didn't you say goodbye?"

It's amazing, during a relationship, a man doesn't need much clarity, but years later he does. A very recent ex apologized for things he did to me, and I forgave him. So I guess some men do need clarity and closure, but it seems not until years after a relationship ends. I guess men and women are wired differently.

Even with clarity and closure, sometimes it's still very hard to move on. Clarity is like a light bulb and closure is like a safety pin.

Comments welcome

- Ali K.
spiralgrl@yahoo.com

KOHLI'S MUSIC PIT

Greetings Freaks!

By Michael Kohli

Greetings once again my fellow music freaks! It is yet, another year here in 2009. And, it's shaping up to be perhaps the most involved year we've had in a very long time. As a Scenester/Promoter myself—I believe the more people and venues get involved with the scene—the better our scene will become. We have a good batch of promoters now. Third Eye Records, Taffeta Productions, JSquared Music, Viceroy, Wicked Zombie Productions, Megasound Studios, and Pete @ mspace.com /goodpeoplewelcome are all booking shows and taking charge of the scene, not to mention our longtime veterans of the scene: Blackbird Music & Numbskull Productions. What we need now is a one stop place online for the scene to check in. The View!!! Maybe Blackbird could bring back the old Ventura Music Scene? Of course there is Myspace and Facebook - but we need a place where all of us go to check in for shows/bands and more!

Evan Sula-Goff (8Stops7) joined Pong members in their new act, Vancougar, where they performed for a private party put together by Penelope Cruz. The band informed me that Evan did an amazing job at the show and mixed well together with their everchanging sound. Let's hope we get another gig soon so we could witness this new local music creation.

In the rock world - there is a lot going on. Twiggy is recording again with Marilyn Manson, Bret Michaels is in his third season of Rock Of Love on VH1, Metallica recently announced that they are all loving the new Guns N' Roses record, "Chinese Democracy," and would be up for another GNR/METALLICA tour, AC/DC reportedly sold over 2 million copies of their new, "Black Ice," album in just under four months, Motley Crue is getting ready to head out on tour with Hinder as of this writing in support of their new, "Saints Of Los Angeles," hit album, and Queensryche will unveil a new concept album/story (in the vein of Operation: Mindcrime). The new album/story is titled, "American Soldier." Tour plans have just been announced on Queensryche.com. Oh, and the new Guns N' Roses music video, "Better," is supposed to have its premiere soon (the first new GNR music video in over 12 years!)

Thanks for reading! Keep it rocking!!!

- Michael Kohli
Kohli Rocks Entertainment
www.kohlismusicpit.com
myspace.com/djkohli

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SUBJECT: New Definitions

CEO – Chief Embezzlement Officer.
CFO – Corporate Fraud Officer.
BULL MARKET – A random market movement causing an investor to mistake himself for a financial genius.
BEAR MARKET – A 6 to 18 month period when the kids get no allowance, the wife gets no jewelry.
VALUE INVESTING – The art of buying low and selling lower.
P/E RATIO – The percentage of investors wetting their pants as the market keeps crashing.
BROKER – What my broker has made me.
STANDARD & POOR – Your life in a nutshell.
STOCK ANALYST – Idiot who just downgraded your stock.
STOCK SPLIT – When your ex-wife and her lawyer split your assets equally between themselves.
FINANCIAL PLANNER – A guy whose phone has been disconnected.
MARKET CORRECTION – The day after you buy stocks.
CASH FLOW – The movement your money makes as it disappears down the toilet.
YAHOO – What you yell after selling it to some poor sucker for \$240 per share.
WINDOWS – What you jump out of when you're the sucker who bought Yahoo @ \$240 per share.
INSTITUTIONAL INVESTOR – Past year investor who's now locked up in a nuthouse.
PROFIT – An archaic word no longer in use.

Channel Islands Yacht Club - Brian Faith Band

Photos © 2009, Joel Anderson



Santa Barbara based Brian Faith Band at the Channel Islands Yacht Club (CIYC), Cory Orosco - Lead Vocals/Keyboards/Bass, Ernie Joseph Orosco - Lead Vocals/Lead Guitar, Brian Faith - Lead Vocals/Drums, Karen Perry - Lead Vocals/Percussion. Check out their SuperCool

Myspace Site at, www.myspace.com/brianfaithbandsongs

Bookings: 805/964-3035 - brianfaithband@hotmail.com

EVENT CALENDAR CONT.

Continued from Page 23...

the Ventura NIA Center, 2343 East Thompson Blvd., Ventura. Dance Jam Ventura is a space for people to dance barefoot, with or without partners, in a free-style manner, to a wide, lively variety of danceable music on firm spongy mats. It is a smoke-free, drug-free, and alcohol-free environment, a family friendly event, conducive to free expression without judgment. The motto is "Dance like no one is watching." Dance Jam is Contact Improvisation friendly. The 125th dance will be held in Ventura. Participants at free style dance locations often report a spiritual uplifting from the dance, along with a great workout with friendly people. A rotating DJ schedule ensures that no evening is ever the same. Music ranges from rock and roll, new age to modern, world beat to jazz, hip hop, techno, swing, Latin and anything you can dance to.

www.waywebby.com/dancejam or call 805-650-7112

• Apr. 3, Fri. – Noel Paul Stookey, Folk Legend and member of Peter, Paul & Mary in his only California concert this year, A special evening

Events Continued Page 27...

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Joe Baugh, Guitar Planet instructor

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VIEW MUSIC LISTINGS

- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Tues. Feb. 3 - *Jimmy Mooks "Comedy", 8pm* - 643-2171
- **SOHO, S.B.** - Tues. Feb. 3 - *Christina Grimm, Rich Phillips, & Kenny Edwards* - 962-7776
- **The Fillmore, San Francisco** - Tues. Feb. 3 - *Raphael Saadiq, 415/346-6000*
- **SOHO, S.B.** - Wed. Feb. 4 - *Teka & The New Bossa Quartet* - 962-7776
- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Thurs. Feb. 5 - *Owen Plant, 8pm* - 643-2171
- **Karma, Ventura** - Thurs. Feb. 5 - *Dread Daze* - 641-9090
- **SOHO, S.B.** - Thurs. Feb. 5 - *Cubensis* - 962-7776
- **The Canyon Club, Agoura** - Thurs. Feb. 5 - *John Mayall, Charlie Musselwhite & Friends/The Spazmatics* - 818-879-5016
- **The Chumash Resort** - Santa Ynez, Thurs. Feb. 5 - *Charo* - 1-800-248-6274
- **The Fillmore, San Francisco** - Thurs. Feb. 5 - *Eagles of Death Metal, 415/346-6000*
- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 6 - *Amanda Marsh/Frank Barajas, 8pm* - 643-2171
- **Coldsprings Tavern, S.B.** - Fri. Feb. 6 - *Blue World 7-10pm* - 967-0066
- **Hi-Cees, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 6 - *Ray Jay* - 650-7773
- **Hub, Ojai** - Fri. Feb. 6 - *Action Down* - 646-9182
- **Movino Wine Bar & Grill, Ojai** - Fri. Feb. 6 - *Groove City, Smooth Grooves and Rock with Derol Caraco and friends* - 646-1555
- **Ojai Valley Woman's Club, 441 E. Ojai Ave.** - Fri. Feb. 6 - *Tom Chapin, 7:30pm* - Tick. Ojai Creates 207 N. Ventura St., Ojai
- **O'Leary's Sidebar, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 6 - *Action Down* - 644-4619
- **The Canyon Club, Agoura** - Fri. Feb. 6 - *The Little River Band* - 818-879-5016
- **Velvet Jones, S.B.** - Fri. Feb. 6 - *Numb-skull Presents The Adolescents, 965-8676*
- **Wine Lover's, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 6 - *The Situation* - 652-1810
- **Zoey's Café, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 6 - *Rincon Ramblers* - 652-1137
- **Billy O's, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 7 - *Chronic Stew, 10pm* - 652-0327
- **Boulevard Music, Culver City** - Sat. Feb. 7 - *Nathan McEuen Band, 8pm* - 310-398-2583
- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 7 - *Pi, 8pm* - 643-2171
- **Coldsprings Tavern, S.B.** - Fri. Feb. 7 - *Dan Grimm and friends 2-5pm/Steve Fort 6-9pm* - 967-0066
- **DJ's, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 7 - *Action Down* - 647-9681
- **Hi-Cees, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 7 - *Steve White & The Barstool Pigeons* - 650-7773
- **Hub, Ojai** - Sat. Feb. 7 - *The Grandmas + Copper Clad* - 646-9182
- **Mai's, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 7 - *Lo Cura, Plotz, Brainspoon, 10pm* - 652-2061
- **Old Dublin, Oxnard** - Sat. Feb. 7 - *Catfishry Blues Band* - 985-6750
- **SOHO, S.B.** - Sat. Feb. 7 - *The Bird and the Bee/The Messengers* - 962-7776
- **Velvet Jones, S.B.** - Sat. Feb. 7 - *Woodpecker from Mars-Tribute to Faith No More, 965-8676*
- **Ventura Theater, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 7 - *Bellydance Superstars - The Art of Bellydance* - 653-0721
- **Zoey's Café, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 7 - *Tim Fagan & Natalie Ann* - 652-1137
- **Coldsprings Tavern, S.B.** - Sun. Feb. 8 - *Tom Ball & Kenny Sultan 1-4pm/Teresa Russel and Cocobilli 6-9pm* - 967-0066
- **Hi-Cees, Ventura** - Sun. Feb. 8 - *Blue Stew* - 650-7773
- **Hub, Ojai** - Sun. Feb. 8, 4-7pm - *Jackie Lomax* - 646-9182
- **SOHO, S.B.** - Mon. Feb. 9 - *SBCC Lunch-break & Goodtimes Bands* - 962-7776
- **SOHO, S.B.** - Tues. Feb. 10 - *Time Reynolds & TR3 w/The Marcus Eaton Trio* - 962-7776
- **SOHO, S.B.** - Wed. Feb. 11 - *Animal Lib-*

- eration Orchestra (ALO) - 962-7776*
- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Thurs. Feb. 12 - *Isaiah* - 643-2171
- **Karma, Ventura** - Thurs. Feb. 12 - *Rising Son* - 641-9090
- **The Canyon Club, Agoura** - Thurs. Feb. 12 - *Ozomatli, 8:30pm* - 818-879-5016
- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 13 - *Direct from Dublin "John Tormey"* - 643-2171
- **Coldsprings Tavern, S.B.** - Fri. Feb. 13 - *Switchbak 7-10pm* - 967-0066
- **Bombay, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 13 - *Nathan McEuen Band, Dr. Surf and Delaney Gibson, 8pm* - 643-4404
- **Hi-Cees, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 13 - *Preachers* - 650-7773
- **Good, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 13 - *The Situation* - 641-9951
- **Hub, Ojai** - Fri. Feb. 13 - *Action Down* - 646-9182
- **Movino Wine Bar & Grill, Ojai** - Fri. Feb. 13 - *Mari Martin Band, Powerful, sultry, soulful... Take a listen and see for yourself. Whether it's jazz, blues, soul, R&B, funk or folk, Mari Martin rules the emotions of the crowd with her signature stage presence* - 646-1555
- **Pierpont Inn, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 13 - *Owen Plant* - 643.6144
- **Star Lounge, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 13 - *Kyle Hunt & the King Gypsy* - 648-4709
- **The Fillmore, San Francisco** - Fri. Feb. 13 - *NOFX, 415/346-6000*
- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 14 - *Smooth to Groove Jazz Lon-el13 - Valentines Day, 8pm* - 643-2171
- **Coldsprings Tavern, S.B.** - Sat. Feb. 14 - *Andrew Jackson, John Batdorf, and friends 2-5pm/Soul Biscuit 6-9pm* - 967-0066
- **Good, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 14 - *Valentine's Bash, Copper Clad, Rubberneck Lions & The Grandmas* - 641-9951
- **Hi-Cees, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 14 - *Los Blues* - 650-7773
- **Mai's, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 14 - *Avenue of Giants, The Holy Family Album, 10pm* - 652-2061
- **Sidecar Restaurant, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 14 - *Bobby Watley* - 653-7433
- **SOHO, S.B.** - Sat. Feb. 14 - *Pin-Down Girls/Hot Buttered Rum* - 962-7776
- **The Fillmore, San Francisco** - Sat. Feb. 14 - *Reverend Horton Heat, 415/346-6000*
- **Ventura Theater, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 14 - *Malo* - 653-0721
- **Wine Lover's, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 14 - *Ray Jay* - 652-1810
- **Zoey's Café, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 14 - *Jim Bianco* - 652-1137
- **Coldsprings Tavern, S.B.** - Sun. Feb. 15 - *Tom Ball & Kenny Sultan 1-4pm/Pie 4:30-7:30pm* - 967-0066
- **Good, Ventura** - Sun. Feb. 15 - *Teresa Russell* - 641-9951
- **Hi-Cees, Ventura** - Sun. Feb. 15 - *Blue Stew* - 650-7773
- **Hub, Ojai** - Sun. Feb. 15, 4-7pm - *Jackie Lomax* - 646-9182
- **The Fillmore, San Francisco** - Sun. Feb. 15 - *Lykke Li, 415/346-6000*
- **Coldsprings Tavern, S.B.** - Fri. Feb. 16 - *Cinder Jean w/Robt. Postel 7-10pm* - 967-0066
- **Coldsprings Tavern, S.B.** - Sat. Feb. 17 - *D.G. Johnson 2-5pm/Claude Hopper w/Colin John 6-9pm* - 967-0066
- **The Fillmore, San Francisco** - Tues. Feb. 17 - *Susan Tedeschi/James Hunter,*

- 415/346-6000
- **Coldsprings Tavern, S.B.** - Sun. Feb. 18 - *Daniel Lower & the Bloodbrothers 1-4pm/Los Blues 4:30-7:30pm* - 967-0066
- **Douglas Corner, Nashville, Tenn.** - Wed. Feb. 18 - *Nathan McEuen Band* - 615/298-1688
- **SOHO, S.B.** - Wed. Feb. 18 - *Donavon Frankenreiter w/Gary Jules* - 962-7776
- **The Canyon Club, Agoura** - Wed. Feb. 18 - *Judy Collins* - 818-879-5016
- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Thurs. Feb. 19 - *Sarah Heathcoat New to Ventura* - 643-2171
- **Karma, Ventura** - Thurs. Feb. 19 - *Woven Roots (from Humboldt)* - 641-9090
- **National Folk Alliance, Memphis, Tenn.** - Thurs. Feb. 19 - *Nathan McEuen Band* - www.folk.org
- **The Canyon Club, Agoura** - Thurs. Feb. 19 - *The Spazmatics* - 818-879-5016
- **The Chumash Resort** - Santa Ynez, Thurs. Feb. 19 - *Lewis Black (Comedy-Politics)* - 1-800-248-6274
- **Ventura Theater, Ventura** - Thurs. Feb. 19 - *The Reverend Horton Heat* - 653-0721
- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 20 - *Dan Grimm* - 643-2171
- **Coldsprings Tavern, S.B.** - Fri. Feb. 20 - *Jena Douglas Band 7-10pm* - 967-0066
- **Good, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 20 - *Fear Mia* - 641-9951
- **Hi-Cees, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 20 - *Artwork Jamal and the Acid Blues* - 650-7773
- **National Folk Alliance, (Trubadour Room), Memphis, Tenn.** - Fri. Feb. 20 - *Nathan McEuen Band* - www.folk.org
- **O'Leary's Sidebar, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 20 - *Ray Jay* - 644-4619
- **Billy O's, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 21 - *Bar Lights, 10pm* - 652-0327
- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 21 - *Catfishry Blues* - 643-2171
- **Coldsprings Tavern, S.B.** - Sat. Feb. 21 - *Gary Foshee 2-5pm/Threadspinner 6-9pm* - 967-0066
- **Hi-Cees, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 21 - *Baby Sister* - 650-7773
- **National Folk Alliance, (Main Showcase), Memphis, Tenn.** - Sat. Feb. 21 - *Nathan McEuen Band* - www.folk.org
- **Mai's, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 21 - *Skeleton Brains, Slipping Into Darkness, Copper Clad, Opus Dai, 10pm* - 652-2061
- **Old Dublin, Oxnard** - Sat. Feb. 21 - *Catfishry Blues Band* - 985-6750
- **Pierpont Inn, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 21 - *Owen Plant* - 643.6144
- **Ventura Theater, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 21 - *Danzig* - 653-0721
- **Coldsprings Tavern, S.B.** - Sat. Feb. 22 - *Sean Wiggins and Paul Houston 1-4pm/Studebaker 4:30-7:30pm* - 967-0066
- **Hi-Cees, Ventura** - Sun. Feb. 22 - *Blue Stew* - 650-7773
- **Hub, Ojai** - Sun. Feb. 22, 4-7pm - *Jackie Lomax* - 646-9182

- **The Fillmore, San Francisco** - Fri. Feb. 25 - *Blondie, 415/346-6000*
- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Thurs. Feb. 26 - *Fly to Blue* - 643-2171
- **SOHO, S.B.** - Thurs. Feb. 26 - *The Sunshine Bros.* - 962-7776
- **The Canyon Club, Agoura** - Thurs. Feb. 26 - *Dokken/The Spazmatics* - 818-879-5016
- **The Chumash Resort** - Santa Ynez, Thurs. Feb. 26 - *Little Big Town* - 1-800-248-6274
- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 27 - *Delaney Gibson* - 643-2171
- **Old Dublin Bar & Grill, Oxnard** - Sat. Feb. 27 - *Chronic Stew* - 985-6750
- **Pierpont Inn, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 27 - *Owen Plant* - 643.6144
- **The Canyon Club, Agoura** - Fri. Feb. 27 - *The Smothers Brothers* - 818-879-5016
- **The Shores, Oxnard** - Sat. Feb. 27 - *Ray Jay* - 984-5533
- **Ventura Theater, Ventura** - Fri. Feb. 27 - *Pennywise* - 653-0721
- **Billy O's, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 28 - *Soul Biscuit, 10pm* - 652-0327
- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 28 - *Direct from Dublin "John Tormey"* - 643-2171
- **Mai's, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 28 - *From the Top, Afterall, Trial By Fury, Homie Erectus, 10pm* - 652-2061
- **The Shores, Oxnard** - Sat. Feb. 28 - *Ray Jay* - 984-5533
- **The Canyon Club, Agoura** - Sat. Feb. 28 - *Big Bad Voodoo Daddy* - 818-879-5016
- **Ventura Theater, Ventura** - Sat. Feb. 28 - *Dweezil Zappa* - 653-0721
- **Hub, Ojai** - Sun. Feb. 29, 4-7pm - *Jackie Lomax* - 646-9182
- **Ojai Valley Woman's Club (441 E. Ojai Ave.)** - Thurs. Mar. 5 - *Fishtank Ensemble, 7:00pm* - Tick. Ojai Creates 207 N. Ventura St., Ojai
- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Fri. Mar. 6 - *Teresa Russell & Stephen Geyer, 8pm* - 643-2171
- **Bombay, Ventura** - Fri. Mar. 6 - *The Dub Connect, featuring Rising Son & The Divine Crime* - 643-4404
- **Hub, Ojai** - Sun. Mar. 8, 4-7pm - *Jackie Lomax* - 646-9182
- **The Chumash Resort** - Santa Ynez, Thurs. Mar. 12 - *Jewel* - 1-800-248-6274
- **The Fillmore, San Francisco** - Sat.-Sun. Mar. 14-15 - *The Pretenders, 415/346-6000*
- **Hub, Ojai** - Sun. Mar. 15, 4-7pm - *Jackie Lomax* - 646-9182
- **Caffé Bella, Ventura** - Tues. Mar. 17 - *Happy St. Patrick's Day* - 643-2171

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Mr. X



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- Tues, Feb 3 8pm - Jimmy Mooks "Comedy"
- Wed, Feb 4 8pm - Tony Randall & The Experience
- Thurs, Feb 5 8pm - Owen Plant
- Fri, Feb 6 8pm - Amanda Marsh
- Sat, Feb 7 2pm - Pi
- Sun, Feb 8 8pm - Denise Vasquez & Randy Martinez
- Wed, Feb 11 8pm - Frank Barajas
- Thurs, Feb 12 8pm - Isaiah
- Fri, Feb 13 8pm - Direct from Dublin "John Tormey"
- Sat, Feb 14 8pm - Smooth to Groove Jazz Lon-e113
Valentines Day!
- Wed, Feb 18 8pm - Frank Barajas
- Thurs, Feb 19 8pm - Sarah Hethcoat - New to Ventura
- Fri, Feb 20 8pm - Dan Grimm
- Sat, Feb 21 8pm - Tony Randall & The Experience
- Wed, Feb 25 8pm - Frank Barajas
- Thurs, Feb 26 8pm - Fly to Blue
- Fri, Feb 27 8pm - Delaney Gibson
- Sat, Feb 28 8pm - Direct from Dublin "John Tormey"

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EVENT CALENDAR CONT.

Continued from Page 25...

with 2 complete shows! - Folk legend and member of Peter, Paul & Mary in his only California concert this year. Ojai Valley Woman's Club, 441 E. Ojai Ave., Adult performance at 7:30pm \$20.00 in advance \$22 at the door, Children's show at 5:30pm: Adults \$10, Kids \$6 in advance, \$12 & \$8 @ door, Singer/song-writer Noel Paul Stookey has been altering both the musical and ethical landscape of this country and the world for decades—both as the "Paul" of the legendary Peter, Paul and Mary and as an independent musician who passionately believes in bringing the spiritual into the practice of daily life. Funny, irreverently reverent, thoughtful, compassionate—passionate—Stookey's vocal sound is known all across this land: from the "Wedding Song" to "In These Times." At the 1963 March on Washington when Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech, Peter, Paul and Mary delivered the compelling "If I Had a Hammer" and "Blowin' in the Wind". Noel Paul Stookey has recorded over 45 albums and oversees Newworld Multimedia, presenting new artists and creating children's TV shows and music. The royalties from his classic "Wedding Song" go to the Public Domain Foundation, where nearly \$2 million has been put to work for charitable causes.

Tickets avail. on-line at www.ojaiconcertseries.com
info. Shane Butler, 665-8852

• Feb. 16, Ventura Homeless Prevention Fund Donations, 1-3pm - Make a tax-deductible contribution to the Ventura Homeless Prevention Fund at My Florist Bakery, 76 S. Oak St., Ventura

info. co-chairs, Cindy Cantle, 654-2703,
or Rev. Jan Christian, 644-3898

• Feb 20 - Feb. 22, Fri. thru Sun. - 6th Annual Santa Barbara Brazilian Carnival - Art, Dance, Music and Gastronomy experience of the biggest country South of the border - Brazil, to the California Riviera and the Central Coast Community. Held at different places/locations and involving local Cafes & Restaurants, Dance & Caper Studios and different support organizations. Goal is to create the perfect fusion between the Brazilian eclectic music, the exotic dance moves, the delicious cuisine, the entire country's passion for soccer and the unique creativity and style of their people. Afro-Brazilian dancers, feather samba dancers, capoeira groups, and special guests such as

educators, teachers, chefs and filmmakers for different lectures, workshops and special presentations.
Info. www.sbbraziliancarnaval.com

• Feb. 21, 7pm, "The Vampire Who Makes Us Behave" Erotic poetry reading and fundraiser, Artists Union Gallery, 330 S. California St., Ventura. Admission: \$10-20. Always a full house, this popular fundraiser benefits the Artists Union Gallery.
www.venturaartistsunion.org
info. 986-3012

• Feb. 22, 7:30pm, The United States Air Force Band of the Golden West, Free to the Public.
Oceanview Pavillion.
info. 986-4818

• thru Mar. 1, Magic Moments, Art Exhibition: Red Brick Gallery, 328 E. Main St., Ventura, Artists Reception: Sat. Feb. 7, 6-9pm
info. 643-6400

• Mar. 17 - May 12, Art Show, Kristina Grey and Nancy Whitman will display their art in a show at Fox Fine Jewelry, Artists' Reception Sat., Mar. 21, 6 - 9 pm. Kristina Grey, a Disney veteran who worked on Sleeping Beauty, has devoted her life to art as a vehicle for healing. She has used art therapeutically with male inmates, abused adults in a psychiatric unit, and in private practice. She has been painting, drawing and sculpting all of her life, with dozens of awards and shows to her credit. Her art, intuitive and inspired, is loose and colorful, a blending of post impressionist and abstract expressionists. Her larger, free-flowing colorful pastels reflect the sheer beauty of nature that surrounds her as she paints in her studio in Upper Ojai. Fox Fine Jewelry, 210 East Main, Ventura, across the street from the Mission. Hours: Mon. - Thurs., 10:30 - 6pm. Fridays and Saturdays 10:30 - 10pm.
Info. Debbie Fox at 805-652-1800

• Apr. 17 - May 17, California Missions, Exhibit, Ojai Valley Museum.
info. www.ojaivalleymuseum.org

• May. 24, Henry Schwab Ventura County Violin Competition, second year of the Henry Schwab Ventura County Violin Competition, Sponsored by a grant from the Henry and Miriam Schwab Family Charitable Trust. Competition seeks to encourage young violinists and help them with their education. \$3,000 awarded to the contestants who compete in two events. The finalists will compete May 24, by playing a concerto with the Ventura College Symphony. Public is invited to the May competition
Info. 525-0144



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