

The Ojai & Ventura



VIEW



Photo © 2010, Joel Anderson

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A STONE IN MY HEART

SITTING BULL

• **DIRE STRAITS FOR OJAI TROLLEY ?**

• **Veterans For Peace - LARRY NARON**

• **SHOCKING & COLE'S KISS-OFF**

• **ROWE - CURTAIN CALL**

• **Roz Hammer and Mr. Fix it**

• **PETER MILHADO - FOR MEANING**

• **MARY-JO - WIRED**

• **PROMISES, PROMISES**

• **HOMEWRECKER LETTER**

• **HUGE CITY SAURIERS
EASY MONEY**

• **MINA GOES TO
WASHINGTON**

FOR
PITY
SAKES



**BigTime
Media
Moguls**

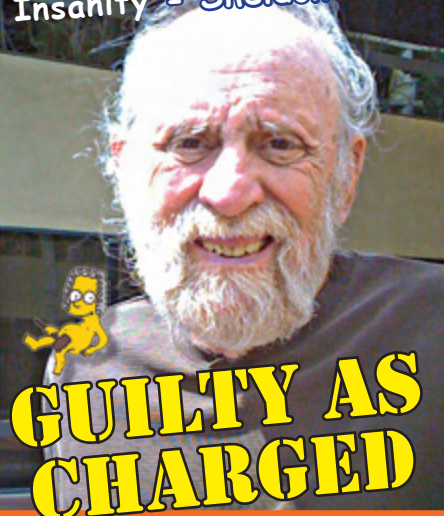


If you haven't grabbed a hot seat with The **PIN-DOWN** Girls... it's time to pull up a chair See Page 20

Photo © 2010, Joel Anderson

POOR SHELDON

"I was going to Plead...
Insanity"- Sheldon Brown



GUILTY AS CHARGED

Mr. Sheldon Brown, editor/publisher Ventura Breeze leaves Court April 2

PAGE TWO & SEVEN

Photo © 2010, Joel Anderson



Why Washington Can't Jump
Leadership ?

- **HUMANE SOCIETY**
- **TEA PARTY**
- **SKATEPARK STALLS**
- **ROBBING OUR SCHOOLS**
- **OPEN MIC NIGHT**
- **COMING BACK II ART ISGUR**



Photo © 2010, Joel Anderson

**CHUMASH
MUSIC**

RESPECTABLE-WOMEN

TENNIS ANYONE ?

INSIDE: • **POLITICS** • **Art** • **WATER...** • **SINGING PEACE TO POWER** • **PIN-DOWN GIRLS** ★

OJAI CITY COUNCIL RAGGEDY EDGE

— Dick Lynch
 This Town must be rollin' in dough. Congratulations to Wayne Bruce and the Tennis people, 110 years, great job. Extra special thanks for gettin' the Tennis Courts fixed up. Must have been without City help. What a shame the CITY continues to be worse than the Keystone Cops. Why are we diggin' up the entrance to Ojai Valley Inn Thursday the first day of the Tennis LONG weekend? The water pipes are almost as old as the match. Why, what would ever possess the City to allow anyone to stop traffic (Tourists from spending money) during this event? What's happening next week? NOTHING. Why not wait until its over. We are having pretty good weather, why ruin someone's weekend by road construction. I thought we were spending something like over \$150,000 plus to get Tourists here and show them, what, ROAD CONSTRUCTION? We need new management of the city. Someone that can look at a Calendar and see that this time of year, every year except the first decade of last century, this town had the "OJAI". Not sure if the management can't read, can't plan or just don't care; this has to stop. We've been gettin' nothing buy FAST TALK and Low or

No performance. The last city manager didn't get things done all that fast (Arcade project) and we ran out of money.
 Now Nothing is happening including a Roof at City Hall and we're out of money. It's pretty clear if the Council can't make the changes necessary, the City Council needs to be changed. It's beyond ridiculous what is happening. Ask the two Attorneys (running for our open city council seat) if they will make a change of management at the local debates, or candidate discussions or whatever the meetings are called.
 The replacement for Mr. Devito should tell us what they plan to do, to get us out of this mess. Joe it's not too late to start thinkin' about pulling papers for the November Election.
 The lights are still going out and the Trolley is out of control spending, get a wagon load of this, 6 of our City Staff cost the city in excess of \$100,000 per year and 1, Twice that much. What could they be doing in such a small town for that kind of money, WHAT?
 Well we are getting SNORKED again, just read the City Budget, 85 pages for a 7 million dollar Lights Out Continued, Page 4...

CONVICTED

The People of the State of California, Plaintiff vs. Sheldon Brown, Defendant
PC.490.7 (B)(A) Unlawfully Taking More Than 25 Copies of a Free or Complimentary Newspaper with Intent to Harm Competitor

Sheldon is S.O.L...

TRUE CRIME



www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView

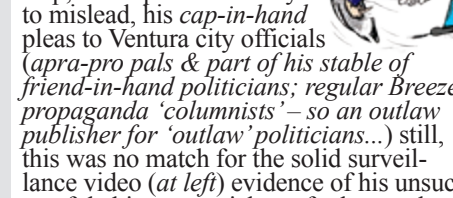
U.S. Constitution First Amendment

For Those Who May be Forgetting....
 Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

NEWSPAPER WARS

Breeze Publisher Sheldon "L.A." Brown Convicted of Theft

Sheldon Brown, editor, publisher, and "chief bottle washer" of the Ventura Breeze was convicted April 2 in Ventura Superior Court of the Oct. 17, 2009 Criminal Theft of The Ojai and Ventura VIEW.
 Brown's noted disingenuous "apologies" and rationalizations didn't wash with the DA or the court either as he received his sentence. I honestly think Sheldon is "sorry" but he is only sorry that he got caught. His pleas for sympathy were thinly disguised veils for his true unmaskable nature.
 The people that Sheldon was hurting are the Advertisers of the VIEW, and as a "newspaperman" Sheldon should understand this, and know that he's hurt the VIEW advertisers. Now he has the nerve to Target the same Merchants, who his selfish actions have damaged.
 Is this the kind of person you would want to advertise with?
 And so, as any law enforcement officer will tell you, Sheldon's thievery, attempted censorship, subsequent lies to try to mislead, his cap-in-hand pleas to Ventura city officials (apra-pro pals & part of his stable of friend-in-hand politicians; regular Breeze propaganda 'columnists' - so an outlaw publisher for 'outlaw' politicians...) still, this was no match for the solid surveillance video (at left) evidence of his unsuccessful chicanery, trickery, foolery and thievery. Sheldon still owes The VIEW \$140 for the 70 copies of the VIEW he stole, despite his own Oct. 27, 2009 email in which he promises, "I would be happy to pay for these papers if you will tell me where to send a check."
 For Sheldon, the Ojai & Ventura VIEW, P.O. Box 1824, Ojai, CA 93024, just as it has always been published in the VIEW box at right. Let the healing begin.



— editor

EXCLUSIVE COURTHOUSE INTERVIEW PAGE 7

"Sure there are dishonest men in local government. But there are dishonest men in national government too."
 — Richard M. Nixon

Mr. Fix it

by Roslyn Hammer

My father could fix anything. Of course, he needed a staff of three or four to assist him.
 "Get me my wrench," he would bellow while under the clothes dryer. My mother and we girls would stop what we were doing and begin the search.
 "Shit," he would scream, "I need my wrench!"
 Finally, after ten minutes of intense searching, he would holler, "Never mind, I got it right here." The search would stop and we would all go back to our respective endeavors - at least for a few minutes.
 "Bring me my box of screws," the next command would issue forth. We would all look at each other. "What box of screws?" However, a second search party would be dispatched.
 After an hour or so the job would be completed. My father would announce, "Finished!" We would breathe a sigh of relief, and we would be called in for instructions, about how to treat the newly restored clothes dryer.
 The one problem my father had was that he had no aesthetic value. The dryer, Mr. Fix it Continued, Page 22...

LETTER - DEAR HOMEWRECKER

— Dor Matt

Excuse me if I ramble and go all over the map in this letter, but I am sure you will understand from the place of turmoil and great pain it is written.



After fighting to survive such betrayal, and heartbreak with my amazing children, my thoughts crash into each other, never to make sense. How did this happen to us? How do we deserve such disrespect and embarrassment and shame? Because you don't have a heart or soul or conscience, you don't understand the gut wrenching pain as you picture the woman you loved and gave all to with another Homewrecker Continued, Page 21...

Have I Acted In A Cowardly Manner?

By Larry Naron

We all like to think our actions are righteous and we strive to do the right thing. This is something which is intrinsic to how we view ourselves. If we believe things are wrong and we refuse to act what does that say of our character?
 It really does not matter if we have become jaded and don't believe our efforts will be rewarded. Sometimes the reward must be in fighting the good fight and standing up to tyranny and repression wherever it rears it's Fighting Tyranny Continued, Page 18...

www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com
 Keep Smiling!

CRIME GOT CRIME?
 Ventura County We Tip Hotline
 1-800-222-Tips

Daru Good Reading!

 Daru Good Reading!

the Ojai and Ventura Real **VIEW**
Editorial Policy
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LETTER - One Letter Makes A Difference

— Linda Potter

Dear Editor
 One single letter can and did make a big difference. I wrote a letter concerning the safety issues of one piece of play equipment at the Oak View Resource Center. Within a couple of days of publication a wonderful lady appeared at my door. Barbara Kennedy, the site director, took time from her tremendous schedule to visit me at my home and explain to me the workings of the Oak View Resource Center. And today I can say the play pad on one jungle gym is now corrected and safe! This was not a huge issue. It was not a life and death situation. It was just an observation from ONE grandmother who visits the center every day with her grandchildren. I applauded the Resource Center AND the very busy Boys and Girls Club for acting so quickly and efficiently to correct this little issue. It goes to show you, one letter or one phone call from one person can make a difference. Thank you Barbara and crew again and again.
 — Linda Potter, Oak View

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

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

VIEW Detailed Financial Analysis
 Go To: www.ojaiandventuraview.com/OVVtaArt/TheRoseVol.IIssue1WebStealthkatGraphics.pdf

City Progress: The Kiss Off ~ Sweeping it Under the Rug

From: "Cole, Rick" <rcole@ci.ventura.ca.us>
 Date: Thu, 15 Apr 2010 17:39:28 -0700 (PDT)
 To: Wendy Halderman <whalderman@earthlink.net>
 [and almost everybody in the world...]
Subject: Re: Wright Library update Wendy [Halderman]:
 I'm not sure this back and forth is making much progress. I think the key here is your view that Wright is required to remain open "under any circumstances." While I admire your

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

"Do not let spacious plans for a new world divert your energies from saving what is left of the old."
 — Winston Churchill

passion, all of us in government (and business for that matter) must deal with the changed circumstances of the worst economic downturn in 70 years. Living within our means requires hard choices. Not everyone is going to agree with those choices and every choice is going to be questioned. I think that comes with the territory. As Winston Churchill said in similar adverse circumstances, "I do not resent criticism, even when, for the sake of emphasis, it parts for the time with reality."
 All the best, Rick Cole
 City Manager, City of Ventura

Pt. II Coming Back by Art Isgur

In the first installment of this series we learned that budget deficits are neither good nor bad in themselves. Deficits are just borrowed money. A deficit may be 'bad' if most of the money is used to lower taxes on those people that already have more money to use than they can possibly spend. The very same deficit is 'good' if the money is put into productive use, encouraging greater consumer spending and lowering production costs, etc.
 To help America come back from the grips of this Great Recession we face daunting challenges. Today we will deal Pt. II Coming Back Continued, Page 8...

PRESS RELEASE Ventura County Area Agency on Aging

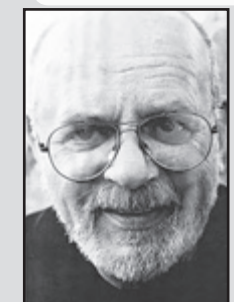
Shocking

When the body (which is mostly water) comes in contact with an electrical current, such as lightning or a plugged-in appliance, it causes an electrical shock. The amount of current and length of contact can cause minor pain, serious injury, or death. An electrical shock can also happen when current with water that a person is sitting or standing in. Plugged-in electrical appliances, such as hair dryers and razors, can fall from a sink into bathtubs and cause shock.
 If an electrical shock occurs to a person you are near: 1) Turn off the power first. Don't touch live wires with your bare hands or you will be shocked also. 2) Call 911. Avoid moving a person if it isn't urgent. 3) Go to a doctor or hospital right away. Shock can cause organ damage even if a burn is not visible.
 To help prevent an electrical shock, unplug small appliances when not in use around bathtubs, sinks and pools, and make sure no cords have exposed wires.

For more info,
aaa.countyofventura.org
 California Senior HELPLINE
 1-800-510-2020

American Red Cross
 of Ventura County

"Don't Tell Me Who I am... Let me guess!" The Search for Meaning Ψ



This article is dedicated to my friend Succino, who is having a book - signing Saturday May 8th, 2pm at Studio G, 403 N. Ventura in Downtown Ojai.
 Succino has had many incarnations in this life including but not limited to being a family man, a social activist, a craftsman, a horse-racing aficionado, a Buddhist monk, an attendant in a Christian Monastery, a student at Oxford University, a psychotherapist, a painter, a servant in the library and a continuous writer. His book 'Walking Between Trees' is a page turner based on life experience and his relentless search for meaning, soul and wisdom.

There are many different schools in modern psychology. Some only address behavior which can be observed and converted into statistical models, others work with mental thoughts and cognition which can be reprogrammed and the medical version deals with biochemical imbalances which can be medicated. All are significant and can be helpful, but none address the most profound need of modern men and women, namely, to render our journey through life meaningful (James Hollis). From this perspective **neurosis is defined as the suffering of a soul which has not discovered its meaning.** Some say the goal of life is happiness, the pursuit of which was advocated by our ancestors who wrote the Constitution, but I've never known anyone who can access happiness through will power alone. It makes more sense to me to consciously search for meaning in one's life. This search is instinctive, we can't help but seek it because we seem to be the only species who are struck with knowing the difference between how things are and how things ought to be. When we become neurotic or addicted, we run away from the unbearable weight of meaninglessness. We worship false gods by concretizing the divine into outer objects like matter in food, spirit in alcohol, power in money, femininity in fashion, masculinity in football ... they do not feed our souls ... "a sense of emptiness gnaws, as the weight of material objects threaten to bury us in our own garbage (Marion Woodman)."

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

Psychological symptoms are an expression of a desire for healing. In actuality, symptoms are signs of grace, if we will only listen. Rather than repress them, we must understand them. There are some depressions that should not be cured right away as they are requests to go "down and in" and not "up and out". If life has been lived too superficially, there is a need for greater depth and the patient is requested to turn inward and find wisdom in his or her soul, which is the only place where it can be found. The sufferings of this kind of depression are pangs of birth as new parts of our individual soul are brought to light out of darkness. It is often in the swamplands of our psyche where we find dignity and purpose. Of course in order to do the inner work we have to be still and bear the anxiety of solitude. Eventually new horizons will open and finally we will be independent of the opinions of others and have the inner authority of our own truth.

Popular "culture" will fight us all the way as our modern propaganda mills like Television, Hollywood, Madison Avenue are proponents of distraction and divertissement, whose purpose is the avoidance of solitude. No wonder most people avoid the inner journey or project salvation on to gurus. Going upstream is not for the spiritually weak-kneed. As therapists we're struggling fellow pilgrims, who know what it's like to barely hang on by our fingernails, and who practice the craft and art of midwifery.

At best, we help people connect to their own inner authority and soulful wisdom. **No one knows the meaning of life for someone else.**

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

OJAI CITY COUNCIL RAGGEDY EDGE

Lights Out Continued From Page Two...
budget, unreal. How about 85 pages of accomplishments?? How about a recap of projects completed, problems solved and upcoming plans for this little Hovel.

Just what date will we have a Trolley shelter at Vons? Just what date will we start on the rest of the roads for repair? What date will the **Water Report Monte** said hadn't been done (*he said 5 years more like 10*)? be complete?

When will **Golden State Stick-up (Golden State Water-GSW)** give the city the **Water Report**? What do we spend City time on? If Jere the **City Manager** had done his cost cutting earlier the CITY would have had all the money it needed to repair **Libby Bowl**!

Wait until you see the final budget **NO Administrative Salary Reductions!** Ventura took 10 percent for the **City Attorney and City Manager**. We're taking **NO reductions!** Mr. Kaplan spoke of the **outrageous income** of the Two top administrators (*one contracted*) received.

They must be taking **the lead from OUSD, less students, smaller budget, bigger salaries for administrators!** That's why **Jonnie** can't add, because it just *doesn't add up!* The **City Manager** is in the process of getting rid of all outside contractors. Why not with the **Biggest cost?** The **City Attorney's Office \$500,000** plus, the **City Manager** and a full 10 percent of the entire city budget is spent, that should be less than half of what is now!!! What is wrong with the **City Council** that will allow **\$500,000** to be spent of **Figgs, Bigg and Monte** for the **RDA**, (*what is an RDA anyhow? Who is redeveloping who?*) The **Housing element** and run of the mill issues. Why haven't we **HIRE**d our own **City Attorney** at a 2/3 cost savings? That savings could have been used to save **Libby Bowl**. Call the **Council** and ask them why, and demand they sharpen our financial pencil. As **Brett** said in one of his final editorials we **FIRE**d our last **City Manager** when the **Budget** got out of whack, just look at it now.

The other shoe is about to drop. Ask the **Mayor** just how we can have such **excessive** salaries with **declining** revenues? If we are having **trouble paying the bills now** wait until next year when **ALL the 100 week unemployment checks run out?** **Cut the Staff Salaries** for those that have a **City Expense** in **EXCESS of \$100,000**. Hire a **City Attorney** and stop paying endless **Attorneys** to tell us we need to have a **4 story building** to house our affordable project, and get a **Sales Tax** or **Bond** issued to assure the completion of **Libby Bowl**.

Ojai has lost something, the **Sparkle**, the **Feeling**, that special **Ambiance** of a few years ago. If this **City Council** lets the **Libby Bowl** Project fail it will be one of the final **Nails in the Coffin for Ojai**. If they are so **Malfasant** as to fail in **THIS** endeavor, it will bring a **BLIGHT** to this town. And since we like to offer **Naming Rights** I will offer my 2 cents for the right to rename **Ojai** ... to **BLIGHT**, it will be fitting.

Hang 'em High!
- Dick Lynch

Ojai City Attorney
How Much Does Monte Make?
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR YOURSELF LATELY?

Retainer	\$33,000
General Consulting	\$83,750
Furchtenicht vs. Widders	\$25,000
Baughner	\$380
Cheverie	\$5,610
Gurwich	\$45
St. George Assoc.	\$135
Mark Hatton	\$850
Jerome Landfield Citation	\$1,000
Contract Draft Matters	\$6,000
Skate Park Project	\$3,000
Libbey Bowl Project	\$4,000
Stop the Trucks Coalition	\$6,500
Smart Start Permit	\$5,610
Housing Element	\$6,750
Cultural Heritage Program	\$30
Other Legal Fees/Conting.	\$2,380
Formula Retail Business	\$1,215
Sign Ordinance	\$75
Total Payment to Monte Widders, Ojai City Attorney - 2008/2009 Fiscal Year	\$182,270

Source: Ojai City Hall

OJAI CITY MANAGER HOW MUCH DOES JERE MAKE? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR YOURSELF LATELY?

Annual Salary	\$141,498
Administrative Leave Pay	\$2,307
Holiday Payout	\$6,921
Vacation Payout	\$9,228
Car Allowance Payout	\$2,400
Deferred Compensation	\$900
Housing Allowance Payout	\$6,000
Medicare Payout	\$2,428
Social Security Match Pay	\$5,952
Retirement Payout	\$24,260
Special Project Payout	\$11,086
Dental Insurance Payout	\$592
Health Insurance Payout	\$9,699
Vision Insurance Payout	\$132
Deferred Compensation	\$900
State Unemployment Tax	\$175
Total Payment to Jere Kersnar, Ojai City Manager - 2008/2009 Fiscal Year	\$224,478

Mina Goes to Washington



by Mina French
President Barak Obama was signing the health care bill while I was standing on the lawn of the White House looking at all the snipers dressed in black with sharp shooters in aim position on the roof of the White House.

Then, I was in the presence of the death beds of two great presidents; **George Washington's** at his massive residence at **Mount Vernon** and **Abraham Lincoln's** at the small narrow hotel across the street from the **Ford Theatre** where he had been assassinated. Not a hair had been moved since that tragic time in **American** history.

The U.S. colors were draped in front of the theatre box where **Lincoln** sat where was placed a photo of **George Washington**. **John Wilkes Booth**, the **famous Shakespearean** actor, was performing on stage - **Lincoln** had gone to the theatre after a tough day the **White House** because it was the end of the **Civil War**.

Lincoln was very accessible to **John Wilkes Booth** as the theatre box was just above the right stage. After **D.C. Continued, Page 10...**

Press Release Ojai Valley Democratic Club Endorses Len Klaif for City Council



Len Klaif at the Mar. 22 Forum.

The **Ojai Valley Democratic Club** held an all members meeting and announced the vote to endorse **Ojai City Council candidate Leonard Klaif** in the special June special election. The organization recently hosted a **Candidate Forum** with **Paul Blatz** and **Len Klaif**. According to club **President Sean Keenan**, "The **Ojai Democratic Club** believes **Len Klaif** has demonstrated his commitment by attending numerous **City Council** meetings and standing up for the issues that are important to the citizens of **Ojai**. As an involved **Ojai** resident, **Len** has stood before the **Ojai City Council** against developers that wanted to make a fast buck by building in our open spaces or tearing down affordable housing to build more million dollar condos. He has stood beside the **Skate Ojai** group in their struggle with the city to build the skate park. Mr. **Klaif** flew to **Boston** to learn what other cities are doing to prevent chain and formula retail and restaurant businesses from destroying their local, independent businesses. Upon returning to **Ojai** he headed up **Citizen(s) for a Chain Free Ojai** that resulted in the creation of **Ojai's Formula Business Ordinance**. He is a member of the **Ojai Valley Green Coalition** and traveled on his own initiative to **Santa Maria** to speak before the **Santa Barbara County Supervisors** against gravel trucks coming through **Ojai**".

Keenan goes on to say "Further, his commitment to champion causes that the club cares about like the **Golden State Water Company** rate hike along with his experience as an attorney qualify him to understand the legal choices that will influence the future of **Ojai**. When you find someone with such passion, commitment and qualifications as **Len Klaif** running to be elected as a member of **Ojai's City Council**, we recommend voting for him."

The **Ojai Valley Democratic Club** is an active group in **Ojai**. They accept members from all political affiliations that share the same goals. To learn more, visit their web site **www.OjaiDemocrats.org**. A video of the **Candidate Forum** will be posted on that web site.

Press Release Paul Blatz for Ojai City Council 2010

Paul Blatz, candidate for the **June 8th Ojai City Council Election**, is pleased to announce that he will be holding a "Meet Your Candidate" event starting at **6 pm on Wednesday, April 28th** at **Bad Wolf BBQ (Formerly Q-Time)**, 100 E. El Roblar Dr., Meiners Oaks, CA 93023. This event is open to the public and refreshments will be offered.



Paul Blatz at the Mar. 22 Forum.

The "Meet Your Candidate" event will be a unique opportunity for citizens of **Ojai** to sit down with **Paul Blatz** in an informal setting and discuss the issues that are affecting our valley. Anyone is welcome to come, so please feel free to bring your friends and family. For more information, please call **Paul Blatz for Ojai City Council** at (805) 646-1314.

Ojai Dir. of Recreation How Much Does Dale Make? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR YOURSELF LATELY?

Annual Salary	\$77,682
Jury Duty	\$2,109
Administrative Leave	\$1,225
Holiday Payout	\$3,374
Vacation Payout	\$1,805
Holiday Payout	\$401
Car Allowance Payout	\$2,400
Deferred Compensation	\$900
Retro-Pay Payout	\$803
Wellness Benefit Payout	\$45
Wellness Benefit Payout	\$135
Life Insurance Payout	\$97
Vision Insurance Payout	\$132
State Unemployment Tax	\$175
Total Payment to Dale Sumersille, Director of Recreation, Ojai Recreation Department - 2008/2009 Fiscal Year	\$122,928

Sumersille, Director of Recreation, Ojai Recreation Department - 2008/2009 Fiscal Year

Press Release 4/15 More Planning: Skate Park Update

From: **sumersille@ci.ojai.ca.us**
Subject: **Skate Park Update**
Date: **April 15, 2010 1:26:45 PM PDT**
Skate Park update:

- The **City Council** authorized staff to re-bid the project on **March 23**; bids are now being accepted and are due to be opened **April 28** at 11:00 am.
- The **Arts Commission** approved the public art work and design which was donated by **Ted Gall** at their **March 18** meeting.
- The **City Council** adopted the **Skate Park** rules, municipal code and ordinance at the **April 13** meeting, thereby completing the administrative timeline for the skate park project.
- The **City Council** will consider award of bid at the **May 11** **City Council** meeting
- The **Skate Park** is still closed for repairs.

- Dale J
p.s. also forwarding a flyer for an event at **Verdugo Skate Park** this weekend - "It's a Game of **SKATE** contest, a **Best Trick Contest** on a flat bar, and a **Battle of the Bands**. Send out your best rippers to see if they can beat my locals."

Dale Sumersille, Director of Recreation City of Ojai
"We Create Community through People, Parks & Programs"

Any Thoughts, Concerns Questions? Come and Visit with Ojai Councilmember Betsy Clapp, Saturday, May 15th between 10 & 12 at Java and Joe's

Your Taxes Pay Public Salaries

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

Office	Annual Salaries	New Dec. 7
President Barack Obama (U.S.)	\$400,000	\$400,000
Ventura County Library Director (Jackie Griffin)	\$197,605	\$197,605
Governor Arn. Schwarzenegger (CA.)	\$212,179	\$173,987
Attorney General (CA.)	\$184,301	\$151,127
Supt. of Public Instruction (CA.)	\$184,301	\$151,127
Ojai City Attorney (Monte Widders)	\$182,270	\$182,270
Ojai City Manager (Jere Kersnar)	\$224,478	\$224,478
Ojai Unified School District Supt.	\$170,000	\$170,000
Controller (CA.)	\$169,743	\$139,189
Treasurer (CA.)	\$169,743	\$139,189
Insurance Commissioner (CA.)	\$169,743	\$139,189
Lieutenant Governor (CA.)	\$159,134	\$130,490
Secretary of State (CA.)	\$159,134	\$130,490
Members, Board of Equal. (CA.)	\$159,134	\$130,490
Speaker of the Assy. & Pres. Pro Tem of the Senate (CA.)	\$133,639	\$109,584
Minority Floor Leader (CA.)	\$133,639	\$109,584
Majority Floor Leader	\$124,923	\$102,437
Second Ranking Minor. Leader (CA.)	\$124,923	\$102,437
All Legislators (CA.)	\$116,208	\$95,281



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At the **Mar. 22 Ojai City Council Candidates Forum - Ojai Councilmember Carol Smith** (*above clasping hands*) heckled that **Ojai's** kids should leave **Ojai** if they aren't happy with the way the town is being run. As the forum turned to a discussion of city councilmember term limits, **Smith** abruptly walked out of the room in search of a cooler seat. **Smith** also serves as **Chair** on the troubled **Ventura County Library Commission**.

The eight questions will be divided between the two candidates randomly, with time allotted at the end of the forum for additional written questions from the audience. **Chamber CEO Scott Eicher**, master of the ceremony, **Jeff Hayden**, former **Chamber** pres. and **Exec. Dir.**, **Ojai Music Festival**, moderator.

Ojai Public Works How Much Does Mike Make? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR YOURSELF LATELY?

Annual Salary	\$83,945
Administrative Leave	\$466
Holiday Payout	\$4,195
Vacation Taken Payout	\$3,936
Sick Leave Payout	\$1,139
Floating Holiday Payout	\$932
Holiday Payout	\$2,330
Car Allowance Payout	\$2,400
Retro-Pay Payout	\$140
Medicare Payout	\$1,394
Social Security Match Pay	\$5,959
Retirement Payout	\$14,725
Special Program Payout	\$6,685
Health Insurance Payout	\$12,285
Life Insurance Payout	\$97
Vision Insurance Payout	\$132
State Unemployment Tax	\$175
Total Payment to Mike Culver, Ojai Public Works Director - 2008/2009 Fiscal Year	\$140,936

Press Release- 6/8 Election Chamber: Candidates Forum

Thurs. April 29 5pm
In a special election **June 8**, **Paul Blatz** and **Lenny Klaif**, two local attorneys, will vie for the **Ojai City Council** seat previously held by **Joe DeVito**. Why do they want the job? Are they qualified for the job? What do they perceive the job to be?

These questions, and a number of others of equal import, will be posed to the two candidates at the **Ojai Valley Chamber of Commerce Candidates' Forum**, **Thurs. April 29**, **Soule Park Golf Course**. Public is encouraged to attend, as well as **Chamber** members, evening is free. Doors open, **5pm**, **Forum** gets underway, **5:30** runs until **7pm**. Format for the evening will revolve around the candidates being asked eight questions, all gathered from the membership of the **Chamber**. Each question is oriented toward the current business climate in **Ojai**, and what impact the city council has - and should have - on that segment of the community.

The eight questions will be divided between the two candidates randomly, with time allotted at the end of the forum for additional written questions from the audience. **Chamber CEO Scott Eicher**, master of the ceremony, **Jeff Hayden**, former **Chamber** pres. and **Exec. Dir.**, **Ojai Music Festival**, moderator.

Questions from the attendees will be asked. Also four additional questions were submitted to the candidates several weeks ago by the **Chamber board**; those questions will be available to attendees at door. The **Chamber board** has gone on record as willing to support the council candidate who best exemplifies the **Chamber's mission statement**. The **Chamber** represents the

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Continued Page 12

Wine And Roses

by Ron Rowe



The first day of spring was March 20, which means that summer can't be far behind.

With apologies to R.B., Saturday, April 24 is Earth Play on the Meadow, a community Earth Day celebration, at 10 am.

Lobbying appears to be recession proof. More than \$3.5 billion dollars was spent lobbying the federal government in 2009, a 5 percent increase over 2008.

China is now the world's biggest exporter, knocking Germany from a position it had held for decades. In 2009 China exported \$1.2 trillion worth of goods, and to underscore its global dominance China revealed it has amassed holdings in several major U.S. companies.

Bookings at luxury hotels in the U.S. are up 7.6 percent over 2008. For the first time since 1988, U.S. imports of oil from Saudi Arabia last year fell below \$1 million barrels a day, during the same time.

Want to know why the U.S. has a money problem? For starters, the Pentagon budget for 2010 is \$704 billion, which exceeds the total budget for the 48 states that are projecting deficits.

Is healthcare better in Scotland? Limb Specialist Malcolm Griffiths failed to notice on four follow-up visits that patient Patrick Morrison had two left feet.

Donna Simpson, age 42, weighs over 600 pounds and has no intention of joining Weight Watchers. What she wants is to reach a weight of 1,000 pounds that will get into the Guinness record for being the world's fattest woman.

Want to own your own space shuttle? NASA has reduced the price on the 70s era spaceships, from \$42 million to \$28 million.

Are you going to Dubai? If so, don't kiss in public. A British couple on holiday shared a kiss in a Dubai restaurant; they were immediately arrested.

It pays to be a writer. Harry Potter's Creator, JK Rowling banked £300 million pounds in 2009, again making her the best paid writer in the world.

If you are a jogger don't cover your ears with ear pads. Robert Jones was jogging and wearing an iPod listening to music.

Ernest & Renaissance Acoustic Music for All Occasions

ing an emergency landing behind him, alas it killed him instantly. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is investigating.

Cleveland has just been named the countries most miserable city in the U.S. by Forbes Magazine, based on the city's unemployment rate, taxes, weather pollution and other criteria.

In Rahway, New Jersey it has snowed for over a month. A family built a snow woman in their front yard, alas, it was a naked woman.

A Boston shoplifter was arrested with so much stolen body lotion stuffed into his pants that police officers were unable to fit him into the car.

Megan Barnes, age 37, was arrested for driving erratically on the freeway. According to police she was performing the art of intimate self grooming, while she operated the gas pedal and the brakes.

The Turner Prize is noted for its bizarre awards. This week its latest winning artist piece went on show at the London Tate Gallery for three months.

If you owe money to the IRS, better pay up; two IRS agents showed up at a California car wash where they hand-delivered Aaron Zeff an unpaid tax bill of four cents from 2006.

Wine drinkers, check out La Crema 9 Barrel Chardonnay 2007. At \$70 it's a big wine with fresh bold flavors of powerful baked fruit.

Time to fill my glass with a good glass of red wine and contemplate on the world situation.

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

LETTER - THE OJAI TROLLEY MORE THAN JUST A CUTE SIGHT?

To Everyone I know in the Ojai Valley

- Linda Potter

The Ojai Trolley is more than just a cute sight in Ojai. There is a group of seniors who rely daily on this transportation to get them out of their homes and into town for their activities.

I am a person who only rides the trolley for fun and it is not a necessary part of my life at this time. I live in Oak View. BUT I am committing to donate a monthly amount to the operation of the trolley.

Today I will take all of the quarters from my wallet and put them into the trolley when it stops in front of where I work.

Robert Jones was jogging and wearing an iPod listening to music. He didn't hear the small plane that was making an emergency landing behind him, alas it killed him instantly.

schedule of the trolley does not work for my schedule but I still do not want to loose the service because I really care about the people who do need it.

Please send this along to anyone you know in Ojai. There will be a council meeting this next Tuesday concerning the fate of the Ojai Trolley.

I am in hopes that an account can be set up at Ojai Community Bank and people can deposit their donations there on an ongoing basis.

I can set up a table once a week in town to collect donations and deposit them into the trolley.

Shops and markets in town can have cans or jars for trolley donations on an ongoing basis.

We all have extras in our lives. Movie rentals, coffee, so just a little extra to the trolley will help. They are asking everyone to ride it more but like myself, this does not work for me.

One man, Keith, who uses a walker lives in Miramonte just one block past the trolley route.

And there is Donna. Every single day she catches the trolley at Rice Road and goes to Little House where she volunteers to help serve lunch for Help of Ojai.

Keith and Donna are two stories out of several. I have Donna's phone number if anyone would like to personally talk to her to see how discontinuing the trolley would change her life.

Please consider some options I have presented and maybe think of more. Send emails to the trolley or to the city council and attend the Tues. meeting.

- Linda Potter, Oak View zippypotter@sbcglobal.net

Curtain Call

by Ron Rowe

The Chocolate Factory, written by Roald Dahl, is in rehearsal at the Ojai Art Center. It is based on Roalds own experience in a chocolate factory in which competing companies try to steal each other secrets.



To reserve your seats call 640-8797.

Preparations are being made at the Senga Classic Theater in Ojai for their next production. Bernard Shaw's wonderful comedy, Great Catherine.

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the mores of Russia and England contrasting the two cultures in a dynamic comedy of manners. If you're interested in auditioning for this play, auditions will be held at the Senga Theater April 17 and 18th from 10 am to 12, directed by Francisca Beach.



Opening April 23, American Right at the Elite Theater in Oxnard. Written and directed by Tom Eubanks, it's a political mystery. For reservations, 483-5118.

The Camarillo Communities Theatre will present that classic play, The Seven Year Itch. Book your seat by calling 388-5716.

On stage at the Santa Paula Theater, The late Christopher Beam, directed by Andrea Tate. All hell breaks loose when a celebrated painter's entry works are traced to the humble home of a country doctor.

Opening April 23 and running to May 2 at the Cabrillo Music Center in Thousand Oaks, Little Shop of Horrors, one of the longest running off Broadway shows of all time.

Audition call for Cabaret, April 17 and 18th, 2 to 4 pm. This popular musical show runs from June 25 to July 25. Auditions to be held at the Ojai Art Center.

On stage at the Rubicon Theatre in Ventura, Crimes of the Heart, opens on April 24 runs to May 16. This Pulitzer prize-winning play follows the travails of the McGrath sisters who come together at old granddaddy's home in Hazlehurst, Mississippi to defend their sweet little sister, Babe.

Driving Miss Daisy opens on May 14th at the High Street Arts Center in Moorpark, directed by Paul Millet. The play takes place in the deep south around 1948.

If you like good musicals and don't mind a little travel go to see, Hairspray, at the Arlington Theater in Santa Barbara. It's 1962 and pleasantly plump Baltimore teen Tracy Turnblad has only one desire; to dance at the popular Corny Collins Show.

Coming to the Santa Barbara Theatre on May 6 running to the 11th, George Bernard Shaw's Arms and the Man. It's a hilarious romantic comedy about a soldier who preferred chocolates to bullets in his ammunition pouch.

The overture has begun and the curtain is rising. Time to sit back and enjoy the show.

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

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView

Quirky Courthouse

MEDIAVIEW INTERVIEW

See Related Story, Page 2

by Joel Anderson

JOEL ANDERSON: "Hi Sheldon, So we're good now? We're good?"

SHeldon BROWN: You're Joel?

JOEL: Yeah, I'm Joel.

SHeldon: Yeah I am always good. Crazy... I was going to plead temporary insanity... I couldn't take it, something stupid....

JOEL: We try to accommodate each other.... SHeldon: Oh yeah no... I... that's 100 percent my nature. And the reason I even pleaded guilty is I didn't want to sit up there and lie or anything, and I don't want that reputation in Ventura. You're nicer than I thought for some reason....

JOEL: Just try to take it a little bit easy, we are competing, that's no mystery, but we each always want a spot wherever the [newspapers] are, placement-wise so there's a little shuffling....

SHeldon: I appreciate... all this. I just found out after two years.... You don't know... have you ever had somebody month after month after month write and tell the world that they think you're an asshole?

JOEL: Newspaper Distribution....? SHeldon: I wholeheartedly agree.... I do the same thing, I straighten all the papers. Keep them clean, yours and mine.... It's just got to be the point where... I wasn't impressed with Ron Smith.... That week I found out I had prostate cancer. I just.... It's taken care of. I was just feeling down and depressed and I went and did something evil, as evil as I can get.

JOEL: We need to try and accommodate each other... SHeldon: I absolutely agree. It's my own philosophy about life. Breathe deep and back off a little bit.

JOEL: You know Ron, nobody can push, or tell Ron what to do. With Ron you just need to be direct with him.

SHeldon: Yeah... but then.... I don't know why you would think your readers would find that interesting, reading about me all the time? I read the paper, and I don't think my readers would be interested in my....

JOEL: We're in the public eye just like the politicians you know.

SHeldon: But I just don't think this is of great interest to read that I'm an asshole. But maybe it is?"

- Joel Anderson, editor, The Ojai and Ventura VIEW



VIEW PHOTO, © 2009, JOEL ANDERSON Sheldon Brown photographed in Ventura July 19, 2009, holding a single copy of the VIEW (#16 July Independence Day Celebration Issue) 3 months before his Oct.17 "Evil" Theft problem came to a fore - See this Issue, VIEW page 3.

EVENT CALENDAR

Apr 29 to May 2, 11th Annual Ojai Storytelling Festival with Alan Thornhill, Ed Stivender, Angela Lloyd, David Gonzalez, Samite, Hobey Ford, Willy Claflin, Nancy Donoval and Motoko.

Apr 16 - May 8, Earth & Sun Art Exhibit at Gallery 255 in Ventura, Artists Include: Sarah Roberts, Shirin Anderson, Mary Gold, Dana Cole, Merilee B. Allen, Julie Merrill, Monica Wiesblott, Carrie Reynolds, Mika Altfeld, Robert Wenzel, Evan Arnes, Jennifer Guernsay, Janice G. Susha, Nash Rightmer, Roger Varian, Jessica Lindley, Emily Thiroux and Kim Clarke.

May 1 & 2, 11-5pm, Christine Brennan's 8th Annual Open Studio with guest artist Carmen Abelleira. Brennan hosts this annual event free to the public at her home and studio both days.

May 1 & 2, 10-8:30pm, Battle for the Coast Roller Derby Tournament @ Ventura Fairgrounds, hosted by The Ventura County Derby Darlins.

May 1, 10-Noon, Ann Bryant, Exec. Dir/Founder of the Tahoe Bear League, in Ojai lecture/slide show on Living With Bears.

Apr 29 thru July 11, Ojai's Libbey Bowl/Past, Present, Future, Exhibit spotlights the people and events that have been part of the town's amphitheater since it opened in 1957.

Apr 30, Friday night - Car Show, Ojai Vintage Car Club, next to the 'ole' Ojai Skate Park at Chapparral school.

Apr 30, 8pm - Concert, California Lutheran University's (CLU) wind and jazz ensembles, Samuelson Chapel.

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Pilfering Our Children's Future School Administrator's Blame the Economy While Lining their Personal Pockets with More Tax Dollars...

It's everywhere; the newspaper, broadcast news, advertisements, and casual conversations. They all start the same way, "With the *current economic crisis*..." Isn't it nice to know that with these *tough economic times* you can still save money on your auto insurance? The "bad economy" is a new reference point of casual conversation and the media. "Well, you know the economy..." In the words of our governor in his address to the state legislature, "Last year, we confronted what history will record as *The Great Recession*."

I know, with unemployment above 12 percent, economic growth barely creeping along, and the number of mortgage defaults at their highest level since 2008, the economy isn't all that great. As Americans we really like to blame someone or something for everything. Well if you can't blame it on El Niño, then try global warming. If all else fails blame it on the economy.

Let me tell it like it is. Things that were really screwed up before the recession will still be really screwed up after the recession. During good economic times, the ocean is at high tide and there is a lot of water to go around. During bad economic times, the low tide reveals the "rocks" no longer hidden below the surf and exposes the gross inefficiencies.

THE VICTIM - PUBLIC EDUCATION: California schools rank 49th out of 50 states according to **Thomas G. Mortenson**, author of "*California at the Edge of a Cliff*." The matter at hand is the **poorly managed public education system in California**, both academically and economically. Recently, every school district took a substantial reduction in state funding, then started the day sessions of whining and marches.

So what's wrong with across the board cuts? First of all, they fail to take into account duties and priorities. They fail to take into account the existing top-heavy distortion that has grown worse over the past few decades. What core duties and priorities you may ask? Remember English, arithmetic, and science?

I'm not sure there are any counselors left in public high schools? My son's high school has **no counselors** and yet a single registrar to handle all the transactions for 2,400 students. Bad delegation of duties. Think about this: one person, (the registrar) is responsible for administering all admission paperwork, procuring official transcripts from the prior school, confirming immunizations, and validating eligibility (yes, people regularly lie about their citizenship and jurisdictional eligibility with the school's residency boundaries). She is also responsible for sending all transcripts for all current or past graduates so graduates can get into college. She does a lot more than that too. Here's the problem, the registrar was cut back to 6 hours a day or 30 hours per week. Did I mention her telephone doesn't ring, not because people aren't calling, but because it's broken? She has the task of calling to check voice mail several times per hour. *Thankfully, her voice mail seems to work most of the time.*

DUE THE MATH
It takes about 25 minutes to process each new student. Approximately 600 incoming freshmen equates to 250 hours for new admissions at the beginning of the year. Given the current mandated work schedule of 6 hours per day, that's 8.3 weeks just to get the new students in the door. If the registrar had all the applications for new student admissions in hand, she would have to start in June to get all the work done by September. That's all without answering a single phone call.

What about the 600 or so graduating? Let's say it takes 15 minutes each to send transcripts for every student (assuming they apply to only one college). When your children's college application gets rejected because the transcripts didn't get there on time, don't blame the Registrar. The problem flows down from a much higher level. Helpful hint, it wasn't El Niño or the economy.

EDUCATION: GET DOLLARS AWAY FROM ADMINISTRATION AND INTO THE CLASSROOM

The poor academic performance of California's public schools is not due to a lack of competent and motivated teachers or failure to provide breakfast for indigent students that come to school hungry. Nor is it due to the cancellation of *Ebonics* as a second language either. The proximate cause is the lack of focus (*money time etc.*) that actually educates students.

Gov. Schwarzenegger said, "In particular, my budget proposal protects education, including higher education, from additional deep cuts. I believe strongly that additional reductions below current year funding levels would leave a permanent scar on our children and on the greatest university system in the world. In fact, I intend to propose a re-prioritization of funds away from administration and into the classroom, and away from prisons and into our universities."

I don't know how far the governor's proposal got, but the counter proposal is to lower the academic standards so students who wouldn't have graduated under the old standards will graduate under the new standards. The impetus is to save money by whooshing standard students out the door.

The public education system has slowly eroded over the past years. Not necessarily the overall funding, as total expenditures have a consistent

upward trend over the past 20 years. The number of people employed by the California Department of Education has also consistently increased, but the ratio of teachers per pupil has remained relatively flat. What does that mean? The *braniacs in charge* are disproportionately adding more non-teachers to the payroll than teachers. This isn't unique to education in this country. Something like 25 percent of employees who work for the telephone company actually provide the dial tone.

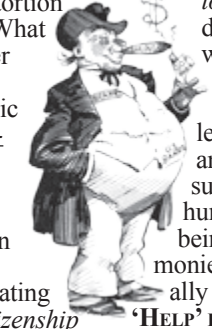
Again, the issue is the efficiency of the funding not the total funding. Those boys are scripping on primary duties of educating and developing our students while spending money on things that are inconsequential to academic performance. Think of it like a big tape worm where the politicians and the high level administrators are the parasites and the teachers and students are the hosts, barely given enough to survive. It's almost a replay of *Saddam Hussein's* human shield except for this time our students are being used to shield the waste. Again it's not the total monies spent on "education" but the quantity that actually goes to providing the education.

'HELP' FROM UNCLE SAM
The Federal Office of Education wins the *Golden Fleece* for spending \$219,592 in a "curriculum package" to teach college students how to watch television. Tell me again how that teaches English, arithmetic, and science? Oh yeah, today they are called Language Arts, and mathematics, and science.

Public education in California was a mess before the recession. The recession helped to expose some of the existing economic problems. Now is a really good time to take aggressive action and fix the ills of the system.

Public education in California was a mess before the recession. The recession helped to expose some of the existing economic problems. Now is a really good time to take aggressive action and fix the ills of the system. Pull the lever and flush the educational "waste product." Start by firing everyone associated with the educational system above the school principal level. As all attempts to fix the system have failed, start fresh with a new mind by including public school teachers, private school teachers, parents, and those who care more about the students and less about building a bigger fiefdom at the expense of our children and pocket book. Jefferson Pinto is a retired CPA and holds an MBA from one of the finer accredited universities in this country.

"I intend to propose a re-prioritization of funds away from administration and into the classroom, and away from prisons and into our universities"
- Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger



Coming Back

Economy, Continued From Page 3...

with two of those challenges: One foreign and one domestic.

First the foreign challenge. This can be framed in one noun: CHINA. We may lose jobs to Thailand and Vietnam, but those nations seem to play the trade game according to internationally accepted rules. China is in another league and so they play the game according to a different set of rules. To them the old chard, "Heads I win, tails you loose," is not only the basic rule, it is their only rule.

In the past twelve months or so, China's share of our trade deficit has jumped from below 70 percent to a bit over 80 percent, in one year! China exports to the USA a bit more than \$330 billion of goods but purchases less than \$90 billion of American products. How do they do this? Let's set the record straight. Low labor costs are not a major reason. China bends the rules...right to the breaking point. They demand that domestic and foreign companies use only Chinese-made goods if those goods are available in China. China determines where factories will be built. The central government in Beijing determines all the financing for ALL new factories. Taxes are often circumvented by paying a much smaller bribe to a Communist official. They have, to say the least, lax environmental regulations. But MOST of all, the Chinese manipulate the value of their currency (the yuan or renminbi). Their currency manipulation alone amounts to a colossal subsidy of 25 percent to their exports. Currency manipulation, according to World Trade Organization (WTO) rules is illegal.

About 90 percent of China's control of manufactured goods, vis-a-vis the U.S., is due to the above subsidies to their domestic and foreign owned manufactures.

Congress must challenge directly, China's illegal subsidies, especially their currency manipulations. They should create an International Trade Commission (ITC) to check, each year, the value the Chinese have stolen. The ITC would then recommend to Congress a value added tax, plus 50 percent to the loss. Congress must vote 'No' within thirty calendar days or the value added tax goes into effect. The Chinese Government will yell, bellow, and huff, but they will either change and play the trade game like everyone else or they will loose market share. Either way, America wins. Jobs will not be sent to China but will stay right here in the USA. Just think, creating American jobs for Americans. Sort of brings a tear to your eye, doesn't it?

Our domestic challenge can also be summarized in one word: JOBS. A former British prime minister, David L. George, stated our problem almost a century ago, "...you can't cross a chasm in two small jumps." With unemployment around 10 percent and another 7 percent in under-employment, with 15 million Americans looking for work, bold action, not baby steps, must be taken. Why is Washington dithering with 'baby steps'?

A close look at our unemployment may well provide a glimpse at the lethargy we find in the nations' capitol. Those persons earning at least \$150,000 a year had an unemployment rate of only 3 percent. Those earning between \$35,000-\$149,999 a year had an unemployment rate of about 9 percent. The bottom 10 percent of the income ladder had a startling unemployment rate of 31 percent. These figures are from a study by Northeastern University's Center for Labor Studies.

New York Times op-ed writer Bob Herbert recently wrote that these sort of statistics are, "...unmistakable signs of societal instability. This

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is dangerous stuff." He is so correct. The \$15 billion jobs bill that Congress passed, late in February 2010, is too little, too late. We need to pour dollars, big bucks, into state and local governments. If they continue to lay off employees some 900,000 could be effected according to the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities. The Economic Policy Institute (EPI) believes that Washington could save about 1.5 million jobs with a healthy aid program to state and local governments. Will this be expensive? You bet, but not nearly as expensive as long-term unemployment and the destruction of our middle class. What should we do?

First, let us create public service jobs, as long as they do not compete with the private sector. EPI estimates that \$120 billion over three years could create three million jobs. If Congress renews various tax incentives some 45,000 jobs could be created in 2010 in green industries. Rebuild part of our infrastructure by spending \$148 billion and directly creating 2.6 million jobs. The Chinese will open almost 700 miles of track for bullet trains starting in 2012. The U.S. will have one 84 mile track by 2014.

The public supports the government helping to grow the economy; even the state government of Mississippi is in favor of such a stimulus program. Where will these dollars come from? Read next month's 'VIEW' and you will be amongst questions and answers.

- Arthur L. Isgur, Oak View alisgur809@yahoo.com

Tomatoes & Nematodes PLANTING SPRING CROPS

by Sandra M. Blackburn

Hurrah for Spring! We celebrated Ostarie on March 20 this year, the old celebration which predates Easter, also called the Vernal Equinox. The sun is back, and we are on the way to summer!



Many of us garden throughout the winter. Greens like lettuces, chard and kale along with cold weather herbs like cilantro and parsley will grow beautifully in the winter here, and not so well in the heat of our summers.

It's time to plant squashes, melons, beans, tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, radishes and all the other summer crops. The first order of the day is to prepare the soil properly. Water, air and nutrients must flow through and past the plants roots to make it healthy and green. Microbes must be encouraged to grow and thrive. Many areas of our planting may have been compacted due to construction and etc.

Loosening the soil is the first step in opening up that soil to achieve the greatest growing potential. Adding any kind of humus - ie fully composted matter - will aid the process of enriching your soil. Building good soil is a constant with organic gardeners - several times a season we add various amendments to improve soil viability. Over the years your garden will only improve. Gardening requires the best soil to produce the best plants, which in turn produce the healthiest food for you and me.

Adding fertilizer is important, especially in container plants which must be leached occasionally because of our mineral laden water. Adding organic fertilizer to your plants is always a good idea, if done in moderation - but wait until it warms up. Most fertilizers won't even work until the soil gets warm enough.

And speaking of warm soil, don't start your tomatoes too early, but early or late, make sure and plant some. Tomatoes are high in Vitamin A and C and are naturally low in calories. They are an excellent source of lycopene, which is the pigment that makes tomatoes red and has been linked to the prevention of many types of cancer.

Lycopene is an antioxidant which fights free radicals that can interfere with normal cell growth and activity. These free radicals are what can potentially lead to cancer, heart disease and premature aging. In areas of Ventura, and even in Ojai with protection, some tomatoes can be grown all year round. Some types of to-

matoes for shorter, colder growing seasons include Stupiche, Early Girl & Siberian. But give me a Brandywine and a Cherokee Purple any day, and everyday, please.

I must stress the difference between growing your own and the grocery store. There is no comparison! Children even like home grown tomatoes, although sometimes they must be tricked into trying one.

So, get your soil ready! Tomatoes like deep roots, and even though the Topsy Turvy will grow a tomato upside down, it is the smaller types, like a Patio Tomato, that do the best in that contraption. Otherwise a 5 or 15 gallon can or even a half barrel will do nicely to give your "maters the room that they desire, depending on the tomato. In the ground, it is best to plant tomatoes away from the brassicae, ie cabbage and broccoli, etc. Mint will deter the moths and carrots seem to enhance the growth of tomatoes, although the tomatoes may stunt the carrots planted nearby.

Tomatoes are either determinate, meaning with a determined size, or non-determinate, the big vining types which will get as big as they can. Bury your tomatoes as deep as possible, even just letting the top 1/3 above the ground. Remove the leaves below. This will give you a strong plant, with more than adequate roots. Go ahead and stake or cage your tomatoes before the plant gets very large.

Water thoroughly and deeply when first planted. Until they flower, water tomatoes daily if they need it. Once the flowers set, you can back off a little on the water, but continue to water consistently. The reason tomatoes get cracks can be uneven watering. Fertilize and mulch. Mulch will help to hold the water and also keep the weeds down, along with building up that good soil. Fertilizing periodically will help to give you the large crop that we are all going for. Canning, freezing, drying, making sauce - Your tomato crop can last indefinitely with all of these processes for storage.

And, for an ongoing crop, plant some every few weeks throughout the summer. This way you can have more of a variety, and ongoing tomatoes for the table and sauces.

Sometimes our tomatoes don't do well. Too much moisture or not enough (watch your watering consistency). Tomato horn worms (UGH! Handpicking is best). And, of course, the dreaded root knot nematodes.

When you pulled your crop at the end of the season, were the roots knotty, with large nodules almost like a root crop? I'm afraid that you may have nematodes, or "roundworms".

What are they? According to Wikipedia, "The 'roundworms' or 'nematodes' (phylum Nematoda) are the most diverse phylum of pseudocoelomates, and one of the most diverse of all animals. Nematodes are very difficult to distinguish; over 28,000 have been described, and over 16,000 are parasitic. It has been estimated that the total number of described and undescribed roundworms might be more than 500,000." Many benign and some beneficial, a handful of soil will contain thousands of various nematodes. Close to and often microscopic, nematodes are little round worm-like creatures, some of which attack and attach to roots; tomatoes are very vulnerable to this. Root knot nematodes interfere severely with the roots' ability to absorb nutrients and water.

What can be done about it? Prevention is best. Once they have attacked your plants, it is impossible to get rid of them in that crop. The best preventative is healthy soil. Adding lots of organic matter, such as compost, aged manure and peat moss will substantially reduce populations of harmful nematodes. Nematodes do not like crustacean shells, such as shrimp, crab, lobster, etc. They encourage strong plants and also feed good fungi which eats the harmful nematodes and their eggs. You can grind these shells yourself and mix them with the soil. There are also products on the market that incorporate these types of ground shells to improve growth along with fighting the root knot nematodes organically.

Solarizing the soil is a great way to kill off the evil, invisible worms. Solarizing is fairly simple, and has the Spring Crops Cont, Page 12...

EVENT CALENDAR

Continued From Page 7...

Mennin's "Canzona" and Andrew Boyesen's "Variations on a Theme of Sousa." Highlight will be the "Concertino, Opus 107" by Cécile Chaminade with flute soloist Wyndi May, a CLU senior majoring in music and flute performance. Michael Hart, who will become CLU's director of bands in fall, will conduct the Wind Ensemble in the "Circus Bee" by Henry Fillmore. Music professor Daniel Geeting will conduct the other pieces. CLU's Jazz Improvisation Ensemble will improvise on tunes from the American songbook with adjunct faculty member Peter Woodford directing. Chapel is located south of Olsen Road off of Campus Road on the Thousand Oaks campus. Addit. parking avail. at the corner of Olsen and Mountcief Blvd. info. Music Dept. 493-3306 or www.calutheran.edu/music

May 2/Sun. The Corporate games, billiards will be at Stixx May 2. These are coed teams from the various businesses in the county.... this is an Olympic style format. info. Stixx, 2520 E. Main St. Ventura., 641-2020

May 4, Ventura Creates Mosaic Class begins - Still Time to Register! info. Ventura Creates, 2037 E. Thompson Blvd. Vta., 641-2555

May 8, 9-3pm, 7th Annual Family Festival, 5th Annual Kids Swap Meet, & the ever popular Fairytales in the Park series - at the Barranca Vista Park, The Swap Meet (from 9 -12pm) anchors the festival (11-2pm). The opener for the Fairytales in the Park summer 2010 season starts at 2pm with The Frog Prince. Admission to the FREE day of activities, presented by the City of Ventura Community Services Dept. info. Barranca Vista Park, 7050 Ralston Street, Vta., Questions about the Swap meet, Festival or Fairytales in the Park series; Kathryn Dippong-Lawson at 644-6542

May 8, Zydeco with Dikki Du & the Zydeco Krewe, Earl Warren Showgrounds Warren Hall, Santa Barbara - The Santa Barbara Blues Society, the oldest existing blues society in the U.S., invites you to its first zydeco show in many years. Doors open 7:30, Music starts at 8:30 pm. Free food, snacks and a large dance floor! Zydeco is an offshoot of Louisiana Cajun blues, and matured from the 1930s through 50s as an amalgam of Creole folk tunes and Deep South country blues. In addition to traditional blues instruments, it prominently features accordion and washboard and has an irresistible, infectious dance beat. Dikki Du (Troy Carrier) & the Zydeco Krewe are carrying forward the zydeco tradition of Clifton Chenier, Clarence Garlow, Boozoo Chavis, and his father Roy Carrier and brother Chubby Carrier. info. www.SBBlues.org or 722-8155

May 8 & 9, Mother's Day Weekend Art Show on the Patio at Ojai House, Come celebrate with Mother, art, gifts, tarot, music, fun. info. Ojai House, See Ad, page 11, 640-1656

May 13-16, 1st Annual GroovePhest at Lake Piru, A four day music celebration of camping, all day live music and DJ's, hiking, boating, relaxing, dancing, and great vibes. Soul, reggae, groove, rock and jam music will all come together as one for this festival to promote unity, individuality and inspiration, featuring Pato Banton & The Now Generation, Cubensis, The Maykers (with members of Jerry Garcia Band & Dave Matthews), Delta Nove, The Divine Crime, ShaktiTribe, Babylon Saints and over 35 confirmed bands and DJs scheduled to perform day and night. Festival was developed by a Joint Venture to help save Lake Piru, to keep it open to the public, and concert-goers are also asked to help donate food to Ventura and Oxnard Food SHARE. Said John Gomez, Exec. Prod., GroovePhest. "Ezra Robison and I started with an idea, a location and a vision. As members of an imperfect society, we feel the need to step up, get involved and make a difference in our communities." GroovePhest festivities will also include motivational speakers, late night drum circles, morning yoga, jewelry making classes, vendors, drum workshops, Events Continued, Page 12...

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United Back to its Bad Habits

by Alasdair Coyne

United Water Conservation District (United), based in Santa Paula, has filed a lawsuit against the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), over NMFS' Biological Opinion on the status of the endangered Southern Steelhead at Lake Piru's Santa Felicia Dam.

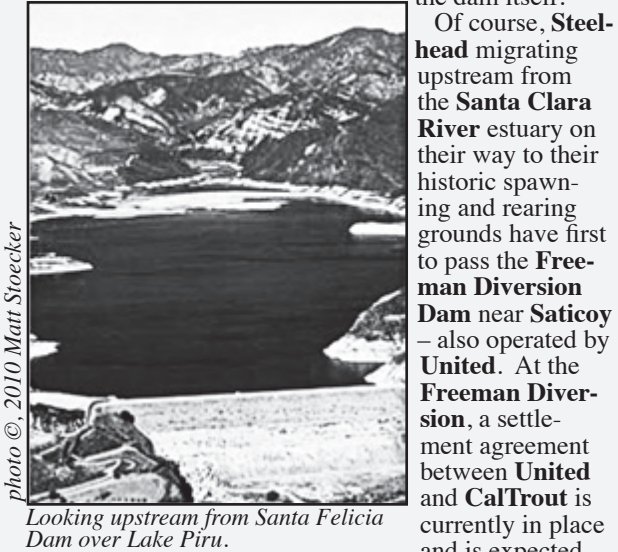


ANOTHER FRIVOLOUS UNITED LAWSUIT

The Santa Felicia Dam has a small hydroelectric plant, generating clean, green energy; this brings the dam under FERC's jurisdiction. Over the past few years, FERC and United have been going back and forth over the relicensing of Santa Felicia Dam. At the center of the deliberations was the endangered Southern Steelhead, which before the dam's construction in 1955 had access to around 250 miles of Piru Creek and its tributaries upstream.

Even after the completion of Pyramid Dam, upstream of Santa Felicia Dam, there were still 38 miles of Piru Creek and its tributaries between the two dams.

Not only is Santa Felicia Dam a barrier to the migration of the Southern Steelhead, the current operation of the dam - the pattern of its downstream release flows - has affected the Steelhead's status and habitat below the dam itself.



Looking upstream from Santa Felicia Dam over Lake Piru.

Of course, Steelhead migrating upstream from the Santa Clara River estuary on their way to their historic spawning and rearing grounds have first to pass the Freeman Diversion Dam near Saticoy - also operated by United. At the Freeman Diversion, a settlement agreement between United and CalTrout is currently in place and is expected, under a strict timeline, to lead to fish passage facilities that will enable Steelhead to pass upstream of the Freeman Diversion to spawning and rearing habitat in Santa Paula, Sespe and Piru Creeks.

United has fought tooth and nail for years against doing anything to benefit the federally endangered Southern Steelhead in the Santa Clara River watershed. Only the reality of the federal courts likely coming down on the Steelhead's side of the case at the Freeman Diversion caused United to come to a settlement there. Elsewhere, United is still in a delay, obstruct and obfuscate mode.

United has tried to claim there never were any Steelhead in the Piru Creek watershed. The facts of genetic DNA analysis and historic records proved United wrong.

United even enlisted Representative Elton Gallegly to introduce land exchange legislation in Washington D.C. to remove the lands beneath Lake Piru from federal (U.S. Forest Service) ownership, which would (when passed by Congress) negate the requirement for any FERC relicensing of Pyramid Dam. Senators Boxer and Feinstein both refused to have anything to do with

Sat, May 15, Morning Herb Walk with Lanny Kaufer, 8:30am to 12 Meets at Thacher School parking lot to carpool to the trailhead Reservations and more info at 646-6281 or lannykaufer@sbcglobal.net

legislation that had no stakeholder support within Ventura County.

So, here we have United wasting enormous amounts of public money - both taxpayers' money, in the costs for FERC and NMFS to defend the Steelhead, and United's ratepayers' money, to support the lawsuit - to challenge NMFS' Biological Opinion on Santa Felicia Dam, which is the product of years of effort by the federal government's best fisheries scientists. United's lawsuit doesn't in fact bring up any new issues they haven't raised before. It spins wheels, wastes court time and resources - which is obviously what United wants. Old habits are hard to kick and bad habits apparently are the hardest.

- Alasdair Coyne, Ojai, www.sespewild.org

Wired

by Mary-Jo Murphy

A few weeks ago, my son and his girlfriend invited me to go bowling. I hadn't been in a bowling alley for several decades, and even then I wasn't any good. My response was to panic. I'd look stupid and clumsy. I'd throw my back out.

"Oh come on, Mom. The ball doesn't weigh any more than our cat, and if you hate it you can watch." Out of excuses, I went. My fears were unfounded. No one noticed me, much less laughed at my attempts. The ball was more manageable than Felicity, my flighty feline.

After a ton of gutter balls, I had burned 175 calories and discovered some new muscle groups, the most important ones being in my face. I haven't laughed that hard in a long time.

Endorphins, the feel-good hormones, reward us when we do what our body is designed to do, MOVE. We are hardwired as humans to seek pleasure and avoid pain. I think other wires are also hooked to our psych, the obsess and avoid ones.

When you were a teenager and your parents said you couldn't do something, didn't that suddenly become the most intriguing thing on your to-do list? Most of us haven't changed. "When I even think about starting a diet," a friend told me, "I can't stop eating."

I understand. Last month, my doctor scheduled me for a test, which required dietary restrictions. For some chocolate is an Essential Food Group. This is not true for me, or at least it wasn't. However, the night before the test I received a gift, a large Dove Easter egg. Chocolate has caffeine, and on the list of don'teventhinkaboutit items were foods containing the lovely stimulant. I brought the egg home, hid it and tried not to think about it.

The next day, when the test was completed, I was on a mission. Devour chocolate. The taste was amazing! Interestingly, once the thing was consumed and the restriction gone, so was my uncharacteristic focus.

When we tell ourselves we can't do something, the thing we have eliminated becomes a painful pre-occupation.

Recently another friend reported that she had read something that motivated her to try to decrease her calorie intake by 30 percent. She awakened one morning with this daunting task as her goal. By noon her sense of deprivation had reached epic proportions. She too couldn't stop eating.

Similarly, when we tell ourselves we have to do something everyday, we soon avoid the activity. Few people succeed with the changeyourbodyinfewshortweeks exercise program, but the concept plays into our need for silver bullets and quick fixes.

Spring represents renewal and growth. Just as a garden planted in April will provide you with an out-of-control zucchini harvest in the summer, the small things you be-



gin today will yield abundant changes months from now.

"Motivation follows action; it does not precede it," says Rita Milios, LCSW in her article, *Demystifying Motivation in Diabetes Self-Management*, March/April 2010.

Milios suggests we break our goals into small steps. If we resist those, she asks us to consider breaking them down even further. At some point we'll find something we're willing to do. Our willingness to do small things consistently is the truest measure of your potential to reach a goal, she says.

Though it would be good to get 150-300 minutes of exercise each week, 5-10 minutes a day is a positive step. Five pats on the back burn more calories than ten minutes of beating yourself up. The more you follow through with your commitments, the more positively charged your emotionally energy becomes, and the more motivated you'll be to stick with it.

Habits start with action, not endless planning. If you are still resisting, I suggest you take this small step, plan to be spontaneous tomorrow.

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

Mina Goes to Washington



Photo © 2010, Mina French

Continued from Page 4...

Booth shot President Lincoln he escaped by horse.

I visited the Capitol. It was a beautiful building inside and out with gold medallions in curvilinear rows on the dome's ceiling. I learned about Congress, the Constitution, and how our laws are made. I saw the Declaration of Independence in its worn golden parchment paper. I met a family from Chicago - the ten year old son was so intelligent - his name was Michael and he took a liking to me - he followed me around and while seated he explained all the characters in his Star Wars book. I learned there were a lot of Star Wars episodes.

The Capitol is a beautiful building, but what really struck me was the kindness of the people I met there. Everyone was well-mannered, polite. The women were dressed in well-tailored suits and the men also were dressed in suits, except for the people on the tour I was with - we were in casual attire. And everyone spoke in low voices. No one was boisterous, loud or vulgar. At one time I got lost from the group while in reverie as I walked around inside. A woman approached me to ask something - I forgot what she asked, maybe for the time - I don't know. But I was feeling nervous that I was lost from the group on our tour so I asked the woman, "Are you with the tour?" The woman had short blond hair that curled at the ends. She was not very slim and she wore a gorgeous suit with a pretty purple scarf. The expression on her face was demure. She said, "No, I am not with the tour." Because I am a very curious person, I asked her was she just viewing the plaques on the walls. She said, "No, I am just waiting for my husband, Senator Byrd."

"Oh, that's cool," I said "Well, have a great day" I said. Luckily, the twelve-year-old boy, Michael, who was on the tour with me and had become my friend along with his parents, approached me with a question about the Smithsonian and I was back with the group. At the Smithsonian I was amazed by the size of the Apollo and I wondered, "How could those brave astronauts maintain their composure in such a small space for such a long journey?" The Smithsonian Institution had all the original documents from government over 200 hundred years ago.

At the National Gallery of Art, I had the good fortune of viewing the Jasper Johns exhibit. I was able to see the

Mina Goes to D.C. Continued, Next Page...

They're Hopping Mad: April 15 Tea Party Coverage

by Richard Senate

The Yellow Rattlesnake flag of the Revolution floated over the crowd of an estimated 1,000 Tea Party attendees at the Tax Day Tea Party event at the Ventura County Government Center April 15th. The yellow flags were joined by the red, white and blue of the Stars and Stripes in a sea of humanity that was both peaceful and patriotic. All sorts of signs bobbed over the crowd with messages of humor and anger.

Most were focused on taxes but a few were targeted at Obama and his perceived moves towards Socialism. The attendees were a diverse lot, well dressed business

owners were joined by citizens of modest means. Tattooed bikers, rubbed elbows with politicians and would be reformers. Several Republican candidates walked the crowd holding signs and agreeing with their would-be constituents. Daniel Goldberg was there, seeking a seat in Sacramento, vowing to help California farmers and create jobs.

There were Libertarians both in the crowd and speaking from the podium. Their message was a clear one that resonated with the people - things have to change and reflect the will of the citizenry.

Ms. Deedee Tanner was manning a table giving out free water. She was pleased to report

no problems at the event. The beefed up security was tight but the disruptions, some expected, never materialized. Mr. Ken Bunting was there to "Protest the destruction of the nation and seeing the country move in the wrong direction towards Socialism."

Ms. Ardis Nelson expressed the views of many. "I'm just tired of Obama," she said. "I am tired of his social-



At first the demonstrations were written off by the media as attended by fringe groups, not really representing the ideals of the majority of the American people.

The President actually left town when the 9/12 protest (that was said to be over a million people) was held in Washington DC. He claimed he knew nothing of the movement or its motives. Ms. Bonney notes that all sorts of name-calling have been directed at the Tea Party movement. "The Speaker of the House called the grassroots movement nothing but 'Astroturf' implying it is somehow disingenuous and only supported and paid for by evil insurance companies or the Rich"

After one example of remarks by Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Carla Bonney called her office to speak with her. She felt it was appropriate to give the Congresswoman the opportunity to speak with an actual leader of the Tea Party movement. That way, she felt she would dispel any further remarks connecting the movement to racist actions or remarks. Her calls were never returned.

"The early patriots faced worse," Ms. Bonney admits, "they shared name calling and even danger. It is our responsibility to keep up the fight for what we believe is right. We must return to the U.S. Constitution and the ideals of limited government."

She is quick to point out that the movement is truly "grass roots". No one is paid, and those involved intend to fight on through the Midterm elections, up to the Presidential race in 2012.

"We must never let this happen to our country again in the future". She said referring to the fact that government has overreached. "We all have a responsibility in this. We were busy running our businesses, going to work, raising our families. We won't let it happen again. We will not rest until we return to Congress and the White House people who support lower taxes and less government in our lives."

Ms. Bonney, also points out there have been bitter attacks by those who oppose her point of view. Most were expressing similar points of view, but many expressed anger, and actual veiled personal threats.

Despite the detractors of the Tea Party Movement, it continues to grow all across the nation. The Ventura County group now has a

web site and they are planning a large demonstration set for Tax Day, April 15th at the Ventura County Government Center, on Victoria. The protest will be from 4 to 7pm, all like minded citizens are invited to attend.

- Richard Senate www.RichardSenate.com

VENTURA COUNTY INTERVIEW

Carla Bonney, Ventura County Tea Party Activist



by Richard Senate

She relaxed behind her desk, a desk stacked with papers and work. It gives mute but eloquent testimony of the busy life of the Ventura business woman. It is a life made more complex by her role in the Ventura County Tea Party movement.

INTERVIEW: Carla Bonney

"I was angry," she admits, "at the increase in taxes and spending by the current administration." Like many, this was the reason she became part of the Tea Party protests that sprang up about a year ago to demonstrate against the Obama Administration and their programs.

"If three people stand up and shout, no one will listen," she said, leaning back in her office chair, "But if three million people start to scream they will be heard and action taken."

From its beginnings as an "I'm not going to take it anymore" demonstration, the Tea Party movement has grown to a nationwide expression of popular will. Ms. Bonney is quick to point out that this isn't about the Republican or Democratic Parties. Tea Party people embrace members of both parties and well as independents. They gather to protest in hopes of causing change within the two party system.

Ms. Bonney admits that the Democrats seem uninterested in the Tea Parties and only the Republicans seem willing to listen, but if they are part of any event, they must do so adhering to the terms of the movement. But, at least the Republicans are listening.

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ism and causing our nation to go into decline." She further said that change was needed in Washington and that the whole of Congress and the Senate needed to be voted out, regardless of party. Ms. Scotia Alves targeted her protest toward the need for Tort reform, saying lawyers and lawsuits were killing business. The stage held a steady string of speakers from the conservative to the religious, they

were there to fire up the crowds. The spunky Ms. Carla Bonney kept things moving as part MC of the event and ringmaster. People came away with smiles and vowed to continue the effort into the November elections. Over the shouting crowd a single old fashioned bi-plane flew, towing a banner that read simply: "We the People."

- Richard Senate



Mina Goes to D.C.
Continued from Previous Page....
mock-up for, 'Target with four faces' - it was amazing to see. Then, I was able to understand how artists conceived and executed large works.

Also at Mount Vernon, at George Washington's home, I saw the key to the Prison at Versailles in France which was dismantled during the French Revolution. The key was given to President Washington as a sign of liberty. I must say, a grave sight, which made my heart drop and instantly helped me to understand what it meant to be a slave, was the slave quarters in the house - a small room made of gray blocks of stone on the floors, walls and stone ceiling - hardly anything to speak of. Why did George Washington keep his slaves living in such conditions and why, when the key of liberty from Versailles had been handed to him, did he even attempt to keep slaves?

I guess the most impressive thing I saw at Mount Vernon was the presidential chair - it seemed good as new with maroon leather and gold studs around the seat and legs like an Italian design - really it looked like a bankers chair - small and stiff. Never a relaxed moment for our President.

- Mina French artnews510@aol.com
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At the Pierpont! 4/17 Dr. Michael Parenti

Dr. Parenti is a Yale-educated Internationally known, award winning historian, author and lecturer, with a profound grasp of economics, the media, social and political issues. On April 17 he spoke for the Veterans for Peace sponsored conference at the Pierpont Inn, Ventura.

EMPIRE

Parenti said, "We are going beyond broke right now, and Obama doesn't have the guts to get up and say, 'We gotta get the hell out of Afghanistan, we cannot afford it....' While we are destroying that country, it is destroying us - this War! We are in a desperate and dangerous financial crisis. We are printing paper, to pay paper with paper. We're bleeding the taxpayers and bloating the bankers. Enough of this stuff, enough. The 'Empire' is presented as a shield to the Republic. In fact the 'Empire' feeds off the Republic. There's only one thing that the ruling interests have obviously ever wanted, and that's everything. That instrument of 'Empire' called military. We spend and we spend and we spend, especially the conservative administrations, and then they turn around with perfect aplomb and say 'these liberals...just want to spend and spend and...' the audacity, they lie...total manipulation, and they believe it.

"These municipalities, state governments, county governments, all of them begging around desperately going off the cliff here, cutting back... and who gets cut? The most vulnerable people get cut. That's what the 'Empire' is doing to us, and the 'Empire' also subverts our rights. The Republic is under siege in regard to individual rights... the Patriot Act, renditions, suspension of habeas corpus.... This Republic is one in which Public Services are going from bad to worse.... fiscal viability is going from worse to unimaginable... a serious crisis and a breakdown... same story everywhere you go with a few exceptions..."

- Joel Anderson, editor

NOTE: See 'Cowardly Manner', Page 2

PRESS RELEASE June 8 Election

Continued From Page 5...

interests and promotes the economic vitality of its members.

"Consequently, the tone of this Candidates' Forum is going to be oriented toward what each of the candidates thinks he can do - if elected - that will be in the best interest of our membership," said Bob Kemper, Chamber president.

"We're experiencing some tough economic times right now, and many of us think the city has been on the sidelines for too long. This Forum is designed to ask these two candidates one main question: 'What is your vision for the economic revival of Ojai, and how will you implement that vision, if elected?'"

The venue for the Candidates' Forum will be sponsored by the Ojai Valley Directory and Ojai Community Bank.

-Ren L. Adam, Ojai

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

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Tomatoes & Nematodes PLANTING SPRING CROPS

Continued From Page 12...

added benefit of killing weed seeds. Saturate the ground with water, then roll out clear plastic, covering the area where you have the nematodes. You can dig a trench all around, to bury the edges of the plastic, or lay weights all around the edges. It takes a month or more during hot weather to achieve solarization. If you have enough space, plant the tomatoes in a new place. Always move your tomatoes from year to year anyway, which will discourage the proliferation of the little beasties. Plant leeks throughout your garden, but not by the pole beans or others in the legume family as they dislike any form of allium (onion, garlic, etc). Leeks are said to deter the damaging nematodes. Tagetes species - ie Mexican Marigold, a large perennial bush, or the French Marigold, a sweet little clump which is annual, but drops seeds that bring them back annually, will deter nematodes. The chemicals produced by the roots stay in the soil for years after the plants might be gone. Asparagus is also a root knot nematode deterrent. It is a cumulative process, just like building the garden!

Spring time, oh yes. In the immortal words of the poet Walt Whitman: "The best of the earth cannot be told anyhow, all or any is best. It is not what you anticipated, it is cheaper, easier, nearer. Things are not dismissed from the places they held before, The earth is just as positive and direct as it was before, Facts, religions, improvements, politics, trades, are as real as before, But the soul is also real, it too is positive and direct, No reasoning, no proof has establish'd it, Undeniable growth has establish'd it."

See you in the garden!

- Sandra M. Blackburn, Ojai

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EVENT CALENDAR

Continued From Page 9...

painting workshops, and arts and crafts vendors.

info. GroovePhest is at 3780 Piru Road, Piru Ca, 93040. Doors open May 13, 9am

www.groovephest.com

• May 9, 3pm, Mother's Day Tea & Concert, Channel Islands Chamber Orchestra, KuanFen Liu, Artistic Director, featuring The Bartered Bride Overture by Bedrich Smetana, Appalachian Spring Suite by Aaron Copland, Piano Concerto #2 by Edward MacDowell with Miriam Arichea, Soloist, 3pm High Tea in First United Methodist Church Courtyard, 4pm Concert in the Sanctuary

info. First United Methodist Church, 1338 E. Santa Clara Street, Ventura, 643-8621

www.cichamberorchestra.org

• May 10 thru May 15, Ventura Creates, Second Ever Art Contest -- Drop off entries!

info. Ventura Creates, 2037 E. Thompson Blvd. Vta, 641.2555

• May 23, 11-3pm, Rebozo Festival, cultural event on the beautiful grounds of the historic Adolfo Camarillo Ranch, Camarillo. Unique cultural event features a Mexican inspired brunch, Mariachi's, a fashion show highlighting the rebozo (shawl), live and silent auction and a "Tiendita," where you can purchase exclusive items including rebozos from Oaxaca. Proceeds from this year's event benefit The Foundation, Education and Employment Resources Development/Café on A for their "Dirty Little Secrets Writing and Sharing Project." Project's principal focus is to continue a successful program of empowerment through the power of writing and the arts. This program is for young women who have experienced domestic violence, gang affiliation, spousal abandonment, and/or sexual abuse. The Foundation provides educational, community and cultural enhancement services to our local community. Thanks to the

www.pesticidefreeojaivalley.org

Events Continued, Page 21...

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Who are we? We are members of the Ojai Valley community who share an interest in reducing the use of toxic substances in both our personal and shared environments, through peaceful and educational means. We include gardeners, families, artists, medical professionals, healers, technology experts, office workers and other folks from all walks of life. We invite like minded residents of the valley to join us, to learn about pesticides and their alternatives, and to contribute to this cause. All are welcome!

Meetings: 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 7pm at Vicky's Thrift Shop, 922 E. Ojai Ave., (between Giorgio's and Treasure Beach & Cafe).

www.pesticidefreeojaivalley.org

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Ventura Creates! Art & Imagination Supplies 2037 E. Thompson Blvd Hours: Mon-Sat 10:00 - 5:30 • 805-641-2555 Kid's classes forming now. Reception for Ventura Creates! 1st EVER art contest is Saturday April 24th from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Join us for some art and refreshments!



by R.L. Kelly



by David F. Barry

Except for special occasions, Sitting Bull dressed like a common man, although he was well off.



John and Grace Ferry, producers

absolutely very disrespectful and then people have this distorted view of the history," he said.

One of the wonderful discoveries about Sitting Bull which dispelled so much of our stereotypes about American Indians is that he had a great sense of humor. People don't think of Native Americans - big chiefs like Geronimo or Sitting Bull as having a sense of humor. Apparently, he had a huge sense of humor and he just loved to tell jokes and, as Robert High Eagle said, he was a kind of person who had a good sense of humor about life.

Said Ferry, "I think in 'Annie Get Your Gun' an old movie - and Sitting Bull is one of the minor characters.... In the film Sitting Bull is treated like a buffoon, sort of not very bright, kind of stupid - and he's being portrayed that way very often in Hollywood. Either that or very stoic and very rigid - and, he wasn't like that."

The fictionalized portrayals of Native Americans by mainstream film has only served to lessen their true understanding and deep the damage began hundreds of years ago, said Ferry. "It's very much like they are an art object. It's very much a stereotype of what many people have about Native Americans - certainly the historical Native Americans - we screened this film many times at film festivals and very often I would get the kind of reaction from people that say, 'You know, I didn't realize it was that bad. I didn't realize that we had treated them so badly.'"

They don't know. They have a sense, oh yeah we mistreated them, we stole their land and all that, but they don't realize that in a period of ten years, of a decade, the American Indian went from being free to complete and practical (decimation).... So these people obviously have a different perspective on that history now. So that makes me feel good, you know? It makes me feel good when they actually see this film and they understand Sitting Bull as a human being, a very 3 dimensional human being."

INTERVIEW

JOEL ANDERSON: Who were some of the people who helped on the project?

JOHN FERRY: I wanted to mention Adam Fortunate Eagle. He's the voice of Sitting Bull, and he is a Chippewa Indian. He's an activist, has been... he's 80-years-old now, but he's been an activist all his life, and an artist - wonderful sculptor. He's the man who orchestrated the takeover of Alcatraz Island in 1969 by Native Americans. He is the one, and also an author.

He just came out with his new book called, "Pipestone: My Life in an Indian Boarding School", published by University of Oklahoma Press. It's widely available right now. He published two other books on Alcatraz.

We met him because of his art. Stonework, and he also makes beautiful, wonderful ceremonial peace pipes. He lives in the Paiute-Shoshone Indian Reservation in Fallon, Nevada. He was so good! It was so



Adam Fortunate Eagle

fortunate, we were so fortunate to find him because he has a great voice and I think he was perfect for Sitting Bull. JOHN: Well, it was a fact that, in the 1950s when the U.S. Government started this Indian Relocation Program [The Relocation Act of 1954] that they basically wanted the Indians out and they would give them a one-way ticket to urban areas like Oakland or anywhere in the United States.... a one-way ticket; they would help them find a job and once they found a job, that was it. They were cut off completely and of course, they lose their job whatever, and they were out. So you had this misery.... JOHN: ...and they lose their ancestry.... JOHN: Everything, and the thing about the Alcatraz occupation, which lasted almost two years... nineteen months actually.... what it did was, Nixon was forced actually to rescind that Indian Relocation Act and forced into bringing about social change for Native Americans.

JOEL: If they were all sent to the city and not really given much, if anything... tools to survive, all of a sudden they could fall into.... and you get picked up.... and then find yourself in Alcatraz forever.... and we all know one can get sent to jail for near anything these days? JOHN: In this case what it was that the government wanted the Indians out of the reservations so they could take the land "back". So the program was to send them to the big city..... every single treaty was broken!

JOEL: So like.... "We're doing you a favor" by taking your native lands for hundreds of years.... and so the Alcatraz occupation more specifically....? JOHN: It came about when the island of Alcatraz was declared 'Surplus Property' by the United States Government. Alcatraz had already been shut down now for many years, and was no longer a prison. It was then opened up to development....there were developers interested in building condos there or whatever, I don't know, but they were.... and Adam Fortunate Eagle, our guy here....haha, had the brilliant idea of trying to take back that island so that it could become an Indian Center. It would become an Educational Center for Indians. it would have hospitals and what have you.... You know it would be a wonderful center for Indians.

JOEL: So there were a lot of Native Americans sent to Oakland? JOHN: Yes there were. Quite a lot, but Adam was not sent to Oakland - actually on his own will he went to San Francisco. Adam knew of course you couldn't possibly take over the island and win

Continued on page 23...



Sitting Bull & Family with Whites



Sitting Bull and Family



by Lillimar Pictures



My Grandfather, Vincent Tumamait. One of the last living Chumash Elders of Ojai. - Ruben Duarte, Jr.



Sitting Bull with Wife

OJAI Foundation



by Lillimar Pictures



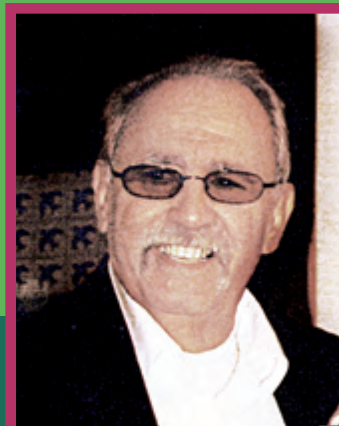
THE NATIVES AMONG US

I thank God for being blessed to having a dad like mine. He taught me how to play drums, how to cook and run a business. I am successful at both. - Ruben Duarte Jr.

For over 30 years the OJAI Foundation has been making the world more loving, compassionate, and peaceful through counsel and related practices. The mission of the foundation is to strengthen individuals, families, schools, and communities by teaching ways to listen and speak from the heart and to appreciate our connection with nature; also offering programs including medicine wheel, sweat lodges, games, art making and solo time in nature etc., all programs are designed to foster healthy relationship, deepen appreciation of the natural world, inspire creativity and promote self reflection and growth. For more information on retreats, courses or classes call 646-8343. www.ojaifoundation.com - Ron Rowe, Ojai



photos © Lisa Duarte & the Duarte Family



My dad, Ruben J. Duarte Sr. Good man and a great father. Rest in Peace dad - Mijo



I feel proud to be of the Chumash heritage. It's like this literally and physically is my hometown. Hey my ancestors ruled it! - Ruben Duarte Jr.

Nurtured in the spirit of inspiration, cooperation, and a loving heritage, Ruben's Comida Mexicana graciously provided the feast for Jeannie and Mark Daley's traditional Spring Wedding at the foundation. With the Duarte family, teamwork has been celebrated for generations, as they are blessed with both their Mexican and traditional Chumash backgrounds here appropriately consecrated on the sacred ground belonging to their ancestors. The Duarte family is forever truly blessed, as prominent Ojai Chumash Elder Vincent Tumamait is Ruben's grandfather on his Mother, Rachel Duarte's side. The harmonious event was the perfect backdrop, for the fusion; people were spirited, happy, and perhaps infused with a little extra native soul. The wedding party blessed the fine fiesta with sacred love in a circular handholding ceremony, filling the air with mutual attraction, human love and respect. - Joel Anderson



Humane Society - Adopt A Pet



Kendra and Leda Muir give a home to lovable kittens at the Ojai Humane Society.

Bolt



Gregg Kiddie, human society volunteer and "Bolt" a totally "awesome" Border Collie Lab/terrier mix, loves to have fun and is very loyal.

Stanley



Volunteer Sally Hall takes "Stanley" on a romp. He is a Cream and Tan Havanese - Totally lovable.

Gracie



Volunteer April Johnson and "Gracie", who will make an adorable feline friend.

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THE LEASHES END



Ron and his companion, Dudley.

by Ron Rowe

In these days of budget cuts, Los Angeles County needs revenue.

There are 4 million people in the City of Los Angeles and who knows how many dogs? Of its canine residents, the city is sure only of this; about 120,000 are licensed, as required by law, and many others are not. So they are going after unlicensed dog owners. A license for a sterilized dog is \$15. If you have an unaltered dog, the cost is \$100 plus \$120 more for a breeder's license, technically required for an unaltered dog. Council President Eric Garcetti claims roughly 2/3 of the city dogs are unlicensed. This could mean at least an additional \$4 million in fees. On March 23, Los Angeles council members voted unanimously on approval.

Continued next page...

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DayCare \$30 per day 5 day minimum (Good Through 4/15)	Fetch Starts 3/27 5pm	Scene Tracking & Fun Starts 3/27 4pm	Basic Manners Starts Sec. 3/20 9-30am
Ojai Park and Rec. Basic Manners 3/29 at 6:30pm	Agility For Fun Every Saturday @11:30 For Beginners and 12:30 For Intermediates		

The Ojai Humane Society is looking for donations and volunteers in all activities of the shelter. If interested call 646-6505 ext. 110. If you have a pet, be certain to check that is as it has received all the shots. The Ojai shelter also helps with low-cost shots and micro Chip ID. The clinic operates on first and third Saturdays, from 10 am to 1 pm.

With the recession in full swing horse neglect is on the rise. There are no statistics on how many of the nation's 10 million horses are abandoned. In an effort to help, horse lovers have formed over 400 rescue groups nationwide. Matthew C. Seacrist who runs, second chance horse rescue said, "Rescue work is a lot of work, but if we didn't do it how many horses wouldn't have a home?" His latest rescue horses were two Thoroughbred former racehorses, abandoned by their owner. Matthew said, noone is adopting horses right now due to the economy. If you are interested in adopting a horse, the Ojai Humane Society has many to choose from. If you can't adopt, become a friend of a horse with a special donation to Friends of a Horse, call 656-5031 for more information.

"People laugh when they see a chimp smoking and drinking; they don't realize its dangerous for the chimp's health."

Also with the recession, army posts reported a large increase of pet abandonment. Due to deployment in Iraq and Afghanistan, at Fort Stewart in Georgia over 321 pets were abandoned this year.

Paul Raitlon who lives in England was fined \$100 for holding his dog's leash through his car window while the dog trotted alongside the car. Paul admitted in court that he is lazy and it was a silly thing to do. Also in England, David Nasser is claiming he lives with the biggest dog in the world. He lives with George who is a 245 pound Great Dane with a height of 7'3". George sleeps in his own queen-style bed and eats a hundred and 10 pound of dog food a day.

A remote town in the Australian desert has been deluged by hundreds and hundreds of living fish. Residents of Lajamanw, population of 650, said hundreds of perch fell from the sky twice in a week. One witness, Christine Ballmer was amazed, she said, the fish were alive when they hit the ground, scientists are baffled, though one scientist said, the fish may have been sucked up into the atmosphere by tornadoes over the ocean.

If you are thinking of entering your dog in a prestigious dog show, consider the cost first. The typical owner of a show dog entering the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show in New York will pay approximately \$300,000. This includes fees for dog handlers, travel to other shows etc., so unless you are wealthy, think again.

Adopt a dog at your local shelter and be content taking him for walks. You will enjoy the experience much better.

Social networking has gone to the dogs; a new product called, puppy tweeter. You attach the puppy tweeter to your dogs collar, connect its USB receiver to your computer and set up a twitter account. The dogs activity triggers a sensor in the tag and sends a tweet to you. It is manufactured by Mattel, and costs around \$30.

A chimp at the Russian Rostov Zoo has been sent to rehab for tobacco and alcohol addiction. His keepers say visitors repeatedly give him vodka and cigarettes. People laugh when they see a chimp smoking and drinking; they

don't realize its dangerous for the chimp's health.

If you want to insure your pet, Pet Plan covers all heredity conditions and illnesses, even accidents. It's the world's largest pet insurer. info. www.gopetplan.com.

Another excellent book is now on the market. It's title; Inside of a Dog, What Dogs See, Smell and Know by Alexandra Horowitz. Alexandra is a cognitive scientist and assistant professor of psychology at Bernard College, Columbia University. She claims dogs are very simple, happy creatures whom we need to train, understand, feed and love. If you have a dog and want to know what is going on in his mind, what he is really thinking, then don't waste your money on so-called snake-oil dog psychics, buy this book, it gives you all the information

you need to know on dogs habits and behavior. It's available at Simon and Schuster; buy it, you won't be disappointed.

Virgin America Airlines are assisting San Francisco animal care and control by flying Chihuahuas from San Francisco to New York so the dogs can be adopted into loving homes. The massive overpopulation of Chihuahuas in California is forcing animal shelters on the West Coast to look for help from shelters on the East Coast where there is a demand for them.

Did you know, not long ago, over 17 million abandoned dogs and cats were euthanized every year in the U.S.? Today the number is down to 5 million, thanks to Spay/neuter programs and rescue networks that educate the public. Now if only we could eliminate the puppy mills that breed indiscriminately for profit.

China has adopted a one-dog-per family law in an effort to clean up the city and eradicate rabies. Anyone with more than one dog will be fined \$300. Two thousand people die from rabies every year in China. I do sympathize with the death of Sea World Whale Trainer, Dawn Brancheau, but surely this could have been predicted. When will we realize that forcing animals, whether they are white tigers, bears, elephants or killer whales, to do stupid tricks which are against their nature for the amusement of a small and inconsiderate audience will always result in tragedy. All animals in captivity yearn to be free, roving miles in their natural habitat, instead of being confined to small circus cages and limited-space swimming pools. It's all very sad, I do hope people will wake up one day and cease attending these so-called shows.

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

Legislative Matters

by Ron Rowe

There is good news and bad news for animals today. First, the good news; the State Fish and Game Commission voted unanimously not to expand bear hunting grounds in California or eliminate the cap on the number of bears that can be killed each season.

The Department of Fish and Game, which initially urged the change, has now reversed its position after it had been deluged with a storm of public outcry. Officials said they had no time to respond to all the protesting mail. By law all letters must be answered before changes are made; nevertheless they just went ahead and made the changes.

The department had proposed allowing bear hunting for the first time in San Luis Obispo County and expanding it in Lassen and Modoc Counties, they also recommended getting rid of the annual cap of 1,700 bears killed. So dear readers who care about animal welfare, your public letters of protest do influence the state officials.

Now for the bad news. The Supreme Court struck down, on free speech grounds, a law making it a federal crime to sell videos depicting animal cruelty. The legislation comes after the court, in an 8 to 1 decision, overturned the conviction of a Virginia man who was prosecuted under the Depiction of Animal Cruelty Act for selling dog fighting videos. Chief Justice John Roberts said the law was too broad and interfered with Freedom of Speech. Rep. Elton Gallegly (R-Simi Valley) has already written a new law and lined up 55 of his colleagues of both parties as co-sponsors. Gallegly said, "Violence is not a First Amendment issue it is a law enforcement issue, you are not allowed to cry fire in a theater, you are not allowed to possess or distribute child photography, so you should not be able to distribute videos that glorify the senseless torture and killing of defenseless animals." Bravo Rep. Gallegly keep up the good work, we are all behind you. - Ron Rowe, rhjrowe@aol.com

Press Release - May 1st Living With Bears Lecture/Slideshow

May 1 - 10am to Noon, Ann Bryant, Exec. Dir./Founder of the Tahoe Bear League, in Ojai lecture/slide show on Living With Bears, There will be a Bear Rescue Intensive workshop offered later in the afternoon for those who have attended the lecture and would like to be part of a Bear Response Team in Ojai, or just would like to learn more skills in bear management.

info. Ojai Wildlife League, 640-0187 or sue@ojaiwildlifeleague.com Location: 316 E. Matilija St, Ojai. \$10 sugg. donation, no one turned away

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ADVANTAGE FRONTLINE

Have I Acted In A Cowardly Manner?

Continued from Page 2

ugly head which brings me to this months story. To set the record straight I have not thought much of our latest war being fought on two fronts. To be completely honest it reminds me of another war that was fought in my youth called **The Vietnam Conflict**. The parallels are striking and I'm certain that other people paying attention have not failed to noticed the similarities.

That war I believe was one of the reasons which cost **JFK, RFK** and **MLK** their lives. If you are one of those people who think the richest and most powerful people in this country are above the *act of murder in order to protect their bottom lines*, you may want to skip this story as no doubt you will find it incredulous at best and pure rubbish at the worst.



Dr. King spoke out against the war and sealed his fate. Apparently **Uncle Sam** needed those young men whom **Reverend King** was reaching in his powerful speeches. Can you imagine if all of the **African American** draftees of that era just said NO!

When I looked into the murder of **Rev. Martin Luther King** a little over a year ago I was not aware of the civil trial in which the **King Family** sued the **U.S. Government** and others they believed were involved in the murder. **James Earl Ray** had proclaimed his innocence to the **King Family** and they realized he was telling the truth. Unfortunately **Ray** died before the **King** family was able to get him a retrial.

This really bugged the hell out of me, as I read the newspaper daily as well as watching the **TV news** sometimes twice daily. How could the fact that a jury ruled in favor of the **King Family** in the murder of their patriarch have *escaped* my attention?

According to the book by **Jim Douglass** "**JFK Why He Died and Why It Matters**," the only newspaper to cover the trial from start to finish was a small newspaper from **Europe, (Portugal)** if my recollections serve me. I was not bothered by the fact that our **Govt.** was sued by the **King Family**, but rather that the fact had somehow eluded a newsy like me. Is this not a bigger story than who won the **NBA, World Series** and **Superbowl** combined?

It was then I realized with a heavy heart that with all of the *news* being proffered, that instead of being an *informed* populace, we are an *entertained* one. **American Idol, John and Kate Plus Eight** and **Kirstie Alley** and **Oprah** gaining back their pounds after well publicized diets. These are the things of interest to **Americans**.

Why, you say? I would say most of us have given up thinking we can make a difference in this great country of ours. I admire **Teabaggers!** Not because I think they have identified the core issues of the nation, but rather because they realize something is very wrong in this country and are willing to demonstrate, while the rest of us who have even more knowledge of the problem point fingers and laugh that they are being led by the *misleaders*.

As I state proudly to anyone who will listen, I wrote both **California Senators** and **Bush 43** in an effort to stop the war. Well we all know how well that worked. Instead of joining a group like **Vietnam Veterans Against The War** or **Veterans For Peace**, I just gave up.

Which brings me to the title of this story. While I was complaining about the corruptness of our leaders and their cronies, others acted. They demonstrated, they spread the word and they tried in vain to get the kind of coverage from the media required to make others aware of the real reasons for this war.

Wake up **America!** No it was not **WMD's** or **911**. Go peddle that drivel back to **Karl Rove** and **Rush Limbaugh**, the one's you got it from. This is what I know. Almost immediately after **Bush 43s** election he was holding secret meetings with his most trusted advisors. Guess what they were planning? If you guessed the **Iraq invasion** you were right.

Now you are asking yourself how does that silly **View** reporter know this, as you never saw it in the news and it should have garnered much media attention.

The reason I became aware of it is that **Bush 43s** treasury secretary had some pangs of guilt no doubt and let the cat out of the bag (*he wrote a book*). I don't believe he did this to make money. Most **Republican Treasury Secretaries** have more money than the average **View** reader will ever see. All that being said, you now have the source so if you are still doubtful you will have a place to start. If you really don't care although, I hear the latest **Survivor** show

www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com Keep Smiling!

is on tonight. That last comment was just to check your attention span.

I've said some pretty explosive things that I would venture to say only a few people in this country are aware of. Why? Because we stopped reading non-fiction books and even a lot of the non-fiction books are *really fiction!*

So now that I've tried to give readers some background on the



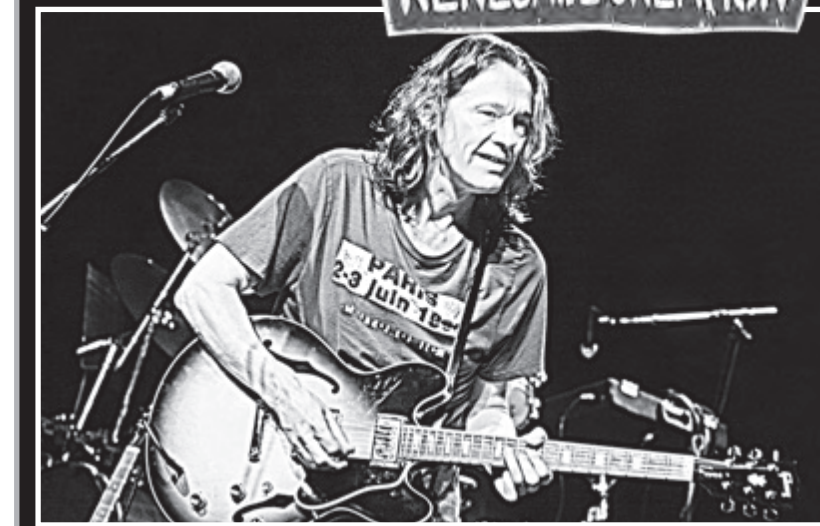
ludicrous lies used to pull us into the war let me tell you of a group of true heroes I recently became acquainted with.

April 16 I attended a get

Rockin' Royalty Stepped out of the House for the April 17 Groove Fest Family Benefit for Breast Cancer Awareness, Robben Ford

and his new quad-dynamic band Renegade Creation set the Ventura Theater on Fire with great new originals ~ featured on *ripping guitar from recent Europe-tour Michael Landau* (Boz Scaggs, Pink Floyd, Miles Davis, Joni Mitchell, BB King, James Taylor, Ray Charles, Rod Stewart), bass player Jimmy Haslip (Yellowjackets, Bruce Hornsby, Rita Coolidge, Gino Vannelli, Kiss, Tommy Bolin, Allan Holdsworth, Marilyn Scott, Chaka Khan, Al Jarreau, Donald Fagen, Anita Baker, Blackjacks), drummer Gary Novak (Buddy DeFranco, Joe Williams, Milt Hinton, Kenny Burrell, Barney Kessel, Louis Bellson, Maynard Ferguson, Brandon Fields, Michael McDonald, Natalie Cole, David Sanborn, Anita Baker, Lee Ritenour, George Benson, Chick Corea, Bob Berg, Allan Holdsworth, Alanis Morissette. Look for the new record, widely available on Blues Bureau Records.

Robben Ford's RENEGADE CREATION



Robben Ford ~ very fine harmonic chords



Michael Landau photos © 2010 Joel Anderson

together at the Pierpont in Ventura for Veterans Groups (Veterans For Peace, Veterans Against the War, Gold star www.veteransforpeace.org)

Families, Iraq Veterans Against The War who oppose the war. No they don't sit around and tell you about all the *gooks they wasted back in the day*. These vets are patriots who are trying to protect our current military from some of their wartime or other negative military experiences. They know **Bush** lied and people died. They still remember the **Gulf of Tonkin Incident**, which was a fabricated incident **The LBJ Administration** used to drag us further into the **Vietnam War**.

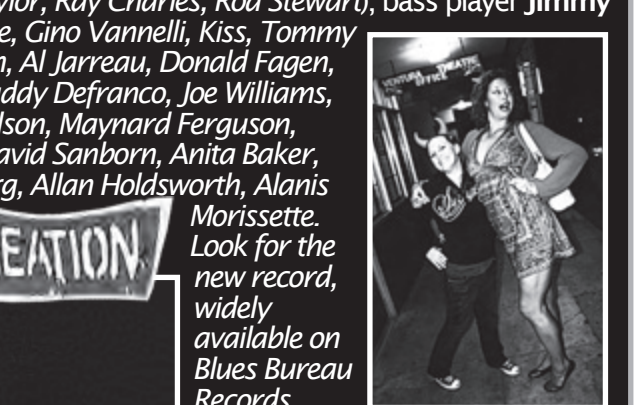
Some of them will argue the **Vietnam War** was *unwinnable*, while others will claim it was *not fought to be won*. It doesn't really matter their view on this issue; what does matter is who they are.

These men and women of honor or risk prosecution and persecution for putting it on the line and

trying to save today's youth from the fate so many of their friends suffered in the **Nam; Death, PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury, Sexual Assault** are the tip of the iceberg of what veterans face today. For those of us who have never killed unarmed people



together at the Pierpont in Ventura for Veterans Groups (Veterans For Peace, Veterans Against the War, Gold star www.veteransforpeace.org)



Jimmy Haslip-bass and Gary Novak-drums

by mistake it is hard to imagine how those soldiers are able to live with themselves, afterwards. Yes they turn to alcohol, drugs, isolation, homelessness and sometimes suicide.

If you know any returning veterans suffering from any of these problems I would encourage you to direct them to the groups I have mentioned above for I feel activism may be the best therapy. But regardless they will be amongst men who have similar experiences and might be able to share some coping skills that they have developed.

One of the highlights was the great entertainment provided by **Annie and The Vets** (*at right*) whose folk, bluegrass style protest songs were mostly original, very clever and musical. Not to be outdone was a solo performance by **Teresa Russell** undoubtedly the finest female guitarist I have ever had the pleasure to listen to. With the new technology; drum machines and being able to add other instruments I'm sure she could give new meaning to the term one man band. Since **Teresa** performs locally it would probably be possible to hire her musical talents for other venues.

The second part of this weekend of Peace was a talk by **Dr. Michael Parenti**, who honored the participants activism and shared some of his own gems. **Parenti's** talk dealt with **Empire** and how the beneficiaries of war are disinclined to risk their own gene pool. They rely on the poor and middleclass kids who are striving to make a better life for themselves.

There was also a talk by retired **Army Colonel Ann Wright** on the sexual assault problems still afflicting the military. According to statistics one in three women can look forward to sexual assault and rape during military service to her country. The numbers are *better* for men, as only one in ten are reported. The reporting numbers in sexual assault are always low due to the shame victims feel after the crime so the true numbers can only be guessed at.

Marjorie Cohn, attorney and author of **Rules of Disengagement** also spoke about how to get out of the war and the suffering still felt from **The Vietnam Conflict**. How big chemical companies whose products are still causing birth defects in **Vietnam** due to their toxicity. She also spoke of how the over three billion dollars of reparations *promised* to **Vietnam** after the war were *never paid*.

When I asked Colonel Wright if she expected us to leave the occupied area before the oil is gone she indicated that **The Obama Administration** had indicated we might be there for *generations*. She also spoke about her recent trips to **Gaza** and the disproportionate response of **Israel** to the attacks in that arena. Fourteen Hundred (1,400) **Palestinians** killed and 5,000 wounded in that incursion into **Gaza**.

The U.S. can no longer be the *moral authority* on how to act in times of conflict as we have managed to kill over 1,000,000 **Iraqis** and the number of non combatants can only be estimated, although I would expect that number to be high based on our modern technologies abilities to rack up high body counts.

In closing I would give a job well done to **Cindy Piester** and all of the other activists who helped to put this event on. This war has left a hole in my heart for all the victims on both sides and I think I need to join **Vietnam Veterans Against The War!** Although I was never "in country" and only made the **Vietnam** era by three months I can't help but feel empathetic.

- Larry Naron

FLASH ICU's **Jimmy LeRoy** is half way done with his "Family Tree" CD @ **SRS Studios in Goleta** ~ just did a gig at **SOHO** April 25. The gig was a benefit for fellow musician **Pat Milliken** who grew up w/ jimmy & was planning to record the rest of the lp w/ICU & members of the **Brian Faith Band**Pat died in his sleep on april 2, 2010

Upcoming projects for SRS Studios include Max Jones, BFB's Johnny Podz and Karen Perry, The Snobs, Renaissance Rose, Nicky Shane Band, Orlando Napier, ICU's Eric Cuellar, Soul City Survivors' Jon Chapman, Blues Prophecy, Black Angel Band, Dave Fitzpatrick, Tina Stephens, Jamie Shane (Canned Heat), Christian Love (Beach Boys), Dylan Fleming and Sunshine, Sam Strange, Steve Henry, David and Ben Hazen, Josh Biegen, Mark Rainey, Shawn Ball, Lee McCoy, Richard Moore, Janie Reding, Linda Hart, Sara Bukacek, Tommy "T" Perreault. - Joel Anderson

'Singing Peace to Power'



Annie Pflager - Veterans Supporter, George Johnson - U.S. Navy, Vietnam, 1962-66, Phil Pflager - U.S. Air Force, 1961-65 (incl. Vietnam) at the Pierpont Inn, Ventura April 16.

Veterans for Peace. With the obvious (*oblivious....*) dumbing down of much grassroots music, which has been eroded and hijacked over the years by soulless corporate music executives, it's truly refreshing to see musicians flying purely on inspiration, soul and the depth borne out of 1960s folk-rock social consciousness.

Said Annie, "Now you don't hear anti-war music on the radio, they won't play it. You can't get that stuff on the air anymore except on the really progressive stations. Corporatized? Exactly, yeah because who owns the media? That's the problem. Disney owns ABC... yeah.... Disney still owns Disney.... So we gotta get control of the media if we're ever gonna win this battle."

It wasn't long before **Country Joe McDonald** (*Woodstock, etc....*) caught a listen to their CD, **Touch a Name on the Wall**, wrote a review on their website, invited them to do a Katrina benefit in Berkley then right after their set there said, "Well how would you like to open for me? I'm going to do a little bay area tour and would you open for me?" said Annie, "Oh he's fun... he's so funny..... so we did that, we opened for **Country Joe McDonald**, free shows and it was a lot of fun. Then about a year later he said he'd like us to be part of his **New Year's Celebration**. It was fun, so fun....

Annie and the Vets have also played **The Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Festival** at **Golden Gate Park** for several years.

Said Annie, "We got an email from them saying, *would we perform?* Phil came home and he says, 'They want us to perform at the **Hardly Strictly**' and I said, 'Do you know what that is?' and he says 'No,' and when I told him he just about fell on the floor..."

This is a great event that's put on by a very wealthy man, **Warren Hellman**, who gets really big names.

"Well, it turns out **Warren** had heard a song on one of our CDs called **'The Longhaired Radical Socialist Jew'** and he really like it... that's about **Jesus** and he heard it so he said 'I gotta get these guys....' It's a gift to the city of **San Francisco**, it's a Free festival and it's three days," said Annie. - Joel Anderson

www.ambergrass.com/annie.htm

by Joel Anderson

My husband likes to call it Music for Peace.... We had been doing songs about unions and we hadn't written anything anti-war, but then right after this Iraq 911 thing happened, that's when we got involved in Veterans for Peace. - Annie Pflager

After **George Johnson**, who is a 'veteran' of the anti-war movement going way back to **Vietnam Veterans Against the War**, suggested to Annie and **Phil** they sing **Joel Mabus'** song **Touch a Name on the Wall....** and **Joel Mabus** gave the "Yes, Yes, Yes, Absolutely" to the musicians, the band took on a life of its own making quite a statement.

Annie said, "The next time I saw George, I said 'I've been workin' on that song and I got a name for our group,' **'Annie and the Vets'** and he said, 'Cooooool, I just meant one song, but if you want to make a... band....' Songs just started happening, we just started writing songs. We said, 'Well let's raise money for **Veterans for Peace**, and we can make a CD and it will be a **Veterans for Peace** project and all the money will go to

Vinegar and Oil

Lyrics © 2005, by Annie E. Pflager Annie and the Vets

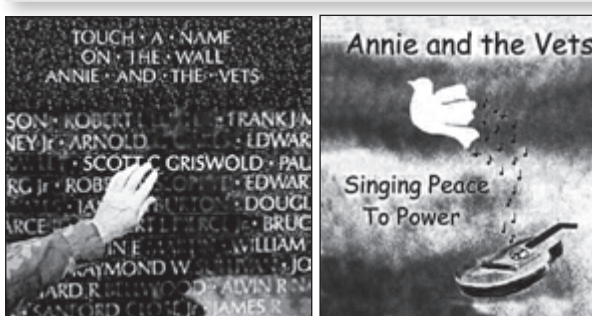
You never know who's spying or who's lying, Your government, your family or your boss, If you want to keep your privacy in these days of high technology, You gotta watch out for the double cross. So...don't put too much detail in your e-mail, Never make your thoughts known on the phone, Mailing me a letter really isn't that much better, And you know someone might come and bug my home.

Chorus: (So), write it down on lettuce, Tie it 'round a stone, Toss it through my window when you're sure I'm home alone High tech won't affect us 'cause I'll clean off the soil, Then I'll eat those words with vinegar and oil. I kept a homing pigeon in the kitchen, But it really made a mess, to my distress, I tried sending a smoke signal, but you had to keep a vigil, And the Fire Department liked it even less. My invisible ink spilled in the sink, I tried languages like Double Dutch and such,



I sat writing secrete code 'til I felt my brain explode, And I really didn't like that very much. Repeat Chorus Big brother might be watchin', so use caution, Everyone's a snoop who wants a scoop If you don't want your latest caper on the front page of the paper, Don't under-estimate how low they'll stoop. Repeat Chorus (Just...) Tag You can even say, "I love you," I'll clean off the soil, Then I'll eat those words with vinegar and oil.

Vinegar and Oil? "That was just an inspiration - one day we decided we needed some..... well sometimes some of the songs are too serious and you need something a little light-hearted. We like to keep a balance you know, you can't just keep piling this grief on people. People have a low threshold for it." - Annie





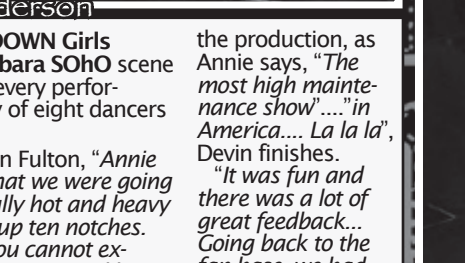
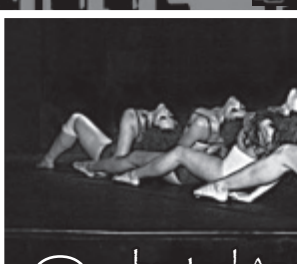
The Sexy Slogans Pin-down

LINE-UP Girls
Jamila Glass, Devin Fulton, Charlene Bittinger, Melissa Schade, Annie Marostica, Chereese Mackey, Amanda Meyer, Genevieve Carson

Lead by Artistic Director Devin Fulton, The Pin-Down Girls, who debuted at the Playboy Mansion's 70's Summer Party in July 2008, offer an up-to-date, in your face, super sexy show, with influences of all styles of dance. The company is comprised of 7 professional dancers who have extensive dance training and resumes. They have performed at various locations including San Francisco, Los Angeles and to sold-out, jam packed shows around Southern California. The Pin-Down Girls spent their youth training with some of the most prestigious dance schools in the U.S. and have worked for artists such as Beyonce, Gwen Stefani, Korn, Liz Claiborne, and the LA Laker Girls. Among this versatile group of women, one will find dancers trained in ballet, jazz, tap, modern dance, flamenco, Afro-Brazilian, samba, and musical theatre. They have worked with top choreographers in the business and are principal dancers of critically acclaimed dance companies as well as performing with Cirque Berzker, Sesame Street, the WB Network, Nike, American Apparel, The Montreal Symphony, and State St. Ballet



photos © 2010, Joel Anderson



Once again The PIN-DOWN Girls exploded on the Santa Barbara SOHo scene and it just seems like with every performance this dance company of eight dancers high-kicks it up a notch. Said Artistic Director Devin Fulton, "Annie (Marostica) and I decided that we were going to keep the momentum really hot and heavy and the crowd just kicks it up ten notches. I mean... it's a high that you cannot explain... it definitely pumps you up and having all the eyeballs..... It's really satisfying." If you're thinking these are high maintenance girls, you're right. Although Devin choreographs about 90 percent of the show, guest choreographer Conner Casavan and dancer Jamila Glass designed several pieces. "It was nice to have fresh energy going on" said Devin who's company practiced several months, some 8 to 12 hours a week to ready

the production, as Annie says, "The most high maintenance show...." in America.... La la la", Devin finishes. "It was fun and there was a lot of great feedback... Going back to the fan base, we had... I would say she was about 60, a woman that came up to us after the show, who none of us knew, she had just stumbled upon the show and was borderline in tears... just wanted to have a heart to heart with me. She said specifically, 'I just stumbled upon the show, my friend and I came here for dinner and I just want to tell you how touched I was by the artistic nature...' like she was just so blown away by the fact that

it was a sexy show, but there was so much artistic material and such a great direction.... she grabbed my shoulders and just said, 'you guys deserve a really big break' and she was really emotional about it, and that was really cool," said Devin. Annie agreed, "It's definitely a wide rang-



photos © 2010, Joel Anderson

...and the after party



The Pin-Down Girls are now Selling Sassy Merchandise on their website at www.thepindowngirls.com

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



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The Sexy Slogans Pin-down Girls

Continued from Previous Page... *ing audience. I would say mainly it's 20s to mid 40s, but then there's still, I mean my parents were there and loved it.... This show was much more theatrical than our last one, just the evolution of our company...."*

The theatrical nature of the show definitely proved a "+" as slap stick, circus and naughty vignettes transitioned seamlessly.

Said Devin, "Our show is such a variety show....constantly moving into the next thing.... There are major contrasting era's, types of music and costumes that go back to back, but because of transitions and blending everything, making it all one big story, it's still a bunch of ideas within one continuous storyline."

"Sexy Slogans" are a bunch of like catch phrases... a little play on the songs. We ended with *Pour Some Sugar On Me*, so we called that one *Sweet and Low*, there was *Chump Change*... and they're kind of a play-on with a little bit of an innuendo in there so... like *Love in An Elevator* was *Rise to The Occasion*...mmm hmmm ha-haha....The opener was the song *You Got the Look* by Prince so we called it *Lookie Lookie I got Cookie*... said Devin.

Word is some top secret things are happening for The PIN-DOWN Girls which cannot yet be disclosed..... so keep your eyes peeled for them. - Joel Anderson

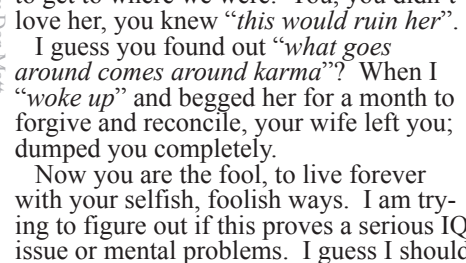
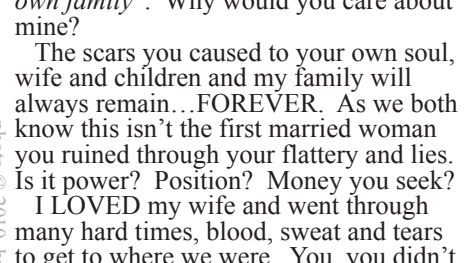
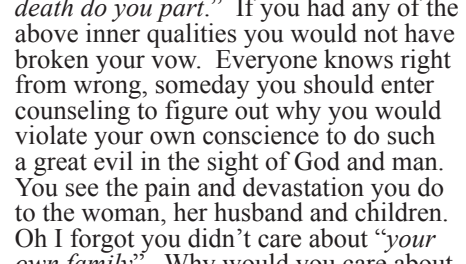
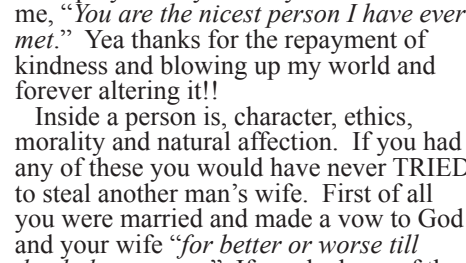
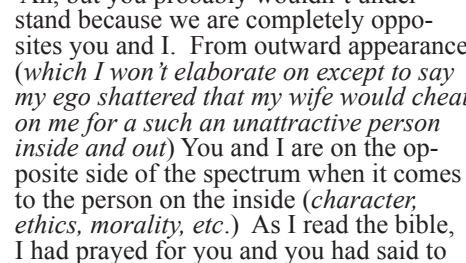
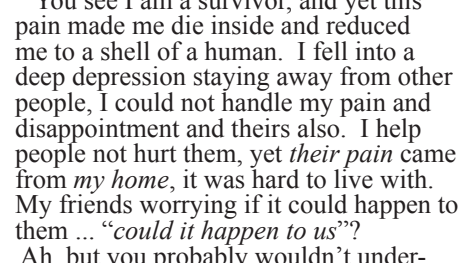
LETTER - DEAR HOMEWRECKER

Continued from Page 2

To see the shock and pain on faces around you, and people not knowing what to do to help, so they stay away. As we all "work through the pain and devastation" thrown our way from a selfish act. To watch the pain on my Mom's face crumble under the pain and disappointment of a daughter in law she adored as her own for years. The pain of a mother's heart for her sons "dreams shattered" as she cries saying, this isn't what I wanted for my baby. My own torment, daily wishing I would wake up from this horrible nightmare. Trying to function and figure out why I was losing my memory and waking up

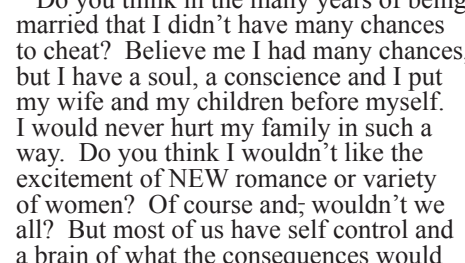
to screams of some tortured soul, only to find it was me. Waking in the night, shaking uncontrollably, till diagnosed with **Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder**. Not sleeping for 25 days because of it, and losing 20 lbs in that time and freaking everyone out because of always being fit but now looking "too skinny and ill". You see I am a survivor, and yet this pain made me die inside and reduced me to a shell of a human. I fell into a deep depression staying away from other people, I could not handle my pain and disappointment and theirs also. I help people not hurt them, yet *their pain* came from *my home*, it was hard to live with. My friends worrying if it could happen to them... "could it happen to us"? Ah, but you probably wouldn't understand because we are completely opposites you and I. From outward appearance (which I won't elaborate on except to say my ego shattered that my wife would cheat on me for a such an unattractive person inside and out) You and I are on the opposite side of the spectrum when it comes to the person on the inside (*character, ethics, morality, etc.*) As I read the bible, I had prayed for you and you had said to me, "You are the nicest person I have ever met." Yea thanks for the repayment of kindness and blowing up my world and forever altering it!! Inside a person is, character, ethics, morality and natural affection. If you had any of these you would have never TRIED to steal another man's wife. First of all you were married and made a vow to God and your wife "for better or worse till death do you part." If you had any of the above inner qualities you would not have broken your vow. Everyone knows right from wrong, someday you should enter counseling to figure out why you would violate your own conscience to do such a great evil in the sight of God and man. You see the pain and devastation you do to the woman, her husband and children. Oh I forgot you didn't care about "your own family". Why would you care about mine? The scars you caused to your own soul, wife and children and my family will always remain...FOREVER. As we both know this isn't the first married woman you ruined through your flattery and lies. Is it power? Position? Money you seek? I LOVED my wife and went through many hard times, blood, sweat and tears to get to where we were. You, you didn't love her, you knew "this would ruin her". I guess you found out "what goes around comes around karma"? When I "woke up" and begged her for a month to forgive and reconcile, your wife left you; dumped you completely. Now you are the fool, to live forever with your selfish, foolish ways. I am trying to figure out if this proves a serious IQ issue or mental problems. I guess I should be thanking God I didn't find my pet boiling in a pot on the stove!

What is really hard for me to understand is someone so selfish can have complete disregard for others. Because you see, you only damn yourself to destruction and scar your own soul. So my question is, *do you love yourself more than the feelings and lives of your loved ones and others?* Or *do you hate yourself that you would bring such consequences of misery and the very judgment of the community on yourself?* Do you think in the many years of being married that I didn't have many chances to cheat? Believe me I had many chances, but I have a soul, a conscience and I put my wife and my children before myself. I would never hurt my family in such a way. Do you think I wouldn't like the excitement of NEW romance or variety of women? Of course and; wouldn't we all? But most of us have self control and a brain of what the consequences would be and it just isn't worth the pain. By the way another thing that is disgusting to me is why would you want my "sloppy seconds" have you no self-respect? You lack all natural backbone of a man; we are known to be strong; protect the children, family and home at ALL cost. To be a man; to protect our fort with instincts over ones self even to death. Your unnatural affection put yourself, career, and partying before your wife and beautiful kids. So hell no, I could never dishonor my life and bring shame to my wife and children like you did. You see I have too much self-respect and integrity to ever lower myself. I was taught you never even dated your boyfriends x-girlfriend, I loved the brotherhood too much to ever burn a man over a woman. My gosh go find your own woman, single women are all over the place. Oh I forgot...YOU'RE MARRIED, or should I say "WAS MARRIED". What are you teaching your kids? I would never want my kids to learn it is acceptable to disrespect themselves or others, to lie and cheat steal and deceive. To sell themselves so cheaply. Besides anyone with half a brain would know. If a man would cheat on the one he walked down the aisle with, made vows to with.... There is a BIG chance he would also cheat on the one he cheated with. I pray that this is the end of your serial homewrecking. Homewrecker Cont. Page 22...

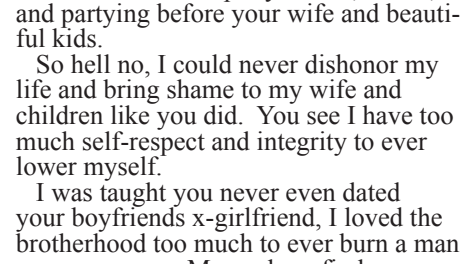


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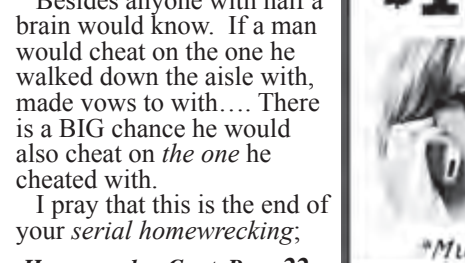
support literacy
Damn Good Reading!



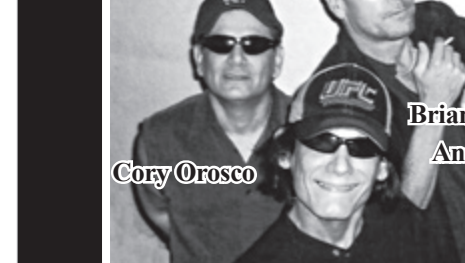
Wedding Ceremonies performed by Richard Senate, Universal Life Church, Reverend since 1971. \$100 fee. Mr. Senate also performs house blessings, funeral services, and motivational talks. Ghosts give us hope that the spirit never really dies, there is no death! For data contact Mr. Senate at hainthunter@aol.com



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EVENT CALENDAR

Continued From Page 12...

generosity of sponsors and supporters the Rebozo Festival has raised thousands of dollars each year for selected non-profit organizations in the local area. Past recipients include the Oxnard Union High School District Mariachi Program, the Oxnard College Women's Re-Entry Program, the United Way Farmworker Freeze Fund, Inlaketech Cultural Arts Center and Parents of Murdered Children, Inc. Brunch will be served from 11 to 12:30 pm. Tickets & info. www.rebozofestival.com
June 5 thru July 7, A Photography Exhibit at the Ojai Center for the Arts ~ EAT is the theme of the photo exhibit at the Ojai Art Center. The 7th annual juried show, celebrating food and eatin' encourages any photo style includin' photojournalism, agrarian landscapes, foodie stills, photomontages, etc. Show opens June 5, runs thru July 7. Photos invited to submit work June 3 or June 4. Submission info. @ www.ojaiartcenter.org
Gallery hours: Tues thru Sun, 12 to 4 pm. Admission, free.

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PRESS RELEASE
Skate Into Spring - May 15

Ice Skaters of All Ages Showcase Their Talents at Third Annual Event

Channel Islands Ice Center will be celebrating the talents of local skaters from Ventura County and beyond during the *Third Annual Skate Into Spring Ice Skating Event*.

“Rock and Roll” is this year’s theme. Performers ranging in age from 3 to 73 will showcase their talents in solo, group, and duet skating numbers. Skaters from the Channel Islands Ice Center Skating School and the Channel Islands Figure Skating Club will be featured as well as a jazz dance production number will be performed by the Channel Islands Dance Center, located inside the ice arena.

The Channel Islands Ice Center is a non-profit organization completing its third year of operation after being purchased by the Channel Islands Figure Skating Club and the Channel Islands Ripptide Ice Hockey Club. The local community is served through public skating sessions, Learn-To-Skate lessons, competitive skating events, off ice dance and training classes, seasonal ice shows, and youth and adult hockey leagues.

Proceeds from this event will be used as part of the effort to raise funds for a new **Zamboni (ice resurfacing machine)**

WHEN: Sat. May 15, 3pm
WHERE: Channel Islands Ice Center, 830 Wagon Wheel Rd., Oxnard
COST: Sugg. donation, \$2 (or more) per person
INFORMATION: 988-4440

LETTER -
DEAR HOMEWRECKER
Continued from Page 21...

that they are over with this public embarrassment. That another husband and children are not devastated by the lowlife likes of you. You will always be remembered as the biggest mistake and worst part of my wife’s life, live with that.

Why did I choose to stay and try to work this out with my wife? I felt everyone is human, makes mistakes and deserves a second chance.

God have mercy on the next dumb female that comes across your destructive, sick path.....

From me “the husband”... It has been a few years since this happened. What was the aftermath? Well a lot of counseling and HARD WORK! People judged me as “he’s weak” and “he’s so strong. He is so dumb and blind,” to “he is so amazing and forgiving.” People wondered what I did to cause this? Did he not give her what a woman needs at home? TRUST ME ...I did. I heard it all. People still talk about it.

She had said I was the perfect husband and she just went temporarily insane, and she would be back one day. Different reasons for affairs, some call it mid-life crisis. I say there is something missing inside, that keeps a person from acting on an impulse or thought. Lack of self-worth or self-confidence, some underlying insecurity not dealt with.

People still feel bad for me. People came out of the woodwork to ask advice because I seemed to be doing so well. It was so hard for my wife to regain trust from my family. People said “how could

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Keep Smiling!



SITTING BULL
by William F. Notman

Continued from page 14....

against the United States Government, but he thought it would be a tremendous humorous way to make his point, so that’s what they did and they took over the island.... by the time Benjamin Harrison was in office there were of course a tremendous number of settlers and they were afraid of the Indians. ... You know they were concerned so the government.and Harrison just forgot about it.....

JOEL: Yeah because the settlers were there to steal from the store, so the thief is always concerned about getting caught.
JOHN: Well put, so the government was there to defend them though, and the people insisted on that. It could have been done in a different way, that’s the problem.
Now in the 1950s and 60s it’s a bit later on in the history. All of a sudden the land, the louisiest piece of land, that was given to the Indians. All of a sudden there’s some value in it because there may be oil or something. yeah, but now there is now a lot of alcoholism. A LOT of alcoholism ! It’s a big problem with the poorest Native Americans. There’s also physical abuse within families. There’s a lot of that.

JOEL: ... all kinds of things have been imported from Europe....
JOHN: Sure. Absolutely....And it’s because of this utter poverty – they don’t see a way out. It’s there. Again, while there are some natives who are very successful man, by and large most of them haven’t done that well because of the situation.
JOEL: Have our government leaders learned anything from what’s happened over the last 500 years or so ? It seems like its almost like you hear about a lot of causes, but ... I guess their

JOHN: Some American Indians are doing

Continued on next page....

well with the gambling casino’s, with gaming. Like the Chumash here, they do very well. If you go to South Dakota, the Pine Ridge Reservation, you will find the poorest people in the country. They are still among the poorest people in the country – they have nothing.....NOTHING. We send them supplies sometimes – books, even for the schools – because they don’t have enough books. because we can you know, and we have some friends who do the same. They are the poorest of the poor and many, many, many, many tribes are very poor – there are few that have done well with gambling, but other than that, they are still not getting any help – and it’s kind of a vicious circle because.... because of all of this poverty.

JOEL: ...and Sitting Bull asked for help directly from President Harrison so many years ago, it doesn’t make sense....A rebuff from the president...Seemed like a key opportunity to heal a lot and he just thumbed his nose at Sitting Bull ?
JOHN: Yeah he did. He could have used that as a good opportunity to heal but, on the other hand, you know the government was not interested. The government wanted the land, because more people were moving Westward. Then the settlers that were already there....by the time Benjamin Harrison was in office there were of course a tremendous number of settlers and they were afraid of the Indians. You know they were concerned so the government.and Harrison just forgot about it.....

JOEL: Yeah because the settlers were there to steal from the store, so the thief is always concerned about getting caught.
JOHN: Well put, so the government was there to defend them though, and the people insisted on that. It could have been done in a different way, that’s the problem.
Now in the 1950s and 60s it’s a bit later on in the history. All of a sudden the land, the louisiest piece of land, that was given to the Indians. All of a sudden there’s some value in it because there may be oil or something. yeah, but now there is now a lot of alcoholism. A LOT of alcoholism ! It’s a big problem with the poorest Native Americans. There’s also physical abuse within families. There’s a lot of that.

JOEL: ... all kinds of things have been imported from Europe....
JOHN: Sure. Absolutely....And it’s because of this utter poverty – they don’t see a way out. It’s there. Again, while there are some natives who are very successful man, by and large most of them haven’t done that well because of the situation.
JOEL: Have our government leaders learned anything from what’s happened over the last 500 years or so ? It seems like its almost like you hear about a lot of causes, but ... I guess their

JOHN: Some American Indians are doing

Continued on next page....

hard time,” my father would scream at my mother.

Eventually the drying would be turned on and the clothes could be heard tumbling around. My father would stand there with a smug expression on his face. “See - it’s fixed.”

“Good job,” we girls would say.
My mother mumbled under her breath, “it looks like hell.”

My father, almost deaf by that time, would stand there looking at his handiwork. “I can fix anything. You kids got anything else needs fixing?”

“No,” we would say. A small “thank God” could be heard in a soft southern drawl.

My father, who was “watcher of the house,” always sat on the left end of the sofa, which gave him a clear view of the kitchen. He would watch his favorite shows while twirling a pencil in his ear, a habit he developed in the army. He took particular interest in everybody’s conversations. When girlfriends would visit and we would be talking in the kitchen, we would always close the sliding door to the living room so he wouldn’t monitor our discussions. Then, almost suddenly, his interest

waned. It took several weeks to figure out that he was losing his hearing. The family began to relax and talk openly and freely. When watching a movie on television with him, he asked constant questions. If someone would curse or say something about sex, my father would ask, “what did he say?” We would reply, “nothing, Dad.”

Then one day my sister and her girlfriend were in the kitchen talking about sex. They left the sliding door open to the living room since we had all adjusted to our new found freedom. All of a sudden my father screamed, in his usual bombastic voice, “That’s disgusting!” We were all shocked since we knew he couldn’t hear.

“I thought you were deaf,” my sister yelled.

“It’s a long story,” my father said. “I went to the doctor and told him, ‘look I can’t hear nothing anymore.’ Then he looks in my ears with his whatchamacallit and says; ‘I see the problem.’ The next thing I know he pulls an eraser out of my ear and I can hear great again!”

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

lobby is not very strong and kind of forgotten, really.
JOHN: They are kind of forgotten.... they don’t have a powerful lobby... there’s no money for that ! That takes money and would take a lot of lobbyists. It’s just people like Adam Fortunate Eagle.he has devoted his life to doing just that, but never had the power to go to Washington D.C. and Lobby and... there are people like him, but he’s not a wealthy man.
JOEL: Back to Sitting Bull, it seems like he too was a man of peace and also justice. He struck a balance there.

JOHN: I think so. I think he struck a balance. He would rather not fight, than fight if necessary for sure. But he understood that the white man was going to win no matter what, but what he didn’t understand was why can’t we come to some kind of agreement? Why can’t you respect that like we will respect you ? Very early on, when the white man started coming in, he said, look you’re welcome to come and live with us here. Live with us, not chase us out....and the Indians wouldn’t have bothered the white man, had they come and made their houses and what- ever and built a little town and coexisted with the Indians. But the white man was afraid of the Indian. They thought they were, of course, sub-human, “The Red Devils” So the whites didn’t want just any, they wanted it all, it was all greed, really. It’s all about greed and a lack of compassion.
JOEL: Modern Day Natives must have a lot of resentment ?

JOHN: Oh they do. They’re still very mistrustful of the white man, absolutely. Even Adam was cautious with me at first. He didn’t know whether I was trying to exploit him. A lot of people had attempted to exploit him. Several filmmakers had wanted to make a film about “the”you know about him, and he turned them all down one way or another.
I guess because he and I worked on the Sitting Bull film; he was the narrator and he gets a percentage of the film, right ? So he kind of, at that time, thought maybe I’m ok. We got to know each other during the course of doing the recording in Reno and then during the whole process of editing.... I’d always be in touch with him, consult with him sometimes as well and he got to the point where he knew that I wasn’t going to exploit him, which wasn’t my idea or intentions. Now he and I trust each other greatly.

JOEL: I imagine Adam has a spiritual quality to him. What might you say his religion is ? Trees, nature ?
JOHN: If you want to call it Pantheistic I suppose, that’s what it is. It’s definitely the belief in a greater being, what the natives call The Great Spirit. He definitely is a believer in that respect, but I think it’s mostly about just appreciating the nature, life and respecting everything in the universe. It’s a very simple philosophy really you know. Do all Native Americans abide by that ? Probably not. I know he does. He is a ceremonial leader as well, conducted many ceremonies. It’s always about just passing good will on to somebody else and just being generous. That’s what it’s about. It’s not very much unlike

Western Culture religions.
JOEL: Sitting Bull said, “I didn’t understand the ways of the white man. I have seen the villages where they lived and I had seen the people in the streets begging for money because they were hungry. In our tribe the rich took care of the poor. Noone went hungry.”
JOHN: JOHN: What happened in Indian culture within the tribe was that everybody took care of everybody. There was no excuse for anyone going hungry. There were Indians that were richer than others. They had more ponies, or more whatever, or others weren’t as good at hunting and they didn’t get as much. But it wasn’t a law....it was just natural for them – that if somebody was needy, they would provide for that person. He couldn’t understand that a culture that was so wealthy... because they had all these great buildings. They had all this machinery. That a culture with so much, would care so little for those who had nothing. So he was astonished; how can that be ? It was inconceivable. There was a sense of harmony within the tribe. Now, between tribes, there was a lot of fighting. for food, for land because you need the land so that they can hunt the buffalo, and there were also bad Indians. I mean there were bad people just like there are in any culture, but by and large, as a tribe, the main philosophy was that everybody works together and everybody helps each other. It doesn’t mean they had socialism or communism – there were wealthy Indians in their own way. How they measured wealth was different than us, but there were richer and poorer Indians, but, the poorer ones never went hungry. That was the difference between our culture and theirs.

I think it’s my favorite quote because it applies to our own civilization today... where we have people in this country that are uninsured, no health insurance, whatsoever and maybe things will get better but.....they never do.
JOEL: Until the insurance companies are removed from the equation ?
JOHN: hahahahaha. Not until then right. I really believe in this very strongly....I don’t believe in giving hand outs to someone and then letting them run out and buy booze, but I also don’t believe that in a country as rich as ours that has so much poverty, so many homeless people....
JOEL: I happen to believe, maybe idealistic, that there are very few people who really just want freebies – I think most of them... there are a lot of people that are painted in that way that I think would do it right, but the system is so complicated that they just give up.

JOHN: Most people want to feel that they earn what they have. I think you’re right.
JOEL: In your film, Sitting Bull talks about the U.S. Declaration of Independence....he

said in 1885, “It made me angry that this sacred paper of the white man which proclaimed the independence of all Americans would lead to the loss of my independence.”... It’s very sad what happened to him. I didn’t realize that he was murdered in the end.
JOHN: He was murdered yeah, yeah, yeah, and by his own people indirectly through the United States Government. I think it’s important to note that the intention was to arrest Sitting Bull, not to kill him, but of course if he attempted to escape it was very clear, just shoot him. The idea was to take him to prison, probably send him out to Florida where so many Native Americans ended up....Geronimo was sent there and imprisoned.

JOEL: The wasteland/waterland there.... that’s near worthless land basically.
JOHN: Right, right, but things happened before that could happen. Some were Native Americans among the Indian police that didn’t like him, and so it wasn’t difficult to pull the trigger. So yeah he was murdered of course, indirectly. It wasn’t planned that way, but he was murdered, assassinated really. Very sad.

JOEL: Any comments on the film from anyone associated with government at any tier ? Like from a councilperson or a mayor or... anybody that may have come up and talked to you about the situation ?
JOHN: No, Actually no, no, no.... nobody has. Well, why would they, you know ?
JOEL: I guess they feel like that was yesterday.... that its not “me”....
JOHN: That’s not me. I’m not responsible for it. Yeah, to a certain extent that’s true, but I think we do need to look at what our ancestors have done....not even an acknowledgement.... At least recently we acknowledged the Japanese and the internment camps you know. We tried to make some reparations.

JOEL: Tell me a little about the sound score ?
JOHN: Well, I was looking for someone to score the music and our son Henry who

lives in Ventura and is a musician, had met the Orsoco brothers, Ernie and Corey, SRS Sound, because he would go there and record in their Santa Barbara studio. So one day Henry suggested, ‘Hey, you know why don’t you talk to Ernie and Corey. Maybe they would know somebody.’ So, I talked to them and they did ! They brought in Steve Henry to team up with them.

“It was amazing.... Steve had never scored a film before. He’s basically a jazz musician and at first I was very apprehensive – we needed more of a classical kind of music for the score – and so I said, ‘Why don’t you guys, Ernie, Corey and Steve – get together, do me a sample. You’ve seen the film now and give me a sample of what you think.’ Well, they came out with this fantastic piece of music in just one cut ! So then I said, ‘Okay, well let’s go with Steve, Ernie and Corey.’ They worked together very well.

Ernie and Corey, besides being awfully nice people, are very talented and they’ve persevered....stuck to their guns and they do what they love to do. They let it happen and if it happens... if something good happens, that’s great you know, if not, they continue. I respect them for that.

Ernie produced and coordinated the whole recording of the music. Steve and the whole recording process? They were wonderful.... very professional and I got a score.... an amazing score from someone who had never wrote a piece of music like this before. The sound is a major part of the film. I think it really makes a big difference. I would give them segments - once we were locked in, he would then score to the picture.

You can do it the other way around - score before the visuals - and in some cases I regretted that I didn’t do it that way be

Continued, Page 24....

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SENT EMAIL

From: Joel Anderson [mailto:editor@ojaiaandventuraview.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 22, 2010 6:12 AM
To: David@vcreporter.com
Subject: Fwd: An Open Letter to the VC Reporter, Chris Jay, [Chris] Mastrovita, and [Mike Michel] Cicero.

David Comden, publisher VCReporter re: Ventura County Music Scene Letter Dave,

I am forwarding you an E-Mail/Letter I received at The Ojai and Ventura VIEW yesterday from D-FLOx. Perhaps you will find this Email/Letter useful. Have you seen it? I do know your schedule keeps you busy, you may not be involved in the day-to-day hands-on operations or maintenance of your editorial/entertainment depts, or you simply may not have had the opportunity to read the email/letter. At any rate, I would be interested in your thoughts re: D-FLOx's letter?

Begin forwarded message:

LETTER

An Open Letter to the VC Reporter, Chris Jay, [Chris] Mastrovita, and [Mike Michel] Cicero



To be fair, I would first like to applaud the VC Reporter for dedicating an entire issue to local music. I begin with a compliment, because the rest of this letter is dedicated to the fact that said recent issue, was a dismal failure.

I don't intend to diminish the talent or importance of the artist covered, but the tragic fact remains: The "Local Music" issue failed to include one single mention of the most actively growing music scene in Ventura County, the one that belongs to Heavy Metal.

In this letter, I will systematically highlight some of the "minor" points that your insular rag overlooked. [Michael Michel] Cicero, Chris Jay, and Chris Mastrovita, I'm calling you out by name to pay close attention, because despite the fact that all three of you have been in music scene for years, perhaps age is getting the better of you and you require a wake up call.

1) Ascending Chaos Productions

Despite the fact that the VC Reporter believes that the majority of it's readers are getting drunk at Bombay's three nights a week, there still exists a thriving and growing all-ages scene. A music scene is nothing without the kids. NO ONE in this town is doing more for the all ages scene than Gabi Chaos from Ascending Chaos Productions. She has personally bankrolled massive all ages shows for the past 2 years all over Ventura and Santa Barbara County, and backing national acts like CATTLE DECAPITATION, and VITAL REMAINS. But maybe the VC reporter was unaware of this scene, oh wait... "Ventura County's extreme metal scene is still alive and speed-picking, and Sunday night's packed death metal match-up at Knights of Columbus Hall was manifest proof of that fact (Mastrovita, VC Reporter Aug. 20th, 2009)." So Chris, was your omission of heavy metal just a case of amnesia or blatant laziness?

2) Warbringer

Perhaps you weren't aware that the majority of Warbringer's members are from Ventura, signed to Century Media, and recently opened up for bands like SLIPKNOT, and MEGADETH just to name a few. I wonder if Chris Jay knows anything about being in an internationally successful band from Ventura, and getting no recognition for it?

3) The Oxnard Hardcore/Deathcore Scene

For better or for worse, these kids are here to stay, and it's lasting generations. Opening this massive can warrant's pages and pages of material, and it's an atrocity that the VC

www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com Keep Smiling!



reported neglected to at least pay some sort of mind to hundreds of kids continuing a tradition of hardcore music that has evolved into local bands with huge draws like GRAVELSLUT. Last time I check, Oxnard is Ventura County too.

On Monday, April 26th at 6pm, we'll have Gabi Chaos as a special guest on The Dungeon Awaits Podcast, and we'll be dedicating an entire 2-hour radio show to discussing your "Local Music Issue", or the lack of local music rather. (www.errorfm.com) We'll be featuring exclusively 805 local bands, national acts and local acts, and picking up the pieces where your journalism is broken. As epic as the metal scene in Ventura County is and always will be, the only thing epic about your local music issue, is how it failed.

D-FLOx "Blood, Fire, and Death" www.thejauntlet.com www.thedungeonawaits.com

Publisher Provides Lengthy Response to The Ojai and Ventura VIEW re: Letter from 'D-FLOx'

From: david@vcreporter.com
Subject: RE: An Open Letter to the VC Reporter, Chris Jay, [Chris] Mastrovita, and [Mike Michel] Cicero
Date: April 22, 2010 8:19:46 AM PDT
To: editor@ojaiaandventuraview.com
Joel: I received it. David

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Passive Communication is a style in which individuals have developed a pattern of avoiding expressing their opinions or feelings, protecting their rights, and identifying and meeting their needs. Passive communication is usually born of low self-esteem. These individuals believe: "I'm not worth taking care of." info ~ www.serenityonlinetherapy.com

LETTER - LIBRARY

Letter from County Supervisor to Ventura City Council

April 12, 2010 Dear City Council and Staff: The 1997 Ventura County Library Memorandum of Understanding was created to provide equity among all its member libraries and to protect all the County-run libraries with minimum service levels. Ventura was not treated with equity.

As former Chair of the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, and one of the signers of the MOU, I wish to provide additional information regarding the intent of this agreement. The County agreed to provide minimum hours of weekly service at all libraries, using currently available property tax revenue from each service area, combined, if necessary, with discretionary funds at the County's disposal. (These discretionary funds include State Public Library Funds (PLF), County general fund money, unincorporated area property tax, etc.) The MOU established minimum service levels, not guidelines; this is why we called them "minimum" hours, not "suggested" or "recommended" hours.

If the County hadn't promised a specific, minimum level of service in return for the cities' property tax, the cities would not be bound to deliver anything. To those who claim the County is not obligated to provide the established minimum levels of service to the member libraries, I ask: What exactly was the County agreeing to do in exchange for the property tax?

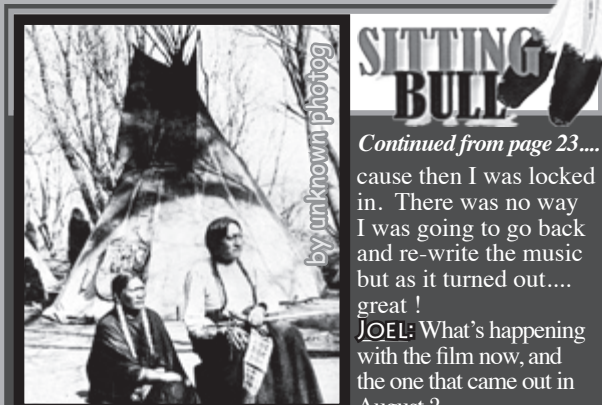
The County Library budget policies adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 2002 reaffirm the intent of the MOU. "Additional funds" provided by cities including donations, parcel taxes, and city general fund contributions are only to be used to purchase additional hours and services above the established minimums, and, as stated in the policy, "are not to be used to backfill the deficit of any service area." (A deficit occurs when return-to-source revenues are insufficient to cover the County Library's allocated costs for minimum hours, before County discretionary funds are used to "backfill.")

Continued on Page 26...

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The Center for Nonviolent Communication The Center for Nonviolent Communication is a global network of people and communities committed to living and teaching NVC to resolve conflict and meet the needs of all people. information ~ www.cnvc.org

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Continued from page 23... cause then I was locked in. There was no way I was going to go back and re-write the music but as it turned out... great! JOEL: What's happening with the film now, and the one that came out in August?

JOHN: The DVD of 'Sitting Bull' is available in the store at the Museum of the American Indian, which is a Smithsonian Museum in D.C. We continue to distribute the film on DVD. We've had it on Montana PBS, on South Dakota PBS, Oklahoma PBS...

We've had it on National PBS in Australia... shown some fifty times in two years there alone. They have a similar problem. This is a national indigenous television network, which broadcasts nationally and dedicated entirely to national indigenous issues.

The Aborigines were treated just as badly as the American Indian. JOEL: Your new film "Contrary Warrior" about Adam Fortunate Eagle?

JOHN: We're just beginning to market the film. We did get it on Wyoming PBS, and a few film festivals. We hope to do some more, hopefully we'll get into the Ojai Film Festival. JOEL: Contrary Warrior was in the recent Santa Barbara Film Festival?

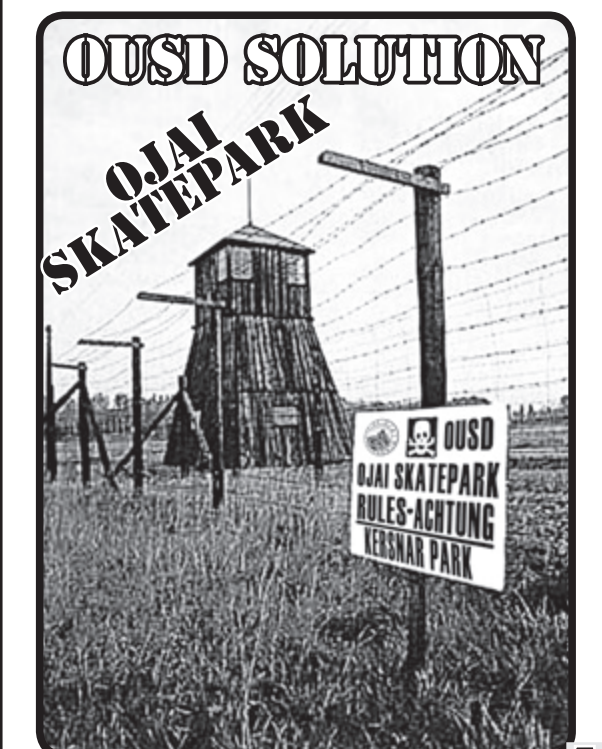
JOHN: ah hah, yes, yes...Very well received here. Was in the San Francisco American Indian Film Festival, The Nevada Film Festival, others..... We keep going. You can actually get it on www.Amazon.com, also in Santa Barbara at a store called Paradise Found.

You know the sad thing is that there were never any photographs of Sitting Bull in New York City. You know? Nobody took his picture..... If he had his picture taken there, it was in the studio with the drop background, but not in the street. That would have been fascinating....

- Joel Anderson

www.SittingBullFilm.com or www.Lilimar.com www.Amazon.com

"I was known as a singer of songs, and I wrote many songs myself. Many times, when I was a young brave, I would play a song for a beautiful maiden and in the stillness of the prairie night, she could hear it and know its meaning. Meet me at the creek tomorrow my flute would cry out." - Sitting Bull



Ojai Unified School District's Solution to the Ojai Skatepark



Mimi Lindley Open Mic Nite at The HUB

by Joel Anderson Don't let Mimi Lindley's easy going youth fool you - her range of musical styles, instruments, and surety of Ojai hometown roots could reflect that of a musician twice her age and experience.

As she picks up a Charvette guitar (on special loan for the set thanks to Jaime) and becomes familiar, her wise Southern-charming pace picks up. Bluegrass...

All my songs are about real things that have happened about me. I've traveled all across the country. Hopped on freight trains, and hitchhiking. I have a lot of ballads and stories about all kinds of crazy stuff that I've been doing," said Mimi.

One gets the sense that Ojai born and raised Mimi is a student of music and the one thing, diversity of sound, is the prize. "I have been everywhere in the South. I love the South... Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Texas, Louisiana... I spent Mardi Gras in Mobile, Alabama and I passed through New Orleans for one year. awesome. I love Ojai though," she said.

I got involved in the punk scene when I was 15 or so, then I eventually picked up a guitar when I was 17 and developed kind of a unique picking style that... a lot of people told me I should pick up a banjo, and eventually I did and I picked it up really fast and yeah it was all downhill from there. It's always a happy sound, it always cheers ya up, that's why I love it. I play banjo, guitar, drums, piano. I love punk and hard core music, but I love to play folk and bluegrass and punk, mostly folk though.

It's nostalgic for me to be able to play bluegrass.... It reminds me of my travels. I am an early retiree, I'm only 23 but I traveled for a good three years. I move a lot - it's the best way to do it.

- Joel Anderson

Says Mimi, "I love to hear from everybody!" www.myspace.com/mlindley email: feed_us84@yahoo.com

Special thanks to Dmitry Owens' and Alex' Open Mike at The HUB for providing a forum for what is proving to be a solid performance venue.

Ojai Rules The World

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VIEW MUSIC LISTINGS LIVE WIRES & HOT TIPS

- 27 April - Tues - HUB, Teresa Russell, 272-8344
•28 April - Club Nokia, LA, Gustav, 8pm 213/765-7000
•28 April - Troubadour, W. Hllywd, Omega Cromwell, 7:30pm
•28 April - Key Club, Wst. Hllywd, RnB Live, 310/274-5800
•29 April - Key Club, Wst. Hllywd, 40 Oz. to Freedom, 8pm, 310/274-5800
•29 April - The Canyon Club, Agoura - John Mayall, 8pm, 818/879-5016
•30 April - The Wiltern, LA, 106.7 KROQ Presents A Day To Remember, 213/388-1400
•30 April - The Keynote, Vta, Action Down, 9pm Action Down, 258-2755
•30 April - Hi-Cees, Vta, Front Street Prophets, 6-10pm 650-7773
•30 April - Troubadour, Wst Hllywd, The Antlers, 10pm, 310/276-1158
•30 April - Sabor Lounge, LA, Ludicra, Diablos, Winterthrall, 7pm, 213/388-3311
•30 April, Fri - HUB, Four on the Floor, 272-8344
•30 Mar - Fri - Oreama Winery/SB, Country Joe McDonald @ 7pm followed by Quicksilver Messenger Service & Jefferson Starship @ 9pm, 962.5857
•1 May, Sat - HUB, The Notorious Saints, 272-8344
•1 May - Key Club, Wst Hllywd, Tainted Love, 8:30pm, 310/274-5800
•1 May - Ventura Theatre, May Day, 8pm, 653-0118
•1 May - El Rey, Port Hueneme, Kyle Hunt and the King Gypsy
•1 May - St. Thomas Aquinas Festival, Ojai, Action Down, 6pm, 258-2755
•2 May - Hi-Cees, Vta, Blue Stew, 2-6pm, 650-7773
•2 May - Beverly Hills Civic Center Plaza/BH, Playboy Jazz Festival Community Concert, 310/288-2201
•2 May - Key Club, Wst Hllywd, Flobots, 8pm, 310/274-5800
•3 May - Mai's Cafe, Vta, Beachside Stranglers, 805/652-2061
•3 May - SoHo/S.B. - Heartless Bastards, 962-7776
•4 May - SoHo, S.B., Garrison Star, Sweet Talk Radio, Ryan & Joey, 7:30pm, 962-7776

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Next Issue of the VIEW Out May

- 4 May - Tues - HUB, Flambeau Band, 272-8344
•4 May - SoHo/S.B. - Garrison Star, Sweet Talk Radio, Ryan & Joey, 962-7776
•6 May - The Canyon Club, Roger Clyne and the Peacemakers, 818/879-5016
•7 May - Fri - HUB, Sonic Stew, 272-8344
•8 May - House of Blues, Flyleaf, 714/778-2583
•8 May - J's Tapas, Toni Jannotta Trio, 204 Main St., Vta.
•9 May - The Canyon Club, Beatlemania, 818/879-5016
•11 May - Tues - HUB, Dmitry & Alex' Open Mic, 272-8344
•13 May - The Canyon Club, Y & T, 818/879-5016
•13 May - Hollywood Bowl, Carole King-James Taylor, 323/850-2000
•14 May - Fri - HUB, Call Club, 272-8344
•14 May - Hollywood Bowl, Carole King-James Taylor, 323/850-2000
•14 May - The Canyon Club, Mick Taylor (Stones) & David Knopfler (Dire Straits), 818/879-5016
•15 May - Strawberry Festival, The Mighty Cash Cats, @ 5:45pm, 1661 Pacific Ave. Oxnard
•16 May Harrah's Rincon, San Diego, Earth Wind & Fire, 1-800/427-7247
•18 May - Santa Barbara Bowl, Carole King James Taylor, 1-866/204-1873
•19 May - Citizens Bank Arena, Foreigner, Styx Spec. Guests Kansas, 909/484-2020
•21 May - Fri - HUB, Alchemy, 272-8344
•21 May - The Canyon Club, Young Dubliners & The Janks, 818/879-5016

VOICE YOUR MUSIC listings@ojaiandventuraview.com Next Issue of the VIEW Out May

- 21 May - Dume Room, The Mighty Cash Cats
•22 May, Sat - HUB, Beachside Stranglers, 272-8344
•22 May - Our Lady of Malibu fundraising concert, The Mighty Cash Cats, 3625 Winter Canyon Rd, Malibu
•25 May, Tues - HUB, Ricky's B.D., 272-8344
•28 May, Fri - HUB, Lonnie Jeremaha, 272-8344
•28 May - Agua Caliente Casino, Rancho Mirage, 8pm, Crosby, Stills and Nash, 866/923-7244
•28 May - Harrah's Rincon-San Diego, Heart, 1/800-427-7247
•29 May, Sat - HUB, Beachside Stranglers, 272-8344
•29 May - Logsdons, Santa Paula, 8:30pm
•29 May - Fantasy Springs Resort Casino, Indio, Heart, 1-800/827-2946
•29 May - Greek Theatre, LA, 6:30 PM War w/ Tower of Power, 323/665-5857
•30 May - Pirates, The Mighty Cash Cats, 450 S. Victoria Ave., OX @ 1pm
•1 June - Key Club-West Hollywood, Dark Tranquillity, 310/274-5800
•June - Key Club, Wst Hllywd, Dark Tranquillity, 8pm, 310/274-5800
•3 June - The Canyon Club, Agoura, Ambrosia, 8pm, 818/879-5016
•3 June - The Canyon Club, Agoura, 800pm, Ambrosia, 818/879-5016
•3 June - The Look Out, Oxnard, Teresa Russell, 7pm, 805/985-6100
•3 June - Troubadour, West Hollywood, Death By Stereo, 310/276-1158
•3 June - Whisky A Go Go, Wst Hllywd, Abigail Williams, Lightning Swords of Death, 310/652-4202 x15
•4 June - Key Club, Wst Hllywd, Trashcan Sinatras, 8:30pm, 310/274-5800
•4 June - Key Club-West Hollywood, Trashcan Sinatras @ 8:30, 310/274-5800
•4 June - Stewart Park, Beaumont, Beaumont Cherry Festival, Ambrosia
•4 June - O'Leary's Sidebar, Vta, 9pm, Action Down, 258-2755
•4 June - Fri - HUB, Flambeau Band-Mark Parson, 272-8344
•4 June - The Canyon Club, Agoura, Wild Child - Doors Tribute, 818/879-5016
•4 June - Stewart Park, Beaumont, Beaumont Cherry Festival w/Ambrosia
•5 June - Sat - HUB, Rhythm Rangers Reunion, 272-8344
•5 June - Stewart Park, Beaumont, Beaumont Cherry Festival. Patty Smythe & Scandal
•5 June - Stewart Park, Beaumont, Beaumont Cherry Festival: Patty Smythe & Scandal
•5 June - House of Blues, Wst Hllywd, Jonny Lang, 323/848-5100
•6 June - House of Blues, Wst Hllywd, Buzzcocks w/The Dollyrots, 8pm, 323/848-5100
•6 June - Angel Stadium, Anaheim, U2, 7pm, 714/602-4935
•The Canyon Club Agoura, June 6 8:00pm Boz Scaggs (818) 879-5016
•6 June - Angel Stadium, Anaheim, 7pm U2, 714/602-4935
•6 June - The Canyon Club, Agoura, 8pm Boz Scaggs, 818/879-5016
•9 June - Troubadour, West Hollywood, The

music feeds the soul

April 2010 • Issue 25 Good Life, 310/276-1158
•10 June - Key Club-West Hollywood, LA Guns, 7:30 310/274-5800
•10 June - The Look Out, Ox, Teresa Russell, 7pm 805/985-6100
•11 June - Fri - HUB, The Perps, 272-8344
•11 June - Key Club, Wst Hllywd, 7:30 pm, Exodus, 310/274-5800
•12 June - The Hut, Ojai June 12, Action Down, 8:30pm, 805/258-2755
•12 June - Troubadour, Wst Hllywd, Tortoise, 8pm, 310/276-1158
•12 June - J's Tapas, Toni Jannotta Trio, 204 Main St., Vta., 648-4853
•12 June - House of Blues, Wst Hllywd, Eye Alaska, 8 pm 323/848-5100
•13 June - O'Leary's Sidebar, Vta, Action Down, 258-2755
•13 June - Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre, Chula Vista, 8pm, Sting, 619/671-3520
•13 June - House of Blues, Wst Hllywd, Barrington Levy, 8pm, 323/848-5100
•13 June - Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre, Chula Vista, 8pm, Sting, 619/671-3520
•15 June - Tues - HUB, Jon Nichols Band, 272-8344

“VOICES OF THE HOMELESS” Press Release

Jazz vocalist Toni Jannotta has been selected as a grantee for an Artist in the Community Partnership Grant via the Ventura County Arts Council. Her grant will allow her to produce a musical storytelling concept piece entitled, "VOICES OF THE HOMELESS" which will showcase members of the homeless community telling their own stories while backed musically by jazz improvisers. The hope of this performance concept, (registered with the WGA), is to educate the community to what homelessness really is and not merely what it looks like, to raise the level of self worth of those suffering from homelessness, and to expose the community to a new experience of musical improvisation. Music heals. The goal is to hear each other.

Helping TONI along the way is her community partner, Project Understanding, whose mission is to serve Ventura's poor, hungry, and oppressed with compassion and mercy. The performance of "VOICES OF THE HOMELESS" will take place in Sept. at the WAV (Working Artists Ventura), the newly opened artistic community in the heart of Ventura's Downtown Cultural District.

Toni Jannotta, concept designer and producer, is a jazz vocalist, vocal instructor, and 13-year Ventura resident. Originally from Los Angeles, Toni has released three vocal jazz CD's, taught and performed internationally, and plays regularly at local Ventura nightspots. more info, Toni Jannotta 653-5114 or tonij@tonijannotta.com

www.tonijannotta.com or her Electronic Press Kit at www.karionpresskits.com/tonijannotta_tonijannotta.html www.venturacountyartsCouncil.org/Project Understanding www.projectunderstanding.org

LETTER LIBRARY

Continued from Page 24... In addition, policy 5, "First priority use of state PLF money is to ensure the baseline level of service at all libraries," shows that the County is fully committed to providing the promised minimum hours at all libraries by using its discretionary funds to backfill deficits.

The MOU empowers cities in two areas: 1) Determining specific hours and days of library operation and 2) Purchasing additional services in excess of baseline. The first item refers to the scheduling of hours, and does not mean that established minimum service levels do not have to be provided by the County.

At one time, a regional library system made sense. Currently (and after seeing what happened to Ventura), there is no longer a reason to have one.

John K. Flynn, former Ventura County Supervisor

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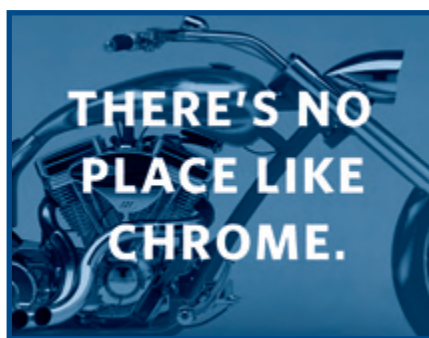
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