

The Ojai & Ventura



VIEW



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© 2010, Mary M. Long

• YOUR 3 MINS...
...10 SECONDS ARE
UP...?

• CLARENCE R. STERLING



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WHO KILLED THE LIBBEY PARK PALMS ?



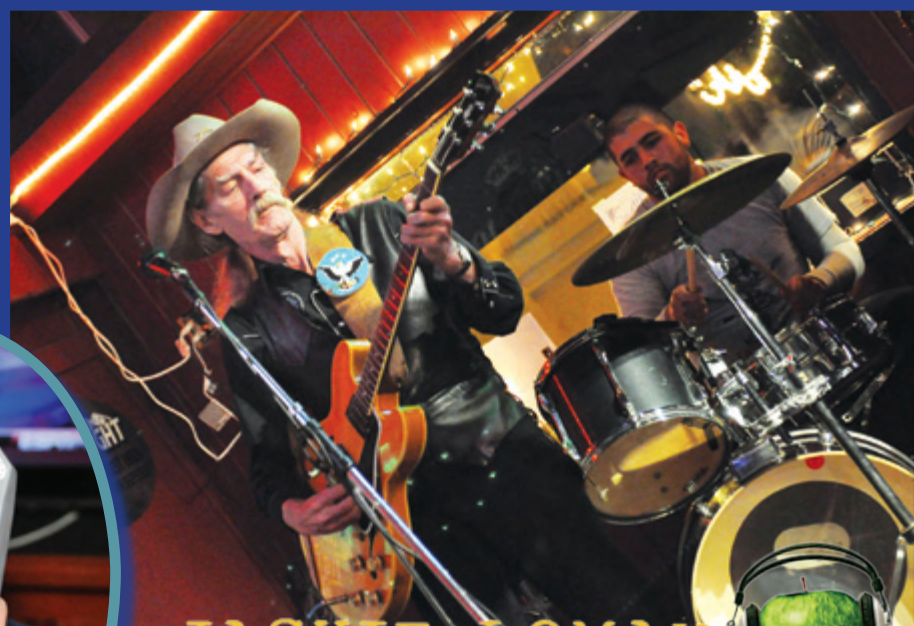
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• ONE STOP
• THE OJAI
MACHIARELLIAN
HANDBOOK ~
SHIFTING THE
DEBT

**BAKER: DELIVERING
THE HARD NEWS -
OJAI IS BRRR-OKE!**



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• GOING TO
THE BANK 4
HIGH
INTEREST
LOANS?

• RON ROWE
WINE AND
ROSES

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JACKIE LOMAX BLUES

- THE REVERB SIDE - A MUSICIANS LIFE
- PETER MILHADO ~ ENVY OF THE OTHER SIDE
- VTA COUNCIL - BOUGHT & (ALMOST) PAID FOR CANADA LARGA LUXURY L.A. - OJAI GONE FISHIN' ?
- SENATE - WHAT VENTURA REALLY NEEDS !



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- Lots of Fun Stuff to Do in Ojai...
- ALASDAIR COYNE'S CLIMATE DENIAL - PT 2

NOT SO
FUNNY
PAPERS

- SUBSIDIZING DO-GOODERS ?
- Ojai's Fiscal Straight Jacket ~ POOR MAN'S MONTECITO IN THE HILLS ★
- FALLEN STAR

INSIDE: • PRESERVATION? • VIEWNews • People • Rock n' Roll - Ventura Ice Cream ★

OJAI CITY COUNCIL RAGGEDY EDGE

Someone took a pot shot at the **Classical** elevator music being programmed into the minds and onto the city TV station. I agree. How about harkening back to the days of **KHAY**, before all those intellectuals decided country wasn't good enough for **Ojai**, and before the City's huge spending spree on a classical music venue.

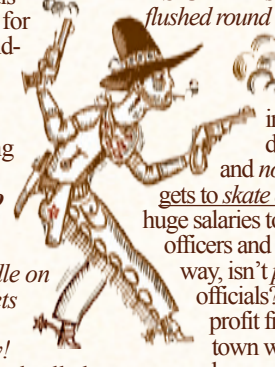
So what really happened at the council meeting? **Fill-in Ojai City Manager John Baker** is really doing a good job – showed **Ojai** just how much it is the **poor man's Montecito** by revealing just how broke **Ojai** is! **Hope new Ojai City Manager, Rob Clark** (as of Feb. 21) can get a handle on it.... **He left Mammoth, Amidst Bullets Flying, to the tune of a lost \$30 Million Lawsuit and talk of bankruptcy!**

Baker really belted up to the bar and called a spade a spade. Poker faces all around as the losing hand of this years city income was dealt. I think council is going to get longer and longer...may even have to have a bake sale to raise money. After all it takes time to clean up the streets from years of failed city policies. But coffee and cookies are going to need to be replaced by substance; hardtack

and beans might stick to the ribs better as 5 hour meetings are looking like the standard. OK I know, the Bowl. **The Bowl**. Can't believe that 9 *altruistic* artists, city activists or every other new volunteer **Ojai** doo-gooder who can spell **R-E-S-U-M-E** is going to be able to run programs flushed round and round inside the Bowl at a profit or non-profit. What is a non-profit anyway? Does this mean no one's making a "profit"? Nope. The only difference between a for-profit and non-profit outfit is the non-profit gets to skate out on taxes as they pay out huge salaries to insider **A-list** board members, officers and other self-appointed folk. By the way, isn't profit a foreign word to our city officials? Definitely **The City Will Not** profit from all this... It's looking like the town will be running **RED** as TOT revenues are down a cool million, just after the hen house has been raided for the **Libbey Construction**. By fall there may be no hay in the manger and no corn in the crib. This years crop just didn't produce up to par. Even with the **\$160,000 genius marketing subsidy** handed over last year to the **Ojai Visitors Bureau** to lure dudes to the valley, **Ojai** will be in the hole a million dollars by next **November**. In order to pay the city-hands, it will necessitate the need to *borrow, borrow, borrow*... which will mount huge bank interest fees, according to **Baker**, of **\$50,000** a month, maybe **\$130K** or more... A lot of lean times for the mule team.

Raggedy Edge Continued Page 4...

Ed. NOTE: For John Baker's Complete Jan. 19 Administrative Report, Go To www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com/BakerRpt.html



One Stop Triage

by Lawrence and Lori Anderson (aka Criminal Sleepers)

It is a pleasure, when traversing the maze of low and no budget housing opportunities in **Ventura** and **Ojai**, to happen upon a place of positive action. After searching for shelter from the storm for months, climbing the brick wall of hope, only to be denied at the top by reams of "concertina-wire" bureaucracy, and bloody red tape, we finally took the advice of the helpful folks at the **Community Assistance Program**, in **Ojai**, and fell into the foyer at **One Stop**. The **West Ventura County One Stop Center** is set up in the **Ventura Public Health Auditorium** of the **Ventura County Medical Center**, 3147 Loma Vista Rd., **Ventura**, from 10am to 1pm very Tuesday.

One Stop, although underfunded and little thought of by the government bodies who proclaim their support and boast of such places at election times, actually fulfills its mission, which is to combine the services of homeless programs from all over the county into one building. The staff, mostly volunteer, understands the difficulties facing people who have fallen, or are about to fall, into that proverbial crack in the ground called homelessness.

Upon arrival at **One Stop**, you are greeted warmly; offered coffee, cake and a bag lunch. At the intake tables, you are asked to explain why you have come, but, more importantly, what you need. In **Ventura**, as in **France**, papers are the rungs of the ladder upward to a better life, so, if you go, take every bit of paperwork you have, if for no other reason than carrying around a lot of papers impresses folks and can be used as a seat.

West Ventura County One Stop Center services include medical check-ups, medical care, medication assistance, behavioral health services, veteran services, alcohol and drug treatment services, TB tests, food stamps, general assistance applications, public housing applications, housing options, **ACE** and **RIC**A applications, even cigarette addiction programs. Legal assistance and HIV tests are available by appointments; and there is always coffee, food and clothing.

Well trained volunteers will walk you through the entire process. For example, they will walk you to the medical clinic, find you afterward, and then take you on to, say, housing or food stamps.

www.YouTube.com/OVvtaView

Ordinarily, this would take days and miles and many bus trips. Here, it is all in one room! If you are already homeless, cold, hungry, sleep deprived, **One Stop** is essential. If you are on the edge, but still inside, it is a less intimidating way to find out what services are available to keep you housed, healthy and fed.

My wife and I believe that **One Stop** literally saved our lives. It set us on the path to **River Haven**, a small village of dome structures established by inter-agency programs and run by the **Turning Point Foundation of Ventura**. **River Haven**, our new home, will be the topic of a future column in **The VIEW**. Keep the faith,

—Lawrence and Lori Anderson (non-criminal sleepers)

Info. Tuesdays 10am-1pm, Health Care Agency Auditorium, 3147 E. Loma Vista Road, Ventura. Contact: Kate Mills, Program Administrator, Office: 652-6111

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

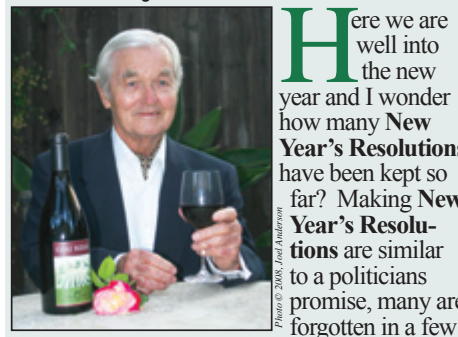
The City of Ventura **LOST \$10 Million Dollars** over 2 years ago (well before the recent economic crash), through their ambitious high-risk investment plan; having placed precious taxpayer dollars with **Bear Stearns (BS)** private assets, which went belly up in the **JP Morgan** fiasco. This reduced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

VIEW DETAILED FINANCIAL ANALYSIS Go To: www.ojaiandventuraview.com/OVvtaArt/TheRoseVol.Issue1WebStearthKatGraphics.pdf

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

Wine And Roses

by Ron Rowe



Here we are well into the new year and I wonder how many **New Year's Resolutions** have been kept so far? Making **New Year's Resolutions** are similar to a politicians promise, many are forgotten in a few days, as they try to double talk their way out. Overheard at the **Plaza Pantry Tea Shop**, a tourist drinking tea and asking the other patrons, what do you guys do for stress around here?

People want to know, why is it the **Romans** could build roads that lasted over 1,000 years, yet despite modern technology the streets of **Ojai** are full of potholes. This is in spite of being dug up and relaid after only 10 years. **January** received its name from the god **Janus** who had two faces looking in opposite directions. **Macrobius** states that it was dedicated to him, because from his situation it might be considered to be a retrospective to the past and a prospect forward to the opening year.

Don't envy the wealthy people that drive a **Mercedes Benz SL class roadster**, it is the most ticketed car, with drivers more likely to receive a ticket than the average motorist. This flashy two door convertible sells for more than **\$100,000**.

Over the past two decades the use of prescription painkillers such as **Oxycontin** has soared over 1,000 percent and in 15 states overdoses of prescription drugs have replaced car crashes as the leading cause of accidental deaths.

As a result of low birth rates and the aging of baby boomers, the global population of children under five years of age will drop by 40 million by 2,050, while the population of people over 60 will grow by 1.2 billion.

Good news for TV watchers. **Congress** has passed the **Commercial Advertisement Loudness Mitigation Act (CALM)**, forbidding TV advertisers from abruptly raising the volume to startling levels during commercial breaks.

Polish Artist Agnieszka Kurant won a \$2,400 grant from the **British** government for a show that consisted of a painting that hasn't been painted yet, an invisible sculpture, and a movie shot with no film in the

camera. We were told that is *minimalism*, it makes you think, grants, non-profits sure are a racket.

Attention married **Facebook** fans. **American** matrimonial lawyers found that one in five divorces involve flirtatious messages and affairs arising from the use of **Facebook**... thought you married **Facebook** users would like to know.

Want to know where your tax money goes? Billions on the senseless war in **Afghanistan** and **Iraq** and *intelligence* gathering which cost **\$80 billion**. The total intelligence budget has doubled since 2001 according to **Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Ca)** in a statement made last week meanwhile here in the U.S., states (and **Ojai**) are broke; bridges and highways are crumbling, teachers being laid off. Can anyone explain to me why the government neglects the U.S., yet spends billions rebuilding **Afghanistan** and **Iraq**? The number of disabled veterans has jumped by 25 percent since 2001 to 2.9 million. Tens of thousands of **Iraqi** and **Afghan** veterans coming home with multiple amputations, brain damage and burns. The federal government will spend 59 billion a year to compensate injured vets in 25 years, up from 29 billion in Jan. 2009.

When **Pres. Obama** took office thru **June, 2010** corporate profits increased 62 percent, the strongest 18 month rise since the 1920s.

Marjorie of **Ventura** writes me asking if I am a wine expert. No my dear, I have attended many wine tasting courses over the years and have received many certificates, including one from the **California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)** in **San Francisco** after attending a four-month wine tasting course at **UCLA**. Wine awards and certificates really mean nothing. In my opinion, it is the pleasure of tasting so many wines from all over the world to develop your own taste. I advise you to attend as many wine tasting events as possible so you can sample a variety of wines, clarifying which you prefer individually.

For instance a **Concannon 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon**, at \$15 is a brawny, but balanced red. This steal of a wine has plenty of dark fruit without the cloying sweetness and blast of the more potent cabs. A **2007 Concannon Petite Sirah** is a light bodied wine, silky with a good range of plum and cherry. **Capt. Joe Petite 2007**, \$30. This muscular wine is culled from **Concannon's** best lots. It's the finest of **Sirahs** and an ideal dinner wine.

And so very Happy and Prosperous New Year to you all, throughout this year. Think big love, smile more easily and be kind.

Your comments are welcome
Ron Rowe, rhjrowe@AOL.com

the Ojai and Ventura Real **VIEW**

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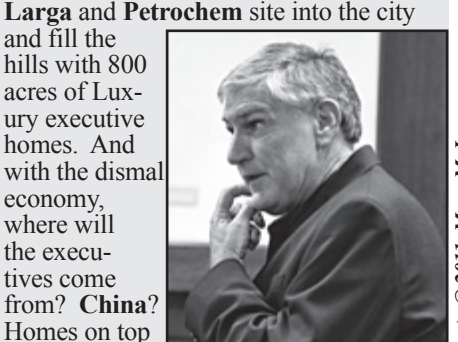
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VIEW NEWSNOTES

★ Cañada Larga/Petrochem City ★

The City of **Ventura**, owned by **LA Developers**, seems determined to shove **L.A.** style development down the throat of **Ventura County** as they seek to annex (*landgrab*) the historically rural **Cañada Larga** and **Petrochem** site into the city



Jim Hines, Ventura Citizens for Hillside Preservation, Board

and fill the hills with 800 acres of **Luxury** executive homes. And with the dismal economy, where will the executives come from? **China**? Homes on top of oil-soaked **Petrochem** land? Can we say **Love Canal**? Where is the love? Where is the **Ventura Hillside Conservancy** when you need them? The riverbottom! Concert Planning?

On Oct. 11 **Ventura Councilmembers** **Neal Andrews**, **Jim Monahan**, **Mike Tracy**, and **Christy Weir** voted to include the possible development in the cities **General Plan**. **Mayor Bill Fulton** and **Councilmembers** **Carl Morehouse** and **Brian Brennan** voted against. It remains unclear whether **Ojai** will muster the strength (*between the Mayor Carol's busy fly fishing schedule*) to shut down the mega-development plan. However opposition has been voiced from **The Sierra Club**, **SOAR**, **Surfrider Foundation**, **Wishtoyo Foundation**, **VCCool**, **Ventura Audubon Society**, **Ventura Coastkeeper**, and **Ventura Citizens for Hillside Preservation**, who with a donation from **Patagonia**, recently hired the law firm **Environmental Defense Center** to fight the proposed development. The development would severely impact **Ojai/Ventura** infrastructure and the **Ventura River Watershed**. To voice your concerns: **Dave Ward**, Planning Manager, Community Development Dept, City of Ventura, 501 Poli Street, P.O. Box 99, Ventura, 93002

★ **City Employee Handbook** ★
Newly elected **Ojai City Councilmember** **Carlton Strobel** wasted no time at the **Jan. 12 City Council Meeting** spearheading much-needed revisions to the **City Employee Handbook**. As it turns out the manual is filled with multiple instances of leagalese

doublepeak (*Monte's creative efforts?*) which must have been spinning city employees heads around for years. On one hand the manual said the employees have rights, yet on the other hand the manual said all rights could be revoked. Is it any wonder **Ojai City** workers have been without a rudder all these years? Perhaps it should be re-entitled, **The Ojai Employee Machiavellian Handbook?** **Sue Horgan**, perhaps you should bring a sack lunch to the next council meeting and stay a while. Ah well, what are city attorneys for, if not to spend their time and our money generating confusing employee handbooks.

— Editor



Carlton Strobel, Ojai City Councilmember

Some Things That Should Be Done

by Richard Senate



As a historian who loves the story of **Ventura** and the **Golden State**, several projects come to mind that call out to be done. I start my list with the **Missions**; those venerable buildings that began the history of our state. Sadly, many are in need. In **Ventura's Mission** there is a small museum where visitors can see several 18th century painting crumbling before their eyes. One picture of **St. Francis** is in serious need of restoration. The cost is out of reach for the parish but a private party could help to bring back these 18th century works of religious art.

Another, more elaborate restoration would be the reconstruction of of the **San Miguel Chapel**. This small chapel once stood on the corner of **Palm** and **Thompson**. A park is there now so it wouldn't be hard to re-build the small chapel, save for money. Such a reconstruction would add another tourist attraction to our community. It was a site both sacred to the **Chumash Tribesmen** and the **Spanish Missionaries** and a place where they both celebrated **Hutash** (*The Chumash harvest festival*) and **San Miguel Day** (*Sept. 29th*) in a rare example of ecumenicism. Archaeological excavations under the direction of **Dr. Bob Lopez** of **Moorpark College** reveal a cute structure that could serve as a new/old reminder of out **Mission** past.

On the upper **Ventura Avenue** is another vanished site – the **Branch Mission of Santa Gertrudis**. It is now covered by the 33 freeway but a reconstruction could be made close at hand. A monument stands near the site of the three room adobe chapel built to serve the native converts too far from **Ventura** to walk to the **Mission** to hear **Mass**. Twice this small **Chapel** served as the **Mission**; once when pirates threatened **San Buenaventura** in 1818 and once after the great earthquake and tidal wave of 1812. The site was fully excavated by local archeologist **Bob Brown** in the 1960s so there is no shortage of data on the small chapel. Its reconstruction would add to the historic fabric of our community.

A grander project stands just south of the border in **Baja California**. Many believe that **Fr. Junipero Serra's** first mission in **California** was at **San Diego**. History tells us this *isn't* the case. The first mission was established by **Serra** in **Baja**. It was named **San Francisco Velicata** in the shadow of the twin peaks of **San Pedro** and **San Pablo** and grew to become an important supply center that fueled the establishment of the **California Missions**.

The success of **San Francisco Velicata** was due to the hard work and drive of **Fr. Miguel de la Campa**, who built a dam to ensure a steady supply of fresh water, and large adobe structures for a church and dwellings for new converts. He cleared the land and taught the natives to grow crops. By 1770 he had baptized 179 natives into the new religion and performed 35 marriages. Cattle thrived here and the mission settlement prospered.

In time, the **Mission** was transferred to the **Dominican Order** and with epidemics, the population declined and it was at last abandoned. Now it is a melting ruin off the beaten track. Historians say this small mission was indispensable in the early years and the settlement of **California** might have been impossible without it.

Restored to its former grandeur this site in **Northern Baja California, Mexico** could become a destination for tourists.

— Richard Senate hainthunter@aol.com

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

Envy Anyone ? (Part I) Ψ



It's others who have success, money, fulfilling work, a great sex life, comfort, happiness – not me! Do you sometimes catch yourself enjoying finding fault in others? Do you get a secret pleasure when an angel falls? Sound familiar? Relax, you've just entered the major leagues and committed one of the “seven deadly sins.” If you've been there, like I believe all of us have, the god, or is it goddess, of envy has you by the throat and is eating away at your heart. Envy is a complicated emotion, because it is multifaceted and contains a combination of desire, feeling deprived, self-pity, resentment, sado-masochism, helplessness, obsessive thinking and frustrated rage.

Envy begins and ends with the feeling of deprivation. Destiny has denied us our fair share. Others have what has been denied us. Sometimes we don't even want something until we've seen someone else have it. We feel helpless in the face of this unfairness and disparity. Envy often contains the unconscious assumption that the more love, wealth, success etc. others have, the less there is left over for us, which unleashes hostility towards others. Frustrated rage and helplessness are key components of envy (*Gaylin, M.D.*).

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

Even though envy has been tagged as one of the seven deadly sins by absolutists, it is a human and universal emotion experienced by all of us to one degree or another. All of us carry the “Mark of Cain” on our foreheads. One source of envy might be attributed to the child's need for exclusive love and possession of the mother, which always leads to disappointment and deprivation. If mother is cold, distant, not fully connected to her maternal instincts, or chronically envious herself, a deep wounding occurs. The child not initially nurtured with unconditional acceptance and love by mother is left with a hunger so deep it sometimes shows up later in life with oral addictions like eating disorders, alcoholism and drug addiction. The need for loving nourishment gets displaced on food and drink. This hunger is bottomless, never healing the original wound of being emotionally abandoned. In addition, if deprived early in life we arrive in adulthood with a desire to take from others what had been taken from us. Eventually all of us need to learn to mother ourselves and no longer project mother on food, drink, or on our spouses for that matter. If it is a virtue to love other human beings, it surely must be a virtue to love ourselves as well as we are human beings also (*Erich Fromm*).

The very people we envy, we judge mercilessly. One malicious component of envy is the notion that I not only want more for myself, but also the wish for others to have less. It's not enough I have success; my friends have to fail! When we're consumed by envy, what is actually consumed is our joy, our pride and our self-confidence. We become “grievance collectors” – it is always us who have the worst seat in the house or are driving in the lane that is the slowest.

Love to Mother Meera. One for all and all for one.
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OJAI CITY COUNCIL RAGGEDY EDGE

Continued From Page 2...

Speaking of "transparency," the council meetings need to be ONLINE so the people can watch what the city does, or more often doesn't do. Mayor Carol needs to start respecting citizens like Dennis Leary who are exercising their brief 3 minute public speaking rights. Yeah Carol should not be saying "Dennis, speak to the subject. Please. It's not your opinion if it (Libbey) is a mistake or not" causing Dennis to remind Mayor Carol, "I believe I'm entitled to my opinions... That's under Freedom of Speech." Looks like so much time has passed and Carol has forgot her supposed social justice roots and can't wait to crush opposing thought and critical thinking with darkness and distractions.

Yes, The City is Brrr-oke! Millions committed, without a plan, without the promised Libbey bridge loan or structure to manage and recoup spent revenues, all with Ojai taxpayers footing the sky-is-the-limit annual maintenance bill too. Any volunteers stepping up to pay for THAT? Meanwhile the City Treasurer is Traveling in South America?

The city needs to figure out what "jobs" the "Libbey 9" are going to do! And, by the way, who is going to pay them up front? Or should this brand new layer of altruistic semi-government in Ojai be known as the "Gang of 9"? Giving a bunch of money from Ojai's tenuous reserves to rebuild the Bowl seemed necessary for some, not knowing what Environmental Impact on Ojai (other than temporary city manager Baker's "AOK") or how to do it all, or in what form, is classic "new" Ojai. All the while the Skate Park toilet bowl/outhouse smells worse than a rotted skunk, not to mention no water to wash bacteria laden hands. Do kids still suck their thumbs?

Parking is a problem, OH, Libbey Park never had a Parking lot...except for dead horses. Now, it will be much worse. How about a mega level 10-story concrete parking structure in the fine LA sardine parking lot tradition, to park all these LA festival goers? How will that look on the skyline to replace all those butchered palms? Pre-Columbian Spanish Revival Concrete? And how will they hear about Ojai without more subsidy ad monies in the kitty to BS people through the tourism bureau? Anyhow, this LAesque concrete park and walk would make LA folks feel right at home in The Ojai. Now wouldn't it?

Yes, the days of whining for tax dollars, appear over. Looks like we are going to have to pay Ventura County the excesses of the \$800,000 Redevelopment Agency (RDA) dollar days. It's about time.

Who was legal council at the time they said Ojai could make property tax and special interest spend policies so freely like it did? So Ojai can tell struggling business owners what kind of signage they can put up, they just can't say "NO" to phoney boul-

ders installed behind the arcade ten years ago in a flutery attempt to use up precious property tax funded RDA dollars. Now that the goose that laid the golden egg is dying, property re-appraisals have driven revenues down and police, fire services cannot be paid, but Ojai has fake rocks. NO Runo fountain, and some pretty fat "It's not a pretty picture but I have a responsibility to tell you where we are."

The Gov. Brown Switch-a-Roo is not going to allow us to keep those millions of siphoned dollars anymore, once promised to private development companies and other special interests who successfully positioned their hands in the public cookie jar. You know who you are.

I hope the council isn't going to rely on the \$3 increase in parking ticket fines (why are we giving parking tickets in Ojai anyway?). We really can't afford to have Ojai's finest at 40 percent of the total budget acting like tax collectors, writing parking tickets can we? Really? If we have time to write parking tickets lets lower the police budget, eliminate the parking ticket officer and save \$85,000, maybe enough to hook up the unusable skate park outhouse to a real sewer.

Hope that gets fixed before the weather gets hot. Fourth of July is going to smell swell. When are the Skate Park problems going to be a priority? How about we spend some time pitching a fit about the pot holes that swallow up an entire tire and wheel? Where is that on the agenda? Only 7 percent of all the time used at Public NO-Works is spent on roads. We spend more time on parking tickets! Maybe at \$50 per pothole, if we stopped writing parking tickets we could fix our streets say...in 10 years.

The recently retired Ojai trolleys? You know the ones that Ojai subsidized into the red to the tune of \$400,000 and climbing. Whatever happened to the reason they "needed" to be retired? Are we spending to buy two new trollies and paying the penalties to still run the last-years model? Is this outlay worth it to shuttle mobs of people to and fro the concert? Wear your ear plugs and gas masks. Yup, what better use to put the descendants of the coming Redevelopment Agency \$500,000 Trolleys? I bet the police/fire departments in the county will really appreciate all that spent funding. This will allow for a smoother if not louder start to another successful Bowl season.

It was said, (by the now obsolete Public Works Director) Mike Culver, that we couldn't sell public property (and the trolleys are public property), without a penalty. How then can we sell out (Quid Pro Quo) Libbey

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView

Bowl to non-profits that can exclude public input and restrict and deny public access the ability to serve on those boards and even attend meetings. Those meetings are private, not public.

Non-Profits as such, the city has no control whatsoever as to who they put on the "Gang of 9" Better for the council to do it. The "Gang of 9" so far is going to pretty much be a full time, unpaid job, and so subject to manipulation by out-of-town big money interests. Ojai, as it has always done, is going to determine who wins the personality-beauty contest and only then determine what past or current skills might adapt to the need.



John Baker - Praying for a Windfall

One need only look in the Council Meeting audience for the anxious contestants. If non-profits (one is a "Charitable") were truly interested in getting the best results for Ojai they would require that the Gang of 9 could not serve on any other board at the same time. It is just too important. The undivided attention of all should be at the forefront, not who can sit on the most boards, vying for each outside of Ojai interest. And the draft agreement deal on the Gang of 9? Sounds like a repeat of the Libbey lease arrangement.

When is this Council going to print a list of real projects, things that need to get fixed now - like the leaky City Budget, never mind the leaky, blue-tarped roof at City Hall.

On the Trolley shelter: Why did Public Works design an elaborate Shelter at the "Y" on paper only? What ever happened to the shelter originally presented as a simple Boy Scout volunteer project? The scouts were told the take a hike and an elaborate project was designed to use up precious Grant money. After pocketing the Grant money, the elaborate plan, council has said, will be scrapped in favor or a

watered-down version. Watering down? Isn't that what the shelter is supposed to prevent?

With this new council makeup you can see just how much the discussion has shifted. Lets do this, lets add that to the agenda. That would be a very positive step. How about asking the overburdened taxpayer what they want on the agenda, besides of course to stop mistusing taxpayer dollars??

How about suggestion boxes all around town, not just the City Hall lobby (where the same local volunteers pedal their causes) for things the Citizens, the everyday joe, want discussed other than the 3 minutes and please "sit your ass down" time for council open discussion. I would vote to have the lousy microphones replaced, even before the pothole that knocked the front end on my truck out of alignment. Seems like some members still want the behind closed doors agreements. What happened to the Transparency of the election promises?

Looks like Sue Horgan made an announcement to run for re-election. It's time to have an elected Mayor for a two year term and stop all the shuffle, which can favor someone as mayor who would not be nominated Mayor Dog Catcher, except outside Ojai City Limits. Declare and run. If you are elected real Mayor at least you have some time to get things done. It usually takes staff longer than a year to get most things done and by then that person is no longer Mayor and the pro tem's pet-project is shelved. No wonder we don't have the roof at City Hall or a realistic boy scout shelter at the "Y".

Water, did I mention Water? You're going to want to go to the Skate Park and borrow a helmet from a kid before you open your water bill. When you see the extra MILLION PLUS DOLLARS Golden State added to our water bills, your going to want to bang your head against the wall, hence the need for the helmet.

Mayor Carol, Bravo. Good meeting, really, just one thing: have Dale Summersille, City of Ojai recreation director stop and personally check the toilet daily at the Skate Park and send in a written report as to how it's going before it gets ankle deep.

I went to look at the budget online. It's gone. Poof! I hope the smoke I SMELL isn't the cooking of the books. The budget hasn't been preserved? How can the budget disappear??? Hang 'em High!

- Dick Lynch

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Ojai Mayor Carol Smith presents the 2010 Preservation Award to Pat Clark Doerner Jan. 25 for "significant and outstanding contributions to Ojai's historical, cultural and architectural heritage."

When I'm Sixty-Five

by Mary-Jo Murphy

The people who sang along with the Beatles, When I'm 64, have now begun turning 65 at the rate of 8,000 a day. This group that will be parading past the Medicare marker for the next eighteen years. The numbers are staggering as is the question, what does it mean? Predictions abound, and I have my own.

I've noticed that many Boomers are predictably losing their hair, but most are not mending fuses or knitting sweaters by the fireside. The Sunday rides they're taking are more predictably on their mountain bikes or even their Harleys.

The Jan-Feb 2011 issue of the AARP Bulletin reminds us that Boomers are going to be facing some predictable problems. As the Generation who crusaded for Civil Rights, Feminism and to end the Vietnam War, they are facing unpredictably unique opportunities in terms of improving the health outlook for our country. Here's how it would go if the economic, social and health pieces fit together as I see them.

Boomers have spent their youth becoming the healthiest, wealthiest and best-educated generation in our nation's history. Predictably, they dream about the years ahead during which they imagine themselves independent, robust and free of chronic disease and disability. In this quest for vitality many embrace regular exercise.

But others, couch potato types, may predictably be unprepared for the challenges ahead. Boomers have indulged too and find themselves among the two-thirds of Americans who are overweight or obese.

Predictions reported from the United Health's Group for Health Reform and Modernization in the Dec. 2010 issue of Endocrine Today tell us that by 2020 more than 50 percent of Americans could have diabetes or prediabetes. The projected cost would be \$3.35 trillion. The Boomer, their children and their grandchildren will feel the impact.

Another piece that couldn't be predicted is the effect of the economic crisis on the Boomers' living arrangements. In the same issue of the AARP Bulletin, an article by Jane Bryant Quinn tells us that multigenerational families are making a comeback. In 2008, 16 percent or 49 million people lived in households with two adult generations or with grandchildren. In 1980, when Boomers were in their 20s and 30s, it was just 12 percent or 28 million.

We shall scrimp and save Grandchildren on your knee... Boomers who have undersaved might find themselves moving in with their adult children. Or during recessionary times, their kids might be moving back in with Mom and Dad. When Paul McCartney sang,

he seemed to be asking if he was going to have a place to be with his loved one, who would be older too, a place with an open door, a valentine and a bottle of wine. What he didn't predict was how the generations are melding.

I see some opportunities for both sides that haven't been present for a long time. I'll call it Cross-Generation Health Sharing.

If Boomer Grandparents are babysitting and helping at home, maybe more families will eat home-cooked meals. Maybe there will be fewer trips to the fast food restaurants. Maybe the epidemic of Childhood Obesity will be slowed. Maybe there will be less diabetes heart disease and

high blood pressure in this at-risk younger generation. Maybe doing the garden and digging the weeds will bring healthful exercise and food to the kids and grandkids. Maybe the working couple will go for a walk together after a dinner, while the grandparents help with homework (After all Boomers are well educated and will make good tutors). Or maybe the whole family will

indulge in a less expensive Family Gym Membership, and get fit while saving money too.

If as Dr. James Fries, expert on aging at Stanford University says, exercise comes closest to being the fountain of youth. If the young are invested in keeping their aging parents moving, healthy, productive beings, Boomers may stay out of hospitals and nursing homes. My scenario predicts that health care costs could go down.

Maybe the upside of all these Boomers marching into their later years is that we are forced to realize our future health and economic stability needs an intergenerational approach. I predict we might come to understand and embrace that.

You may say I'm a dreamer. I hope I'm not the only one.

- Mary-Jo Murphy, MS, RN, CDE, Health and Diabetes Educator, Motivational Speaker, mjmurph22@yahoo.com

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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	Updated
President Barack Obama (U.S.)	\$400,000	\$400,000
Ventura County Library Director (Jackie Griffin)	\$220,000	\$220,000
Governor Arr. 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	\$228,763
Ojai City Manager (Rob Clark)	\$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
Assy. Speaker & Pres. Pro Tem, 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
Entry Level School Teacher (Ventura County)	\$ 29,595	no added
Minimum Wage, Full-Time Worker (Vta County)	\$ 14,040	no added

Ojai Officials Who Don't Live in Ojai

Much has been made lately of those who come from far afield, outside Ojai and are directly responsible for making and executing policy in town. The VIEW would like to remind folks a few of those who work for us and where they come from.

- Interim City Manager, John Baker, Ventura
- City Manager, Rob Clark, Mammoth
- Code Enf. Officer, Brian Meadows, Ventura
- Ojai Unified Super., Hank Bangser, Ventura
- Ojai Police Chief, Chris Dunn, Camarillo
- Dales Sumersille's new soccer coach, replacing homegrown Jayden Morrison, is rumored to be from Ventura

Ojai Dir. Pub. Works, Mike Culver, Moorpark (rendered obsolete 1/25/11)

Ojai Recreation Dir., Dale Sumersille, Port Hueneme

How can any of these people have a vested interest in our community? How can Out of Townies tell Ojai what Ojai can and can't do?

Irina E. Rodriguez, D.D.S.

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“Designer Label” Environmental Groups Power Hungry Pied Piper’s to Destruction

From Palm Trees to Wood Chips to Blue Chips

by Mary M. Long

In the process of gathering information for this story, several members of the community contacted the writer and/or associates in an effort to stop publication.

The axe has fallen on the 21 mature **Canary Island Palms** which once graced and shaded the west baranca of **Libbey Park**. Where were the protests? Where were the activists clinging to the doomed tree trunks? In 1995, **Conservationist Clarence R. Sterling** with the help of **Voice Editor Jeffrey W. San Marchi**, had successfully stopped the charge of “**designer label**” environmental groups who sought to return this very high profile section of stream-bed to *pre-Columbian times*. Targeting trees that their own tree ordinance was designed to protect, the **Ojai Valley Green Coalition**, spearheaded by **Tom Bostrom**, was again combining forces with city hall to access government grant monies to destroy this beautiful grove of wild trees in a public park.

Canary Island Date Palms are prized for their magnificent appearance, often reaching 65 feet tall and up to 50 feet in diameter at the crown. This palm has become synonymous with **Southern California** architecture as the trees were originally introduced in the 1700s by the **Spanish Missionaries** who would carry the seeds in their pockets and plant them at **Mission** sites. Wayfarers could easily find the missions by spying the graceful heads of the skyline palms from a distance. Along with the **Valencia Orange**, and the **Washington Fan Palm**, the **Canary Palm** defines **California** coastal living to the rest of the world. As **Sterling** wrote, “It is the **Hollywood** postcard and the **gaunt religious ascetic in one breath; – a tree equally at home on a sprinkled lawn or guarding a mountainous desert spring.**” According to **Sterling**, the decimation of trees, which had thrived for so many years in the **Libbey** streambed, was not only an aesthetic abomination but a conservationist’s nightmare.

The following is excerpted from an essay written by **Clarence R. Sterling** in April of 1995:

“If we kill this traditional grove of mature wild trees, the extant oaks will be endangered. Their lower trunks are mostly without leaf because the oaks are used to the lower canopy of shade from the palms.... The primary species of oak in the palm grove is the **coast live oak**. This species does not grow normally in a creek bed. This is very important! We are removing a species native to our creek environment to favor a species not usually creek-compatible but with an older pedigree for this general locale. But the palms appear to be keeping the oaks alive! Live oaks cannot tolerate constant damp. Palm trees are giant water-sucking devices unique among trees for possessing a multi-tubular structure throughout their trunks. If the palms are destroyed, the field capacity of the soil will alter quickly. Not only will more water collect around the oaks’ roots, but without the windfall of natural nutrients from the palm and its many denizens, we must anticipate the fragile balance between capillary and hydrostatic water to change as well. Root rot is not the only potential threat to the oaks. In the past, when **Libbey Creek oaks** have broken out from the palm canopy, they have been growing too fast for their old system of support and toppled. In order to avoid the water, most oaks have rooted on steep banks, or on the unstable upper lip. The palms act to keep the oaks’ growth in proper bounds, as well as constantly wicking away harmful soil moisture, and feeding them with plant and animal detritus. The palms are the oaks’ guardians and friends.

This project is not “*environmental*.” Au contraire, until this project is modified to a commitment to preserve the wild palms of the park, it is just another instance of men savaging nature to attain an end of their own design. The palms are homes to a colony of wonderful **Barn Owls** who absolutely love them. **Owls** like the darkness the interlaced fronds provide for daysleepers, and keep the

At What Price? Conservation or Devastation?

various native rodent populations in proper check. In turn, the waste products and recycling of decayed nesting materials feeds the grove. Below the upper canopy of palms, oaks, sycamores, and blue gums (one of whom, called **The Phantom**, is believed the *Valley’s tallest tree*) thrives a stunning understory featuring riparian native shrubs, mostly **Blue Elderberry**, **California Walnut**, **Toyon**, and a little **Wild Cherry**. None of these traditionally grow under oaks, partly because oaks secrete substances such as tannic acid in an effort to kill whatever tries to establish itself below the oaks’ dripline. Previous attempts at youth services “*renovating*” the creek have resulted in these native shrubs being destroyed through ignorance and carelessness. The trend was to view them as more “*jungle weeds*.” I am told that the lush stands of periwinkle which so love “*the cool feel of their toes in the stream*” are already targeted for extermination along with the palm trees, and for the same reason. They are to be replaced by a more native ground cover, the blackberry. Wild blackberry is a very problematical choice for a park planting. Its rapid spread of woody thorn-infested runners soon weaves into a berried tiger-trap for children, an unsanitary hedge-hotel for the disparate, and the quintessential barrier to free movement. Periwinkle is ideal for a friendly but natural and slightly mysterious ambience. Its soft stems and leaves are easily maintained by annual scything and as a form of myrtle, periwinkle is sacred to the **Bona Dea**. If both the palms and periwinkle are removed, the immense loss of shade will kill many of our gentle little **Pacific Tree Frogs** whose croaking has provided such a fond backdrop for the quieter passages of **Stravinsky** during our music festivals. Let our young idealistic workers develop their skills at environmental enhancement by learning to nurture life as it exists. Let us restore the **Libbey Park** streambed to what it might be like *without man’s habits of filth and laziness*, not to a *mythic museum of a world in which we do not exist*, and which requires the deaths of plants and animals which do.

With **Clarence’s** passing on **January 7, 2005** and the death of **Jeffrey W. San Marchi** on **December 23, 2007**, the most eloquent and impassioned defenders of the

Canary Island Palms were silenced. The **Ojai Valley Green Coalition** once again began to petition the **City Council** for the removal of the palms, now couching the activity as a “*stream restoration*” project. On **December 30, 2009**, **Public Works Director Mike Culver** signed the approval for the removal of 24 palm trees from the **Libbey Park West Barranca**. The **Ojai Valley Green Coalition** has secured over **\$53,000** in grant funds from the **Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project** and the **Department of Fish & Game** to restore the creek in **Libbey Park**, according to **Supervisor Steve Bennett**. The project will require ongoing maintenance, with projected costs going much higher. At this point, there are still a few **Canary Island Palms** left which rim the perimeter of the **Los Arboles Condominiums**. These too have been tagged for destruction, but have received a stay of execution at the request of the **Los Arboles** residents who do not want to lose the privacy the palms provide for their homes.

Richard Keit, owner of **RTK Studios** on **Canada Street**, maintains his private residence on the banks of the **Libbey Creek** and has long been in opposition of the removal of the palms. Citing the beautiful grotto-like environment as one of the reasons for his purchase of the property, he decries the palm removal. “*Not that we own the view, but people get upset when you destroy the surroundings. The natural surroundings where we are will not recover for 25 years to what it was when we bought our home. This, for some theoretical notion of a bunch of people who have this purist concept, so that when they go home and put their heads on the pillow at night, they will be able to feel good about themselves that they have done*

this great deed for the environment.”

In the words of **Clive Leeman**, long time friend of **Clarence Sterling**, “*It is a form of arrogant insanity.*”

After the untimely passing of **Clarence “Riverend” Sterling, 59**, to the ravages of esophageal cancer, many of **Sterling’s** friends sought to secure eternal protection for the grove of trees that he cherished. Letters were written to the **Ojai City Council** members requesting that the palms be dedicated as the **Clarence Sterling Memorial Grove**. This was intended to ensure the palms future longevity from the ambitions of idealists and *designer label environmentalists*. The council never responded. – **Mary M. Long**

EDITOR’S NOTE: To Read Clarence’s complete 1995 Essay, Go To www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com/CEssay.html



Twisting the Truth

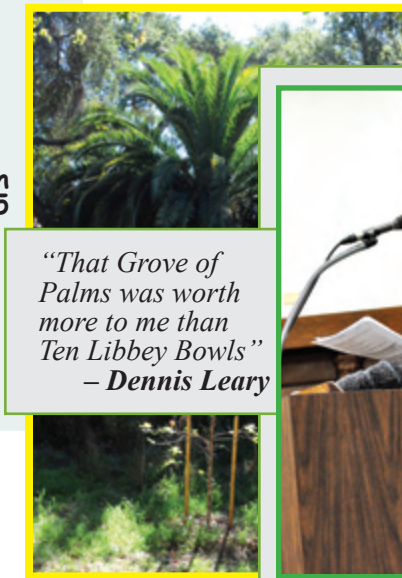


Isis Palm Goddess

And you tell me Over and over and over again, my friend Ah, you don’t believe We’re on the eve of destruction.

Written by P.F. Sloan 19-years-old, 1965 Performed by Barry McGuire

On The Eve of Destruction



“That Grove of Palms was worth more to me than Ten Libbey Bowls” – Dennis Leary

for best science book of the year.” **What Will the Republican House of Representatives Do to Unravel American Progress on Climate Change?**

As well as sounding the death knell for any meaningful legislation in DC to combat climate change in the next two-year session of Congress, the new **House leadership** has already vowed to challenge the **EPA’s** authority over climate-changing emissions in the US.

A **2007 Supreme Court Ruling** allowed the **EPA** to regulate greenhouse gas emissions. So far, the **EPA** has issued two rulings; one requiring new cars to get between **45 and 62 mpg by 2025**, and another ruling requiring greater efficiency for trucks, buses and other heavy vehicles, which together use 20 percent of all vehicle fuels in the US.

Beginning in 2011, the **EPA** is poised to issue similar rulings for emissions from power plants. **EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson** acknowledges that these new rulings would be “*endangered by many, if not all, of the efforts we’ve seen to take away the [EPA’s] agency’s greenhouse gas authority.*”

What Are We Facing? **Martin Rees**, Britain’s astronomer-royal and president of the **Royal Society**, has written a new book, **Our Final Century**, in which he speculates that human civilization may be doomed by the year **2100** – by population growth, resource depletion and global climate change. The **Earth** has existed for 45 thousand centuries, he says, but “*this is the first when one species, ours,*

can determine – for good or ill – the future of the entire biosphere.”

How About Some Good News? While **Republican** efforts in **Congress** will likely stymie sensible green energy legislation over the next two years – **Congress** being the obvious enactor of nationwide energy efficiency laws – that does not mean that no other progress will be forthcoming to combat **America’s** massive **25 percent** contribution to global climate change.

The defeat of **California’s Proposition 23** on the **November** ballot represented a **62 to 38 percent** victory for a green energy future. **Prop 23** was largely funded by two **Texas** oil companies and by the **billionaire Koch brothers**, and it proposed rolling back **California’s** ground-breaking green energy legislation, **AB 32** (<http://www.gov.ca.gov/press-release/4111>).

Funded by **Silicon Valley** green energy investors and environmental groups, the **NO on 23** campaign was co-chaired by **George Schulz**, the **Republican** and former **Secretary of State**. Schulz said that the resounding defeat of **Prop 23** came from every demographic and political group around the state.

American Scientists to Speak Out Dismayed by the success of climate change deniers in shaping public opinion in the US, the **American Geophysical Union** is assembling a group of **700** scientists who’ve agreed to speak out on mankind’s role in accelerating global warming.

Climate Change Denial Final Part 3, Continued Next Issue



Palms Without Voice



Photos © 2010 Mary M. Long



Just Another Chipper Job



Re-educating the youth



Bagging Ojai



The Phantom Eucalyptus Tree



Decimating Ojai’s Palms – It’s a job



Project Biologist/Grant Writer Brian Holly

Pt 2: Climate Change Denial Tightens Its Grip on Washington, DC

Part one of this article appeared in the Dec Issue #31 of *The VIEW*, Page 10.

A new book, **Merchants of Doubt: How a Handful of Scientists Obscured the Truth on Issues from Tobacco Smoke to Global**

Warming, by **Naomi Oreskes** and **Erik Conway**, illustrates the strategies that have worked for corporate America to oppose and delay regulations on tobacco, acid rain, ozone-depleting chemicals, and now global warming.

The tactics – discredit the science, spread doubt and confusion in the public mind, and present “*experts*” whose claims are accepted by the media and politicians as evidence of genuine disagreement among the scientific community. **Robin McKie**, who reviewed this book for the U.K.’s **Observer**, described it as his “*runaway contender*

Designer When Green Means SHOW ME THE MONEY !!! How “Non-Profits” Make Their Tax-Free Profits

Item	Cost	Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program (USFWS)	Non-Federal Cost-Share: OVGC, City of Ojai	Non-Federal Cost-Share: donated professional services & sponsors
Making Blue Chips from Wood Chips				
Materials & Supplies	\$2,000			
Seeds, native plants, peat pots & potting soil	\$1,000	\$800	\$100	\$100
Hand tools, gloves, project educational signs, tarps	\$1,000	\$300	\$700	
Construction & Contracts	\$37,862			
Oscar’s Tree Service - palm tree removal and mulch	\$14,000	\$14,000		
The C.R.E.W. - non-native vegetation removal 500’ Steward Canyon Creek Salary inc. insurance & benefits, equipment, supplies, vehicle: \$25 per hr @ 120 man hours)	\$4,000	\$4,000		
BioResource Consultants, Inc. - biological monitoring, onsite management & surveying: 30 hrs @ \$100/hr	\$3,000	\$1,000		\$2,000
Glen Hawks & Associates - surveying, updating existing permits & preparation & onsite management: 10 hrs @ \$100/hr	\$1,000			\$1,000
Bostrom & Associates - tree plotting and removal monitoring - \$10 hrs @ \$85/hr	\$ 850			\$ 850
Invasive species removal and native planting. [Ojai Valley Green Coalition] OVGC/community volunteers: 6 work days average 30 volunteers/4 hrs per day @ \$20.85	\$15,012		\$15,012	
Other	\$7,550			
City of Ojai Permit	\$ 50		\$ 50	
Green waste transport/recycling; debris transport/disposal	\$1,500	\$900		\$600
Project admin and oversight by [Ojai Valley Green Coalition] OVGC - 100 hrs @ \$35/hr	\$3,500	\$2,500	\$1,000	
Project community/volunteer outreach and education by [Ojai Valley Green Coalition] OVGC - 60 hrs @ \$35/hr	\$2,100	\$1,500	\$600	
Project community outreach by [Ojai Valley Green Coalition] OVGC volunteers - 20 hrs @ \$20.85/hr	\$400		\$400	
Total Project Costs/% Cost-Shares	\$47,412	\$25,000	\$17,862	\$4,550

EDITOR’S NOTE: What Happens when the Grants Run Out? According to the OVGC report (prepared by **Brian Holly**, program director(left)), “*Preliminary cost estimates indicate that installation, maintenance and additional monitoring of the restoration site may be over \$150,000.*”



Photos © 2011, Mary M. Long

Send Rover on Over

Look for the Send Rover on Over gang to be at the Grand Opening of Ventura's 1st Doggie Ice Cream Parlor, Bakery, Boutique and Lounge. Don't forget to bring Rover, Fido and FiFi. Pet Psychic Laura Stinchfield will be on hand to interpret for dog owners how their pets like the new parlor.

Tianna Bower



Talented stylist Tianna Bower is now located at Rebe Belle Salon in Ventura. Tianna specializes in both color and cut and brings a facility for style and a genuine interest in her client to her work. Along with a degree from Lu Ross Academy, she completed an Art Degree from CSUCI, which gives her work an extra dimension in the interpretation of color and design.

THE LEASHES END



Ron and his companion, Dudley.

by Ron Rowe

The well-mannered canine epicurian will be treated to Ventura's first doggie ice cream parlor, coming soon in February. Concept created by the Send Rover On Over gang, the pooch parlor will bring a new panache to doggie dining - Don't miss their Grand Opening on February 5th, 616 E. Main St., Ventura.

Another small victory against bullfighting. The Catalan Parliament Region, in Spain, banned the cruel sport of bull-

fighting. It's a small victory, with more to follow. The Society for Science and the Public has modernized its regulations for the world's largest precollege science competition. They now strongly endorse the use of non-animal research methods and encourage students to use alternatives to animal research.

After years of P.E.T.A. campaigning against using bearskins for the Queen's guards hats, the Defense Ministry of Britain has agreed to use faux bearskin for the guards hats. Designed by an eco-designer Atom Cian Farani they will be lighter and water resistance. Lighter means fewer guards fainting while on parade in the summer sun. It will also spare hundreds of Canadian bears being shot, often multiple times so that their fur can be turned into an outdated ceremonial headpiece.

Elephants have been known to imitate the sounds of trucks and other elephants, but an elephant in Korea named Kosik can vocalize various Korean words. His trainer Kim Jong Kap claims the elephants pronunciation has improved greatly since he first spoke in 2006. Dr. Daniel Mitch, a biological scientist from the University of Jena, Germany has gone to South Korea with other researchers to study this exceptional elephant. He believes elephants are capable of learning language.

Former Pres. Bill Clinton, who developed heart disease after a life long fondness for cheeseburgers and other fatty foods, revealed he had lost 24 pounds when he switched to a non-dairy nonmeat diet. President Bill is now a vegan.

Rainbow the Hen, who lives in England with Jeremy Powers laid a monster egg that weighed 4.6 ounces, twice the size of

Continued next page...

Our Horses, Our Teachers

by Heather Green

Many horse lovers would agree that horses are our greatest teachers. As an animal communicator and energy healer, I have experienced the way they pick up on our energy, read our minds, mirror our emotions and behavior patterns, and push us to overcome limits. We can heal ourselves and prevent illness and misbehavior in our horses if we pay attention to what they reveal.

Horses help us master our fear, trust, and confidence. To be able to ride a horse, as well as continue to build a relationship with a horse we regularly ride, we must develop these qualities. Some people say riding is dangerous, and we can at least agree it is taking a risk, even for those of us with much experience under our belts. In a way, riding is a tool for helping us reach goals in our lives. The horse represents our intuition and emotions. If we want to get to the end result, our heart's desire, we must be able to let go and believe in ourselves and our horse every step of the way. As we progress in our riding experience, our horse will still continue to show us where we need more growth in these areas. This can be understood when we consider someone who switches from pleasure riding to competitive.

The horses also reflect to us behavior patterns we have with humans. This is frequently experienced by people with boundary and

empowerment issues. I worked with a woman who never asked her horse to back up and give her space when she fed or cared for him. She soon had a pushy and demanding horse on her hands. When she reflected on her life she realized she had the same problems with humans - often getting her toes stepped on or her space intruded upon. With this awareness and healing of her past, especially her relationship with a domineering father, she was able to get back her power and have her boundaries respected by her horse. At first she really had to speak firmly and sometimes bring in a lunge whip when asking him to back up, but when her energy field carried a higher degree of empowerment, the horse picked up on this and followed her request. This did take time, and she saw the changes in behavior come in stages, just like her healing.

One of the most overlooked and important ways horses teach us is through empathic sensitivity. This is the ability they have to hear our thoughts, pick up and act out our emotions, and feel our physical sensations. This can occur to the degree that horses (as well as other animals) can carry our illnesses, even to the point of death! The good news is that through awareness of our own issues, whether physical, mental/emotional, or spiritual in origin, we can take responsibility and heal ourselves so our horses don't get sick.

Have you ever seen a horse that is normally calm bolt off when a nervous rider gets on his back? Or

Continued next page...

a normal egg. The egg had another fully developed egg inside, this could be in the Guinness Book of Records.

If you have lost your pet, help is at hand. Use the web, www.centerforlostpets.com, made possible by the Humane Society, a team of veterinarians, shelter managers and other experts.

Looking for a good book? Try, *One At a Time, a Week in an American Animal Shelter* by Diane Leigh and Marilynne Geyer. Up to 11 million animals enter animal shelters in the U.S. every year, only about 50 percent will be adopted. One animal will be euthanized every 5 seconds. It's a powerful book with some success stories as well.

Another good book, *Animal Liberation* by Peter Singer. He claims it's an animal rights Bible. A must read for all animal lovers Ingrid Newkirk says the book changed her life.

An estimated 4,800 licensed commercial dog breeders plus hundreds of unregistered puppy mills produce over 1.5 million copies annually while over 5.5 million dogs and cats are killed each year in overpopulated shelters. Life in a commercial breeding facility is not easy. Puppies are bred for profit, living in small stackable wire cages crudely built with no protection from the elements. They have minimal contact with humans and very little, if any, veterinary care. They are just numbers in puppy mills until they are too old or too sick to breed, so please, if you are thinking of buying a puppy, don't go to pet shops where most of the puppies come from puppy mills. Visit your local animal shelter where lots of dogs are waiting to find a good home.

A Massachusetts woman has been arrested for throwing a bag of dog poop at a car which was going too fast down a quiet neighborhood street. Alas, the bag went through the open car window and splattered across the drivers face. She was charged with assault with a dangerous weapon.

Alexander Alcantare, who has one arm and lived in Florida, attempted to help an 8 foot alligator. He was bitten on his remaining arm. In the hospital Alexander said I was only trying to help the alligator, when you deal with wild animals I guess you can get bitten. How true Alexander.

Peace to all living beings, Ron Rowe, rhjrowe@aol.com

**Southeast Tour - IV
Rockin' and Rolling with the BFB**

by Joel Anderson

A memorable moment was when our L.A. Manager, Bill Holmes scheduled two performances in one ominous rainy night," explained Ernie Joseph. "Bill's idea was to play a late afternoon college concert at Guilford College in Greensboro, North Carolina, then hours later, take a private plane flight to the next gig in Richmond, Virginia.

"The show in Richmond was an outdoor concert sponsored by local radio station WLEE 96.5 FM, and the notable DJ-celebrity Shane.

"The airplane was a single-engine Cessna. Wet from the Greensboro show, we over-packed the small plane with band members and some instruments. As we boarded the plane, climbing over the delicate Cessna wing, we heard thunder and lightning. It was eerie when vocalist Greg Munford (Strawberry Alarm Clock) commented before the flight, "This is scary, I hope we don't end-up like Buddy Holly and Ritchie Valens"...

"The thunder and lightning got more intense as we were flying in route to the Richmond show. After a rough plane ride in the storm, we finally approached the Richmond airport runway in the pouring rain. The plane landed uncontrollably, finally coming to a stop, but sliding off the runway, and getting stuck in a thick mushy wet grass. In the pouring rain, the pilot asked us all to try to move the Cessna back onto the runway.

Continued on page 10...

Our Horses... one that rears up or pins his ears back when a certain person approaches?

These are examples of how horses reflect fear or anger, and make attempts to hold their own boundaries.

We can always count our blessings when we have horses in our lives to show us the many ways we need to grow, heal, and become more aware of our emotions and relationship dynamics. Sometimes horses can even show us the big picture of our lives when we can't see the forest for the trees, often by regressing in behavior or getting sick when we are in abusive relationships or restricting jobs or living situations. The key is to notice these signs and reflect on what is going on in our lives and with ourselves, so we can act accordingly, bettering our lives and the lives of our horses - our teachers.

- Heather Green, greenbluehealing@gmail.com

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The Reverb Slide

- by Joel Anderson

Locals were treated to a Christmas Eve party at The HUB recently, featuring legendary Apple Recording Artist Jackie Lomax. Jackie's LP *Is This What You Want* has been re-released on AppleRecords.com and is also available physically at Salzers (as well as hometown, Liverpool). Jackie will be heading to his native Liverpool again this Spring, recording a new album with his band, *The Undertakers*. Jackie was also recently featured in the Winter/Fall Issue of *French Vogue*, photographed by Terry Richardson (Google Jackie Lomax photos vogue). Also coming up, a couple of Jackie's originals are to be included in Apples' *Best of Apple* EP, also featuring George Harrison, Paul McCartney, Billy Preston, Mary Hopkin, Badfinger, James Taylor, The Iveys, Doris Troy, and many others.

Also coming up at The HUB Feb 11, Kyle Hunt and The King Gypsy. Word is the boys have some new material (*Chasing a Dream*) and this is going to be another rockin' CD Release Party.

If you're handling booking for bands in Ventura lookout. Seems Zoey's treated bands Night Owl, Space Panther and Char Man with the "respect" they didn't deserve, despite Megan Long's stellar promotional efforts for the benefit. All I can say... when you head down to Zoey's to do a show, get PAID UP FRONT and bring your own equipment - instead of depending on the rude-sounding house techno-stuff!

Don't forget to check out J.D. and the bunch at The Big Buddha Lounge, Oakview, lots of music and fun stuff from Polynesia. Caffroditi (next door to MovieTown Video) is hosting Open Mic Thursdays, so bring your acoustic. The owner boasts meter free parking for patrons.

Continued page eleven...

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•2 Feb - The Viper Room, W.Hollywood, Foul Play/Modified by Man/Chemical Armour/Dead Panda, 310/358-1881
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•4 Feb - Ventura Theater, Ryan Bingham and the Dead Horses, 653-0721
•4 Feb - The Canyon Club, Agoura, Quiet Riot, 818/879-5016
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•6 Feb - The Viper Room, W.Hollywood,

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

BFB - Southeast Tour - IV

Continued from page 9... It was a futile effort. Moments later, concert promoters rushed us to the gig in a waiting van... It made us realize that we could have easily been victims of another Rock plane crash tragedy. "After the performance at the Richmond show, we were asked to play at the historical civic auditorium in Nashville, Tennessee with Bruce Springsteen and 'Steel Mill'.

"I remember first feeling the cold spacious air and then, at a distance, seeing the relative small ice hockey floor," said Brian Faith. "Then I remember the ice being quickly melted and the ice hockey floor's refrigerant pipes being removed one-by-one in the metamorphosis. It was an unbelievable transformation.... Like a magical illusion, the ice hockey arena was gone - like it never existed... Moments later we were on stage with Springsteen for another memorable Rock show."

BFB guitarist Ernie Joseph was asked if the Southeast Tour was the first. He explained, "The Southeast Tour was our fourth consecutive major tour. We did a bay area tour in California with Sol Ellner, who managed and produced 'The Count Five' (Psychotic Reaction).

We met Sol Ellner and his band at a Santa Barbara benefit concert for San Marcos High's Valley Stadium. It was a fund-raiser promoted by Radio DJ Johnny Fairchild of KIST and the school to purchase stadium lights.

At the time, 'The Count Five' had a national hit song, 'Psychotic Reaction'. It topped at number one on Billboard.

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•9 Feb - The Viper Room, W.Hollywood, Codi Jordan Band/Amberside/State to State/Phasers on Stun/Living Eulogy, 310/358-1881
•10 Feb - Chumash Casino, Sarah McLachlan, 585-3737
•10 Feb - The Viper Room, W.Hollywood, Nasty Souls/Dirty Eyes/Fire Tiger/of Verona/Scene of Action, 310/358-1881
•11 Feb, Fri - The HUB, Ojai, Kyle Hunt and The King Gypsy, 272-8344
•11 Feb - The Viper Room, W.Hollywood, SkinMask/Dirty Madame/Red Snow, 310/358-1881
•12 Feb - The Canyon Club, Agoura, Judy Collins, 818/879-5016
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We also did a Wolfman Jack California College Tour with the Strawberry Alarm Clock's original vocalist Greg Munford. Wolfman Jack was a legendary figure in L.A. radio. He later went on to be the host of one of Rock's most successful live concert shows, The Midnight Special. We did show's with Wolfman Jack, from Fresno State to San Diego State, and just about every major college in-between.

After the Wolfman Jack episode, we did a Northwest Tour with Booking Agent Pat Mason, who at the time produced and managed Paul Revere and The Raiders. Pat Mason booked us with the UK's The Zombies... It was called The Time of The Season

Tour. We played just about every club, auditorium, college, and armory in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Canada... The gigs were constant... virtually non-stop, night-after-night concert shows, ... miles apart. The constant touring really got us prepared to record our album Confusion. We recorded the album at Original Sound Studios in Los Angeles. Highlights of our L.A. recording sessions included memorable drop-in visits by Jim Morrison of The Doors, and Dicky Peterson of Blue Cheer... The Confusion album successfully opened doors, and launched us into The Southeast Tour". - Joel Anderson

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More Americans have died in psychiatric hands than in all the wars since 1776.

Although psychiatric facilities no longer make public the numbers of people who die in their care, one can easily extrapolate the current tally. Those figures present a grim and shocking scenario—more patients dead than Americans killed in battle in the two Gulf Wars, the Vietnam War, World Wars I & II, the Civil War, the Revolutionary War, and all wars in between.

This is the outrageous outcome of an abusive and deadly mental health care system. The Citizens Commission on Human Rights (CCHR) is an international voice for the people abused within the mental health system. If you, a loved one or friend has been forced into a psychiatric facility, to undergo "community mental health treatment," committed involuntarily or harmed by psychiatric treatment, contact CCHR. We will take action.

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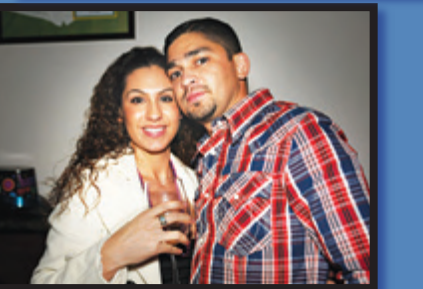
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The Reverb Slide

Ojai is becoming quite the recording destination for musicians. Guitarist Patrick Westfall is putting together Ojai FreeSong Studio with the intention of helping develop, showcase & promote local songwriters, musicians and artists such as Trip Brown with Darryl Morris and Other Shady Characters, utilizing high-quality multi-track recordings of performers and posting them online.

Singer/Songwriter Jeff Uzzel has landed on the scene at the Wrec Room in Ojai. Jeff, whose diverse rock, funk, reggae influences includes Jimmy Buffet and Bob Marley also plays some backup guitar with Jade Hendrix. Check him out at the Catalina Lounge and of course every Thursday at Jayden Morrison's Wrec Room on Matilija Street. - Joel Anderson



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