

The Ojai & Ventura



# VIEW



USAID

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Lake Casitas' Old Hoover ~ **THE LEGENDARY FISH THAT LIVES AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE ~ NEVER GETS CAUGHT!**

## REVERB



Photo © 2011, Mary M. Long



**SKATEBOARDERS RULE OJAI!**



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**WINE AND ROSES**

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• **PRIMITIVELY SPEAKING DENNIS SHIVES BUCKSKIN**



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**BANK SEZ "NO" TO OJAI ~ CREDIT RISK ? . . . . HAPPY NEWS ?**

Carol Smith Sez Wells Fargo Not Neighborly ~ 'City Cash Register' Smith ~ **VIEW ONLINE**

**INSIDE: ART • PEOPLE • Politics • Tsunami Effort - Ojai's New "YES" Man ★**

# OJAI CITY COUNCIL RAGGEDY EDGE

— Dick Lynch

Mayor Pro Tem Betsy Clapp filled in for absent Mayor Carol Smith at the City workshop a couple weeks ago on Code Enforcement. Horgan also opted to no-show for this one. Imagine a well-run, polite City Council meeting with Clapp at head of the herd instead of Smith.

Folks are concerned over the attempted expansion of police powers for code enforcement officials. What tans my hide is the possibility of the city sneak-in in a way to charge massive new permitting fees to line their thinning money pouch. Now then, the next cock-eyed idea to squeeze money out of townspeople.... Code Enforcement.... could amount to kick-the-door-down anytime, anywhere searches in your homestead. Then them big-briches big-city officials, could record a noncompliance violation and cloud any property title.

Monte, our city attorney is riding that horse at the front of the herd. Wonder how much money he'll make for handling all them law suits. That's one crafty attorney. When you finally get as old as some of us geezers and need to add some wheelchair ramps, make a few changes, even though you get the basic remodel permit and inspection fees, you might still find yourself hit with violations, permit fees, investigation fees, processing fees, appeals board fees, title recording fees. Like the termites in city hall, once those buggers get in yer house there's no telling when they'll leave. Monte Widders' research fees.... Did I say investigating fees? Wonder if he's gonna invest-eee-gate those couple recent Ojai Mayors.... I hear they have their own bootleg permitless construction/water meter projects?

Since when did we hire a bounty hunter to sniff out old homes, built willy-nilly, then come down on the little guy with blazing guns? Who are those guys anyway?

We came to Ojai to be Free and Express Ourselves, but it appears we're being led into the same "Box-Canyon" as Santa Monica and Calabasas. The way I hear tell it, they chose to Raid the home of a local that was known for "Speakin' up" at Calabasas City Council meetings. Are you next? Whoa Nelly!!! Monte doesn't need more people to persecute. Pretty soon, not only will we continue with the most UN-AMERICAN rule I have ever seen.... Code Enforcement by Complaint.... But I'll bet they'll be offering a reward for a

We-Tip Program like Ventura. Ya know, where people drive around taking pictures of their neighbors and turin' 'em in... for the crime of having an ole home? As Clapp pointed out, most of Ojai is old. Remember the General Plan which is supposed to protect the quaint small town look of Ojai? The permit posse wants to add big urban Rat Enforcement to quaint Ojai. Them easterners in New York City have Rat Police, are we next? I'd like to know how we get rid of the Rats infesting Ojai's city hall who'er eatin' our cheese???

Adding 43 pages of New Codes to what we already have is scary enough without having Monte say "WE." When did our legal servant take over as owner of Ojai?, I thought he was just a hired hand on contract, not 'Owner.' Who is "the" revenue-driven code expert? Who authorized a code enforcement consultant (Stephen Stuart) to try and dump big city codes on Ojai? What was he told to do? Where is his report? Where are his credentials and experience? Ventura? How much was he paid and who authorized his fee?

Newbie City Manager Rob "Yes Man" Clark seems to be falling in line after a 'lam'n the ropes session from "Smilin'" Alan Rains and "Big" Bill Burrarr. Just like cowpokes scarfing at the chuckwagon.... borrow, borrow, Raggedy Edge Continued Page 5...



## Libbey - Ojai's Poison Park

### Ojai... Poisoning the Children?



Meg Goodwin and Zorba protest use of the pesticide. Roundup at Libbey Park Playground.



Poison (Libbey) Park: The City of Ojai sprayed these weeds with Round-Up, next to the children's playground, with children present.



## LETTER To the City of Ojai

Opponents of the use of the herbicide/pesticide Round Up (by Monsanto) met to protest the spraying of plants in Libbey Park and Playground. Spearheaded by the passionate Greek "Zorba" the group met to "round up" plants which were sprayed and left to wilt, in and near the playground. "I will take them to the Council and they can make stew out of them if they like Roundup so much," said the Greek. Meg Goodwin of Ojai House arrived to support the effort to keep Ojai child-friendly and chemical free. The self-proclaimed "homeless," who have befriended Libbey Park, witnessed the chemical being sprayed in and near the playground during daytime hours while children were playing. Signs posted by Zorba warning parents of the health hazard were removed by park personnel.

From Pesticide Free Ojai Valley Subject: Herbicide Spraying in Ojai Date: March 21, 2011 2:08:51 PM PDT To: martinez@ci.ojai.ca.us Ce: smith@ci.ojai.ca.us, blatz@ci.ojai.ca.us, horgan@ci.ojai.ca.us, strobrel@ci.ojai.ca.us, clapp@ci.ojai.ca.us Hello Mr. Martinez (Dept., Public Works), We understand that the City of Ojai will be spraying the herbicides for weed control. Our community organization, Pesticide Free Ojai Valley, would like to offer information regarding non-toxic alternatives to herbicides and pesticides. (According to the EPA, herbicides are considered pesticides: http://www.epa.gov/opp00001/about/)

We would like to open up a dialogue with the City of Ojai and the Dept. of Public Works, and share some information and ideas. Many community members in Ojai, Poison Park, Continued Page Six...



## Search Dogs Return from Japan Quake

by Mary M. Long

Los Angeles County Fire Dept. Urban Search and Rescue teams, returning from quake ravaged Japan, were welcomed home by over 200 well wishers at the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD) facility in Pacoima, Sat., March 19.

They had been expected to arrive earlier, but a baggage mix-up at LAX had detained them, leaving anxious family members milling about in restless anticipation. When the buses finally pulled into the Pacoima station, the waiting crowd rushed in with signs, balloons, and hugs for their loved ones. The six canine search teams from the Ojai-based National Disaster Search Dog Foundation (SDF), all returned safely from their week long Japan deployment.

LACFD Captain Bill Monahan, with his search dog partner Hunter, was greeted by his fiancé Tami Spanel and family members who were as excited to see Hunter as they were to see Bill. Jasmine Segura, Los Angeles County Search and Rescue, returned with her canine partner, the black Lab, Cadillac, and was received with flowers and well-wishes. Eric Gray and the yellow Lab, Riley, bounded down the steps of the big chartered bus and into the arms of Eric's wife Donna, who showered them both with kisses.

Mobilized by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and deployed with Los Angeles County Task Force 2 (TS2) there were six canine search and rescue teams from the Ojai-based Search Dog Foundation, which included two teams representing Ventura and Santa Barbara areas. Riley, the yellow Lab, with handler Eric Gray of the Santa Barbara County Fire Department (SBCFD), and Linda Tacconelli, civilian, with her yellow Lab, Joe, also a resident of Santa Barbara, both dispatched to Japan as their first international deployments. Also representing the foundation were veterans Captain Ron Horetski, (LACFD) and the black Lab, Pearl; Capt. Bill Monahan, L.A. (LACFD) and the red Border Collie, Hunter, Jasmine Segura, (LACFD) and the black Lab Cadillac; and the Golden Retriever, Baxter, with his partner Gary Durian, (LACFD).

On March 11 a private charter plane, mobilized by USAID, picked up the 72 member Virginia Task Force 1 (VA-TF1), including six canine teams, and then flew on to L.A., where the 72 Search Continued Page Ten...



Photos © 2011, MML/JA



Sunrise Service at the beautiful Lake Casitas will be hosted by Ojai Community Church for the 14th year running. The up-beat inspirational service will include drum circle, live music, spiritual message served up with a pancake breakfast, & egg hunt for the kids. Service is free entry, starts at 6:30am, Easter Sunday April 24

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## Coming Out As Being Homeless

Dispelling the Stigma by Lawrence and Lori Anderson (aka Criminal Sleepers)

We have received some wonderful responses from readers of The VIEW and of our brief forays into homeless programs. Almost all of that feedback was positive, the only negatives hidden in forms so subtle that they are almost undefinable. Nonetheless, we will try to formulate these nuanced responses, which surprised us, but which, in retrospect, should not have.

Words have enormous power: the word "homeless" is one of the most powerful. In English, as in other languages, it symbolizes far more than the state of being without a permanent residence. It connotes helplessness, laziness, drunkenness and hopelessness. The word "hopelessness" only differs from the word "homeless" by one letter. Almost all of the "less-ness"es are included in the state of having no home.

More than words are involved. Since having come out as "homeless," we have noticed a remarkable difference in both our self-perception and in the reflections we see in the faces of friends of twenty years duration. For decades we were travelers and alternative livers. We defined ourselves, when required, as Vagabondists--traveling artists and occasional bards trying to follow the barbo, you know, go with the flow. We lived in school busses, vans, boats, trees; on benches, in abandoned buildings, in fancy cottages; wherever the flow took us. Having changed that lovely self-definition to "homeless," we seem to have somehow attached to ourselves all of those "less-ness"es. Friends look at us as if this were a terminal state of affairs. We might as well have announced that the doctor

had just given us less than two weeks to live. Worst of all, our friends are merely reflecting what they have seen in our own faces. We seemed to believe it ourselves. A word did this. Imagine! Have I actually been looking down when I walk because of a word? Lawrence had a home-and-hometown childhood, but I am a Mondial Mutt, born in an airport hangar and jolted from continent to island to continent throughout my young life. The only home I have ever known is my own heart, which has always sufficed. How could a single word affect that? Yet, it did.

Happily, our winter sojourn in a tent in the woods, though hard on our aging bodies, has rejuvenated our spirits. We remember now what we have always known, that we are Never Homeless and that Matter Doesn't Matter. Perhaps, as more and more people lose their homes, our society will create a new definition of homelessness -- not a new euphemism, a new attitude. There is a pride of poverty which exists in other culture, but which is lacking in Americanized systems of thought. Much is to be gained in abject poverty, if one is willing to shift the focus of life from having to being.

We thank our ever loyal friends and the loyal readers of The VIEW for helping us to get back on track. But mostly, we thank the Mountain that shielded us from February's wind, hail and sleet; then, buried us in March's snow. We are sure that, now that we have had the seclusion and peace necessary to re-member ourselves, a new path will lead us to a viable shelter before the scalding heat descends.

Ever Yours, Lawrence and Lori Anderson Vagabondists; Criminal Sleepers



Photo © 2011, MML/JA

## Many Ghosts Walk Ventura's Downtown Shopping Area

On the night of March 18 Ghost Hunter Richard Senate led a special tour of Ventura's Victorian Garden District to tell of her ghostly residents and strange haunting tales including a haunted church and supernatural happenings at Plaza Park. The two hour walking tour was one of a number of unique tours presented by the Bank of Books on Main St., Ventura.

Mr. Senate explained the ghosts of the



Oracle Richard Senate at Bank of Books, Ventura

Garden District with accounts of unexplainable hauntings -- such as the phantom man who wanders Plaza Park in a tall top hat. Was he just another politician going to give a speech here or is there another story? One account says he would meet his love here and walk the park every Saturday afternoon.

The tour included the old Science of Mind Church on Laurel St. where a phantom, perhaps a former minister walks, still trying to give comfort and minister to the needs of his congregation. Several felt a cold spot here at the church. Was this the sign of a ghost? Perhaps?

— Editor

## Why Ventura is The Broke Capitol of the World?

Who's Money is It Anyway?

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

VIEW DETAILED FINANCIAL ANALYSIS Go To: www.ojaiandventura.com/OVVtaArt/TheRoseVol.1Issue1WebStealthkatGraphics.pdf

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

## Jealousy



When we're in the grips of jealousy it overwhelms as if we're in a state of possession. Looking closer into jealousy we can also find some or all of these: feeling abandoned, small, helpless, afraid, dependent, ashamed, judgmental, attached, anxious, revengeful, needing to be loved, angry and enraged. No wonder it's such a complicated emotion to understand and integrate. Jealousy involves a triangle -- oneself, one's partner and the 'other', who in our fantasy is frequently stronger, better looking, funnier, wealthier, smarter, etc. These fantasies in themselves can be helpful to us as they point out our feelings of inadequacy as well as our inner critic. They can be a catalyst for inner work. Jealousy draws out a strange cast of characters in us -- the detective, the moralist, the paranoid and the archconservative (T. Moore).

In jealousy, even a person who prides himself in being tolerant and libertarian is revealed to be a moralist and a purist. Being identified with innocence and purity can bring out the coldest brutality, precisely because one is so blind to the violent potential within oneself. It's ironic that some who stray first in a relationship are plagued with jealousy as they project their own untrustworthiness on to their partners

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

Since jealousy has been with us since the beginning, Thomas Moore asks how can jealousy contribute to soul? If there were no jealousy, he says, too many events and too many connections would take place without a deepening of intimacy, which only a relationship with one partner brings. Jealousy serves soul by pressing for limits and reflections. Sometimes jealousy is a signal that the relationship needs more communication and intimacy. When we long for new experiences and new people, jealousy remembers attachment and the pain of separation and divorce, and protects home, family and marriage. We all live with the paradox of being utterly alone and being dependent on each other. There certainly can be dignity in dependency even though it goes against modern notions, which only promote independence. There is, however, a difference between saying, "I need you because I love you" and "I love you because I need you". Both partners need to share in acknowledgement of dependency; otherwise one becomes the 'independent' one and the other the 'codependent' one, which always leads to trouble. Jealousy when conscious and not obsessive seems to add passion to our relationship and can enhance fulfillment in sex.

Finally, jealousy becomes obsessive when we try to hide it. It becomes poisonous when we don't own it. When we face it head on it loses its compulsive quality. So when jealousy jabs at your heart, cop to it, educate yourself and bring it to levels beyond rage and empty suspicion. The only way out of jealousy is through it!

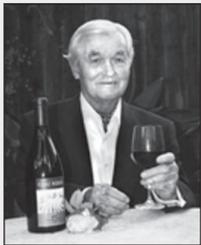
Love to Mother Meera. One for all and all for one.

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

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Wine And Roses

by Ron Rowe



Spring began on March 20. All Nature seems at work. Slugs leave their lair - The bees are stirring - birds are on the wing - And Winter slumbering in the open air. Wears on his smiling face a dream of Spring! so wrote Samuel Taylor Coleridge

And Spring, the sweet spring, is the year's pleasant king. Then blooms each thing, then maids dance in a ring. Cold doth not sting, the pretty birds do sing: Cuckoo, jug-jug, pu-we, to-witta-woo! - Thomas Nashe.

Now is the time to enjoy spring. Go shopping along Ojai Avenue. There are lots of specials and sales, check them out. Attend the local farmers market on Sunday morning, fresh insecticide free veggies (unlike that place in M.O. Town), delicious fresh baked bread and fruits, live music, it's a fun place to be.

You may think Ojai has the most glorious spring in the world, but you would be wrong. Quito, Ecuador has the best climate in the world. Known as the land of eternal spring, they receive 4 inches of rain a month, the temperature rises to 72° in the daytime and never falls below 46° at night. I still prefer living in Ojai.

Attention Buddy Wilds, I see you riding your bike around town. Be warned; a recent Austrian study found bicycle saddles can cause serious damage to the male scrotum. Researchers found many male bike riders suffered from benign tumors, cysts or twisted veins in the scrotum. So male bike riders, check the saddle you are using. Dr. Fraucher, lead researcher, advises using a full suspension bike with a Y-shaped shock absorbing saddle. I wondered why so many male bike riders walk around with an exaggerated John Wayne gait.

Speaking of bicycles... Fishermen in Yorkshire were not amused when cyclist John Perkins became angry upon seeing all the fishing rods laid out on the canals pathway blocking his way. After a heated exchange with dozens of fishermen he rode his bike all over the expensive fishing rods breaking them all. The angry fishermen ran after John and threw him and his bike into the canal.

If you are a thief and own a cell phone leave it at home when you rob houses. Police in Maryland tracked down Cody Wilkins, 25, after finding his cell phone plugged in and recharging in the house. After robbing the house Cody left and forgot to take his cell phone with him.

In Biloxi, Mississippi a burglar robbed a store and ran into the nearby police to hide. After searching for him for five minutes police heard his cell phone ringing and arrested him. Money - The worlds four richest men, Carlos Slim, Bill Gates, Warren Buffett and Mukesh Ambani control more wealth than the worlds 57 poorest countries. Bill Gates is the world's wealthiest man. He gave away over \$28 billion through his charitable foundations. If you have lost money in your stock holdings, consider Exxon. They have earned \$9.25 billion in the last three months of 2010. Profits were up over 53 percent. A \$1,000 investment in Apple stock 10 years ago would be worth \$32,280 today making it the best performing stock in the U.S. About 24 million people in the world have \$1 million or more in net assets and control more than a third of the world's wealth. There are now more millionaires than there are Australians. In the U.S., \$.40 cents on every dollar is borrowed money. China holds \$1.17 trillion in U.S. bonds followed by Japan, \$882 billion and Britain \$272 billion. That's 27 percent of the total of \$4.44 trillion debt held by foreign countries.

Our defense budget is \$719 billion, veteran care costs \$124 billion. That's a total of \$843 billion. The Afghan War costs nearly \$1 million per soldier. So far we have spent \$336 billion, going up to \$456 billion in Afghanistan this year. In Afghanistan 1,510 U.S. soldiers have been killed, with over 10,000 wounded since 2001. A six-month cost of the war in Afghanistan would pay for school supplies for every child in the world. Egypt gets more foreign U.S. aid, \$2 billion than any other country except Israel, and still we borrow money to give it away. Sounds just like the deficit spending Ojai/Ventura City Councils.... Just thought you'd like to know where your money goes.

If you have a problem passing gas or being flatulent, don't move to Malawi. They are passing a law outlawing passing

gas in public places. Opponents claim passing gas in a public place like a bus is democratic. When someone passes gas how do you find the culprit? Do you arrest them all?

One in five children, aged 2 to 5 years of age - 19 percent can operate a smart phone application. Only 9 percent can tie their own shoelaces.

A German dentist, Dr. Kathleen Klarkowski bought low-cut dresses for herself and nurses to distract male patients. She claims the sight of cleavage gets patients distracted from the pain very quickly. I didn't know that.

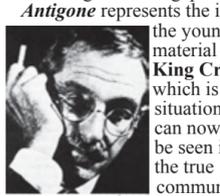
Are you looking for a different wine? Have you ever tried the intense and austere flavors of Savennières. They are not easy to pin down. It's a demanding wine from France's Loire Valley region, made from Chenin blanc grapes. Grapes that feature notes of beeswax, Celine and citrus. Learning to love this wine takes effort. If interested try, 2007 Nicolas Joly "Les Clos Sacres" Savennières, \$52, my favorite. It's rich and round with flavors of spice, citrus and Celine. Domaine du Petit-Metris Savennières Clos de la Marche 2006 White Wine, just \$52, elegant, lively and vibrant taste of honeysuckle and minerals. Château d'Epiré Savennières 2007, best value of the Savennières, it's deep and complex with beautiful floral and wax aromas. Let me know what you think of these wines. Time to sit back, relax with a glass of wine and contemplate the worlds troubles. Peace to all living beings earth.

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

Curtain Call

by Ron Rowe

Jean Anouilh presented Antigone in Paris in 1943 during the German occupation of France. He was writing about fascism and the loss of individual rights to freedom of choice. Accessible to the youth of today, the play also illustrates the generation gap.



Antigone represents the intense idealism and passion of the young, set against a pragmatism and material values of Antigone's uncle, King Creon. This timeless classic, which is pertinent to our current world

Senga Theater, with a modern look and some new faces. Female rappers start off the show with their own street-wise version of what's going on, immediately bringing the age-old story into the here and now.

Antigone is a young girl dealing with the death of her brothers and struggling with the law that states one of them must be left unburied. The conflict between her civic duty and familial obligation drives her and those around her to a tragic end. Ron Rezac

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and Claire Haida play Creon and Antigone with a very talented supporting cast. Show opens Sat., March 26 and runs through Sun., April 17. Directed by Francisca Beach, tickets available, 646-4885 or contact www.FranciscoBeach.com. This is a must see show so call now and make your reservations - Ron Rowe, rhjrowe@aol.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR The Pressures of An Education

From: kathismith@sbcglobal.net Subject: Raggedy Edge Date: March 5, 2011 4:00:33 PM PST To: editor@OjaiandVenturaView.com As a member of the Ojai Board of Education, I didn't take kindly to your underhanded swipe at Ojai School Superintendent Hank Bangser: you bellyached about not hearing "hide nor hair of [administrative cuts] since" Dr. Bangser spoke to the "en-ti-tiire Ojai Rotary Club meetin' last year".

Well, I'm writin' to alert you to the fact that any time you want to know about OUSD administrative cuts, you don't have to wait to meetup with Dr. Bangser at the Rotary chuck wagon. The en-ti-tiire school board meets at school board meetings which are publicly announced 72 hours in advance with a published agenda for all the townsfolk to see. You can even call on the telephone and ask to speak with Dr. Bangser himself, and he will tell you everything your readers need to know about administrative cuts in the OUSD. Brace yerself, though, it ain't goin' to be pretty.

- Kathi Smith OUSD Board Member, Ojai

From: editor@OjaiandVenturaView.com To: kathismith@sbcglobal.net Date: March 5, 2011 6:22:54 PM Subject: Re: Raggedy Edge

Hi Kathi, Send to The VIEW a list of administrative salary pay cuts, including Mr. Bangser's, since March 12, 2010 and I will publish them. - Joel Anderson editor@ojaiandventuraview.com www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com

From: kathismith@sbcglobal.net Subject: Re: Raggedy Edge Date: March 5, 2011 4:00:33 PM PST To: editor@OjaiandVenturaView.com From: kathismith@sbcglobal.net

Table with 3 columns: Office, Annual Salaries, Updated. Lists salaries for various roles like President Barack Obama, Ventura County Library Director, etc.

Subject: Re: Raggedy Edge Date: March 5, 2011 7:04:12 PM PST To: editor@OjaiandVenturaView.com Joel: I would prefer if you would print my letter. - Kathi

From: hbangser@ojai.k12.ca.us Subject: Follow up Date: March 17, 2011 2:15:44 PM PDT To: editor@ojaiandventuraview.com Cc: kathismith@sbcglobal.net Joel, Kathi Smith informed me that you two exchanged information relating to administrative reductions implemented this year. I do recall the conversation between you and me at a Rotary meeting. I ask that you go on our home page and look under Superintendent's Message (July 7, 2010 letter). Specifically, in this cover letter to the 2010-11 District Budget, I detail the percentage reductions in staffing for the three employee groups for the 2010-11 school year: 9.5% for teachers, 8.2% for classified staff and 11.9% for administration. If you click on the three-page summary document prepared by Danni Pusatere (assistant superintendent), you will see the specific administrative cuts. These are the same changes as those about which I spoke at Board Meetings, in other public forums, and in written communications starting in early May. Please don't hesitate to call me if you would like information as you construct any article. - Hank

From: Joel Anderson [mailto:editor@ojaiandventuraview.com] Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2011 2:49 PM To: Hank Bangser Subject: Re: Follow up Hank, Thank you. I will follow up on this. Do you have a comment on this weeks Sacramento Tax Vote? - Joel Anderson editor@ojaiandventuraview.com www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com

From: hbangser@ojai.k12.ca.us Subject: RE: Follow up Date: March 17, 2011 3:43:11 PM PDT To: editor@ojaiandventuraview.com I will, after they vote on the ballot issue.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tough decisions being what they are, it is commendable Ojai Unified School District made some reductions last year in administrative personnel (yes, reductions in superintendent/management hours, etc.). A majority of the cuts however (around 60%) made were to critical classified staff and teachers.

It remains; our American public school system is a suffocating overfed, overweight bureaucracy which no longer has any bark, bite, pull, and has lost international relevance. Pascal D. Forgione, Jr., Ph.D. U.S. Commissioner of Education Statistics noted that the U.S. is no longer at the academically upper level in the world, but just average. Average? Our system forces stifling testing standards on students. Yet students are graduating from high school unfit to advance to higher levels of education. We are educating generations of international lightweights. What else have we received for our money over the years? Cumulatively, 'Education' has become a business caught up primarily in reinforcing vast numbers of huge salary-paying administrative jobs, a proliferation of non-essential classes, while losing sight of the worthy teaching aspect the system was originally created for.

Locally, OUSD still has a too-vast administrative structure (less one recent assistant principal), despite long shrinking enrollments. Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Interim Superintendents, Coordinator of Certificated Personnel Ser-

vice, Technology Director, Director of Fiscal Services, Director of Technology, Director of Fiscal Services... programs to maintain programs, the list goes on and on. The huge salaries are not independent of occasional budgetary shortages or district vulnerability to construction company/developers (ie: Cabrillo Development). Perhaps when they are all done with their melodramatic 'cuts,' they will throw up their hands, facilitating the sale of Chaparral School to Cabrillo, OUSD's long stated intention. Develop malls, not children. One might wonder why teachers are not valued (and also monetarily) while administrators receive the 'big bucks.' A number of years ago (before Dr. Bangser) when Jim Berube's Nordhoff "roofs & leaks" bond passed, the construction money was lavishly diverted to spruce up the high school's administrative offices, 100k in phones, 100s of "k's" in sports lawns, expensive showers, etc.... OUSD Board Member Pauline Mercado said a few weeks ago at a board meeting she would like the district to categorize funding "methodically" with a "proactive system" in "collaboration" with administrative staff before funds are spent. Said Mercado "I'm just the kind of person who likes to save money" appreciating a more "hands on versus a reactionary approach" to managing OUSD financials. Question: How many administrators does it take to screw in a lightbulb? - Joel Anderson

Ojai City Council Raggedy Edge

Continued From Page 2... borrow... let Ojai go bankrupt... The "B" word may be why Wells Fargo has tucked-tail and run from lending the City a line-of-credit to save their bacon, or at least prolong the agony of defeat.

The next Council was stormed by Pesticide Free Ojai Valley, comprised of good ole down home real naturalists. Zorba addressed the council and asked the city council folk, (holding a bouquet of sprayed Scotch Broom) "Do they look like enemies to you? You are polluting our drinking water. It's an excuse chemical corporations make to take a lot of money. It's not for us... it's for the generations to come."

Imagine not wanting chemicals washing into your watershed. Imagine not wanting to take your kids to the park to have them play in the wilting remains of Roundup sprayed plants. Whatever happened go good old weed pulling? Mayor Smith commented that she thought a year or two ago, this issue came up... "I would like our public works officer... some information... perhaps he can remember..." she said trailing off... Blatz claimed... "We don't have any control outside the city limits." What about the spraying in Soule Park, in Libbey... that's in the city, Blatz.

Leary warned the council that the use of Roundup could produce a resistant "super Arundel." Dale Hodges remembered when Roundup was first introduced it required HazMat gear to apply. By the way... where's the Ojai Defense Fund (ODF) and the Green Coalition while our kids are choking on pesticides?

Course, the Big News at the city council that never makes the OVN "Happy News," was the ever-deepening financial rut the city has cut for themselves. Ron Calkins, the new interim public works director, checking in from retirement with the City of Ventura, delivered the bad news after his sugar-coated intro. "There's tough issues being discussed," he claimed... The Budget... "I don't have real good news there. That's a major Challenge."

There was a \$262,000 contingency set up at the beginning of this job for cheaping down the 'extras.' "For all practical purposes the contingency has been used up." That smoke and mirrors concept of "value engineering," or in other words, giving you less bang for your buck, has already optioned-out the trees that were part of the original plan along with other amenities. The more you run out of money the more you use up the "cushion" that was written into the bid. Clapp delivered the grim news that overages just mount up faster at the end of a project.

Speaking of trees... Remember those trees that were removed to build the new seating? Well, NOW there is a shade problem... or... er... a NO

shade problem... at the new Bowl. Then there's still the Bowl management issue which is still in a twist. Of course Calkins has been meeting with the big honchos Alan Rains and Bill Burr. By the way who is the Service Foundation, that's supposed to be running the Bowl? City Manager Rob Clark apologized for "forgetting" his list of board members. "Sorry I didn't bring it" he said. Only "City Cash Register" Smith claimed to know who they were. She... "thought they were Steve Olsen (from the City side), and Barney... mumble... er..."

She couldn't remember who the rest were, but assured the council that all of the board members had only the best interests of the city at heart. "We have taken a leap of faith," said Smith, adding that they needed to wait and see what happens on April 12th (City Council meeting). That's the point where they are supposed to have a contract worked out with the foundation, to manage the Bowl. The big push is to try to book some acts into the Bowl... to salvage a 2011 season. Funny that hasn't been done yet since Baker told them months and months ago it was probably already soooooo toooo late since most touring acts book two years in advance.

They have finally realized that there are enough differences between the Ojai Bowl and the Santa Barbara Bowl that they can't just duplicate the SB Bowl's contract. The plan is for them to outsource an executive producer to manage the bowl... Course the fly in the pudding on that one is that there is no money for a start-up "business." Did I just say "Business?????" Yep, and so did Rob Clark and so the non-profit Ojai Foundation has become a "business".... that's no wonder... Yep... that Foundation thing needs working capitol to get the Bowl off the floor. Course nobody knows how much will be needed to pay for Bowl working expenses or maintenance until they get their feet wet for a few seasons. Where are the numbers? Blatz brought them back down to earth reminding them "The idea behind raising money through commercial concerts is so that we have enough money to maintain the bowl. We still don't know how much each year we will need to maintain the bowl. Until you know that how can you know the scope of what it is you are going to use out." On a wing and a prayer Paul...

Newbie City Manager Clark's best advice is to add the start up costs to the line of credit the city has been looking for to keep the City Open for Business. That \$159,000 "drop in the bucket" for the Visitor's Bureau, added to the big BUCK BAILOUT for Libbey Bowl and NOW stretched to cover million dollar start up costs are all supposed to be rolled into the line of credit they ain't even got yet.

Clark did float the "rose-colored glasses" comment that there was also the possibility of the city (once again John Q-Ojai Public) "gifting" the foundation start up money, but thought it would be more fair if the burden were shared between the foundation and the city. Wonder what kind of big lump salaries these wide-eyed foundation commanders are going to demand after they hold up the stage? That line of credit would then be contributed to, and withdrawn from, as the fortunes of the city and bowl wax and wane. With the hope that the funds withdrawn would be eventually replenished out of proceeds from Bowl events. Reassuringly, Clark said the Bowl people did have a business plan that projected eventually breaking even. Clark said he eventually planned to "wear" the

foundation off the city dole, at some undisclosed time, sometime in the future.... The future that's A Lot of infinity! This drew an incredulous comment from activist attorney Len Klaiif who said, "Who is the Service Foundation? Who are members of this group? Are you really going to give them city money, and let them write checks? I have never heard of that." Ojai, who is your daddy?

Of course the concept of a line of credit has one small snag. First you have to secure one, which has run into a pesky problem for the city. Clark admitted that, as of yet they have not been approved for a line of credit by Wells Fargo Bank. This to-date reticence of that good ole gun totin', strong box protectin', stalls coach ridin' bastion of the Old West, Wells Fargo Bank, earned the censure of our mayor-by-rotation Smith. "I am kinda shocked that Wells Fargo, who we have been doing business with for god knows how long... is having a difficult time about the...um...line of credit for other things, such as I think, we... because of the Chamber of Commerce... or... our own budget... and if they are being uncooperative well I think if we... there's other banks we can move our money too. I am... that's quite disheartening. So ah...haha... that, to me, is not being a good community partner. Um...also... there was this... you know... whatever, I won't even want to talk about... cities and the actual amount that go bankrupt... and do not make good on their bonds. It's so minute... that actual amount is... you would think in the headlines that cities there were going broke everywhere... and going into bankruptcy... and being taken over by who knows what... But in reality, it doesn't happen... um... No I'm not happy about extending necessarily a line of credit to the foundation... I think the board is working on other possibilities though. The grants seem to be... one particular grant that was not mentioned here but that I know is in the works... could potentially be for start up money... We have other banks to do business with... if Wells Fargo is not being cooperative to us."

Meanwhile back at the farm... Daddi, Strobel and Clapp all chimed in to suggest that perhaps the remainder of the 2011 season could be run by the city. Feet to the fire, Daddi was ready to beg performance acts to return to the Bowl, even if it meant giving them the venue for "free," just to get people in to see the new facility. Boy oh Boy... Baker sure saw this coming... wonder why they didn't listen... Mayor Smith, now you're talking about the great Libbey Bowl eventually "breaking even" ...what happened to the great Economic Engine that was going to enrich this small county town? Hang 'em High!

- Dick Lynch

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# Be A Clown

by Mary-Jo Murphy

If you become a doctor, folks'll face you with dread. If you become a dentist, they'll be glad when you're dead. You'll get a bigger hand if you can stand on your head. Be a clown, be a clown, be a clown. - Cole Porter



I'd and

As Mr. Porter suggests, rather stand on my head, sometimes getting people to listen to my expert advice is about as challenging.

Before I went through cancer treatment myself, I used to wonder... If the tests and physical exams that are available can actually detect diseases while they are still treatable, if they can prolong lives or at least improve the quality of them, then why aren't more people willing to have their yearly physical exams, mammograms, colonoscopies or blood work?

Now, I understand, and here's the reason: To face real information that could change your life is traumatic.

A friend of mine was recently diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes. A routine blood test told her that something was wrong. As a Diabetes Educator, I know that her early diagnosis gives her a great advantage. She has time to do something about her disease, to turn it around. She's one of the lucky ones.

My friend's a smart, competent and determined woman. I gave her my usual pep-talk with the positive outcome scenario. I promised to help her with her diet and coach her, so that, over time, she can make permanent changes in her eating habits.

I'd have made more impact if I had on a red nose and oversized shoes. Perhaps it's because she's my friend that I should be concerned to my own experience.

Prior to my diagnosis, I occupied the category of the "Worried Well" a description that includes healthy people who see every ache and pain as a harbinger of doom. My symptoms never amounted to anything life changing until they finally did. When they did the news was very bad. Now, each time I go for my follow-up appointments, I feel a an unfamiliar sense of alarm.

It's about a history of trauma. In her case, three people she loved dearly died of the complications of diabetes and heart disease.

Most of us are aware of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Most of us think it affects only those who have experienced combat, violence or natural disasters. PTSD is more common than we think, and I believe effects our ability to get the medical care we need.

When I noticed this run-away response in myself, it surprised me. I brought it up in my cancer support group and found that everyone had the same experience as I did when they faced their doctors' visits and follow-up tests. Stay away from the doctor, the nurse, the laboratory, any trigger of the anxiety. RUN AWAY.

So I did some reading and discovered that PTSD in cancer patients is common.

The social worker that facilitates our cancer support group suggested mindfulness-meditation as a remedy.

We get stuck between two belief systems. One says, nothing bad can happen to me. The other says the world is not a safe place. Those in the mental health field are onto something. If we know the tricks our minds are playing on us, if we are mindful or aware of why we sabotage ourselves, perhaps we can avoid the real disasters.

Dreading the role of being a patient is normal and shared by even those who deliver the care. Recently I had a follow-up appointment with one of my doctors. I told him of my new phobias and my feelings of helplessness, how my sense of safety has been challenged by my diagnosis and treatment. My doctor shared his own brush with patient-hood

and what it felt like when he was wheeled into surgery. His feelings were exactly like mine. But each time we sit with, and are mindful of our anxiety, we increase our sense of control. My friend still hates sticking her finger to check her blood sugars. I would find it distinctly odd if she liked it.

Life is a circus, and I still hate going to the doctor.

Over time our terror will decrease. I am sure of this, because others have gone before me and told me so. Info: Google "YouTube Mindfulness with Jon Kabat-Zinn" and "YouTube Jon Kabat-Zinn Mindfulness Stress Reduction And Healing" - Mary-Jo Murphy, MS, RN, CDE, Health and Diabetes Educator, Motivational Speaker, njmurph221@yahoo.com

## U.S. Repression The Everlasting Un-American Tragedy

by Jefferson Pinto

In recent weeks there have been a few huge tragedies, both natural and man-made. A nine point earthquake struck Japan followed by a tsunami that wiped out over 28,000 reported people to date. Also Nuclear reactors released radioactive materials into the environment and the Middle East is exploding, etc.

However, another disaster was the cloaking of a colossal unnatural American tragedy. Earlier this month, a Congressional hearing was conducted under the auspices of security. During this hearing it was decry that the Muslim community was not doing enough, and more cooperation is necessary. The colossal tragedy is the use of government power, influence, and our monies to violate the First Amendment rights of American citizens. This hearing was both embarrassing, offensive and reminiscent of the McCarthy era.

The First Amendment guarantees us the freedom of speech and religion. I suspect that includes not being berated by a congressional committee at taxpayer expense. While everyone is entitled to their opinion and can express it freely at the expense of offending others, it's not OK for on-the-job elected officials whose duty it is to represent Americans to persecute Americans.

Asking the Muslim community for more cooperation to stop the radicalization of terrorists is asking an ethnic group to do law enforcements job. The chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, Representative Peter King (R-NY), is preaching to the choir. The teachings of Islam do not advocate random indiscriminate violence. It's the disturbed radicals that aren't part of the main stream community that demonstrate this behavior, but they aren't the ones receiving the sermon. King probably alienated law abiding citizens who happen to be Muslim.

Much like destructive cults prey on angry, impressionable, malleable, and alienated youth, terrorist recruiters include but are not limited to religious based cults. The right tool for resolving conflict between groups is open education and dialogue with all Americans.

United States history is littered with "fear de jour" including: Taxing Blacks to vote (poll tax), precluding U.S. citizens speaking German (Espionage Act of 1917), booting American citizens of Japanese decent out of their homes and detaining them in concentration camps (Japanese internment Act 1942), and Don't Ask Don't Tell (military discrimination act - 1993 10 U.S.C. § 654).

Let's work on preventing unnatural man-made political disasters so we can spend more resources preparing for and addressing natural disasters. As Pogo said, "We have seen the enemy, and it is us."

Jefferson Pinto is a retired CPA, and holds an MBA from one of the finer accredited universities in this country. Jefferson@ojaiventuraview.com

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# Primitively Speaking

by Mary M. Long

The oak studded campus of Thacher School seemed a fitting setting for Artist Dennis Shives to offer the public a rare opportunity to view his work. Thacher Headmaster Michael Mulligan, a private collector of Shives' art, invited the reclusive artist to employ the school's intimate Brody Gallery for the showing.

Thacher has long held an affinity with the old west and the tall lean Shives, dressed in western buckskins and wearing a walrus tooth necklace, looked as if he might have walked off a movie set. Local businesswoman and patron of the arts Laurie Edgcomb greeted guests also appearing in traditional western attire.

Ojai's elite art community were in attendance. The venerable art magnate Gayel Childress was one of the first to arrive. Also seen were artist Donna Summerville, talented cartoonist Colleen McDougal, glass blower Teal Rowe, Emily Ayala and her radiant daughter Celeste (granddaughter of Tony Thacher).

Shives' art exudes a rustic, masculine power that pervades his colorful acrylic paintings, his wood sculptures and his cement molds. Well known in the art community, Shives has also received widespread recognition for his wildlife sculptures. His Sleeping Bear, representative of his life-sized animal sculptures, is prominently displayed in the front courtyard of The Ojai Valley Museum.

Having spent most of his life in the Ojai and Upper Ojai Valleys, Shives has taken a hand in repairing some of the priceless landmarks of Ojai. When E.P. Foster built the imposing gateway to Foster Park, he never envisioned them falling into neglect and disrepair. Shives brought his skill, and also his reverence for these historic pieces to the project and restored them to their former magnificence. When the Libbey Park Pergola was rebuilt, it was also Shives who was called upon to restore the historic lion

Art Continued next page...

Dr. Mae-Wan Ho, a world renowned geneticist and biophysicist, and director of the Institute of Science in Society, has written reports: "Roundup Ready Sudden Death, Superweeds, Allergens," "Glyphosate Herbicide Could Cause Birth Defects - Argentina Considers Ban"; "...The evidence on the dangers of glyphosate and its commercial formulations continues to pile up and a worldwide ban is in order ... (Ban Glyphosate Herbicides Now, SiS 43). We look forward to hearing from you. Sincerely, Patty Pagaling, Executive Director Pesticide Free Ojai Valley www.pesticidefreeojaivalley.org ph: 805-646-4294

EDITOR'S NOTE: For More Information, Go To www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com/OV-ViaArt/OjaiCityView.html

Monsanto's Roundup Triggers Over 40 Plant Diseases and Endangers Human and Animal Health

The following article reveals the devastating and unprecedented impact that Monsanto's Roundup herbicide is having on the health of our soil, plants, animals, and human population...

[Info.] http://www.mindfully.org/Pesticide/Roundup-Glyphosate-Factsheet-Cox.htm

More info on glyphosate and Roundup: http://www.i-sis.org.uk/Ban\_Glyphosate\_Herbicides\_Now.php

## PESTICIDE PARK



On March 22, Zorba's group joined forces with Pesticide Free Ojai Valley and converged at City Hall to request action on the issue from the city council. Ojai Mayor Carol Smith (at left) shows her interest in the issue.

Ordinances banning the use of pesticides on city owned properties have been successfully passed and implemented in other cities.

including children, have experienced illness directly after being exposed to herbicide drift (Roundup, Honcho, etc.). We believe that weeds can be taken care of, without the use of poisonous chemicals.

Before your crews go out to spray this year, we would like to meet and discuss non-toxic alternatives. What are the areas that you are planning to spray? What are the products you are planning on using? What is the spray schedule?

Depending on the areas needing attention, there are several ways of dealing with weeds: mulching, using a weed torch, weed-whacking, learning about weeds (a lot of weeds are actually edible and nutritious)... We have local goats that could be brought over to munch on the weeds.

We had a very successful Transition to Organics Conference in February and are planning a follow up meeting re: weed management, on May 15th, 10:30am-12:00pm at Meditation Mount.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this information. Please let us know when you are available for a meeting to discuss what can be done to handle the weeds in Ojai.

Many new studies reveal that the herbicide Roundup is harmful to our health and the environment.

[Info.] http://www.responsibletechnology.org/blog/664

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## Dennis Shives

head fountain on Ojai Avenue, which had nearly been lost to future generations.

In his spare time, the humanitarian in Shives also calls him to work with the school children of Monica Ross, teaching art techniques and sand sculptures. The Brody Gallery will be displaying the work of Dennis Shives through April 21, 8am - 4pm, Monday through Fridays. The Brody Gallery is located in the Humanities building at Thacher School. - Mary M. Long



Dennis Shives



Gayel Childress



Alan Thornhill



Donna Summerville



Laurie Edgcomb & Dennis Shives



Celeste and Tony Ayala



Jesse and Dr. Deb Brooks



Zandra Lily



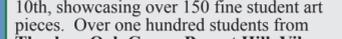
Jules, Satomi, and Mayumi



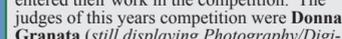
Anja Johnson



Lucia Vinograd



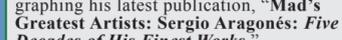
Chloe Freed



Sylvia, Karen & Claire



Anna Kasper



Christine Ota



Ojai Valley Museum



Awesome Art



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SERENDIPITY TOYS



Dennis Shives



Alan Thornhill



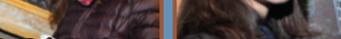
Donna Summerville



Laurie Edgcomb & Dennis Shives



Celeste and Tony Ayala



Jesse and Dr. Deb Brooks



Zandra Lily



Jules, Satomi, and Mayumi



Anja Johnson



Lucia Vinograd



Chloe Freed



Sylvia, Karen & Claire



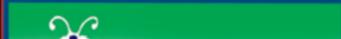
Anna Kasper



Christine Ota



Ojai Valley Museum



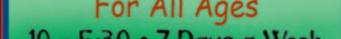
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## Ojai Mardi Gras Art Fools

Ojai Mardi Gras 2011 "Greenman's Magickal Lair", a 'Verbal Video' by River Sauvageau

The entrance as we walk up: Above, a large dragon head in the clouds with smoke billowing from its nostrils, below a Tree Man and a Tree Woman flanking the doors with open arms to welcome us within. Walking through the doors we enter the dragon's cave. Within, a dragon's nest with eggs in a niche to the right and a baby Dragon looking down from above and crystals glowing on the walls.

On the cave wall to the right a quote carved into the stone: "Always we have forgotten our former states. Except in early spring when. We slightly recall being green again." - Rumi

Just past this carving a silken waterfall is spouting from Greenman's mouth, streaming from the stone wall above, and puddling into a pond below where fairies and frogs frolic. Past the waterfall to the cave end, two trees, male and female, frame the entrance into the magical forest. A glowing spiral behind them hearkens to the patterns inherent within Her. Entering the forest, we happen onto a glade surrounded by colorful images of His and Her many manifestations. To the left, a stage, where musicians play and fantastical creatures of all types revel to the music's irresistible pulse. Presiding over all, from above in the forest canopy, is the grand visage of the Greenman overseeing everything.

The Ojai Mardi Gras Art Fools are a group of artists who work together to create and install the art and decorations for the Ojai Mardi Gras each year. This year, we were led by L. River Sauvageau, Creative Art Director (that's me!), and Judy K. Nelson, Producing Art Director. We are also members of the Steering Committee for the Ojai Mardi Gras Wake-Up! Krewe. River has been involved in OMG since the first public Mardi Gras, 20 years ago. Judy is a native New Orleansian who joined the Ojai Krewe five years ago.

Judy and I have worked together for three years - the first year, Judy assisted me on the Entrance Krewe, the second year, Judy was the Art Director for the Interior and I led the Entrance Krewe. This past year, our third year working together, we agreed that we wanted a unified Art Fools Krewe. This being our first year at the Art Center, we wanted to "show our stuff" and transform the Art Center as it had never been before, to create an environment that would be truly memorable.

This year, we decided to work in a co-creative paradigm and share the role of Art Directorship. To develop a healthy partnership, we discussed what we each like to do, we assessed our skills and discussed areas we would each like to grow into. We chose our roles and gave ourselves titles that reflect our areas of talent, experience, interest and responsibility. I chose the title of "Creative Art Director" because I wanted a cohesiveness in the design of the whole environment. This role also involved inspiring the artists and developing projects, curating the art shows at Ojai Coffee Roasting Co. and at the Ojai Art Center as well as creating art pieces.

Judy titled herself "Producing Art Direc-

tor". She commandeered finding and setting-up the art studio, gathering and organizing materials and supplies, representing the Art Fools at meetings so I could work in the studio, and taking care of the many details that supported our work. Judy also worked in the studio with artists, at home finishing lianas, and working on a large art piece.

Both of us have extensive backgrounds in theatre; mine in Costume Design, Set Design, Props and a little acting; Judy in Set Design and Stage Managing. Judy also has Art Directed for film and video. For 16 years, I have led of the making of the Street Mandala which is a public art project sponsored by Ojai Day. I have run my own business based on my designs for over 20 years.

Each year a new theme is decided by the group. This year our incoming King and Queen, Shane and Kelli Butler, suggested the Greenman theme and it struck a resonant chord. I wanted to delve into the Greenman, exploring its mythology and work from an evocative perspective rather than just filling the place with decorations.

The Greenman represents the spirit of the ancient primeval forests that spanned great parts of many continents. In ancient times, it was hard work to clear a space in the forest in which to live. The forest was a powerful spirit, an all encompassing force that contained many spirits within its borders. Our ancestors lived in connection to the natural world and the cycles of life - emergence, burgeoning, fertility, fruit, seed, death and re-emergence. The mysteries of life and the vicissitudes of nature held sway over their everyday lives in ways we cannot truly fathom. The elements, the animals and the unseen presences flickering in the shadows were acknowledged and revered parts of life.

I researched and found some beautiful Celtic lore that inspired a deeper understanding of the theme. I found this, From the "Carmina Gadelica" (ancient Celtic oral tradition) entitled,

"The Celtic Commandments"  
Give thou thine heart to the Wild Magic,  
To the Lord and Lady of Nature...  
The Ancient harmonies are given thee...  
Be loyal to the Lord of the Wild Wood,  
Be true to the Lady of the Stars,  
Be true to thine own self besides,  
True to the magic of nature above all else.  
Follow the very steps of the ancient trackways.

I wrote this as I envisioned how it would feel to be in the environment we wanted to create. It became a source of continuing inspiration: "Our sap rises as the rhythm of the music heard from within draws us closer and closer into the magical realm. The fabric of life in this time and place is weaving onto the skeleton of the old, fleshing it out again; singing willingness into manifest being, delight into joy and dreams into realities. The old myths blended with the new; fertile, alive, seen and known by its many faces on this special night of enchantment. What else might be being sung into manifest being during this night of revelry in Green Man's Magical Forest?"



Photos © 2011, Joel Anderson



My inspiration was fed and grew as I shared it with others and started recruiting artists. Evergreen Hericks came on board immediately as we had bonded in shared creativity last year and were looking forward to an opportunity to create together again. This year Evergreen taught me her papier maché technique and we created the Tree Man and Tree Woman panels together, pieces that took us through many permutations as we explored, experimented and had the figures take shape under our fingertips.

Iris Williams and Theda DeRamus were both inspired by my idea for the Dragon entrance, and they immediately, on the spot, started running with it! Theda decided that she wanted to design the foyer and turn in into a cave with lit crystals, a dragon nest with eggs and a waterfall and pool - and she did - and it was phenomenal! Iris, with little input from me, designed the big dragon above the entrance. She loves the Celtic dragon and I love the Chinese dragon so our Mardi Gras dragon is a blend of the two styles and she is graced with a Celtic style Mardi Gras headdress too! While Iris was working on this she also started making a papier maché dragon while her husband Kirk Lowry made dragon eggs and a nest. Iris also created the painting Tell Me A Story for the art show and Kirk's painting Dragon's Eye

was also part of the exhibition. They are definitely prime examples of Ojai Creates.

I envisioned the ballroom as being the magical forest with the entryway being flanked by abstract trees. Val Bustos came on board and chose to create the two trees, male and female and he and his fiancé Ellen Gaynor installed them. Judy made a large Green "Mam" mask and we made a "stained glass" spiral piece from acetate and tissue paper to create impact at the end of the cave/foyer. As I worked on it I began to liken the spiral to the egg's eye view of the a fallopian tube, the place where fertilization takes place within us mammals. I love how the theme was developing its own momentum.

We also had Annelie Messina come to our rescue to help us finish the big Dragon. She used her projector and on her days off she outlined our dragon design

on its four 8'x4' panels and also helped us paint it. Mary Kennedy, Colleen McDougal and Tracey Weigle came to the studio when I cried out for help to finish the Dragon. The Dragon was our first inspiration and our last piece to be completed. When I tried to figure out how many artists had worked on it, the figure was 10 - talk about a group project! Others whose help and creativity were invaluable in being able to accomplish the production and installation of the environment are: Juliana Wood and E.J. Marshall,

Art Fools Continued, page 13...



### Celtic Trees

Trees were highly regarded by the ancient Celts, each tree was believed to have its own spirit. The Oak was considered the most important among the trees. During the time of the Druids the dead were often buried in the hollowed out trunk of an Oak tree. The Oak was also used for Solstice festivals and wiccan tools such as wands. The Celtic tree calendar was used as a time keeping device, the Celts found names and associations between the moon and corresponding trees. The trees Druids selected for the Thirteen Moons are said to be favoured by fairies and elves of the forest. Each tree chosen for the calendar contains magical healing properties used in medicines and spellwork.

# Search Dogs Return from Japan Quake

Search Dogs continued from page 2...

member California Task Force 2 (CA-TF2), embarked, stopping in Alaska for refueling, then landed at Misawa Air Base, Japan, March 12. The 45 tons of rescue equipment, required to support the rescue effort, arrived by military transport.



According to SDF Executive Director Debra Tosch, the dogs are used to traveling, and are always at their handler's feet. "It's pretty cool," she said, "they either put them in bulk head, the very front



Photos © 2011, Mary M. Long

seat in the coach section, or if they are sitting in the regular seats the dog will actually go underneath the seat in front of them. As soon as the plane takes off they usually go to sleep and then wake up when it lands." Dr. Janet Reinek, SDF development director, laughed and said it looked as though the

Border Collie, Hunter, had his very own seat on the flight, next to his handler and best friend, Bill Monahan.

Arriving in Japan, the rescue effort was deployed at the designation of the Japanese government and USAID to the tiny fishing village of Ofunato and the nearby historic village of Kamaishi, 30K (18.65 miles) north. Ofunato was a 6 hour drive for rescuers from the air base and 114 miles from the radiation leak of the damaged nuclear plant Fukushima Dai-ichi. According to Tosch, the canine teams were sent where the need was greatest, as this was one of the hardest hit areas. The tsunami had sent boats colliding into buildings, and buildings collapsing into each other, creating a nightmare of rubble for rescuers.

While the cold weather created another life threatening condition for survivors, it was actually a boon for the search dogs who were energized by the cold conditions. With bracing weather, the dogs were able to turn in 12 hour working days, unlike the conditions they faced in Haiti, where the heat enervated both dogs and handlers.

Every canine rescue team has a canine coordinator and for the Japan deployment this was Bill Monahan.

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The dogs were divided into two teams, red and blue, in accordance with their search strengths and experience of their handlers. According to Tosch, who is a veteran of the SDF deployment to 9/11, the teams were in good hands with Monahan. "He knows both the handlers and the dogs. Bill determined who was on which team. In this case there were two handlers (Eric Gray and Linda Tocconelli) that had not deployed internationally. So they split them up and put them with the internationally experienced handlers. In this case, Gary, Bill, Jasmine and Ron had all been to Haiti." Monahan had praise for both the Santa Barbara-based teams and their



handlers. "Eric and Linda were the task force, and their never been a disaster Eric is a so I wasn't him. Linda is a civilian so I sort of took her under my wing, putting her on the blue team with me. She did better than I could have imagined on her first time out. Both of those young dogs (Riley and Joe), we knew were good, because we had seen them in training. They are going to be great dogs."

His own canine partner, Hunter, a veteran of the Haiti deployment, always knew where to search even when conditions were confusing and difficult, according to Monahan. "He would just know where to go," said Monahan, "he would just say, 'Let's go here.' This dog is amazing." Although Search and Rescue has modern equipment to help locate survivors, the dogs are given great respect by firefighters for their ability to scent a human, saving rescuers precious time. The dogs are trained to alert (by barking) to a victim and then resume the search when rescue personnel arrive, clearing areas so accurately that rescue efforts are not wasted where



there is no chance of survival. Search dogs are trained specifically to seek the scent of a living human, conscious or not, and ignore the smell of a cadaver, to facilitate rescue rather than recovery efforts.

Despite their efforts, there were no victims of the Japan quake and tsunami found alive by the canine search teams. "We got the call early Saturday morning that the teams would be coming home," said Tosch. According to Tosch, the decision to pull the teams out of Japan was reached by the Japanese government working with USAID. "Those decisions are made by the higher-up levels...then the orders filter down to the L.A. task force," she said.

Despite allegations that concerns of radiation from the damaged Fukushima nuclear plant may have played a part in the decision to discontinue search efforts, Search and Rescue officials deny those claims. According to Tosch, Haz-Mat teams were on site, equipped with radiation monitoring equipment for the safety of the rescuers. Each handler was equipped with a Docimeter, a radiation detection device so that the canine teams could keep within areas that were considered safe. Once an hour everyone was checked, dogs included. Each individual was screened again at Misawa Air Base before boarding the plane to return home. One search and rescue member commented at the Pacoima homecoming, "We got more radiation from the plane ride home than we got in Japan."

Monahan's fiancé, Tami Spanel, presented each returning canine with a "Paw of Valor" medal at the Pacoima homecoming. "The idea came to me while they were deployed to Haiti. That was where Hunter found three teenagers that were buried under mounds of concrete. Bill texted

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me when Hunter made the alert. He said that he lowered water down on a stick to one of the girls and she said "Thank you."

Spanel said she wants to take every opportunity "to give a plug" for the search dogs and what they accomplish. Along with each medal, a "knuckle bone," is presented for the "dog" that lurks within each highly trained search animal. Hunter is both a skilled professional and the much-loved family pet. Spanel says that while Bill credits each and every task force member equally, she has a special affinity for the dogs. "I love to watch this dog (Hunter) search, because this dog lives to search. When I watch him, it literally brings tears to my eyes. If there wasn't this outlet, many of these dogs would have been put down. They have such an abundance of energy. It's amazing how they (SDF) will take these dogs, that were unwanted, and now they are heroes. Now they have a purpose, now they have a job. These are the happiest dogs. Hunter's joy in life is when he is with Bill and they are getting ready to go someplace. That dog is smiling!"

On the back of each medal is engraved the dog's name and the mission. For this deployment they read "Japan, earthquake/tsunami, 2011, National Disaster Search Dog Foundation." "All of the dogs deserve some special recognition for

what they are doing over there," said Spanel. At a cost of about \$15,000 to train a mission-ready search dog and pair them with a firefighter, the Ojai-based foundation operates as a non-profit, at no cost to the fire department or taxpayer. Founded in 1996, by Veteran Dog handler and visionary Wilma Melville, the foundation has begun construction of the only international training facility for search and disaster dogs in Santa Paula. Target date for the grand opening of the facility, which will serve not only national, but international search teams, is set for September 11, 2013. This date was selected by Melville in honor of those firefighters and rescue workers, and search dogs, who served and sacrificed to save lives in the September 11th disaster of 2001.

— Mary M. Long  
mary@ojaiandventuraview.com

## Alchemy of Horses & Kids

by Heather Green

When I think of all the work I have done with horses, my fondest memories are those that involved children. Even before I knew

With Ike, Mahala and Slim

20 puppies by putting several of them at a time into a wooden box and piping in exhaust fumes. He was charged with inhumane destruction of animals. If you are a young male pursuing and courting the girl of your dreams, don't complain about the time and effort required

to woo your intended love. Consider the male Toadfish, blessed with a face only a mother could love. He works very hard to impress the female Toadfish; hiding under rocks in shallow water, he hums to attract passing females by vibrating a set of sonar muscles in his air bladder 6,500 times a minute for more than an hour. This leaves him totally exhausted for the next four hours.... Ah well, every effort in the game of love is worth it.

A gorilla named Amban was filmed walking upright on two legs for long periods of time in a British zoo. Keepers at the zoo say Amban learned to walk like a human in order to gain a height advantage over his rivals and leave his arms free to carry more food. Poetic justice... a hunter in England shot and wounded a fox. When he approached the fox to finish him off, the fox jumped on him. During the struggle, the foxes paw pulled the trigger of the gun killing the man.

A cleaner environment helps nature. Whale expert Prof. Chris Clark of Cornell University estimates that as many as 50 Fin Whales now live just past the Varrazano Narrows Bridge, which connects Brooklyn to Staten Island. He claims an international ban on whale hunting and cleaner waters in New York are responsible.

If you have just adopted

I was an animal communicator and healer, I volunteered at rescues and a local therapeutic riding academy. At these places I was able to witness the magic in the bond between horses and kids. There was a lightness and flow in the way they interacted – a secret language that only they could decode. In every case, there was healing that occurred. One case stands out in my mind. It involved a six-year-old, Matt.

When Matt started riding he was diagnosed as being on the Autistic Spectrum, as well as being physically handicapped. He had a rare neuromuscular disease that left both of his legs weak, and he was often wheelchair bound. Matt's autistic symptoms would range from temper tantrums to being completely unresponsive to the people around him. He was also unable to speak complete sentences, often only repeating the few words he heard others around him say.

Matt started his healing process by working with a bay quarter horse named Sally. Sally is an old mare and leader of the herd. If she doesn't like you, you definitely know it. She will nip, kick, or just plain ignore those who aren't on her fan list. Fortunately for Matt, he was. From the moment he spotted her across the arena, he pointed to her and said, "My horse." With that, she came right over to him.

After giving him a chance to interact with her over the gate at her stall, which led to grooming and touching her inside her stall, and eventually hoof picking and saddling her, the staff and I decided it was time to let Matt ride Sally. Sally had warmed up to Matt like no one else. Whenever he was around she licked and chewed, lowered her head, and often rubbed up against him. These were all signs that she was comfortable and fond of Matt – that she was submitting to him while in his presence.

The riding was more amazing than I could imagine. Sally's ears were always turned around to give attention to Matt, and Matt would often lean forward and stroke her neck or put his fingers through her mane. Their breathing was rhythmic. At the end of their walks, Sally and Matt would connect head to head, often looking into each others eyes. At the end of one day, Matt's

mother commented that she never saw him focus his attention on anyone the way he did with Sally. When he rode, Matt was more present and grounded than ever. The movement of the horse, and the noises and physical sensations he experienced while touching Sally helped him to better process sensory input.

After awhile, Matt said, "Sally said I am ready to go faster now." As Matt gave the verbal command to trot, Sally's body moved into an easy jog. Even though Matt's legs were weak, he was able to hold his balance as Sally adjusted herself. Matt laughed and smiled while riding Sally, and his upper body lost much of the tightness he had when he came to his riding lessons.

As time went on, Matt continued to improve, and his relationship with Sally deepened. It was not long before he was cantering in the arena. The non-verbal and mental telepathy between them was evident as Sally easily switched gaits and stopped when Matt wanted her to. Matt explained that he simply asked her to do so in his head. It was clear that the repetitive movements were calming, allowing him to self-regulate his emotions and physical sensations. The changing of gaits was also a way to control the intensity of sensory input, leading him to feel safer in his body. His mother reported a decrease in his tantrums and an increase in his verbal skills, as he became more interactive after his lessons.

After two years of riding Sally, Matt no longer had tantrums, and was speaking and writing in school. He also had better balance, coordination and muscle tone in his legs from riding, and rarely used the wheelchair. I have heard that Matt still rides Sally and that their connection is still very strong. He says she is his teacher, and everyone agrees. When you pair horses and kids, nothing less than miracles occur. I see this in the equine therapy work I do with horses and humans, even though it doesn't involve riding. They share a bond and communication that takes them into a whole new world. A world of healing.

— Heather Green  
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# BRIAN FAITH BAND at The Golden China

by Mary M. Long  
 The Brian Faith Band delivered high energy Classic Rock n' Roll to the satisfaction of "The Energizers" who packed the The Golden China Restaurant (owned by Gary and Laurie) in Ventura, Saturday, March 19. "Despite the rain, the party was a huge success," said band member Karen Perry. The Golden China's generous stage and dance floor, kept many partiers on their feet rockin' and rollin' late into the night through the band's generous 4 hour show.

"I've never seen a restaurant owner that loves music so much," said Karl Heit, "Gary's turned his whole restaurant into a nightclub." Tickets were drawn for prizes all night long with lucky fans winning gifts valued into the thousands. An inspired performance by band members included highlights - Ernie Joseph playing guitar over his head

(a la Hendrix) and an impromptu guest solo by band friend Bill Martin who delivered a soulful rendition of *Credence-John Fogerty's Proud Mary*.

Other highlights included the bands' classic covers of standards, *We Are Family*, *Great Balls of Fire*, *Super Freak* and the timeless ballad *Unchained Melody*. Special friends of the band, Mike, Cheryl, Julie, Taylor, Cathy, Jay, Wally, Susan, Monet, Holly, Marion, Amparo, Wendi, many others as well as new friends, arrived and thrived on the evening's high energy vibe. Sponsors of the event included: Fresh & Easy, CVS Pharmacy, Office Depot, Joseph's Fine Jewelers, The Beehive Salon, Dr. Peter Karlsberg, Island Packers Cruises, Mavericks Gym, Pro Nails, Image Source, Mark Mercer DC, Ashwood on Main Florist, The Massage Place, Red White & Blue Tattoo, Bank Of Books,

Green Thumb International, Couch Potato, Diva "The Passion Boutique," Eroika Pets, Play It Again Sports, Abednego, Oasis Tanning, Seth's Games & Anime, and The Golden China Restaurant.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Kept tuned into the Brian Faith Band in coming issues of *The Ojai and Ventura VIEW*, as the Saga continues... and watch for YouTube BFB original videos produced by Johnny Podz, Perfect World, Feel Alright, Free the People, and Get Yourself Together with Jimmy Leroy (B.D. Party with Brian Wise, Ernie & Jenny, 3/31 at

Monty's-Santa Barbara, 7pm), Google "S.K. Waller Tribute to Ernie Joseph". For more info/videos [www.youtube.com/brianfaithbandsongs](http://www.youtube.com/brianfaithbandsongs)

- Joel Anderson



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**TSUNAMI EFFORT**

On the day of the BFB Ventura event, Golden China Owner Gary AKA-Garyoke, returned from Taiwan after a week volunteering on behalf of victims of the Mar. 11 Tsunami. Gary said many in Southeast Asia are pitching in to help stricken Japan, and the hope there among locals is the Nuclear crisis be contained soon, otherwise the dead zone could continue enveloping nearby countries, food supply, wildlife, etc.

- Joel Anderson

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# Ojai Mardi Gras Art Fools "Greenman's Magickal Lair" ~ A 'Verbal Video' Continued From Page 9...

Shannon Chaffin, Eileen Sterling, Steve Jansma, Betsy Smith, The Zahringer Family, Joy McManus, Jessica Aldridge, Gracie Garcia, Sandy Grotzky, C. Lucé Patricolo, Laura Hofientz, Sarah Hawley, Holly Stone, Lydia Golden, Brian P., Dale Hodges, Shane Butler, Chris Beuhler, Joe, Gene Miller, Kayte Levine, Michael Melville, Gabe Engle, Marilyn Bodo, Leann Voosen - and if I've missed anybody, my apologies for not mentioning you here.

I created a Facebook page "Ojai Mardi Gras Art Fools" and posted the images I had been collecting into "Inspiration" albums. The albums are "Green Man", "Magical Forest", "Celtic Dragons", "Forest Animals", "Mother Nature" and "Tree of Life". This was a great way to share the images almost instantaneously. This also gave us a place to gather and publish images of our process in the studio.

There is just no way we could have manifested our vision so completely without a central location in which to meet and work. To really make it possible to manifest our ideas we looked for a studio space for months. Just as we were beginning to despair, Sami Zahringer saw Judy's post on FB and offered us a space that was perfect for our needs. We set up the workshop and made studio hours with at least one of the core group of master artists supervising.

We had paints collected from last year and some materials too. Reese from *Art From Scrap* in Santa Barbara kept an ongoing list of things we were looking for and held materials for us until we could go pick them up. Her help and support have been invaluable! Iris and Kirk from *Ojai Creates* let us purchase supplies at a discount and Evergreen is our ever ready scavenger finding inspirational treasures in the trash. Last year she brought us a couple barrels of beautiful fabric swatches, all about 5" square. She said "I got these because they are so beautiful. What do you think we can do with them?" I immediately groaned because I work with fabrics all day long and I wanted to work with something else!

As we went through the scraps I saw how beautiful they were and realized it was worth doing something with them. I started cutting the flat square into a spiral which turned it into a long piece with a curl to it. I had used that technique many years ago when I was Costume Designer for *Illusions Children's Theatre* here in Ojai. Then I tied it on a cord and then cut and tied more on and filled the cord. It was bright, colorful and fun - and so were born the jungle "Lianas" for last year's "Spirit of the Rainforest" entrance to the "Thrill of Brazil" Mardi Gras. We used the lianas this year on the ceiling rafters in the ballroom as the colorful forest canopy.

The *Masquerade Ball* takes place at night and because of this I like the color palate to be extra bright. I think it works best for the pieces, especially for the ballroom, to be bright and graphic so they can have impact in the low light environment. One of our crafting traditions is to use recycled cardboard to make our decorations. This year Holly Stone made about a dozen brightly painted comical frogs of various types and in different positions, I made a five Celtic Ravens in graduating sizes to look like they were flying off into the distance and Judy made the big *Green Mam* head and some owls to perch in the trees.

Together we made eight *Fleur De Lis*, some in purple, some in gold, and four *Greenman* faces in green which we used to decorate the stage in Mardi Gras colors (which are Green, Gold and Purple). There were also a lot of other things we would have done if we had the time but isn't it always like

## The Reverb Slide

- by Joel Anderson  
 The Ojai Mardi Gras Band kept the party going after Mardi Gras, rockin' the night away Mar. 25 at Theater 150 with "The Final Friday Dance Club." The band included John Zeretzke, Patricia Cardinali, Don Cardinali, George Friedenthal, Connie Early, Jack Joshua, Dave Stewart, Dan Willard, Burton Lang, and Ron Seba. They recently taped a demo video, so keep your eyes peeled for a release, or contact Patricia at Cardinali Brothers Music (646-2098) for more info. The band will be playing the opening of Libbey Bowl, Sunday, June 5th and there will also be more Art Center shows coming up, so keep your juju ready.

After trials and tribulations, *Marquee* has reformed. This band (featuring Elijah Behar - guitar/vocals, Nathaniel Hartnett - bass, Tony Melino - drums, and joined onstage for an upcoming SoHo show by Erin Yee - keyboards, and Jason Martinez - playing a bunch of junk)



working with a deadline gives us is empowering. In the supportive atmosphere of the studio we can conquer our own insecurities as we focus on digging deeper into our creativity and breaking down our self-imposed boundaries. We get to create the environment we envisioned and celebrate in it ecstatically with our community.

When we started doing this together twenty years ago, we were "wanna-bes" who now, after continuing forward with what we love to do, are truly artists. Working with the *Art Fools* has given many artists the confidence to take the next step in their lives. This is what we share in our studio, the love of art and the joy that creative inspiration fills us with. There is a way we tune in with our creative "antennae" and amplify the "signals" when we work together in the studio.

This year we got a lot of comments about how our art was like *Burning Man* and what I have to say to this, with a smile, is "We were *Burning Man* before *Burning Man* was *Burning Man*."

- River Sauvageau, Studio Sauvageau  
 Happy Spring Equinox

That?! This year, in addition to decorating the Art Center, I curated and hung an art show at the Ojai Coffee Roasting company in February which previewed our main show in March at the Ojai Art Center. To reach out to artists we posted fliers, sent emails, posted on Facebook, called and talked to artists we happened to encounter wherever we found ourselves. I feel that we put together a show that is diverse in style and Visionary in view. Many pieces show the natural world from different perspectives and some blend Celtic and Jungian mythology.

I want to thank all of the artists who contributed their work to our show: Iris Williams, Evergreen Herricks, Jeff Foster Ali Sun Trees, Theda DeRamus, Clinton Burger, Marianne Romeo, David Slinker, Oceanna Kidde, Ted Campos, Sharon Russell, Judy K. Nelson, Kristen Joy, Shane Butler, Kate Hoffman, Kirk Lowry, Sharon Tyler and Sarah Hawley. The pieces that were made specifically for the show are Sharon Tyler's *Waterfall* (which was still wet when I hung it), Iris Williams' *Tell me a Story* and Ted Campos' *Freeing Merlin*. Interestingly, I hung Sharon Tyler's water themed piece first and Iris Williams' fire themed piece second, which I realized later were representational of the elements.

We also had the addition this year of Chris Bueher's *Katuna* which is an art car he made for *Burning Man*. We were



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 LIVE WIRES & HOT TIPS

the Tornados, 646-0670  
 •23/30Sat, Apr - **Logsdons/Santa Paula**, 824 E.S. Maria St., 525-1101, /The Mighty Cash Cats, [www.MightyCashCats.com](http://www.MightyCashCats.com)  
 •23/Sat, Apr - **GiGi's Cocktails/Ventura**, 2493 Grand Ave., 642-2411, The Mystery Band  
 •25/Wed, Apr - **SB Bowl, SB**, Bowl, SB, Robert Plant & The Band of Joy, 805/962-7411  
 •29/Fri, Apr - **GiGi's Cocktails/Ventura**, 2493 Grand Ave., 642-2411, The Brian Faith Band, band info, 964-2411, [www.youtube.com/user/brianfaithbandsongs](http://www.youtube.com/user/brianfaithbandsongs)  
 •29/Fri, Apr - **The Viper Room, West LA**, Hey You/Inverse/Friday Crimes/Adam's Attic/Silent Treatment, 310-358-1881  
 •2/Sat, Apr - **GiGi's Cocktails/Ventura**, 2493 Grand Ave., 642-2411, The Mystery Band  
 •2/Sat, Apr - **The HUB, Ojai, Neidtare**, HUB Phone: 272-8344  
 •2/Fri, Apr - **SoHo/S.B.**, Somos Son, 962-7776  
 •23/Sat/Sun, Apr - **Ventura Theater**, Rebellion, 653-0721  
 •4/Fri, Apr - **SoHo/S.B.**, Jazz Jam with Jeff Elliott, 962-7776  
 •5/Tues, Apr - **The Viper Room, West LA**, Days After Hall/Willow Wisp/Scott Mellis Band/Run Devil Run/Dizzy Lilacs Residency, 310-358-1881  
 •6/Wed, Apr - **SoHo/S.B.**, River City/Howlin' Woods, 962-7776  
 •6/Wed, Apr - **The Viper Room, West LA**, Xtreme/Puchvaq/Album Release/Sidewinders/Armaanda/So and So/The New Food Group, 310-358-1881  
 •7/Thurs, Apr - **SoHo/S.B.**, Akron/Family w/Delicate Steve, 962-7776  
 •8/Fri, Apr - **The HUT/Meiners Oaks**, Blue Vice, 646-0670  
 •8/Fri, Apr - **The Viper Room, West LA**, AudioDub/Benvenue/Inverse/Walk The Rio/The Sweet Repose, 310-358-1881  
 •9/Sat, Apr - **GiGi's Cocktails/Ventura**, 2493 Grand Ave., 642-2411, The Brian Faith Band, band info, 964-2411, [www.youtube.com/user/brianfaithbandsongs](http://www.youtube.com/user/brianfaithbandsongs)  
 •9/Sat, Apr - **The Shores/Oxnard**, 1031 Harbor Boulevard, 984-5533, The Mighty Cash Cats, [www.MightyCashCats.com](http://www.MightyCashCats.com)  
 •9/Sat, Apr - **The HUB, Ojai, Night Owl**, Local Ojai rockers. More info, [www.myspace.com/NightOwlICA](http://www.myspace.com/NightOwlICA)  
 •9/Sat, Apr - **SB Bowl, SB**, Janet Jackson, 805/962-7411  
 •9/Fri, Apr - **The Viper Room, West LA**, Downtown Brown/Divenium/Tommy Peacock/Capra/The Rattle: Album Release/Tori Roze and the Hot Mess, 310-358-1881  
 •13/Wed, Apr - **SoHo/S.B.**, Marquee, 962-7776  
 •16/Sat, Apr - **Golden China/Ventura**, 652-1188, The Brian Faith Band, band info, 964-2411, [www.youtube.com/user/brianfaithbandsongs](http://www.youtube.com/user/brianfaithbandsongs)  
 •16/Sat, Apr - **Red Cove/Ventura**, Mystery Band, 643-1101  
 •16/Sat, Apr - **Town Center Mall/Santa Maria**, 142 Town Center East, The Mighty Cash Cats, [www.MightyCashCats.com](http://www.MightyCashCats.com)  
 •21/Thurs, Apr - **Chipotle Restaurant**, Ernie Joseph & Renaissance Rose, 28102 Newhall Ranch Rd., 661/257-9526  
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**Ojai Board Shop**  
 Ojai has a new Skateboard Shop to go with its new (nearly completed... save the lights...) Skateboard Park. The Ojai Board Shop (owned and operated by Travis and Alexia Fisher) recently held its Grand Opening welcoming an array of skateboarders and associated rockers (and Mike Lopez serving up the Dawgs)...so now boarders can truly 'stay local' when in need of wheels, bearings, axles and boards. The group also helped raise money for Skate Ojai in their quest to raise funds to put lights up at the Skate Park. To date Skate Ojai (via 'Light up the Night') has successfully raised \$23,000 toward the needed 60k to finish out the project. It's a wonder the city council didn't kick in and plan for the lights at the time of construction... party was sponsored by Bobby Woodz, Redline, Roaring Lion Energy Drink, Bones Wheels, Peralta Skateboard, S-One Helmets, Santa Cruz Skateboards, Shake Junt Bearings, Shorty's. The Board Shop also carries stuff from The Fit Company, Death Wish, Creature, Anti-Hero, DGK, Stereo, Enjol, Almost, Independent, Theeve, Thunder, Lakai, more. They also carry cool skate clothes from DVS, Globe and others. Special Thanks to the bands; Cease to Exist, Stamp Rocket, LaVasa and The Erectors. The Board Shop donates \$2 for every 'Board Shop' T-Shirt sold to 'Light up the Night'.  
 INFORMATION: To Purchase Jackass Tickets and Check out Skate Stuff, Alexia or Travis' Ojai Board Shop, 157 East El Roblar, Meiners Oaks, 646-6404

**Jackass 3.5** unrated  
 Speaking of trademark stunts, pranks, stupidity, and jackasses...an EXCLUSIVE SCREENING of Jackass 3.5 unrated, the movie, by Ojai and co-star Dave England to raise money for the lighting, will take place Sat. April 9 (9pm) and Sun, April 10 (Noon) at The Ojai Playhouse. But that's another event.  
 The March 5 Board Shop G.O. party was sponsored by Bobby Woodz, Redline, Roaring Lion Energy Drink, Bones Wheels, Peralta Skateboard, S-One Helmets, Santa Cruz Skateboards, Shake Junt Bearings, Shorty's. The Board Shop also carries stuff from The Fit Company, Death Wish, Creature, Anti-Hero, DGK, Stereo, Enjol, Almost, Independent, Theeve, Thunder, Lakai, more. They also carry cool skate clothes from DVS, Globe and others. Special Thanks to the bands; Cease to Exist, Stamp Rocket, LaVasa and The Erectors. The Board Shop donates \$2 for every 'Board Shop' T-Shirt sold to 'Light up the Night'.  
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**Psychiatry has as many kids on drugs as the populations of the 4 largest U.S. cities combined.**

Continued from Page 13... the way. He will also be recording in the fall for Tree Sound Studios (Atlanta). Also, speaking of tours, be sure to catch The Mighty Cash Cats locally (Logsdons, JJ Brewsky's, J's Tapas, The Shores) before they go on Tour in June (Colorado, Wyoming, and South Dakota). For more info., check out [www.mightycashcats.com](http://www.mightycashcats.com). Rock on.  
 - Joel Anderson

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## Where is Ojai Youth Soccer?



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Ojai's Jayden Morrison

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