

Wandering & Wondering



John Maybury

THIS BOYCOTT MIGHT WORK

Clark Natwick forwards an unusual suggestion for a gas boycott that just might work to bring down prices. This is not that old idea you have seen before about not buying gas for a day. Poppycock. That's not going to do any good. The oil companies won't lose a dime and won't pay any attention to anything as lame as that. But if everybody stopped buying gas altogether from the Number One oil company, ExxonMobil, that would certainly get their attention. First, it might force ExxonMobil to lower its gas prices, which in turn could encourage the other oil companies to follow suit or at least become more competitive and more responsive to consumers. So spread the word: Don't buy gas from ExxonMobil. Let's see if it works.

ECOCITY

Get ready to change the world! Throughout Earth Day Week, April 22-26, in San Francisco, the Ecocity World Summit (7th International

Ecocity Conference) will convene an international community of inspired change-makers, courageous individuals addressing problems of the world's environment with thoughtful long-range solutions that are truly sustainable, ecologically healthy and socially just. The International Ecocity Conference Series brings together the key innovators, decision makers, technologists, businesses and organizations shaping the conversation around ecological and sustainable city, town and village design, planning and development. We intend to put these issues on the economic and environmental agenda for 2008 and beyond. Ecocity World Summit 2008 Themes: People—population, health, equity, and access. Nature—protecting and restoring the planet's living systems and agricultural lands. Sustainable Development—land use, transportation, architecture and infrastructure. Economics & Technologies—building the supporting markets, businesses and technologies. Incentives & Support Structures—role of government, organizations, institutions and individuals. The time to act is now. Life-threatening global environmental problems and limitations on resource consumption demand a restructuring of cities and transportation systems worldwide for long-term energy efficiency and conservation. Concerned citizens in every community must get involved in formulating and implementing new land use and transportation policies and practices, preserving agricultural lands and open space, and reclaiming natu-

ral habitat. (Sunshine Swinford-DeVries, Department of the Environment, Neighborhood Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator, 11 Grove Street, San Francisco, CA 94102, 415-355-3736, email kimberly.swinford-devries@sfgov.org, visit www.SFEnvironment.org www.SFEnvironment.org (If you are interested in attending, and can volunteer in exchange for conference fees, please contact Sunshine/Kimberly for information and/or registration forms.)

BLUEGRASS ON THE BAY

California Bluegrass Association: cbaontheweb.org
Northern California Bluegrass Association: scbs.org
Redwood Bluegrass Association: rba.org
Bluegrass Signal with Peter Thompson: kalw.org

PLANTRIGHT

Bay Area PlantRight kickoff event will be held at Tilden Park Botanic Garden in Berkeley on Thursday, March 20 from 3 to 5 p.m. Several years ago, Sustainable Conservation engaged California's horticultural industry in an effort to prevent the sale of invasive species through nurseries and gardening centers. Through a partnership with the horticultural industry, The Nature Conservancy, the California Invasive Plant Council and others, agreement was reached on 19 species known to be invasive and that should not be sold. For more information on this effort, please visit plantright.org.

FREE TRANSIT GUIDE

Avoid congested roads and high gas prices in the Bay Area by taking public transit. The newly updated "Getting There on Transit" is a free pocket guide covering the Bay Area's entire 7,000 square miles, including 9,000 miles of bus routes and 470 miles of rail transit. Commuters can read the paper, snooze, or get a head start on business when riding to and from work on the train, bus, or ferry. Weekend explorers can visit Bay Area parks, attractions, concerts, and sporting events—all without the hassle of driving and parking. Packed with practical information, "Getting There on Transit" has specific information on how to get to and from Bay Area airports using public transit. Small enough to tuck into a pocket or purse, this handy guide features transit route maps (including close-ups of downtown San Francisco, San Jose, Oakland, and Berkeley); directions to more than 250 popular destinations; contact information for Bay Area bus, rail, and ferry operators; and a directory of paratransit services for the disabled and/or elderly. 511 is the resource for getting free transit and traffic information in the Bay Area. Dial 511 or go to 511.org, available 24 hours a day, for up-to-the-minute transit, traffic, rideshare, and bicycling information. The "Getting There on Transit" guide includes hints on how to easily use 511 transit planning resources, orienting travelers to the region's diverse transit modes, routes, and agencies. Use the trip-planning

section at 511.org. For a free copy of the "Getting There on Transit" guide, email your name and address to library@mtc.ca.gov or call 510-817-5836.

EARTH DAY

Earth Day in Pacifica is April 19 this year. Pacifica Beach Coalition plans to host up to a thousand volunteers and a Celebration Event afterward at Sharp Park with refreshments, entertainment, and speakers. PBC also hopes to give an educational, environmental gift to everyone. To accomplish this, PBC needs to raise about \$5,000. To this end, several members of the community have joined together and organized a benefit at Sanchez Concert Hall on Friday, March 28, featuring Grant Washburn's new surf movie "Quest for Fear," with a Q&A by Grant following the movie. The Wander Ins band will play surf music and there will be a special raffle. Buy tickets in advance at Sonlight Surf Shop or Parks/Beaches/Recreation at 1810 Francisco. To donate items for the raffle, email susan.pemberton@kp.org.

BUTTERFLY VISIONS

Join author and psychologist Ginny Anderson for an all-day workshop on Butterflies: Visionaries of Transformation. At this moment in time, precious to our own lives and to all life on the planet, we look for guides in unusual places. In the butterfly, we find

one who's been immersed in transformation since the beginning of its time on earth. Through SoulCollage, we'll tap into the wisdom of the butterfly, whose astonishing process of transformation offers a model for changing our own lives. Hear its story, and through SoulCollage, explore its parallel in your own life. Saturday, March 22 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Red Morton Community Center, 1120 Roosevelt, Redwood City. Registration information: 650-780-7311 or 780-7323. Register online at redwoodcity.org. Class is listed under Arts and Crafts, Soul Collage Series, \$50 general, \$40 seniors.

SWAMI SEZ

"Pirates do not cry, except when a ship loaded with rum goes down." (Pirate Law #5)

SITSEER

- How much the Iraq war costs every day: afsc.org/cost/
- Why our economy is in trouble (see above)

MAYBURRITOVILLE

- Email your stories & photos: mayburrito@goofbuster.com
- My columns online: PacificaTribune.com, WanderingAndWondering.com
- Breaking news every single day: PacificaRiptide.com