



Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury

MANZANITA MEN

In a story called "Pioneer Stock," High Country News (hcn.org) recently wrote about Bay Area biologists discovering, protecting, and replanting the last remaining Franciscan manzanita in the Presidio. Pacifica's own manzanita expert, biologist Mike Vasey, is quoted in the article.

AUDUBON BIRDATHON

Golden Gate Audubon's first Birdathon in nearly 20 years is its premier bird-watching and fundraising event of the year. Counting continues through May 16. Prizes will be awarded at the June 2 celebration dinner. All funds support local birds and habitat protection. Register to join a field trip, form a Birdathon team, pledge your favorite birder, or count in your own backyard. Sign up online at goldengateaudubon.org or call 510-843-2222.

GOP & TEA PARTY ROOTS

"The Know Nothing movement was a nativist American political movement of the 1840s and 1850s. It was empowered by popular fears that the country was being overwhelmed by German and Irish Catholic immigrants, who were often regarded as hostile to U.S. values and controlled by the Pope in Rome. Mainly active from 1854 to 1856, it strove to curb immigration and naturalization, though its efforts met with little success. There were few prominent leaders, and the largely middle-class and entirely Protestant membership fragmented over the issue of slavery. Most ended up joining the Republican Party by the time of the 1860 presidential election. The movement originated in New York in 1843 as the American Republican Party. It spread to other states as the Native American Party

and became a national party in 1845. In 1855 it renamed itself the American Party. The origin of the 'Know Nothing' term was in the semi-secret organization of the party. When a member was asked about its activities, he was supposed to reply, 'I know nothing.'" (Wikipedia)

BUSINESSES HELP SCHOOLS

Two local businesses are giving back to the community. Hair Techniques Salon owner Donna Schumacher and Curves owner Lisa Piccinini are giving some of their profits to a school of your choice. Hair Techniques (1305 Palmetto) will donate \$10 for every hair service completed and paid for through May 29. Your haircut might prevent a school budget cut! Specials and appointments: 650-355-5954. Curves recently moved to Park Mall, 1033 Terra Nova Blvd. Join between now and May 29, and it will give half of all new membership fees to the school of your choice. A 30-minute circuit works every major muscle group and you can burn up to 500 calories. You can now look and feel great inside and out, knowing you're helping local schools!

UNCLE SAMTRANS WANTS YOU

The Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board seeks applicants for its Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) to represent San Mateo County. CAC comprises nine volunteer members, who serve in an advisory capacity to the board of directors, providing input on the needs of current and potential rail customers. Applicants must be residents of the county, and applications are due by 5 p.m., Monday, May 10. CAC meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. in San Carlos, one block from the San Carlos Caltrain station. All

meetings are open to the public. Interested persons can obtain an application at caltrain.com or call 650-508-6223.

SUPERDAD

San Mateo County Supervisor Mark Church and the Fatherhood Collaborative Advisory Board honor three outstanding San Mateo County fathers on Saturday, June 19 at Coyote Point Park in San Mateo at the collaborative's annual family picnic Dad & Me @ the Park. To select award winners, the collaborative, an advisory committee to the Board of Supervisors, needs to hear from the public about outstanding fathers in the community. Awards are presented for Fatherhood Service, Fatherhood Advocacy, and Father of the Year. Qualifications include residence in San Mateo County (although the child need not reside in the county), demonstration of exemplary parenting skills, and involvement in the life of a child/children. Deadline for submission of nominations is May 14. Full information on award criteria and nomination forms are at fatherhoodcollaborative.org or call 650-802-5090 or email info@fatherhoodcollaborative.org.

PESKY CRITTERS

Having issues with marauding skunks, raccoons, and other cute but pesky critters? Maggie Sergio, director of Wildlife Solutions, has humane alternatives. Call 650-346-7668 or visit wildcaresolutions.com.

VARGAS FOR SUPERVISOR

"The Sierra Club's Peninsula chapter (Loma Prieta) looked at the [San Mateo County Board of Supervisor] candidates' records, interviewed each, and considered their answers to extensive questionnaires. Based on that process, April Vargas of Montara won the Sierra Club's endorsement. The club cited Vargas' interest in reforming county government, particularly pushing for election of supervisors by district rather than at-large, which forces candidates to raise large sums to be viable. Email april4-supervisor@gmail.com or visit aprilvargas.com. The San Mateo County Democratic Party also has endorsed Vargas." (Bill Collins, PacificaRiptide.com)

BE THE CHANGE

Students and staff at Ingrid B. Lacy Middle School in Pacifica practiced compassion and acceptance the week of April 19-23 in a program called "Be the Change." Monday was for giving compliments, Tuesday was for meeting new people, Wednesday was for healing old wounds, Thursday was for Earth Day cleanup, and Friday was for showing love and respect to others.

SAVE LOUIS'

Help keep Louis' Restaurant (next to The Cliff House) as a 73-year tradition in the Hontalas family of Pacifica. Show your support at petitiononline.com/louis37/petition.html

GRIDLOCK ON 1

"It appears the long-awaited environmental impact report (EIR) for the Calera Creek Parkway Project (widening Highway 1 from Fassler to Reina Del Mar) is on hold. Following up on an on-air comment from Wavelength host Ian Butler about the scoping comment period being extended indefinitely, this reporter asked San Mateo County Transportation Authority (SMCTA) and Pacifica City Manager Steve Rhodes about the delay. SMCTA has not yet responded, but Rhodes confirmed the EIR is on hold until SMCTA receives further input from city leaders. This is not the first time the EIR has stalled. Several years ago after an earlier scoping hearing, the EIR was put on hold and eventually cancelled when the state rebuked the city for claiming it had the right to be lead agency. At that time, SMCTA took the reins. The March 3 scoping hearing, which was broadly criticized for not providing preliminary information, was the culmination of that work." (Todd Bray, PacificaRiptide.com)

THE GRINCH

If you have information about the theft of 108 brand-new solar panels from the roof of Oceana School, call the police non-emergency number 650-738-7314 or use the anonymous Silent Witness Hotline at 650-359-4444 or the online form on the city Web site cityofpacific.org (click Departments + Police + Reports and Records).

POOCH AUCTION

POOCH Dog Daze on May 1 features a small silent auction in addition to the regular raffle. Auction items include a professional portrait of you and your pet (value \$400), \$100 Gorilla BBQ gift certificate, and four (4) tickets to a Giants game (against the Washington Nationals; these seats are in lower box, section 7, row 32). Bidding for the portrait begins at \$50, and the BBQ and Giants tickets at \$40. And yours truly has enthusiastically agreed to be a contest judge as long as no dog kissing is involved.

ROCKAWAY RESCUE

"Bank of America is the proud new owner of the Horizons building. After the bankruptcy was tossed out, the bank took the property back for \$1,543,307.47. Lots of people lost money on this deal. Five more loans just got wiped out when the first loan foreclosed. On a happier note, it looks like the UPS store is coming to the Clock Tower Building in Rockaway." (Jim Alex, PacificaRiptide.com)

CAP'N PHIL

Jeff "Bags" Bagshaw was a big fan of the late Cap'n Phil on reality TV show The Deadliest Catch, about fishermen pursuing their dangerous profession. Jeff says, "This dude lived a pirate life. He said you can either watch things happen or make things happen or wonder what the f--- happened."

SWAMI SEZ

"Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible, but man's inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary." (Reinhold Niebuhr, theologian, 1892-1971)

SITSEER

Help for backyard gardeners: [anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/FreePublications](http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/)

MAYBURRITOVILLE

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