

Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury



BRAINSTORM

If I could think of a sustainable, green project that would save our seaside city from bankruptcy, would you be for it? Would you be for it even if it were in rocky Rockaway Quarry (or some other flat open space without “issues”)? Are you ready for this? Bring in a Genentech, or one of its biotech clones from the Peninsula, or a high-tech company from Silicon Valley, or any other intellectual enterprise with deep pockets and a strong sense of corporate responsibility—in other words, a good partner. I envision a smallish facility, no more than 250 employees, with ample use of car pools, BART/SamTrans/SFO shuttle vans, and Jim Heldberg’s Segways, plus allowance for employee telecommuting, all designed to keep car traffic to a minimum. A number of Pacificans already work for companies like the above, so even better

for them—an easy crosstown commute instead of the daily slog over the hill and down 280. A Pacifica campus would be very cool for any of these companies to add to their empires: casual Fridays every day, awesome sunsets, great food options for dining in or takeout all up and down Highway 1 (diners, delis, taquerias, pizzerias, Thai, Chinese, etc.). For overnighters and conference stays, Pacifica has a handful of decent motels that sure could use the business. (Our tourist industry, such as it is, sure ain’t cuttin’ it.) Besides, it is well known that our bracing marine climate promotes superior brainpower and productivity. (Just ask my staff here at Pacifica Riptide Global Headquarters!) We are the ideal site for light industry. Put some big white letters on the hillside: PACIFICA THINKS GREEN. (Posted this on Pacifica Riptide over the weekend.)

BRIAN O’NEILL

Brian O’Neill’s family, the National Park Service, and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy invite Brian’s friends and colleagues to a celebration of Brian’s life, 1941-2009 (General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Parks, 1986 to 2009). The celebration is at the restored airfield (west of the marsh) on Crissy Field, Presidio of San Francisco, Friday, May 29. Celebration Event: 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Reception: 12:30 to 2 p.m. Public Walk on Crissy Field in Honor of Brian (optional): 2 p.m. Please arrive by 10:30 a.m. for parking and seating. RSVP to help us anticipate attendance: rte@parksconservancy.org, 415-561-3030 extension 2241. Give your name, number of guests, affiliation, and any special needs. Please dress for a tented event, with flat shoes recommended.

BALANCING ACT

“Amid the contentious fight over Sharp Park’s future — with politicians, environmentalists and golfers all grappling — isn’t it worth the effort to find some middle ground? Earlier this month, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved a

resolution to restore habitat for the threatened red-legged frog and endangered San Francisco garter snake. Both of those rare, federally protected species have been found at Sharp Park, the city-owned course in Pacifica. Among the possible outcomes is shutting down this Alister MacKenzie layout. That would be an absolute shame, given the course’s natural beauty, affordability and MacKenzie’s status as a giant figure in the game’s history. Not only did he design Augusta National, he made a profound impact on Northern California golf (including Cypress Point, Patsatiempo and Meadow Club). Another possible outcome: finding a way to keep the course while still protecting the endangered species. It wouldn’t be simple, as Pacifica Mayor Julie Lancelle has said, because of serious drainage problems. But it’s worth the effort.” (Ron Kroichick, golf columnist, San Francisco Chronicle)

DIRTY BEACHES

The three dirtiest beaches (highest bacteria count) on the San Mateo County coast are Venice Beach at Frenchman’s Creek in Half Moon Bay, Pillar Point Harbor (at

the end of Westfield Avenue) in Princeton-by-the-Sea, and Linda Mar Beach at San Pedro Creek in Pacifica. All three received an A grade during summer months and dry weather but F during wet weather, when storm drain overflow and other factors generally contribute to higher levels of E. coli and other bacteria. The cleanest beach in the county (fewest bacteria) is Montara State Beach at Martini Creek, rated A-plus in both dry and wet weather. Up-to-date information on beach conditions is released every Friday on healthebay.org. Click “Beach Report Card” under “Quick Links.” (Bay Area News Group, ibabuzz.com/insider)

SWAMI SEZ

“Sex without love is an empty experience, but as empty experiences go, it’s one of the best.” (Woody Allen)

LET’S DANCE

Hope Services for the disabled community in Pacifica co-sponsors an accessible dance July 25 in San Francisco, featuring AXIS dance group: disabledcommunity.org

SITSEEFER

- 33 healthiest foods on earth: huffingtonpost.com
- Protect southern green sturgeon: biologicaldiversity.org
- County launches innovative online forum: co.sanmateo.ca.us
- More respectful video sharing than YouTube: vimeo.com
- Book business blahs: thenation.com
- Speculators drive up gas prices: mccatchydc.com
- Republican apology (oxymoron of the century): consortiumnews.com
- Governor gets grabby (hands off our taxes, Arnold!): wsj.com
- Pacifica Shorebird Alliance: pacificashorebird.org
- Quit chauffeuring your kids; buy them a bus pass: samtrans.com
- Johnny Carson/Dom De Luise egg trick: milkandcookies.com
- St. Typo: lynnster.com/typo.html

MAYBURRITOVILLE DOT COM

- Archive: Pacifica Tribune
- Web site: Wandering And Wondering
- Blog: Pacifica Riptide
- Professional editor: Goofbuster
- Contact: Mayburrito@Goofbuster.com