



Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury

PACIFICALLY YOURS

The Pacifica Tribune's headline writer apparently lives in a parallel universe. I think this year's Fourth of July firestorm was one of the noisiest ever. Maybe the beach scene was a little quieter due to the fog, the economy, or the police work. But back in Linda Mar Valley it was a war zone for several days leading up to the holiday itself and then continuing right until the present. Every few hours, some moron sets off his M-80s (yes, M is for moron), scaring the bejesus out of me, my cats, and every other living thing in the area. Now, like any good red-blooded American, I appreciate a good fireworks display up in the air, at a set time so I can brace myself. But I really hate this sneaky SOB who continues to break the law, disturbing this otherwise tranquil town. If he really digs blowing up stuff,

may I suggest that he go join a demolition company or get some counseling, and leave the rest of us in peace.

WRITERS WORKSHOPS

Six-Week Novel & Memoir Writer's Workshop at my house in Half Moon Bay: July 14 through August 18, Wednesday evenings, from 6:30 to 9:30. Your Novel: The Road to Publication, 1-Day Workshop at beautiful Seal Cove Inn in Half Moon Bay, Saturday, August 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Wendy Nelson Tokunaga, author and manuscript consultant, Wendy-Tokunaga.com)

WHERE OUR TAP WATER COMES FROM

Tuolumne River Trust is gearing up for the second year of its elementary school education program called "That's the Tuolumne in My Tap." TRT visits

4th- and 5th-grade classrooms in San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Alameda counties. Last year, TRT reached more than 2,700 students in 100+ classrooms, and this year plans to do even more. (tuolumne.org)

ROCKAWAY RUMBLE

The fierce fight over feeding feral felines made the 6 o'clock news on July 6. Mike Sugeran from KPIX Channel 5 Eyewitness News spent two hours interviewing Nancy Morrison and videotaping her feeding the feral quarry cats for a feature on the July 6 broadcast. You can find the video in the station archives at cbs5.com. The KPIX story mentioned the role of local media in getting this story out, showing Pacifica Riptide's homepage and the Tribune's front page.

REGISTERED OFFENDER

Rob Schneider's new comedy album "Registered Offender" is available as a download on Amazon and iTunes.

FARMERS MARKET FUN

Food writer and culinary humorist Shirley Fong-Torres (Ben Fong-Torres' sister) taped a quick audition bit for the new Oprah network OWN at the Pacifica Farmers' Market.

Market Founder/Manager Erin Tormey says, "We had virtually no notice to prepare (neither did she, apparently). Anyway, Farmer John, Farmer Joon, and yours truly helped a Cantonese woman pick out stuff for an Italian dinner from the Coastside Farmers' Market in Pacifica to prepare for Oprah."

Video: vimeo.com/12876350

LAST CHANCE TO COMMENT

Thursday, July 22, is your last chance to tell the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (smcta.com) what you think of its Highway 1/Calera Parkway Project plan to widen the roadway to six lanes. See PacificaRiptide.com for comments, community reactions, and updates.) The stated purpose of the proposed project is to reduce congestion from approximately a half mile north of Reina Del Mar Avenue to approximately a quarter mile south of Fassler/Rockaway Beach Avenues, a distance of some 1.3 miles. But many Pacificans and others believe that widening the highway would harm adjacent wetlands, not solve traffic problems in the long term, blight the landscape with high retaining walls on both sides of the road, and cost as much as \$50 million. Contacts: SMCTA Citizens Advisory

Committee (CAC) member Jim Vreeland (Pacifica City Council); CAC Vice Chair Barbara Arietta at 415-246-0775 or barietta@hotmail.com. Public comments due by July 22: SMCTA Headquarters at 650-508-6283 or smcta_feedback@smcta.com.

SWAMI SEZ

"I find that a great part of the information I have was acquired by looking up something and finding something else on the way." (Franklin Pierce Adams)

SITSEER

- Open a wine bottle with your shoe: wimp.com/wineshoe
- Audio, video, and photos of San Pedro Creek songbird Swainson's thrush: allaboutbirds.org
- The right name for the job: former Congressman Al Swift chairs the American High Speed Rail Alliance (americanhsra.org)

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