

Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury



CHOPPER RESCUE

A Lifeflight helicopter crew landed on Terra Nova High School football field last Friday afternoon (see photo) and airlifted a stricken 40-year-old adult male to Stanford Hospital. At press time, we could not get information on the man's identity or condition.

TRANSLOVE AIRLINES

"Delta's Web site lists specific planes that have Wi-Fi installed, including all MD88s, MD90s and some other ex-Delta models. Power connections for 110 volts are available on all business- and first-class seats on domestic 737, 767-300 and transcendental 757s," wrote Ed Perkins in the August 9 San Francisco Chronicle travel section. "I wanna be on one of THOSE flights," says highflyer Peter Loeb, who lives (appropriately) in the Rockaway district of Pacifica.

CIRCUS TRAIN

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus is coming to HP Pavilion August 19-23, and Caltrain is the way to the "Big Top." With San

Jose Diridon station just across the street from the circus, Caltrain makes getting there hassle-free, without the cost of driving and parking. Ringling Bros. (ringling.com) has been known as "The Greatest Show on Earth" for more than 135 years, and Caltrain has been moving customers along the Peninsula for more than 145 years. The circus features performances by exotic animals, clowns, jugglers, acrobats, tumblers, and the Urias Family, who ride motorcycles inside a 16-foot steel globe. Bring your Caltrain ticket (same-day, day pass, or monthly pass) to the box office the day of the show to save \$5 on circus tickets. Offer excludes front row and VIP seats. No double discounts. Caltrain is a proof-of-purchase system and requires passengers to purchase tickets before boarding. Tickets are not sold on-board trains but can be purchased at station vending machines. Buy a day pass (round trip) to save time after the event. For more information on Caltrain schedules and fares, call 1.800.660.4287 (TTY 650.508.6448) or visit caltrain.com.

GO GRANUCCI'S!

Okay, I got over my little editorial snit about the misspelled "petrole sole" and went into Granucci's recently for brunch. The place knocks me out, with its light and airy feel, tile floors, and fabulous food. I highly recommend the chilaquiles, a longtime breakfast favorite of mine, made with tortillas, eggs, beans, and cheese. You can adjust the heat on it with salsa. Had a friendly chat with the always-affable Joe Murillo, who opened Granucci's next door to his Green Enchilada taqueria and Pacifica Farmers Market. His kitchen crew was busy cranking up for a big wedding party and catering for Kahuna Kupuna surf contest last weekend. Joe says he runs around like crazy keeping all three businesses going. I wish him well and hope to try Granucci's again soon. It's in Manor shopping center and serves brunch and dinner, plus takeout and free delivery service.

INQUIRING MIND

Fellow proofreader Jean Headley Darmody has an inquiring mind, as all good proofreaders do. She writes, "Regarding the work Caltrans is doing on Highway 1 (the new concrete center divider), with all the budget woes we're hearing from Sacramento, what genius thought it was necessary to tear down the beautiful trees in the center of Highway 1 and replace them with a concrete barrier? Unless this is a precursor to a future widening of Highway 1, this seems like a huge waste of money and resources. It seems there are so many potholes on Highway 1 and around town that all the money could be put to much better use. Regarding the new Walgreens at Manor, do we have a projected opening date? I know there have been a lot of comments about the much-anticipated potential traffic nightmare once Walgreens opens, but are there any plans to repair the numerous, terrible potholes on the Manor overpass? Some of them are so bad you can even see the rebar underneath! And finally, regarding the Pacifica Tribune's column "California Festival and Show Calendar, why oh WHY isn't the FOG FEST listed???" Hello!!!"

CREATIVE FREELANCERS

Second Annual Creative Freelancer Conference, August 26-28 in San Diego. Early-bird discount extended. Join HOW Magazine and Marketing Mentor for a three-day business conference geared specifically toward creative solo entrepreneurs. A team of creative business experts will share best practices to help you move your business forward. Take advantage of the Freelancers Union member discount and save \$75 off your full-conference registration. Use coupon code FRUN9 when registering. If you bring a friend, the second registration is half price. Visit freelancersunion.org and creativefreelancerconference.com for information and registration.

CASH FOR CLUNKERS

"With the huge success of the 'cash for clunkers' program, the NHTSA has a total of over 150,000 dealer transactions reported so far. As expected, small and midsize sedans are the most popular cars that are being purchased under the program. Here is the list of the top 10 'cash for clunkers' purchases so far: Ford Focus, Toyota Corolla, Honda Civic, Toyota Prius, Toyota Camry, Ford Escape FWD, Hyundai Elantra, Dodge Caliber, Honda Fit, Chevrolet Cobalt. If you don't have a trade-in that qualifies for the 'cash for clunkers' program, your best bet may be to hold off buying one of these popular models until after the program has ended. Demand for these vehicles has shot up and dealers are in no mood to negotiate when there are tons of buyers clamoring for the same thing. Remember, supply and demand is one of the most important factors when it comes to the price of the car. After the program ends, demand for these vehicles will go back down and dealers will once again be willing to make some great deals. Yes, you have to wait a couple of months, but the savings will probably be worth it. It doesn't make sense to compete with buyers coming into the showroom with a \$4,500 voucher from the government. It's not the same playing field, so don't shortchange yourself." (realcartips.com)

JAZZMASTER WORKOUT

Just a quick update on Jazzmaster Workout classes and Jim Grantham's gigs. For prospective students, note that the format and cost of the classes have changed.

- Jazzmaster Workout Workshop I (Modality and Tonality) - Beginner/Intermediate level class begins Wednesday, 7:30-10 p.m., September 14, 10 weeks
- Jazzmaster Workout Workshop II (Mainstream Harmony) - Intermediate level class begins Wednesday, 7:30-10 p.m., September 16, 10 weeks
- Jazzmaster Workout Workshop III (Advanced Harmony) - Intermediate/Advanced level class begins Thursday, 7:30-10 p.m., September 17, 10 weeks
- FREE Orientation, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., September 9. Please call if you are coming.
- Join us at the Coffee Mill every Sunday, 3-6 p.m., 3363 Grand Avenue, Oakland. Jim Grantham Jazz Quartet, straight-ahead, no-holds-barred jazz gig!
- Check out the Jazzmaster Workout improv method, the Great Gig book, and The Bay Area Jamlist. For info, see jazzmasterworkout.com. or call 510-271-7904.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

PacificaRiptide.com posted a story this weekend with several links and accessible articles on what is going on in health care reform. Please visit Riptide online and read about this critical national issue, especially as it affects us here at home.

MULTITASKING MOMMA

I was duly impressed by the young mother I saw recently headed south on Peralta Street in Linda Mar, leading a horse while walking several dogs on leashes and carrying a baby on her back. Dagnabbit, most of us can barely walk and chew gum at the same time!

SWAMI SEZ

"As every cat owner knows, nobody owns a cat." (Ellen Perry Berkeley)

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PHOTO BY RON GIANNINI