



Felton Bike Park – Two Sides of the Issue



By Mary Andersen

Since 2013, plans for the Central Coast's first mountain bike park in Felton have wended their way through the county planning process. Currently in the environmental impact report phase, the park would be located on the Felton Meadow, scene of a contentious 2008 battle between environmental activists and affordable housing advocates over 55 housing units. Environmentalists won that round. Because the county voted to stop funding that project, the developer put the property up for sale, and Mount Hermon scooped it up with plans for recreational use.

The \$4 million project proposal details 2 components – a bike park and a bike school. The park will consist of pump tracks, a mountain bike skills zone, aerial jump bag, gravity trails, a magic carpet ride, and a viewing tower. The school's coaches will teach trail-riding skills. The facility also promises a day camp for kids, community garden, and science center.

Controversy has arisen from environmental corners regarding a May 2012 letter in which Mount Hermon Manager Mark Lilley stated that "MHA [Mount Hermon Association] intends to use the property for various recreational camping purposes – and will work with local residents and groups to ensure that our uses are compatible with many community values we all share." The plans are "essentially green, open space, and scenic; and enriching the lives of children in our camping program – in a beautiful natural environment."

Beth Hollenbeck of SLV Citizens Organized (SLV CORE), opposes the bike park project for multiple reasons. She grew up near the meadow and has concerns about traffic, water usage, and viewshed. Hollenbeck points to the 1987 Felton Town Plan, which designates a portion of the meadow as a scenic view corridor. Hollenbeck says, "I have concerns about overdevelopment on a fragile riparian ecosystem that exists in the meadow, from plants to animals to water recharge for our over-drafted aquifer."

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Bidding Farewell to Boulder Creek Icon, John De Nault



John Benjamin De Nault, passed away on December 19, 2016 at the age of 97. John actively supported the Boulder Creek community. He is what many consider "Liberty Bank," and is widely credited with restoring the solvency of the bank's Boulder Creek branch. Among a long lifetime of accomplishments, he also supported the Boulder Creek Volunteer Fire Department and helped the Boulder Creek Business Association (BCBA) make it through the dark times when the business association was close to bankruptcy.

John and his wife, Jean, were high school sweethearts (both Stanford Class of '41) and married just after graduation. They recently celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary in June, 2016. Long associated with Stanford University, the alumni newsletter *The Dish* featured the De Naults in a recent tribute, which mentions that "John explores the Santa Cruz Mountains in his tractor and backhoe, and has built a small, fully functioning steam railroad in their yard."

John served in the U.S. Navy during World War II until 1946, reaching the rank of full lieutenant. He earned battle ribbons for all major Navy operations and two Bronze Stars for bravery.

"He was a remarkable man and did so much for the town – he will definitely be missed," noted Boulder Creek Hardware owner, Ann Marie Conrad. "I'm the new kid on the block when I think of John and his history in Boulder Creek. He supported town numerous ways. Almost any business owner in town has a story about John. He frequented our store. I loved and admired his spunk. When I found out how old he

was and what he could still do, I aspired to be like that 'when I grow up,'" she said.

John is survived by his wife of more than 75 years, Jean; two sons, Kenneth J. De Nault and John B. De Nault III (Jack); five grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. Donations in his name may be made to the Boulder Creek Volunteer Fire Department or to another charity of your choosing.

Dave McHone of Boulder Creek had this to say about John: "I was so used to seeing him riding his John Deere utility vehicle, driving his Lincoln, or even walking to breakfast on Sundays. I marveled at his ability to get around like someone so much younger. He was very active and even at his age still paid attention to the [Boulder Creek] Golf Course activities, including keeping up the grounds. I got to speak with him occasionally while walking my dogs. I really admired his energy and will really miss seeing him."

Abby Rohrbough noted, "He was a great mind, kind, and until the end had his sense of humor and quick wit. I saw him a few weeks ago. Very sad for Jean; they were a great couple."

Barbara Brandt from Boulder Creek said, "He was my dad's best friend and I've known him since I was very young. He had a great life, great marriage to Jean, and a wonderful family. He lived every moment to the fullest right up to the very end. As sad as it is that he is gone, he is an inspiration to all. He was such a kind and generous man. 'Old age' didn't faze John and he enjoyed his life completely."

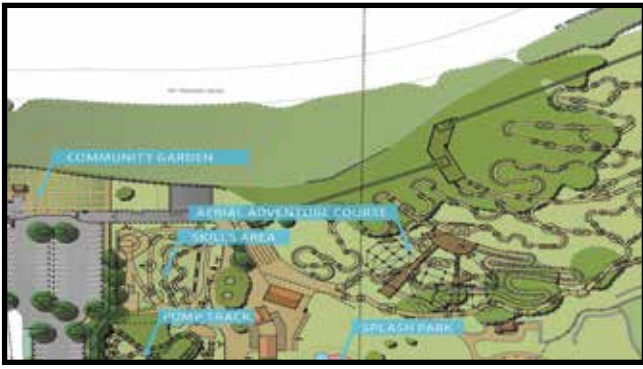
Karen Edwards at Liberty Bank said, "John truly was an amazing man. I will miss his nearly daily visits to the bank. More, I'll miss his stories and jokes."

Nancy Currier wrote on behalf of the BCBA, "John was such a beloved member of our community - one of a kind - a friendly, warm, caring, funny and entertaining person whom we were all privileged to meet and spend time with."

"It is a sad loss for John's family and the town, but boy what a life he lived!"

Read the full obituary published in the Los Angeles Times: www.legacy.com/obituaries/latimes/obituary.aspx?pid=183243651

Stanford University *The Dish*: https://alumni.stanford.edu/get/page/magazine/article/?article_id=88438



Felton Bike Park continued from page 1

The Valley Women's Club opposes the bike park and representatives say they would like to see the meadow stay as it is now, a wildlife habitat. They have taken the lead on monitoring the county's Environmental Impact Report (EIR) process.

Felton Business Association President, Judy Anderson says, "This looks to be a good addition to our community. Mount Hermon has always been a good neighbor. I believe that the bike park would bring tourists and shoppers into our downtown cores."

Dale Pollock, Mount Hermon's Facilities Engineer, says that project planners fully intend to comply with the requirements coming out of the EIR, whatever the findings are, and that Mount Hermon is fully committed to addressing those findings.

As we wait for the language in the draft environmental impact report, Hollenbeck concedes that she would support a gentler use of the land, "I'm not opposed to a nature center, community garden, a place for campers to come experience nature in a natural setting."

The debate raises questions about property rights and diverse community values. According to the county, Mount Hermon has the authority to develop their property within the confines of county planning ordinances. Yet community members have always sought to dictate planning policy and take guardianship of how their downtowns develop. The San Lorenzo Valley has a long history of doing just that.

More information:

Velocity Bike Park www.velocitybikeparks.org/park

Velocity Bike School www.velocitybikeparks.org/school

Felton Meadow Project: www.mounthermon.org/felton-meadow

SLVCORE www.slvcore.wordpress.com

Valley Women's Club www.valleywomensclub.org/environmental-issues/mt-hermon-felton-meadow-project

Spending Measure D Funds

By Chris Finnie



In an interview with Gine Johnson, transportation analyst with Bruce McPherson's office, she told the Santa Cruz Mountain Bulletin that the county expects to start collecting Measure D funds in April or May. Money will start flowing into county coffers in the Fall of 2017.

She says the supervisors expect to allocate spending in the categories outlined in the Measure D bill, but that they haven't made final decisions on the first funding priorities. Johnson says we can expect more clarity on that after the beginning of year as the board reviews proposals from the county Public Works Department.

The Current Plan

Johnson sent us to the Santa Cruz Public Works website (<http://www.dpw.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/>). Under the "Projects" heading is a capital improvement plan (or CIP) that you can download. This is the current draft, which did not include Measure D funds and will be updated before it goes to the board sometime between March and May. The 94-page document details proposed spending on road, roadside, and drainage improvements; disaster recovery funding; parks and library; and bridges. The draft includes 86 improvement projects at a cost of approximately \$20.9 million for planning, design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction.

The current draft includes countywide funding for:

- 10 road improvements - \$6,889,912
- 16 roadside improvements - \$2,615,080
- 10 drainage improvements - \$4,110,324
- 8 parks and library projects - \$225,117
- 19 bridge projects - \$3,636,000
- 23 disaster-recovery projects - \$3,454,000

\$6 Billion in Projects and Deferred Maintenance

Johnson points out that even the increased funding will not be enough to catch up with all the deferred road maintenance in the county. So the county still needs to prioritize work. Supervisor McPherson is hoping to have a community meeting to discuss the process of identifying projects in the Spring.

However, Johnson agrees with the proponents of the measure that the increased revenue will better position the county to qualify for state and federal grants when they're available. The Bulletin will update you if we hear of changes in the plan, or when a schedule for public meetings is available.

Brick and Mortared

The downfall of the retail store environment

By Adam Mendoza



My favorite holiday movie by far is A Christmas Carol. In my opinion, this Charles Dickens tale truly captures the wonder of Christmas. The other night while watching this holiday treat, I suddenly envisioned Tiny Tim and his siblings standing in front of the toy shop window, not gleefully staring at the wonder of the marvelous displays, but instead standing in the bitter cold, holding cell phones, staring at the screens. A sad subconscious commentary struck me as I think of what the joy of Christmas means today.

This past holiday season - although predictable - saw a drop in retail store sales, which was a real wakeup call to stores big and small. For example, Macys and Kohls both experienced over a 2% drop in holiday sales. Numbers that have caused Macy's to cut 10,000 jobs and forced a planned closure of 68 stores nationwide. Numbers that are sending shock waves throughout the economy.

The cause of these weakening sales numbers can be directly traced to the rise in online sales with the likes of Amazon, eBay, Zappos, and Nasty Girl, all of which have once again posted double digit sales growth this holiday season. According to USA Today, Amazon grabbed half of last-minute gift sales in 2016 alone.

What does that mean for retailers? Obviously retailers are learning the value of inventory levels and customer service in their online presence and no doubt will focus their energies more and more away from the brick and mortar stores.

What does that mean for us? Mom-and-pops will see more young buyers flying the coop. With the trend being away from department stores and malls and more focused on the omnipresent computer screens, one can not help but be concerned that we are becoming more and more isolated in our behavior.

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Coming Soon

10190 Riverside Drive, Ben Lomond

Wonderful Brook Lomond neighborhood with wide flat streets and year round sunshine. Classic private gated home well sited on 1/2 acre with 95 feet of San Lorenzo River frontage complete with riparian irrigation system for the year round lush landscape. Ideal for entertaining or just enjoying the great outdoors and sounds of the water below. Expansive new deck under construction with permit running the full length of the home high above the raging river. Fabulous brick patio. If you have been searching for in town privacy with vaulted ceilings, walls of glass that move offering fantastic views from every room then this is it. Dual master suites, too. A must see to appreciate the unique and private setting. Call today to schedule an appointment.

A Buyer's Gallery of Fine Homes

duPontREGISTRY

13335 Highway 9, Boulder Creek, CA 95006
 Certified Residential Real Estate Brokerage #00490424
 Certified General Real Estate Appraiser #AG009709
 California General Building Contractor # 868205
 (831) 338-2171 office (800) RUN-RELO cell (831) 332-3253

In Cannabis News

2016 Was Big - 2017 Will Be Bigger

By Jim Coffis

2016 will be remembered as a banner year in the long history of cannabis in the County and State but 2017 will likely be more consequential for the future of local growers and consumers.

A year ago the Governor signed landmark legislation, which set the broad framework for statewide regulation of medical cannabis from seed to sale. In November voters across the state approved Prop 64, an initiative that will provide for non-medical commercial activities beginning in 2018 and will allow non-medical personal use and cultivation for all adults, with some restrictions.

The Adult Use of Marijuana Act of 2016 (AUMA) allows cities and counties to adopt and enforce “reasonable regulations” around the possession and planting of 6 plants and, following the election, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors passed an urgency ordinance placing a moratorium on a variety of activities “to the full extent permitted by the AUMA.”

This moratorium was extended and will last until November 14, 2017, unless rescinded, in order to allow the County an opportunity to consider options and legal authority to enact land use and other controls regulating non-medical cannabis activity in a manner consistent with the newly-enacted State law.

A pair of public meetings have been scheduled to address the issue of personal cultivation and use. The first will be held on January 12 at 6:00 pm in the Board Chambers at the County Government Center; a second is tentatively set for Feb 9th.

The Board has asked Cannabis Licensing Manager, Dan Peterson, to have recommendations ready for their February 28 meeting.

Meanwhile, a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the proposed medical cannabis cultivation ordinance will begin in January with an anticipated August completion.

In preparation for the EIR, the County launched a registration process for cultivators intending to seek a license. After some fits and starts the program attracted over 950 registrants who paid \$500 apiece for the opportunity to be considered. After completing an initial review, the County is expected to request additional information and an additional \$2500 from each applicant before performing on-site inspections to determine eligibility.

The Supervisors also need to consider and adopt regulations for processing, manufacturing transport, testing, distribution and sales in order for local operations to be eligible for a state license. Draft proposals are being considered and public hearings are expected in early 2017.

In other news, as a result of the passage of County Measure E, the County Treasurer requested all cannabis businesses begin remitting a 7% tax on gross revenue collected beginning Nov 9th, and a local coalition of cannabis related businesses called “Green Trade” is being formed by prospective licensees and vendors “to promote, educate, and advocate for safe, environmentally responsible, and socially conscious” activities in the emerging legal landscape.

Green Trade has begun accepting members who intend to operate in compliance with local and state laws. For more information email: info@greentradesantacruz.org

Contact Jim Coffis: jcoffis@gmail.com



POLITICALLY SPEAKING

Agents of Change

Wendy Wilkins

How many times have you heard someone say, “That’s just the way the world is?” To me what they’re actually stating is, “It’s too much bother to try to change things.” This sort of apathy, or perhaps cynicism, plays into the hands of the few who desire the status quo. They enjoy being at the top of the pyramid with as much wealth and power that can be amassed using the entrenched systems on the planet. Thankfully, people are waking up to this rigged game and starting to roll up their sleeves.

There was a time when all I focused on was my own little life...my work, my home, my relationships, and of course, material possessions. After I underwent a personal transformation wherein I began living from my heart, the strict boundaries of my existence expanded to encompass Mother Earth and all the living things upon Her. In a deep emotional way, I realized the suffering of the masses is totally unacceptable. This planetary situation has been insane and indefensible.

I read an article expressing the idea that anyone who lives in poverty so that someone else can live in luxury is unconscionable. It’s as if we are living in a modern day version of lords and serfs. This is not the Dark Ages.

We are truly One, connected by the collective consciousness of humanity. We only think we are separate beings and that our own concerns come first. The “I, me, and mine” mindset is a cause of endless competition, struggle, and grief. It is way past due that our human collective understands that “we’re all in this together.” We each must recognize that we are to contribute to the benefit of all in everything we do. Spiritual communities will ultimately replace the dichotomy of slums and ivory towers.

“That’s just the way the world is.” I say NO! It is untenable, out of balance, and must be set right. Not long ago, I saw a bumper sticker that read, “Beam me up, Scotty, this planet sucks!” I would ask the driver of the car to do something to make the planet suck less. Many are working hard to accomplish just that – in shifting attitudes, donating, and starting projects. The higher vibrations coming in via the Cosmic alignments are influencing many, especially the younger people. What have they to lose by working to make society serve everyone? They have no other course. I am proud of them and they will, indeed, change the world.

In my own life, I, too, have committed to making this planet suck less...one smile, one gesture, one kind work at a time. Will you join me?

OPINION

Check Out the New for 2017 Website!!!
Santacruzmountainbulletin.net



San Lorenzo Valley Restoration Project Welcomes AmeriCorps Team in January



By Julie Horner

The Valley Women's Club, San Lorenzo Valley Restoration Project, and Santa Cruz County Parks are pleased to announce the return of the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) team this January through March, 2017. The team will engage in an ongoing effort to clear invasive flora to help heal riparian habitat throughout San Lorenzo Valley, including Highlands Park (Ben Lomond), Quail Hollow Ranch (Ben Lomond), and the site of the new Felton Library.

AmeriCorps NCCC is a national program that enlists young adults from across the country who spend 10 months serving communities and developing leadership skills through direct, team-based national and community service. Their work focuses on disaster relief, infrastructure improvement, environmental stewardship, energy conservation, and urban and rural development.

Early in 2016, The Valley Women's Club's San Lorenzo Valley Restoration Project, in collaboration with Santa Cruz County Parks, was awarded a grant for an AmeriCorps NCCC team of 8. Their projects included the restoration of the Old Oak Grove at Highlands Senior Center and the removal of invasive plants, such as ivy and Himalayan blackberry, at Junction and Garrahan Parks, Santa Cruz Mountain Art Center, Mountain Community Resources, Boulder Creek Museum, and the Odd Fellows Cemetery. The removal of these invasive plants allows the native flora to recover and creates ever-widening areas of restored native habitat.

The 2017 team consists of 12 young people – ages 18 to 24 – who will be known as Team Silver 3. Donations of food, tools, and living supplies for the Team's residence would be greatly appreciated. Given there will be 12 workers on this year's team, San Lorenzo Valley Restoration Project is specifically in need of gently used twin beds and linens and some sitting room furniture.

Contact Linda Skeff: redwoodduff@gmail.com

On Facebook: www.facebook.com/slvrestorationproject/

Online: www.slvrestorationproject.org/

Brick and Mortified *continued from page 2*

Local retailers in the San Lorenzo Valley have noticed fewer customers as well. Fleeting are the days of the local merchant taking time to meet with customers one-on-one. In an area where the neighborhood economy is so vital, customers are pointing and clicking, not meeting and greeting. If you are anywhere near as nostalgic about holiday traditions as I am, this trend can be disheartening.

In an age of photo-shopped Santas, JibJab greetings, and virtual Christmas cards, the essence of family and community is slowly being stripped away from our psyche.

I believe it is our human interaction and sense of community that builds character and enhances life experience. It's obvious we have become a nation of store avoiders.

But at what cost? Avoiding getting out means avoiding each other. Avoiding lines, avoiding conversations. During the holiday season, saving time for sake of convenience can become 'shutting out.'

As small business owners, the challenge to attract customers grows greater and greater. But there are ways to use new technologies to your advantage. Engaging your audience in social media and creating newsworthy topics for buyers has become easier, but the real key is transforming conversation to customer loyalty.

In this series of articles I hope to feature retail success stories of modern day stores that are harnessing the power of technologies to keep customers coming back and looking up from their computer screens.



Forever in Our Hearts - Remembering Heidi Ann Newton

By Kara Ferguson

On January 4, 2017 our dear friend, Heidi Newton, lost her battle with cancer. This vibrantly beautiful woman fought like a warrior from beginning to end and touched so many people during her journey.

We met in 1999 while working at Camp Campbell. Cassie Castillo introduced us and Heidi quickly became part of our circle of friends (I'd list all of you, if I could). As the years flew by that circle grew, and Heidi made her way into the hearts of many members of the SLV, and beyond. She had a zest for life that was contagious, so she was a joy to be around.

Heidi grew up in Long Island, NY, and moved here with her mom, Debbie, when she was 19. Debbie married Paul Depenau, and they all lived here in Boulder Creek together. Her sister, Angela, lives here with her boyfriend, Robert, and daughters, Jessie, and "Little" Debbie, who were the lights of Heidi's life. During her final days, she was surrounded by her loving cousin, Brandi Weems, and Aunt Gloria, as well as countless others.

Her family and friends were her reason for living.

Heidi believed when we pass our spirit returns to earth to give back what we were given. That we are forever alive through the birds, flowers, trees, mountains, and even the air we breathe. That there is never an end but only a new beginning.

Thank you for being a part our lives Heidi. You'll live forever in the hearts of all who were blessed to know you.



Remembering Larry Hosford

By Christa Taylor

In 1974, I was gifted with a career that changed my life: The ability to play whatever music I wanted on a very cool and unusual radio station, KLRB, located in downtown Carmel. It was a magical time in my life, and the beginnings of a musical format that was later entitled, "Americana."

As all new-to-the-job radio DJs were required to do at some time, I was on the air late one night and happened to be gazing at one of the most beautiful record album covers I'd ever seen, by a guy I'd heard lived somewhere in the area - Santa Cruz, I thought. It was by Larry Hosford and the album was called "AKA Lorenzo." I was playing an especially sweet song from it that reached a special place in my heart, and when the song ended, I opened the mic and said, "Larry Hosford, wherever you are, I love you." Then the phone rang. Guess who?

Larry invited me to meet him at the Catalyst in Santa Cruz the next day, and thus began a friendship that lasted many years. I was impressed by his talent and attended a great number of his shows, even became roommates with the bass player in his backup band at the time, Fly by Night. Those were fun days, filled with the best music and nightlife, in one of the best places in the nation to enjoy this lifestyle.

Some of my favorite memories took place post-concerts at the Catalyst, when Larry and a bunch of folks would go hang out at what was then the office of Yeah Productions, owned by our old friend, Bruce Mason, who has also left us. We would stay up way too late enjoying the late night ambience from the porch of the Dr. Miller Building where Larry and I loved to sing our favorite song to those on the street, "Your Sweet and Shiny Eyes," by Bonnie Raitt. We'd change the lyrics to say, "Drinkin' salty margaritas with Lorenzo" instead of "Fernando," as the song actually goes. Sweet memories.

We had the opportunity last summer to reminisce about these days and the other good times we had over the years while at the Redwood Mountain Faire. Larry was able to play a bit on stage with his good friends, Ken Kraft, Bob O'Neill, and Harpin' Johnny. Although Larry was in his wheelchair, he still made the music and the audience happy with his ever-present style. I was touched. I knew somehow that it would be my last visit with my old friend, Lorenzo. May you be raisin' a ruckus in Heaven, Lo. Thank you for all the great music you gave this world...we will never forget you.

Legendary singer-songwriter and Salinas native, Larry Hosford, passed away Saturday, November 23, 2016 at the age of 73. A concert in Larry's honor is being held at the Kuumbwa Jazz Center on Sunday, January 22 at 2:00 pm. Christa Taylor is a retired DJ and music enthusiast who now lives in Aptos, CA

Concert for Larry Hosford at Kuumbwa Jazz Center, Santa Cruz on Sunday, January 15, 2:00 pm.



Santa Cruz Mountain Local New Round Up

Severe Weather in the Santa Cruz Mountains

First weeks of January, 2017 – The mountains experienced drenching rain, mudslides, downed trees, and road closures. The San Lorenzo River crested near flood stage and over 6 inches of rain was reported in 24 hours in the first storm of 2017 on January 4. Bear Creek Road closed to through traffic due to subsidence of roadway. Local traffic only. No estimated time of reopening.

Kaiser Permanente Medical Offices

January 3, 2017 – Kaiser offers medical services at four new facilities in Santa Cruz County:

Watsonville | Two locations: 75 Nielson Street & 1931 Main Street, Watsonville, CA 95076

Scotts Valley | 5615 Scotts Valley Drive, Scotts Valley, CA 95066

Santa Cruz | 115 Locust Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

For more information: <https://thrive.kaiserpermanente.org/care-near-you/northern-california/santacruz/>

Snow Dusts Mountain Passes

Boulder Creek, CA – January 2, 2017. Light snow fell in the areas of Highway 9 at Highway 35 turning to slush once it hit the ground. Weather reports suggested that the snow level would fall from 2500 feet to possibly 1500 and that mountain passes might become treacherous as the first commuters of 2017 hit the roads.

DMV Reminds Motorists of New 2017 Laws

January 1, 2017 – Check out the California Department of Motor Vehicles website for information about new laws that have just gone into effect, like the use of electronic wireless devices, motorcycle lane splitting, child safety seats, and more. www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/detail/pubs/newsrel/newsrel16/2016_36

Inmate Walk-Away Captured

BEN LOMOND, CA – December 31, 2016. A 40-year-old inmate who walked away from the minimum-security Ben Lomond Conservation Camp on December 28 was quickly apprehended. Russel Helton, in detention since December, 2015 for grand theft, has been taken to a facility in Susanville. According to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), the Ben Lomond CC houses approximately 100 minimum-custody inmates.

Golf Cart Thefts

Boulder Creek, CA – December 28, 2016

The cart barn at the Boulder Creek Golf and Country Club was broken into and multiple carts were stolen. There were reports to the police around 4:00 am that people saw two golf carts driving down 236 towards town. The Country Club is offering a \$1000 reward for information that leads to the arrest and prosecution of those involved in the theft.

If you have any knowledge of this crime or know who was involved, we urge you to reach out to the sheriff's department directly or call the Country Club at 831.338.2111

Update, January 2, 2017 – One missing golf cart was discovered at nearby property along with a pickup truck, also reported stolen. Residents are encouraged to call the sheriff's office to report suspicious activities. Lock your vehicles, hide or remove valuables, and install motion sensitive security cameras on your property.

Mountain Lion Kill

Boulder Creek, CA – December 22, 2016. A partially devoured deer carcass was found on a resident's lawn in the Kings Creek area of Boulder Creek at Creek Ct. Some neighbors report missing house pets. Please keep your pets and ranch animals secure.

Looking Ahead in 2017

Boulder Creek Business Association 2017 Memberships

Please renew your membership for 2017 and keep the BCBA a strong and growing organization. Membership fees for 2017 are \$75 for an Enhanced Membership and \$45 for a Basic Membership. <http://bcba.net/2017-bcba-membership-renewal-form/>

Covered California Open Enrollment

Do it while you can! Open enrollment period closes Jan. 31, 2017. Through Covered California, the state-run health insurance marketplace, Californians can select brand-name health insurance under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and see if they qualify for financial subsidies from the federal government. These plans provide individuals and families with high-quality, affordable coverage through private insurance providers. www.cityofhope.org/patients/for-patients-and-visitors/medical-insurance/covered-california

Boulder Creek Public Pool & Recreation Facilities

Anticipated opening this spring or summer: Public swimming pool located at the former Bear Creek Country Club. The Boulder Creek Recreation and Park District struck an agreement with Santa Cruz County to help purchase the private club at 15685 Forest Hill Drive in November, 2016. There also are tennis courts, clubhouse, a volleyball and basketball court, weight room, locker rooms, hiking trails and picnic areas, all on 7 acres, 2 miles west of downtown Boulder Creek.

Eventual Reopening of the Brookdale Inn and Spa

Incremental progress has been made in late 2016 that favors an eventual reopening of the historic landmark in late 2017. After winning approval and beginning reconstruction of the 46-room hotel portion of the complex, owner, Pravin Patel, won approval in the Fall of 2016 to begin restoring the historic dining room.

Robbery at Liberty Mutual Bank

January 11, 2017 - Felton, CA 11:00 a.m. . Suspect on foot seen heading south on Hwy 9. White male in his 40s, 6 ft, average build, sandy blond/gray hair, brown jacket with a thick zipper, red and blue beanie with a tassel and possibly an umbrella. Call 471-1121

2017 Storm Pictures by David Chatwick



Three Secrets To Make Your Garden Great Again!

By Brandon Parker - CFII

Christmas cracked through town like a dog with its tail on fire. New Year's Promises have been promised. Resolutions have been resolved. I felt rushed like a toddler with a tummy full of Red Bull. Alas it has passed. Now life slows down again. You can appreciate the change of seasons and speed.



It's time to be nice to your future garden. Here's what you can do this month. Add love now and get it back tenfold next harvest.

Three Steps To Prep...

1. Plant this month: Add new fruit trees and shade trees. Think five years down the road. We all know time passes. Father Time is ruthless. Work with nature. I finally got an avocado tree in the ground. I wish I would have done it five years ago.

Plant roses, shrubs, and vines. These plants are dormant right now. It's the perfect time to let them get comfortable in their new dirt homes. When the Spring sun stands overhead, they'll be ready to rock.

It's also time to plant artichokes and asparagus. Plant blackberries, raspberries, and strawberries. Plant rhubarb and grapes. These things are extra. Don't plant them in your spot for next years veggie garden.

2. Imagine and plan your main veggie garden:

It's better to be very proud of a small garden than overwhelmed by a big garden. Hint: You don't need 200 zucchini next year. Here's a sample garden...you can expand later: Cabbage and carrots. Lettuce and Tomatoes. Radish and Squash. Bush beans and beets. Pop in some peppers. You'll be pickin' a plenty when it gets sunny.

3. Take action on your plan. Go online. Request a seed catalog. Start a fire. Receive your seed catalog. Imagine shocking your friends and family with a wonderful harvest from your summer garden. Order your seeds. Receive your seeds. Smile. You're ready.

Just go for it! It's better to have a pretty good garden in the dirt than a picture-perfect garden in your head.

Bonus Tip: Prune all your dormant plants. Flowering vines, trees, roses, hydrangeas and shrubs. It is just the right thing to do...and your plants will love you for it.

I hope you noticed your community garden. I pulled the last plants out. Steve Maurer has been working like a madman composting. The boxes are brimming with rich organic soil. The spring garden will be great. Thank Steve and give him a high five when you see him in town.

Happy New Year to you. Did you make a resolution to save time or get stuff done? I can help! Katie, Karen, and I will wash your dirty clothes. Drop off your wash. Get it back clean. Save time. You deserve it. 10-7 M-F at Boulder Creek Village Wash & Dry 12890 Highway 9.



SCM COMMUNITY CALENDAR

January/February 2017

For more events and expanded information on events listed, go to our Community Calendar online: santacruzmountainbulletin.net/events/

Saturdays & Sundays, January 1 - March 26

Rain Forest Weekends

Learn about California's own Coastal Redwood Forest. Located in the Santa Cruz Mountains just a few miles from the ocean, the forest flourishes in moderate temperatures and a year-round water supply provided by the Pacific systems and dense fog.

12:30 - 5:30 pm | Roaring Camp Railroads

5401 Graham Hill Road, Felton, California 95018

www.facebook.com/events/229277974190059/

Friday, January 13 - Sunday, January 15

43rd Annual Santa Cruz Fungus Fair

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm daily

Louden Nelson Community Center

301 Center St, Santa Cruz, California 95060

This unique Santa Cruz tradition features three days of fantastic fun, informative speakers and demonstrations, with fungal activities for the whole family.

<http://ffsc.us/fair>

Saturday, January 14

Flow Yoga Boulder Creek Roots of Pranayama - Botanical Yoga Experience

1:00 pm | New Location: 12788 Hwy 9 in the Lomond Center next to BC Water and SE Electric
www.facebook.com/flowboulder creek/

Sunday, January 15

Concert for Larry Hosford Kuumbwa Jazz Center | 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
320-2 Cedar St, Santa Cruz, California
The Life and Music of Larry Hosford performed by local artists and those who knew the man himself.

www.facebook.com/events/700266836806715/

Friday, January 20

Flow Yoga Boulder Creek - Death Cafe - A respectful roundtable about the inevitable
7:00 pm | New Location: 12788 Hwy 9 in the Lomond Center next to BC Water and SE Electric
www.facebook.com/flowboulder creek/

Saturday, January 21

Women's March Santa Cruz County
Santa Cruz City Hall | 1:30 - 6:30 pm
809 Center St, Santa Cruz, California 95060
The Women's March Santa Cruz County will coincide with the January 21, 2017, Women's March on Washington, DC. Scheduled for the day after the presidential inauguration, the all-inclusive non-partisan march is for women, men, and children to stand together for the protection of human rights, safety, and the importance of vibrant, diverse communities. www.facebook.com/events/1022051451238688/

Fermented Vegetables & Sauerkraut

Presented by Mountain Feed
10:00 am - 1:00 pm | Alba Schoolhouse
12070 Alba Rd, Ben Lomond, California
Sauerkraut comes immediately to mind, as well as the classic fermented cucumber, the kosher dill.
www.mountainfeed.com/products/fermented-vegetables-sauerkraut-january-9-2016

DIOFest Hype Night - Sky Country & Dan Juan
Concert benefit for DIO Fest, a grassroots music, art & community festival that benefits Camp Krem and promotes a 'do-it-ourselves approach.'
8:00 pm | The Crepe Place
www.doitourselvespresents.com/

Loch Lomond Celtic Society Robert Burns Supper
6:00 pm | Bruno's BBQ Live Oak Room

An ode to the famous bard of Scotland. Whisky tasting begins at 6:00 pm. Piping in of the haggis by Jay Salter 7:00 pm. Dinner to follow about 7:30 pm with music by

Jay Salter and friends. Silent auction and tribute to Scott Peden. www.facebook.com/events/702285946600615/

Sunday, January 22

Flow Yoga Boulder Creek - Yoga, Creativity, Writing and the Arts Workshop
Noon | New Location: 12788 Hwy 9 in the Lomond Center next to BC Water and SE Electric

Sunday, January 29

To Bee or Not to Bee
Presented by Mountain Feed
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm | Park Hall
9370 Mill St, Ben Lomond, California 95005

This is a free Beekeeping Introduction Lecture
Learn to be a responsible beekeeper from the start!
Getting started with honeybees and keeping them is fun and easy as long as you are well prepared.

Friday, February 3

First Friday Art Walk - Felton
www.facebook.com/FirstFridayFelton/
First Friday Art Walk - Boulder Creek
www.facebook.com/firstfridayartwalkboulder creek/
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Ongoing

Family Crafts at Felton Library
Tuesdays | 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm | 6299 Gushee St, Felton | (831) 427-7708

Boulder Creek Business Association Meeting
1st Wednesday | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm | IOOF building upstairs | BCBA.net

Boulder Creek Parks and Recreation Board Meeting
1st Wednesday | 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm | 13333 Middleton Ave (831) 338-4144 | BCRPD.org

CERT Boulder Creek
1st Thursday | 7:00 pm | Learn to be prepared for any disaster. | Boulder Creek Fire House
SLV Water District Board Meeting
1st and 3rd Thursdays | 7:00 pm | 13057 Hwy 9, Boulder Creek
SLV Caregivers Support Group
2nd and 4th Thursdays | 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm | Highlands Park Senior Center
Traditional Irish Jam Session
3rd Thursdays | 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm | Rosie McCann's 1220 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz facebook.com/SantaCruzTradIrishSeisiun

January/February Concerts

<p>Joe's Bar 13118 Highway 9 Boulder Creek, CA 95006 http://www.lochdog.com/onthestreet/</p> <p>Scott Walters Thursday, January 12 @ 8:30 pm</p> <p>West Coast Resonator Friday, January 13 @ 8:30 pm</p> <p>Porkchop Jefferson Saturday, January 14 @ 8:30 pm</p> <p>Mark Becker & Heathen Hill Thursday, January 19 @ 8:30 pm</p> <p>Sleepless Nights Friday, January 20 @ 8:30</p>	<p>Joe's Bar Continued</p> <p>Drake Equation Saturday, January 21 @ 8:30</p> <p>Bill Mahkowitz Thursday, January 26 @ 8:30</p> <p>Blackwater Station Friday, January 27 @ 8:30</p> <p>Next Blues Saturday, January 28 @ 8:30</p> <p>Eric Winders Saturday, February 4 @ 8:30</p> <p>Kevin Hamm Band Friday, February 10 @ 8:30</p>	<p>LILLE AESKE 13160 Highway 9 Boulder Creek, CA 95006 www.lilleaeske.com</p> <p>Son of the Velvet Rat (SotVR) Saturday, January 14 @ 8:00 pm</p> <p>MAITA + Ismay Friday, January 20 @ 8:00 pm</p> <p>Juniper Jones and The Long Way Home Saturday, January 21 @ 8:00 pm</p> <p>Pat Hull + Jessie Marks Saturday, January 28 @ 8:00 pm</p> <p>Hoot and Holler + Jacob Martin Saturday, February 4 @ 8:00 pm</p> <p>Fellow Pynins Saturday, February 9 @ 8:00 pm</p>	<p>Celtic Society of the Monterey Bay Presents Tickets @ www.celticsociety.org</p> <p>Kevin Crawford & Cillian Vallely Tuesday January 17, 7:30 pm</p> <p>Runa Wednesday, January 18, 7:30 pm Don Quixote's International Music Hall, Felton</p> <p>Burns Night with Jim Malcolm Wednesday, January 25, 7:30 pm Don Quixote's International Music Hall, Felton</p> <p>Diamh Wednesday, February 8, 7:30 Don Quixote's International Music Hall, Felton.</p>
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SLV HISTORY

Chinese New Year

By Lisa Robison

The first day of the Chinese New Year falls annually on the new moon between January 21 and February 20. So sometimes a Chinese year has twelve months, sometimes thirteen. In 2017, the Chinese New Year will begin on January 28, and it will be the year of the Rooster.

In 1901, forty local business men and women enjoyed a wonderful banquet in celebration of the Chinese New Year. The banquet, which had become a “time-honored tradition,” was given by the Coon Hing Hong Society of Boulder Creek in their quarters, which were located in “Old Steve’s Corner.”

The Chinese hosts were all professional cooks – “the very best in town.” In fact, of the then 28 San Lorenzo Valley Chinese residents, all were men, and 19 were employed as cooks. The menu was comprised of roast chicken a la Mandarin, breast of chicken a la Chinese, stewed abalone, stewed mushrooms, desiccated fish fricasseed, bread and butter, preserved betel nuts, oranges, mince pie, coffee, claret, and cider.

Old Steve’s Corner, pictured here, was located on Highway 9 just across from West Park Avenue. The building had been erected in 1877 as the very first store in the fledgling village of Boulder. It was operated by Jacob S. Perkins, and owned by Santa Cruz businessman Richard C. Kirby, husband of the renowned feminist and educator, Georgiana Bruce Kirby.



880, Perkins was praised for his forward thinking when he added a free delivery service to his business. In 1883, however, he sold the business to George H. Chappell and moved to Monterey County owing to his wife’s ill health.

Chappell operated the business until the 1890s. The post office was moved to the location in 1884 and Chappell became the postmaster.

The building then became Old Steve’s Corner Saloon with a Chinese laundry occupying what had been the adjacent residence. James H. Fuller acquired the property and operated the saloon, also known as “Fuller’s Place.” He built the two storey Fuller’s Cash Store opposite the saloon on the corner of West Park Avenue where the real estate office is today.

Old Steve’s Corner was destroyed by fire in November 1930. The site was purchased by Cyril Evans of Los Angeles and became Evans Rest resort.

The Planes Are Coming Back

By Chris Finnie

Santa Cruz County supervisors were divided at a recent meeting over the Select Committee on South Bay Arrivals’ recommendation to shift the flight path and its noise over Capitola, Soquel, and the Summit back to the previous path over Santa Cruz and San Lorenzo Valley.

Supervisors Ryan Coonerty and Bruce McPherson wanted to send a minority report to the three members of Congress who set up the group. Supervisor John Leopold, one of the 12 members of the Select Committee, said the least noisy approach is to glide down. But gliding down is not possible with the Soquel-Summit route due to airspace requirements, according to Leopold, who proposed planes fly at higher altitudes on the “Big Sur” route over Santa Cruz and San Lorenzo Valley and minimize use of air brakes, which create noise.

He pointed out one of the recommendations is for a committee to meet three months after the flight path is changed to gauge the results.

Coonerty proposed that, if Santa Cruz and San Lorenzo Valley residents report noise after three months, the flight path should be shifted back over Soquel and the Summit until the problems are fixed. His motion failed for lack of a second.

The FAA Report

The Federal Aviation Administration issued a report called the Northern California Initiative that addresses “a number of proposed technical solutions that were brought to the FAA to analyze, study and/or evaluate ... longstanding issues with noise, as well as changes to the Northern California TRACON (Terminal Radar Approach Control) instrument approach and departure procedures, [that] have generated some new and highlighted ongoing areas of concern from residents of Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, San Mateo and San Francisco counties.”

The executive summary says, “The final report provides specific details on the disposition of each suggestion, and basis for



Photo by Neal Windsor

determination. In cases where the FAA team determined proposed procedural amendments were unfeasible or operationally unacceptable, the agency completed a detailed description explaining why. These explanations will be provided to the Congressional representatives. In cases where the FAA team determined proposed procedural amendments were feasible and flyable, as well as operationally acceptable from a safety point of view the agency will conduct formal environmental and safety reviews, and seek feedback from existing and/or new community roundtables and operators, before moving forward with the formal amendment process.”

Where Things Stand Now

The report ends by saying, “Once a regionally vetted endorsement is provided to the FAA for the FAA to move forward with a feasible procedural change or amendment, the FAA will consider proceeding with all necessary safety and environmental reviews as required by FAA Order to complete the formal amendment process for implementation.”

For more information: www.mercurynews.com/2016/11/24/palo-altans-dont-see-much-jet-noise-relief-in-plan/

San Lorenzo Valley Bids Farewell to Scott Peden

By Matt Harris

I first met Scott - it was 20-plus years ago - at the Loch Lomond Highland Games. He was playing his bagpipes and I had stopped to listen. Once he was done, I approached to ask him about his playing. We hit it off right away and pretty much spoke for three hours straight! I could tell from the start that Scott was an incredibly intelligent man with a passion for all things Celtic. If I had a question of anything remotely to do with the British Isles, Scott knew the answer. His ability to recall dates and information was like nothing I had witnessed before. Scott knew about every clan, be it Irish or Scottish.

Scott was willing to spend time with anyone who was looking for their heritage no matter how long that took. I have never met a man so passionate and generous with his time. When I heard of Scott’s passing, I felt such a terrible

loss, not only for myself but for our amazing valley. Scott had dedicated his life to educate others; it was his passion, his mission, his life. Scott will be deeply missed, and I am certain that no one will be able to fill his shoes - it’s just not possible.

More about Scott Peden:

Santa Cruz Sentinel with Ryan Masters: <http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/environment-and-nature/20161228/memorial-redwood-planned-for-santa-cruz-mountains-naturalist-scott-peden>

Nature Outside with Steven Stolper: <http://www.natureoutside.com/remembering-scott-peden/>



Mr. Astrology - February 2017

By Mr. Astrology

In astrology the sky is divided up into 12 equal zones. These zones are known as houses. Each house represents a step in the evolution of the soul. Progressing from birth, to the development of identity and independence, and on through into maturity, this cycle finally culminates in an acceptance of all things and oneness with the universe.

The Fifth House is known as the house of creativity, romance, and children. This house represents sensual feelings, pleasurable relationships, parenthood, sexuality, artistic pursuits, hobbies, and recreation. The Fifth House rules the heart, spine, sides of the body, and upper back. It is ruled by the sign Leo, and its ruling planet is the Sun.

In the Fourth House of home and family, the developing self is given protection and nurturance. In the Fifth House, this accumulated energy leads to a desire to procreate and an eagerness to engage with life.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 On the 13th your ruling planet Saturn enters into a beneficial configuration with the Sun. This helps you to influence those in authority. Mercury races into your 2nd house of resources on the 7th, indicating a preference for a more practical and rational approach in regards to your finances.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 19 The Sun forms a harmonious alignment with your ruling planet Uranus on the 9th. The fresh new experiences your spirit yearns for will be easy to experience during this alignment. On the 10th the Moon lights up your 7th house of partnership, sowing the seeds of a new relationship.

♓ Pisces Feb. 20-March 20 The Moon enters your 6th house of health and service on the 10th. You want to make a positive impact in another's life. Volunteering your time will feel meaningful. On the 18th the Sun enters your 1st house of self. You feel assured and on top of things. You will be in an easy and natural flow over the next four weeks.

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 On the 26th your ruling planet Mars teams up with Uranus. Nothing can stand in your way of getting things done! Venus enters your 1st house of self on the 3rd. You are exuding charisma and charm! Your allure is magnetic!

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Mercury harmonizes with your ruling planet Venus on the 10th, giving you the capability to articulate your more friendly or affectionate nature verbally. On the 10th the Moon enters your 4th house of home and family. You will be enjoying some long overdue rest and relaxation with those you love.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 20 On the 16th your ruling planet Mercury is in an advantageous alignment with Mars, highlighting the finest you can give and enabling positive feelings and easy interaction in your relationships. The Sun enters your 10th house of career on the 18th. New starts can take place in your profession that can effectively modify its path.

♋ Cancer June 21-July 21 Mercury enters your 8th house of shared resources and sexuality on the 7th, strengthening your intuition and making it easy for you to read between the lines. Your ruling planet the Moon illuminates your 2nd house of resources on the 10th, introducing a new phase in your financial life.

♌ Leo July 22-Aug. 22 On the 9th your ruling planet the Sun forms a harmonious arrangement with Uranus. Your spirit yearns for fresh new experiences! Mercury enters your 7th house of partnership on the 7th. This is a perfect time for cooperative endeavors or for sharing your true feelings with that special someone!

♍ Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Your ruling planet Mercury squares off with Jupiter on the 2nd, suggesting you should utilize restraint and caution if you are flying too close to the Sun! It could be challenging harnessing your ideas for practical use. On the 3rd Venus enters your 8th house of shared resources. It's time to take a partnership to the next stage.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 22 Mercury is in a beneficial alignment with your ruling planet Venus on the 10th. You feel confident about communicating your personality to others. On the 26th the Moon enters your 6th house of health and service. Rededicating yourself to achieving your fitness goals will pay off over the next year!

♏ Scorpio Oct. 23-Nov. 22 On the 10th the Moon illuminates your 10th house of career and public standing. Explore how to modify or expand work duties. Mars forms a stressful alignment with your ruling planet Pluto on the 22nd. Be alert to power struggles. While you're not deceived, negotiating the circumstances might be demanding.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 The Sun is in a favorable position with your ruling planet Jupiter on the 11th. Spiritual interests such as meditation or yoga are favored. You seem protected by divine providence! On the 7th Mercury enters your 3rd house of communications. Conversations can stimulate new plans.

Another association with the Fifth House is gambling. Though this indicates an economic risk, it can also be seen as the readiness to take a chance on love, with money or in life. There is more to living than just functioning and existing. It also includes discovering the pleasure in the actions we perform. Have a great month, and always remember: Keep looking to the stars!

Tips for Teens (And a little help for the rest of us!)

Confidence

What is confidence? How do you get it? How come some people seem to have so much of it and I never seem to have enough?

Self confidence has been coming up a lot lately in my practice. In my research, I've come across a great book by Russ Harris called "The Confidence Gap." I highly recommend it. He says there are two definitions of confidence: 1. Confidence is a feeling of certainty or assurance, and 2. Confidence is an act of trust and reliance.

Most of us get caught up in the first definition. We need to feel a sense of confidence about doing something before we will do it. This can be a huge roadblock for a lot of people and stop them from following their dreams or just speaking up for themselves in class.

In the book, the author states the second definition is more of an action rather than a feeling. When we trust or rely on ourselves (or others), we aren't totally sure that things will work out well. In fact, we might even have a lot of fear and anxiety about all of the things that could possibly go wrong. Confidence is when you do it anyway in spite of your fears. Think back to when you first learned how to ride a bike. What made you give it a try even though it was scary?

Confidence is a skill that can be learned. If you practice your confidence as often as you brush your teeth, you will become more confident. It's very simple, but it's not easy and it takes time. There is so much great information out on the internet! Google "confidence" and pick something that works for you. And then ask yourself: How many ways did I practice my confidence today?

Remember, tomorrow is the first day of the rest of your life, make it count!

Marnie Defosset

Experiential Life Coach

Certified NLP Practitioner

Marnie.scmbulletin@gmail.com



If you have any topic requests or suggestions, drop me a line at the email above.

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& OTHER GIFTS OF NATURE



Damdave and the Left-Hand Band

By Julie Horner

Looking out from the “fishbowl” at the Boulder Creek Brewery Outpost, heads close together in comfortable familiarity in the late afternoon light, Dave Gillett and I sipped our “usual” and

went to town reminiscing about spirited times in old haunts around the San Lorenzo Valley. Known affectionately as “Damdave,” he is front-man singer-songwriter and guitar player for the Boulder Creek-based Americana group, Damdave and the Left-Hand Band.

Asked how he got the name “Damdave,” he explained how he had arrived in Brookdale – some 20 or more years ago – and started a folk jam at the Brookdale Lodge. He was just up from Santa Monica. “I was working for a health club in LA – had short hair and looked straight – one of my supervisors said, ‘You know, Dave, you seem like someone who might enjoy the Santa Cruz area.’” So he moved up and found a 1906 cabin in the mountains within walking distance of the Lodge.

One night he put his kids in bed and went over to check it out. “I didn’t drink at the time,” but he wound up earning his PhD hanging out in the bar. He remembers one of the bartenders, “Jenny Gilbert - Penthouse pretty - the owner’s daughter.” At one point someone asked his name. When he said, “David,” someone else at the bar shouted, “Not another damn Dave!”

Tuesday nights at the Brookdale Lodge were the slowest. “You had a couple of guys from the bar and we formed Damdave’s Odd-Ass Instrument Jam on Tuesday nights from ‘98-ish to 2008 or so,” Dave said. The Tuesday night jam was the forerunner of the Brookdale Bluegrass Festival. Eric Burman came to Dave’s jams and they decided after a time, “‘Hey this would be a great place for a festival’...and it took off.” March 2000 was first year of the festival, he recalls, and featured a precursor to a band called the Waybacks, Faux Renwah, and the late yodeling lady, Lolita. “She was a great yodeler – played at the Lodge in

Art & Music

A look at the local art scene in SLV

its heyday - give her a couple of drinks and “Oh, goddam!”

Now Dave’s a Boulder Creek townie. “It’s a nice little town. I’ve written five songs about this town, I Love These Mountains, Bear Creek Road...there are more.” He’s also written three Brookdale songs, among them, Brookdale’s Burning and Highway 9, a takeoff on the old song Highway 55 co-written with Eric Burman. “She always walks alone, neither flesh and neither bone, ooooo!! There’s some really good lyrics. Eric always made it a 20-minute long instrumental thing with audience participation.”

For a while he was Damdave and the Hot Damn Band. The name change reflects the distinction that Dave plays left-handed. Along with Graham MacFarlane (standup bass), “Mando” Mike Reynolds (vocals, mandolin), and occasionally “Joebro” Adams (any of whom may or may not also play left-handed), the guys will entertain you with “a mix of dysfunctional bluegrass, country, blues, soul, and a healthy dose of Damdave originals.”

“I’m not bluegrass, I don’t want a bluegrass band,” he says. His sound is Americana tending toward the bluesy. “I’ve always been a blues kind of guy.” He was raised in Ann Arbor, between Detroit and Chicago. “My voice is kind of gravelly, I grew up with Bob Seger. I like Gregg Allman...I like all kinds of music. I was thinking about this not too long ago. When I listen to people singing, when I listen to blues or Motown, the way they sing a song, the emphasis is on the words and music together. I want to develop my voice and my songs to be able to express the parts of the music I want to express...with an honesty in my voice.”

Damdave and the Left-Hand Band play every Tuesday at the Boulder Creek Brewery Outpost and every few weeks at Casa Nostra in Ben Lomond. Watch for a GoFundMe campaign for Dave’s upcoming CD. Online: damdave.brookdalebluegrass.com | www.facebook.com/damdave.gillett

Does Your Dog Bite?

By Chris Finnie

In the 1976 movie, *The Pink Panther Strikes Again*, Peter Sellers as Inspector Clouseau does a classic comedy routine:

Clouseau: Does your dog bite?

Hotel clerk: No.

Clouseau: Nice doggie. [He pets the dog, which bites Clouseau.]

Clouseau: I thought you said your dog did not bite!

Hotel clerk: That is not my dog.

Reports of loose dogs who have bitten walkers and dogs brought this routine to mind. And we thought it might be worth reminding dog owners about what the relevant county regulations are.

Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter is responsible for enforcing the laws and codes involving animals within the County of Santa Cruz. Their officers respond to calls and complaints that relate to enforcement of laws and ordinances about animals. This includes dangerous or menacing animals. If you or a pet have been victims of aggressive behavior displayed by another animal, you can call them at (831) 454-7200 and they will investigate. If you have a life-threatening situation involving both humans and animals, call 911.

Stripped of legal language, here’s what pet owners should know:

- All pets, except cats, are required to be on-leash when off their property, unless at an off-leash dog area.
- If animal control officers can find the owner, they may issue a citation. If they can’t, they may impound the animal.
- They may also do this if an animal has been found to have injured another animal or a person. In this case, the animal also has to be muzzled when off the owner’s property.
- If the animal is impounded, the owner has to pay impound fees to get the animal back.
- An animal control agency may also assess fines against owners.
- However, if the agency director declares the animal a habitual offender or a vicious animal, the law allows them to destroy the animal.

Essentially, your animals are your responsibility. It’s up to you to make sure they don’t present a danger to people or other animals. Not doing so can get expensive.

For more information, go to the Santa Cruz County Government website and click “Title 6 Animals” in the left navigation panel: <http://www.codepublishing.com/CA/SantaCruzCounty/>



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Cost: \$80.00



The Recipe Box by Quail Hollow Kitchens

We love mushrooms and many of us are amateur wild mushroom collectors in San Lorenzo Valley. There is a great event coming up for mushroom lovers. Starting Jan 13th through the 15th is the 43th Annual Fungus Fair. As we all know our rainfall in the Santa Cruz Mountains makes where we live amazing for hunting oyster, candy caps and the beloved boletes and chanterelles. We forage only a few but hunting is a lovely pass time for the rainy season. My children loved to look forward to fall and spring mushroom hunts. We grab our guide books and head to our favorite spots. For more information go to <http://www.fungusfed.org/> So, this issue of "The Recipe Box" is a tribute to a few of my favorite Mushroom recipes.



Wild Mushroom Risotto

Re-hydrate: 1 ounce dried porcini mushrooms (bring 1 cup water to boil, add mushrooms and allow to sit) In a large skillet heat: 1 tablespoon olive oil 1/2 cup finely chopped onions or 1/4 cup shallots 1 minced garlic 16 ounces assorted wild mushrooms, wiped clean and thinly sliced (Oyster, Hens of the woods, shiitake, cremini) 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley leaves 2 tablespoons chopped fresh thyme 2 tablespoons unsalted butter 1 teaspoon truffle oil Re-hydrated porcini mushrooms (reserving liquid for later) Salt and pepper to taste

In a large, heavy saucepan, heat the oil and melt the butter over medium-high heat. Add the shallots and garlic, and cook, stirring until fragrant and soft, about 3 minutes. Add the mushrooms and cook, stirring, until wilted and their liquid is evaporated, 4 to 5 minutes. Add herbs, butter, truffle oil and reconstituted porcini mushrooms, saving the liquid. Salt and pepper to taste. Set mushroom skillet aside for later.

In a large skillet or Dutch oven add:

2 Tbs olive oil, 1/2 cup finely chopped onions or 1/4 cup shallots and 1 clove garlic, minced, 2 cups Arborio rice, 1 cup dry white wine or sherry, 6 to 8 cups veggie stock (See recipe below) 1/2 teaspoon salt 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, 1/2 to 1 cup finely grated Parmesan



In a medium saucepan, bring the stock to a simmer over medium heat. Reduce the heat to very low to keep hot.

In a large heavy saucepan, heat the oil over medium-high heat. Add the shallots and garlic, and cook, stirring until fragrant and soft, about 3 minutes. Add the rice and cook, stirring constantly, until the grains are opaque, about 1 minute. Add the wine and cook, stirring, until nearly all absorbed. Add reserved porcini liquid and stir until absorbed. Using a ladle, add 1 cup hot veggie stock to rice and allow to cook until absorbed between each cup. This process takes about 30 minutes. Rice should be al dente and not mushy. When the rice has absorbed 4 or 5 cups of stock, start to check for desired doneness. When done, add in cooked mushrooms, cheese, and salt and pepper to taste. Serve with more chopped parsley and grated Parmesan cheese.

Comments or suggestion are welcomed. Contact Patricia Davis at TheRecipeBox@QuailHollowKitchens.com.

Friends of Felton Library Visit Linda Skeff's Home

By Kristen Hill

Friends of the Felton Library visited Linda Skeff's house to understand best methods for removing invasive, non-native plants such as ivy and restoring the beauty and health of the native redwood forest. Linda restored the ivy ensnared forest around her home to a place of renewed life and native redwood forest beauty. Over coffee and muffins, she described to us how her forest has, over the years, come from being infested and choked with ivy to burgeoning with new life of native species like big leaf maple, tan oak, wild ginger, sorrel, leopard lilies, redwoods and Douglas fir (not to mention native fauna likes birds, newts, and salamanders).



"It was more open when we first bought our property," Linda explained. "But since removing predominantly ivy and vinca and going through the restoration process, the forest understory plants have regrown. There isn't one tree out there that I haven't touched in some way." Linda explained to us how ivy, the kind that many people allow to grow in their yards because it is easy to grow and it looks nice, is not native to this area, in fact it is a terribly invasive species.

"The ivy kills trees, densely growing around the crown of the tree causes fungus to set in. It then goes aerial up into the canopy and cuts off the ability to photosynthesize and between the two, causes the trees to ultimately weaken, die, and fall."

Not only does the ivy kill trees, it blocks out any form of native life in its path. The birds can't scratch in the duff for bugs and seeds because they can't get past the ivy. And many insects don't like ivy either. The ivy sucks all the nutrients out of the forest for itself. In essence, anywhere ivy is growing, the forest is suffocating.

"When you take out the ivy, you bring back the birds"

Linda explained to us the process of removing ivy, a seemingly daunting but ultimately rewarding task. She described how to pull out the ivy, which many may think is a Sisyphean task. "You start from the edges," she explained. "Not where it is thickest and most dense, but where the native plants are still alive, they may be choking, but they are still alive and you can rescue them by pulling out the ivy at these edges first."

Linda explained that the biggest problems with ivy occur when it "goes aerial." Once it has climbed a tree and produced berries it has more means of spreading, with berries getting dispersed by birds but also by berries (hence, seeds) dropping to the soil. This is when the ivy really takes off and starts growing everywhere, wreaking havoc with native ecosystems.

"Keep the duff to retain the moisture and repel the weeds."

Linda regularly feeds her forest with supplements of wood chips and redwood duff to help maintain the duff for microorganisms that exist and help break down the wood and return nutrients to the soil. She described how she aerates the soil to create habitat for newts and salamanders (some of which are endangered) and other forest organisms by weaving and layering together branches, twigs, leaves and wood chips to create pockets of air and moisture and mimic processes found in the understory of an old growth forest. Air is a critical component of soil. In fact, like a skin, soil has pores, which play a major role in water and air movement through the soil, all of which are essential for healthy root and plant growth. Furthermore, soil microorganisms reside in these pores where they help to break down plant material and release nutrients back to the forest. The forest floor around Linda's house feels spongy and moist, protected and alive.

Linda Skeff is the founder of the San Lorenzo Valley Restoration Project. For more information: www.facebook.com/slvrestorationproject/ | <http://www.slvrestorationproject.org/> To read the full length article, visit www.santacruzmountainbulletin.net

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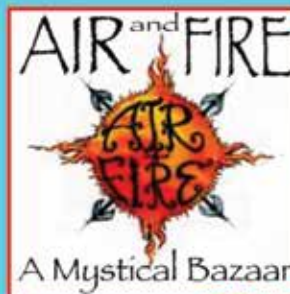
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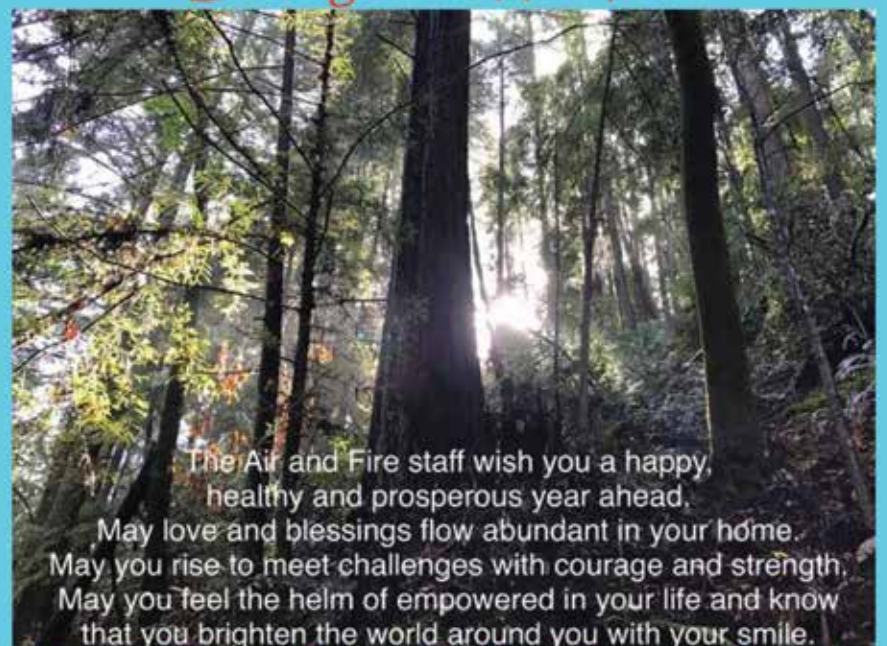


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Blessings in the New Year!!



The Air and Fire staff wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous year ahead. May love and blessings flow abundant in your home. May you rise to meet challenges with courage and strength. May you feel the helm of empowered in your life and know that you brighten the world around you with your smile.

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