



Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury

SCARY: 3-D PRINTER GUNS

In response to recent news that a fully useable 3-D printed firearm had been manufactured, state Senator Leland Yee (D-San Francisco/San Mateo) intends to introduce legislation to prohibit use of the technology to create such untraceable and anonymously produced guns. Firearm designs for the gun known as "The Liberator" can be instantly downloaded and printed anonymously with nothing in place to screen and prevent felons and criminals. The firearm, made using a three-dimensional printer, already has been able to successfully fire .380-caliber bullets. The new technology has been used to manufacture assault weapon parts, including high-capacity magazines and lower receivers.

WHAT'S YOUR STYLE?

In an often in-your-face, uncensored social world, should people feel free to say or do whatever they want? Is policing your words and actions good etiquette or lying? Read Twitter posts these days, and you will see that drawing lines in the sand has become a thing of the past. How has this affected everyday social interaction? Are people who say whatever they want glorified for their bold honesty? Assessing research data from 1,665 people, Queendom.com reveals that people who do not self-monitor (purposely regulate their words or actions in social situations) are less sensitive to social cues, have more difficulty understanding body language, and have much more trouble controlling their anger. Queendom's statistics also revealed that: 73 percent of low self-monitors do not think before they speak (compared to 2 percent of high self-monitors); 80 percent of low self-monitors act impulsively (compared to 3 percent of high self-monitors); 64 percent of low self-monitors admit that they often say things that they later regret (compared to 4 percent of high self-monitors); 66 percent of low self-monitors have embarrassed their family or friends in social situations (compared to 7 percent of high self-monitors); 62 percent of low self-monitors have been called "insensitive" (compared to 3 percent of high self-monitors); when very angry, the top response for low self-monitors was to let their anger out (arguing, yelling) without holding anything back. The top answer for high self-monitors was to step away from the situation or person that is upsetting them, and try to put it in perspective.

(Next week: Part 2 – How to become a better self-monitor)

TUNNELISTAS

A key player in the struggle to save Montara Mountain from

a freeway bypass in favor of the now-completed Devil's Slide tunnels is the Committee for Green Foothills. This grassroots nonprofit has been on the front lines for more than 40 years defending our scenic coast against various predatory proposals (a dam, a freeway, a mega-development). Want to help them keep up the good fight? Become a member today (greenfoothills.org).

CEDRIC COLLETT MEMORIAL

Celebration of Life honoring Pacifica firefighter and environmentalist Cedric Collett is on Saturday, May 25 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at Pedro Point Firehouse.

OCEAN SHORE RAILROAD CAR

Car #1409 needs your help on moving day, tentatively scheduled for Thursday, May 16 starting about 5 a.m. The restored Ocean Shore Railroad car will be trucked from Shamrock Ranch to a more secure location within the city's corporation yard. (Contact Scott Lindner, Car #1409 Project Manager, 650-276-6568, mycrzyplice@sbcglobal.net)

BONE-JARRING

Rick Bauman is mad as hell and he's not gonna take it anymore. Linda Mar potholes, that is. He tells Wandering and Wondering: "I am a lifelong Pacifican. Along with many of my Pacifica brethren, I am wondering when our podunk city will fill the large potholes on lower Linda Mar Boulevard, specifically the eastbound left lane. It is pathetic to think the city can't afford some asphalt to patch this marquee road. Or, god forbid, repave the entire length of this arguably most traveled road in town. There, I got it off my chest. I'm sure many are wondering the same thing."

CLARIFICATION

Anyone who pays attention and reads my column carefully knows that I like Oceana, Sun Valley, Pacifica Farmer's, and Coastside Farmer's markets. I do NOT support big-box stores like Walmart. Whether Fresh & Easy is taken over by any of the national chains whispered about around town is not up to me, but read my lips: SHOP LOCALLY.

BLINDED BY SCIENCE

Question: Why did the physics teacher split up with the biology teacher? Answer: Because there wasn't any chemistry!

SWAMI SEZ

"There is not (said a shrewd wag) a more uncommon thing in the world than common sense." (Nicholas Amhurst, "The Secret History of the University of Oxford," 1726)

WASTING AWAY IN MAYBURRITOVILLE

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