



## Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury

### I LOVE PACIFICA

Don't get me wrong, folks. Last week I said to disincorporate Pacifica, because I believe our system of government is broken or at least seriously fractured. Yet I still love our green hillsides, blue waters, clean air, and quirky people. I have no illusions that returning to unincorporated status under county jurisdiction would be any Sunday school picnic, but maybe a Higher Authority could help us find our way out of the fiscal mess we are in now. I don't have any magic bullets for this lame horse of a town. I just want to put it out of its misery and get on with the huge job of finding a better ride. Okay, once again I have exhausted my meager supply of metaphors. My job as a newspaper columnist is to ask dumb questions and make dumb suggestions. The brilliant solutions are up to smarter people than me. Have fun and good luck. Let the dialogue begin in these pages. I look forward to your hate mail and love letters. But don't blame me. I'm just the messenger.

### BEES CATCH A BUZZ

The Twittiverse is abuzz with news of a recent scientific study on plants that use naturally occurring caffeine in their nectar to make honeybees work harder at pollination. A Google search reveals dozens of stories about superbees stoked on caffeine and servicing their host plants. I want to taste that honey!

### PEDRO POINT'S ROCKY ROAD

Gary Furlong emails: "Had to chuckle about your comment last week: 'Have you tried driving up and down Linda Mar Boulevard lately?' I live on Pedro Point (yes, yes, northern Carmel). It's bad enough that some of the roads here are little more than paths, but if people bought their houses knowing that was their road, then so be it. But other roads on Pedro Point that used to be good, wide roads have now been allowed to fall into complete disrepair. Try taking a drive along Kent Road between San Pedro and Essex/Blackburn

Terrace (only two blocks long). Just don't do it in a good car. That used to be a decent road, but every year it gets worse. The most the city will do is fill in some potholes, though how they decide which pothole to fill in is a good question. Even San Pedro is starting to fall apart. When contacted, the city says that it's not on their list -- any of Pedro Point. The last time there was any paving done on the street I live on, we paid out of our own pockets to do it ourselves. And within weeks the city came through and tore up the pavement to change out a pipe. I will say that when we've called and asked that specific potholes be filled in, they have been. But that's not even a Band-Aid."

### LAST RIDE ON DEVIL'S SLIDE

Nancy Hall says: "We are all excited about the opening of the new tunnels that bypass Devil's Slide, but let's remember that it is also the end of an era for locals who grew up braving this treacherous stretch of Highway 1. The Curios have released a song 'Last Ride on Devil's Slide' as well as t-shirts and hoodies with original artwork by Andrew Leone. T-shirts from youth size small up to 3X are \$18. Add the CD and it's \$23 with shipping. If you are local, you can just arrange to pick them up. The single by the same name sold out at The Curios' Winter Concert, but they now have more copies. CD-only is \$5. Call 650-359-2073 to get yours while they last."

### TUNNEL VISION ALE

In honor of the Devil's Slide opening March 26, Half Moon Bay Brewing Company at Princeton Harbor launched Tunnel Vision Ale, "the beer at the end of the tunnel." Owners Lenny and Christine Mendonca have supported the tunnel solution for Devil's Slide since it was proposed in 1996, four years before the brewing company was established.

### LOCAL FARMERS MARKET TOPS "A" LIST

Our own little Coastside Farmers Market (Pacifica and Half Moon Bay) has won the top spot on the Bay Area "A" List for Best Farmers Market. Kudos to market founder/manager Erin Tormey and all the farmers, fishmongers, bakers, musicians, masseuses, and others who make the market a fun and healthy place to shop every week from May to December. "To see the abundance of produce from some of the most

fertile farmland in the West displayed beside wild king salmon, artisanal goat cheese, and regional honey is to understand the essential roles farming and fishing play in the life and economy of the region," says Tormey. Informed of the good news about the "A" List award, she appropriately Blackberried me, "Woohooo and thank you to the Friends of the Farmers Market. Amazing to think we did this in the off-season!

### BAY-DELTA WATER QUALITY CONTROL

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to revive the Bay-Delta and the rivers that feed it, including the Tuolumne (visit Tuolumne.org for a video on the Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan). The site includes information on how you can help revive the Bay-Delta by submitting written comments to the State Water Board through March 29. Water users that benefit from diverting huge amounts of water from our rivers and the Delta at the expense of fish and wildlife, water quality, and recreation have already spoken, so concerned citizens must tell the State Water Board that most Californians favor a balanced approach that protects natural resources and economic interests.

### SITSEER

Paper or plastic? [vimeo.com/61275290](https://vimeo.com/61275290)

### REDNECKS AND MOTHS

Scott McKellar invites you to search online for "Redneck tendencies" and take the quiz "How redneck are you?" Nature Boy Scott also uses his new computer to research his critter findings. He recently had a colorful Hyalophora cecropia moth visit his backyard, and he identified it on Google Images.

### PANTS PATROL

Jeff Bagshaw is stoked about the street sign he found online: "Pull Up Your Pants. No One Wants to See Your Underwear." It was signed "Metropolitan Etiquette Authority," created by New York City artist Jay Shells. Jeff says Pacifica could use a few of these signs.

### WASTING AWAY IN MAYBURRITOVILLE

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