



## Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury

### NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Susanne Reed writes: "Recently, I was at my daughter's home in San Jose when the power went out. We checked the circuit breakers and all seemed in order, but no power. She immediately went to her neighborhood website asking if any of her neighbors were also without power. Within minutes she got her answer: Power was out in the neighborhood. Are there neighborhood websites like this in Pacifica? It sure comes in handy, especially when our police force is so short-staffed and are not always able to respond in a timely manner." This is a great question. Let me hear from you if you know of any neighborhood watch email lists or websites. The only one I know is at Creekside townhouses on Rosita Road.

### SUSTAINABLE BUILDING

Pacifica architect Ann Edminster is lead facilitator and instructor for the San Francisco Sustainable Building Advisor (SBA) Program. She is a nationally recognized expert on green homes, focusing on assisting design and building professionals in developing their capacity to create better buildings. Ann is also a principal author of the "LEED for Homes Rating System" and author of "Energy Free: Homes for a Small Planet," a comprehensive guide for those seeking to create zero net energy homes. All students benefit from ease of access to materials, calendars, assignments, group exchange, online forums, and website links to guest instructors, their projects, and student field trips. The online platform helps students stay organized and be in touch with fellow students and instructors. The Fall San Francisco Cohort begins September 6, with 18 class meetings and graduation scheduled for December 7. See the new schedule outline, discounts, and enrollment information at [SBAProgram.com](http://SBAProgram.com). After completing the program and passing the final exam, students earn the designation Certified Sustainable Building Advisor (CSBA). Information: call 877-619-9489 extension 702 or email [teri@SBAProgram.com](mailto:teri@SBAProgram.com)

### HEALTHY, DEPRESSED, ANXIOUS

Stanford University, School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry seeks healthy, depressed, and anxious participants for an MRI study. You must be between 60 and 110, right-handed, and not have other major medical problems. Compensation \$150 for three appointments. Call 650-723-2795 for info.

### HOIST ON HIS OWN PETARD

A big company, feeling it was time for a shakeup, hired a new CEO. The new boss was determined to rid the company of all slackers. On a tour of the facilities, the CEO noticed a guy leaning against a wall. The room was full of workers and he wanted

to let them know that he meant business. He asked the guy, "How much money do you make a week?" A little surprised, the young man looked at him and said, "I make \$400 a week. Why?" The CEO said, "Wait right here." He walked back to his office, came back in two minutes, and handed the guy \$1,600 in cash and said, "Here's four weeks' pay. Now GET OUT and don't come back." Feeling pretty good about himself, the CEO looked around the room and asked, "Does anyone want to tell me what that knucklehead did here?" From across the room a voice said, "Pizza delivery guy from Domino's."

### NAME THAT FOG

Pacifica palindromist Alan Wald strikes again: According to last week's Tribune, Pacifica's Rotary Club has announced the "Name That Fog" contest seeking creative names for the fluffy white stuff that periodically visits our Coastside during the summer months. Citing "Vallemist" and "San Pedro Particulate" as examples, Rotary decided it would be fun to generate a list of clever names for our fog and, at the same time, raise funds to provide dictionaries for every third-grader in Pacifica and support other Rotary projects. With that in mind, Pacifica palindrome lovers would like to submit their favorite name for Pacifica's summer fog: "Snot, or Pacifica protons."

### SINGER/SONGWRITER NOMI HARPER

Tom Edminster told me long ago about talented Pacifica singer/songwriter Nomi Harper. Since then I have posted her notices on Pacifica Riptide but have never caught her act until just this past week when she performed at A Grape in the Fog. Unfortunately, the place was full and people were chatting so loudly that I couldn't hear Nomi. But no matter. I have her CD. Then I had a brainstorm: Why not ask Nomi to talk a bit about what's involved in singing and songwriting. Here are some of her thoughts: "It's important to know what you want to say in such a way that you can present a visual picture of it; it's about showing, not saying, what you want your listener to hear. It's about condensing your thoughts and rhyming, and rhythm, and creating emotion in the music. I work hard on lyrics; to me the lyrics have to be strong. But the music needs to be equally strong. It's about evoking emotions in people and being able to create something a person can relate to. Yes, there are many aspects needed to create a good song. It's about movement in the music. There is a lot to it. I very much edit what I write to condense my thoughts into the fewest possible words in my songwriting."

### SITeseer

Wildfire reporting system: [inciweb.org](http://inciweb.org)

### SWAMI SEZ

"Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication." (Leonardo da Vinci)

### MAYBURRITOVILLE

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