



Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury

Inner Ediot

•JUNIPER, BY JUPITER! Behold the San Francisco Chronicle business section story (October 3) about Juniper Networks possibly laying off 500 workers: The headline says Jupiter, the text says Juniper, the accompanying photo shows the Juniper logo, and the photo caption says Jupiter. Take your pick, folks.

•INDIGIOUSLY YOURS. Also in the Chronicle last week was a long, skinny display ad for the San Francisco Pen Show. The caption under the limited-edition ballpoint pen honoring the Kanaka Maoli aborigines of Hawaii read “celebrating this indigios tribe.”

•THIS MEANS WAR, BY JINGO! Pepperidge Farms has a line of crackers called JINGOS. Apparently, the snack company did not bother to use a dictionary when it came up with this unfortunate name. According to the New American Oxford Dictionary, jingo means someone who is “a vociferous supporter of policy favoring war, esp. in the name of patriotism.”

Booze Cruise Ban

Assemblyman Jerry Hill and the parents of Brett Studebaker – a Burlingame teenager who died in a car crash after a night of drinking on a party bus – held a news conference September 25 to celebrate the governor’s signing of Assembly Bill 45. The bill,

named in Brett’s memory, closes a loophole in current law that holds limousine operators, but not charter buses, responsible for underage drinking. The bill would require party bus companies to ask the person making a reservation if alcohol will be served and if anyone under 21 years old will be on board. Under the legislation, bus companies must notify the person making the reservation that they need to designate an adult chaperone. Bus companies will be subject to a fine of \$2,000, license suspension or revocation if they do not comply. Bus drivers will be subject to a misdemeanor for noncompliance. Chaperones also will be subject to a misdemeanor for providing alcohol to a minor.

Block That Cliche

“Call Him Every Name in the Book.” According to Gregg Levoy, the book in question is not the Bible or the phone book; it’s the dictionary.

Coastal Seismic Tests

Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) has asked the California Coastal Commission to reschedule its public hearing on proposed seismic testing along the Central California coast. The November meeting will be in Santa Monica, but the exact date, time, and procedure to speak are still to be determined. Stay tuned. For updates, see surfrider.org.

Rocky the Flying Squirrel

Scott and Patty McKellar feel bad for the hapless squirrel that fell out of a tree on their quiet Pacifica hillside not just once but two times. The first time, Rocky landed with a thump and ran away. The second time he landed really hard and lay dazed on the

ground. The McKellars gave Rocky zero style points, but a gold star for surviving the fall from a tall tree. The McKellars’ neighbors Brian and Kelly called the SPCA to come rescue the winded squirrel. An animal control officer soon responded and carted Rocky off in a sort of butterfly net. He said, “They don’t have big teeth, but you still have to show them respect.”

Swami Sez

“The divorce rate is around 50 percent. I wonder what it would be if all the couples who wanted to get divorced actually did so.” (John Santello)

Pirate Law #53

A pirate may ride only in a rowboat while traveling to or from his ship. No pirate may ever ride in a kayak.

Signs of Aging

Your house plants are alive, and you can’t smoke any of them. You keep more food than beer in the fridge. You hear your favorite song in an elevator. 6 a.m. is when you get up, not when you go to bed. You watch the Weather Channel. You go from 120 days of vacation to 14. Jeans and a sweater no longer qualify as dressed up. You’re the one calling the police because those ***** kids next door won’t turn down the stereo. You don’t know what time Taco Bell closes anymore.

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