



Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury

ALOHA, PIERS

Father Piers Lahey was one of my first customers for a Fogzilla sweatshirt, silkscreened by the multi-talented Larry DeMartini. Piers saw my shirts on sale at Foodtown (now Oceana Market) and ordered his own special hoodie. (By the way, all designs are still available – waves, surfboard, tunnel – just write to me using my email address at the end of this column, and tell me your size and whether t-shirt, sweatshirt, or hoodie). Now I see in last week's paper that Father Lahey is moving to a new parish in San Carlos. I will miss his interesting letters to the editor, but I must suggest to The Higher Authorities that they should leave a priest with a perfect first name like Piers right here where he belongs, in this coastal burg with the fine fishing pier jutting straight out into the ocean. I mean, c'mon, Your Eminences, it's a no-brainer. This is why I bid Piers "aloha"; in Hawaiian that means both hello and good-bye.

ABOVE THE FOG

Flying the last mission of NASA's 30-year shuttle program, the crew of Atlantis has witnessed a beautiful display of auroras from Earth orbit, and more could be in the offing. Visit spaceweather.com for photos and geomagnetic

forecasts. In other news from space, NASA's Dawn spacecraft now orbits around Vesta for a yearlong study of the giant asteroid. Dawn's cameras are expected to reveal a primitive world of desolate beauty from close range. But as close as Dawn is to Vesta, you can be even closer by holding a piece of Vesta in your hand. Authentic Vesta meteorites are now available at: shopspaceweather.com/asteroid-vesta-meteorite.aspx

WORLD WIDE WEIRD

Did you see the headless woman in the back seat of the limo next to Rupert Murdoch (San Francisco Chronicle photo, July 12, page A4)? Boy, those News of the World photo editors sure have a long reach!

OLDIES TV

Fans of old TV shows are in luck. Especially if you like action and drama, you can find reruns of I Spy, Starsky and Hutch, The Saint, Perry Mason, The Untouchables, and Police Story. There are also plenty of comedies and sitcoms. In addition to long-running cable stations like TV Land and Nick at Nite (Nickelodeon), oldies TV stations are popping up all over the country: Retro TV, TV Me, Antenna TV. Here in Comcast

Monopoly Country, check out channels 21 and 31. Good fun. Break out the popcorn and fire up the TiVo.

SWAMI SEZ

"There is hardly anything in this world which some man cannot make a little worse and sell a little cheaper, and the people who consider price only are this man's lawful prey." (John Ruskin)

BOOK OF THE WEEK

"A Californian's Guide to the Trees Among Us" by Matt Ritter (order from Florey's Book Co. on Palmetto)

SITeseer

- Faux fruit in your muffin: Google and gag on "fake blueberries"
- Rand McNally McNavigators blog about Pacifica and other "Most Beautiful Cities": ontheroad.bestoftheroad.com
- Vote daily to help Pacifica win \$100,000 for a dog park: barkforyourpark.com

NATURE BOY

This week's Beautiful Pacifica photos are by Ron Wilson, featuring gorgeous butterflies of San Pedro Valley County Park in the back of Linda Mar (see these and other nature photos in full color on my Pacifica Riptide blog).

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LIMENITIS LORQUINI



JUNONIA COENIA (COMMONLY BUCKEYE)

ALL PHOTOS BY RON WILSON, SAN PEDRO VALLEY COUNTY PARK