



Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury

none of which have been shown to harm or threaten the United States in any way. These attacks on Huma have no logic, no basis, and no merit. And they need to stop now.” (Republican Senator John McCain on the Senate floor July 18 defending Huma Abedin, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s top aide)

Founder’s Hike

David Schooley, founder of San Bruno Mountain Watch, leads his popular Founder’s Hike on Saturday, July 28 (and the 4th Saturday of every month). David has devoted decades of work to preserving the mountain and sharing it with others. His knowledge of the mountain and his love of nature touches those who hike with him. These hikes are in great demand, and are limited to 12 participants. You must sign up in advance at the online hike sign-up page on the mountainwatch.org website, or contact the office by email or phone (see below). All hikes meet at the Mountain Watch office at 10 a.m. and usually last until 1:30 p.m. The office is at 44 Visitacion Avenue, Suite 206 (upstairs), Brisbane, phone 415-467-6631 or email sanbruno@mountainwatch.org. The organization also has a gourmet pancake breakfast, native-plant sale, and raffle on Sunday, July 29.

Thar She Blows!

Join Pacifica Beach Coalition on a September 9 Whale and Leatherback Sea Turtle boat trip with Chris Pincetich of SeaTurtles.org as naturalist. This is an all-day trip out of Half Moon Bay for \$125. Sign up to reserve your spaces today by contacting Lynn Adams at lynn4promos@aol.com. Ellen and Lynn did a similar trip last year and saw so many whales that they were exhausted and begged to go home. Then after the boat turned toward home, the captain spotted three blue whales feeding right next to the boat. It was the most amazing time of their lives. Hurry and reserve now. Seats are going fast.

Weed Warriors

Join the Weed Warriors on San Bruno Mountain, Friday, June 27 and Saturday, July 28 from 9 a.m. to

12 p.m. Help with this critical stewardship work to restore native grasslands that are important butterfly habitat. Gloves are provided. Wear long pants, layers, long-sleeved shirt for protection, and sturdy shoes with long socks. Bring water. Check out the San Bruno Mountain Watch website (mountainwatch.org) for all volunteer opportunities in Stewardship Programs and Upcoming Events. Contact San Bruno Mountain Watch at 415-467-6631. The work focuses on removal of non-native and invasive plant species. Meet behind Mills Montessori School, 1400 Hillside Boulevard, South San Francisco.

Bluebird Walk

Join Sequoia Audubon Society birders as they lead a beginning birder hike to Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve’s serpentine grasslands. Learn how this interesting habitat supports western bluebirds, and why this is one of the most likely places to find bluebirds in San Mateo County. Bring drinking water, sun protection, and closed shoes. Saturday, August 4 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. West end of Edgewood Trail, Edgewood Road, 100 feet east of the corner of Edgewood Road and Canada Road, Redwood City. Free. Learn more: www.friendsofedgeswood.org. Call Laurie Alexander at 650-245-5423 or email EdCenterCoordinator@FriendsofEdgeswood.org

Legal Wind Assistance

The July 18 San Francisco Chronicle sports story about Olympic sprinter Yohan Blake reported that he “was far from fastest out of the blocks but powered through the field with legal wind assistance of 1.6 meters per second.” I know that headwind and tailwind are factored into racing statistics, but somehow “legal wind assistance” conjures up jet packs (or indigestion).

Mayburritoville

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Get Fireworks Off the Beach

On Wavelength, Ian Butler interviews Sue Pemberton, longtime marine mammal rescuer, about why she thinks Pacifica should outlaw fireworks on our beaches. Watch the interview online anytime at vimeo.com/45759941. Fireworks debris pollutes the ocean and harms marine life. Move fireworks to a safe place where they can be cleaned up afterward. Sign and circulate the Pacifica Beach Coalition petition to ban beach fireworks. Contact Lynn Adams at lynn4promos@aol.com or call 650-355-1668.

McCain: Concern for Fact and Fairness

“Rarely do I come to the floor of this institution to discuss particular individuals. But I understand how painful and injurious it is when a person’s character, reputation, and patriotism are attacked without concern for fact or fairness. It is for that reason that I rise today to speak in defense of Huma Abedin...Put simply, Huma represents what is best about America: the daughter of immigrants, who has risen to the highest levels of our government on the basis of her substantial personal merit. Recently, it has been alleged that Huma, a Muslim American, is part of a nefarious conspiracy to harm the United States by unduly influencing US foreign policy at the Department of State in favor of the Muslim Brotherhood and other Islamist causes...These allegations about Huma, and the report from which they are drawn, are nothing less than an unwarranted and unfounded attack on an honorable woman, a dedicated American, and a loyal public servant. These sinister accusations rest solely on a few unspecified and unsubstantiated associations of members of Huma’s family,