



# Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury

## HUMANE DECISIONS

Over the past couple of years, my partner Leslie and I have had to say final farewells to our feline friends Franny and Zoe, tabby cat sisters who kept us company during their relatively long lives. When it came time to put each one out of her misery from various ailments common to aging cats, we relied on Linda Mar Veterinary Clinic for compassionate care. First Dr. Angelique Cucaro and then Dr. Dana Thistlethwaite helped us make the difficult decision to end the costly tests and treatments, and not needlessly prolong each critter's suffering. At the most wrenching moment, letting go of a devoted pet, the vets empathized and helped us be at peace with the humane alternative: putting down a very sick animal. Sitting in on the procedure (a sedative followed by a lethal injection) was emotional but strangely reassuring. Afterward, seeing how peaceful each cat looked in death, I thought that this might not be such a bad way for a human to die.

## STREET SMART

Marvin Morganti wonders why Pacifica's founding fathers (and/or mothers) who laid out the city map and street names assigned only 11 "streets" but many more avenues, circles, ways, terraces, boulevards, lanes, roads, etc. Can anyone explain this oddity? And are there any defined criteria for categorizing street names? For instance, I have always believed that a boulevard should have a median strip. So, Wanderers & Wonderers, help us out here.

## THE VACANCY VACUUM

Scott McKellar wonders how Kimco, absentee landlord of Linda Mar Shopping Center, gets away with jacking up rents and leaving so many commercial spaces empty. "It's almost as though they are so big that they gain financially more from vacancy write-offs than they do from paid rents. The outfit can create ghost towns at this rate," Scott says.

## GRAMMAR SCHOOL

After a hot editorial debate in the Pacifica Riptide office about KQED-TV's questionable on-air grammar ("KQED thanks our members"), I hesitate to throw another log on the fire, but on the radio I am hearing a commercial that begins: "Princess Cruises is celebrating our..." (Ugh!)

## COASTAL COUGARS

Mountain lions have been seen recently at Milagra Ridge, Mori Point, Rancho Corral de Tierra, San Pedro Valley County Park, and other open spaces and parks on the coastside and along the Peninsula. Mountain lion expert Zara McDonald of Felidae ([felidaefund.org](http://felidaefund.org)) meets with community groups to discuss mountain lion ecology and how to safely coexist with these important parts of our natural ecosystem. For information, call 415-229-9335 or email [info@felidaefund.org](mailto:info@felidaefund.org)

## SPRING ART SHOW

Coastside Land Trust art gallery in Half Moon Bay conveys the beauty of coastside natural resources through art. All artists are invited to submit. Spring landscapes and native wildflowers from all regions of California will be considered. All media are welcome. The submission period is March 2-8. The show runs April 10 to May 22. Call 650-726-5056 for details.

## SWAMI SEZ

"Americans can always be relied upon to do the right thing, after they have exhausted all other possibilities." (Winston Churchill)

## MAYBURRITOVILLE

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