

CIFIKA LIKES PACIFICA

Sharp-eyed Alan Wald, whose palindromes have delighted Pacifica Tribune and Pacifica Riptide readers for years, is also a dogged reporter in his spare time as a retired postal service flack. He recently spied a Billboard story about how hot new K-pop star Cifika took her name from Pacifica back when the South Korean singer studied music theory here in the Bay Area. Apparently, the name Pacifica resonated with her. Anyhow, Alan invites/challenges Cifika to give a free concert in Pacifica on her next U.S. tour.

SAVE OCEAN VIEWS

Coastsiders love to see the Pacific Ocean as they drive along Highway 1, but now a Princeton Harbor businessman wants to block that wonderful view with a new 50-space RV park right next to the highway. The Midcoast Community Council recently held a public hearing on the planned development, and is doing further research, then will refer its findings to the county planning department. So it's not a done deal yet. If you feel as I do that our Coastside open spaces and ocean views need protection, and that the scenic coastal highway is already too crowded with traffic and roadside businesses, make your feelings known to your elected representatives.

DOOMSDAY CRACKERS

During the Cold War, amid widespread fears of nuclear war, the U.S. Government produced millions of horrible-tasting bulgur wheat crackers for bomb shelters and survival storage supplies all over the country. The long-lasting, shelf-stable "cardboard crackers" somehow remained edible well into the 1970s, when the Feds decided to ship them to famine relief programs in the Third World. But after that, the beastly biscuits turned rancid and were dumped in landfill or ground up and added to chicken feed. (Source: Eater.com, December 12, 2017)

IT'S A TIE

Scott McKellar googled "weight of all the ants in the world" and found that they weigh the same as all the humans in the world. Now if you are wondering if Scott and the scientists who did these calculations have too much time on their hands, you might be on to something.

EATING PLASTIC

Earthweek.com reports that Japanese researchers have discovered an enzyme living in landfill that eats plastic, and they zap it with X-rays to increase its appetite. Go, enzymes!

TEACH KIDS HOW TO CALL 911

Teach kids to memorize their parents' or guardians' first and last names, address including city, home and cell phone numbers, and name of their school or daycare in case something happens to the teacher. Location is important for the police, firefighter, or ambulance to find you. Explain that calling 911 as a joke is a crime. Explain that it's OK to trust the 911 operator. Always say the emergency number as "nine one one" not "nine eleven" (there is no "eleven" on the phone). Explain that an emergency is a fire, an intruder, or an unconscious person. (Source: Office of Public Safety Communications)

GRAMMARJAMMER

Ending a sentence with a preposition is nothing to be afraid of.

SWAMI SEZ

"If you are supposed to learn from your mistakes, why do some people have more than one child?" (Swami Umami)

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