

NATURE ABHORS A VACUUM

“I'm perplexed. Why build more retail space (Quarry development) when there are so many empty retail spaces in the various shopping centers around Pacifica? Wouldn't it make more sense to fill those spaces rather than build new ones that might also end up standing empty at some point?” (Kathleen Pullen, Vallemar)

PACIFICA POLICE LOG

“12:46 Suspicious Circumstances 1605100142:
Occurred at Sharp Park Beach on Beach Bl., Pacifica. On sand across from clarendon -- x rubbing a dead duck all over herself for 15 mins and then threw it into the ocean -- 40yo x dk skinned, heavy set, dk hair, lsw whi shirt, jean shorts. Disposition: Report Taken. MAY 8.”

BAGELS GO BONKERS

Bagel Nook in Freehold, New Jersey bakes crazy bagel variations like maple bacon, birthday cake, jalapeño cheddar, and its newest sensation, Oreo Overload, with Oreo cookies and cream cheese baked right into the bagels. Nutella cream cheese is an available option. Maybe some enterprising Pacifica bagelmaker should introduce smoked salmon or crabmeat flavors.

RIGHTLY CHOSEN WORDS

“Never send off any piece of writing the moment it is finished. Put it aside. Take on something else. Go back to it a month later and reread it. Examine each sentence and ask, ‘Does this say precisely what I mean? Is it

capable of misunderstanding? Have I used a cliché where I could have invented a new and therefore asserting and memorable form? Have I repeated myself and wobbled round the point when I could have fixed the whole thing in six rightly chosen words? Am I using words in their basic meaning or in a loose plebeian way?' ... The English language is incomparably rich and can convey every thought accurately and elegantly. The better the writing the less abstruse it is. Say 'No' cheerfully and definitely to people who want you to do more than you can do well." (from English author Evelyn Waugh's letter to American author Thomas Merton, August 13, 1948; quoted in Mary Frances Coady's book "Merton and Waugh")

FROM MY INBOX

Pacifican Jeff Bagshaw writes: "Regarding your recent bugout bag item on personal safety and home security: We keep several cans of Raid Wasp & Hornet Spray handy, by the front door and in our bedroom, in our cars, and in the 'go bag.' It shoots a solid stream accurately about 15 feet or more, meant to take down nests in the eaves and trees, but it will BLIND AND SUFFOCATE an intruder from a distance more effectively than pepper spray, but nonlethal."

BEAT THE TRAFFIC

Belgian brewer De Halve Maan (The Half Moon) has taken its beer trucks out of circulation in the narrow, congested cobblestone streets of Bruges, instead building a pipeline from the brewery to the bottling plant. I'll drink to that!

SWAMI SEZ

"It's not how far you fall, but how high you bounce that counts." (Zig Ziglar)

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