

The Ojai & Ventura



# VIEW



Vol. 3 • No. 14 • Issue 38 • Published in the Ojai & Ventura Gold Coast Region • FREE • July 2011

Photos © 2011, Joel Anderson



## IN SEARCH OF UTOPIA

BEYOND THE PALE: HUSHIN' UP DISSENSION

KEEPING DAWGS UNDER CONTROL

• SOCIAL INJUSTICES • SENIOR REVOLT!

• VENTURA'S WEIR GETS A FREE LUNCH



Photo © 2011, Joel Anderson

**BRIAN FAITH  
BAND  
ROCK N'  
ROLL  
HISTORY  
LIVES  
"STEVIE D"**



Photos © 2011, Joel Anderson

## Rock Revolution



**Zoila - The Boys in the Band**



Photos © 2011, Joel Anderson

## PEACE WITHIN



**MARIO CALIRE ON THE REAL YOU  
"UNLEASHED"**

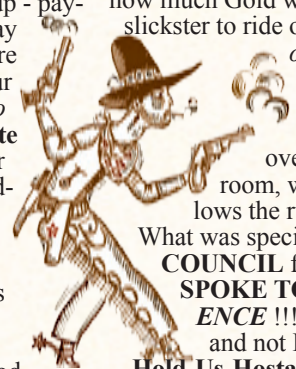


**INSIDE:** GEARING UP FOR WATER WARS • FREE AT LAST • Waterworld - Sespe Summertime

Ojai City Council Raggedy Edge

Water Water Water. I had to stop water my oranges and livestock much a couple months ago because of the Golden State Water (GSW) bill. Didn't help a bit. Rates just keep a goin' up - payin' through the nose. I just can't say GOLDEN any more, but GSW sure can all the way to the bank with our Gold...even as they were Nailed to the Counter by the P.U.C. and State Bureau of State Audits, seems for years they've been knowingly holding up the stagecoach.

Ripoff Outfit sat on their Keester... waitin, for an opportunity to shoot off their mouths afterwards and influence the Casitas bosses with their double-talk and legalese. Even had some fancy GSW lawyer on hand...wonder how much Gold was fetched to get this slickster to ride out to the country, by hook or crook, to Ojai? In Ojai, even with the Fire department present, the house is packed way over the posted limit for the room, well at least Casitas follows the rules somewhat. What was special, was the LEGAL COUNCIL for the Casitas district, he SPOKE TO or was that at the AUDI-ENCE!!!! And told us to behave and not BASH the Golden Water Hold-Us-Hostage Company (GSW). This caused several cowpokes and cowgirls to throw in the towel, skedaddle, keep their mouth's shut at PUBLIC speakin' up time. I thought the job of moderatin' belonged to an accountable-to-the-townfolk President of the Board, or Chairman of the Board, especially with election time coming. Is that LEGAL for a NON-ELECTED NON-board member to ADMONISH and ride herd on the Crowd???



Raggedy Edge Continued Page 4...

FARCE: An Exercise in Futility HELP of Ojai Board Meeting

When HELP of Ojai executive director Terri Wolfe ordered that the Ojai Valley News (OVN) not publish (see last issue of the Ojai and Ventura VIEW, #37) a Letter from community stalwart Trudy Sarzotti (for which Ojai's Sarzotti Park is named) most town-folk who heard about it weren't surprised - there had been influence peddling business as usual in certain "media" circles for years. The fact that the letter was critical of Wolfe's gruff management style was also not that surprising, given the rampant rumors over the last several years.

What was also not surprising was how HELP Board President Tucker Adams scolded and suppressed the dozen or so senior HELP Volunteers who showed up at the July 18 board meeting to "speak" up during the "public comment" period. After all Mayor Carol Smith had chiseled activist Dennis Leary in a similar manner to "keep on subject" etc. Tucker also tried to push the discussion off to less public

Zen of Suppression - Board president Tucker Adams cracks the whip, suggesting what is appropriate and what is inappropriate for public citizens to say at the public board meeting.

www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com Keep Smiling!

venues, small meetings, or simply phone director Wolfe with complaints, like that would be effective. Who's non-profit is this anyway? Didn't Volunteers originally found HELP of Ojai??? Who did The Volunteers think they were, questioning such god given authority? It wasn't even that surprising that board member Alan Rains said very little but did exhibit his dashing salesman smile for all to see. So what is surprising? Not a whole lot. It has become business as usual for local, national and international organizations, ruled by a small elite, to publicly state that they are going to "Get to the bottom of things," "Solve the Economic spiral," "Institute Democratic Rule" while in fact none of that even comes close to occurring. Ojai may be closer to sliding into the dumpster of non-democratic rule than many realize. What actually do these Board of Directors, government officials, movers and shakers get done? Pretty much they do a lot of talking at the people and get a lot of nothing done - accountability is lost.

For More Information on the HELP of Ojai Board Meeting, don't bother listening to this writer, Go To www.OjaiandVenturaVIEW.com/HELPOfOjai and read the entire transcript to the 1 hour ten minute July 18 HELP Board Meeting.

"The harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph." - Thomas Paine, Founding Father It's Fun to Be Important But Important to Be Fun OPEN BORDERS

OUR REVOLUTIONARIES WRITE

By Judy the Hun NEPAL: A stupid American created an international incident here. There is a BIG MAN who used to be the minister of finance. He's building a new hotel by cheating his workers. His workers have not been paid for 6 months. Last night I waited with them for 5 hours and he was again a no show with their money...I stayed and everyone else finally left.

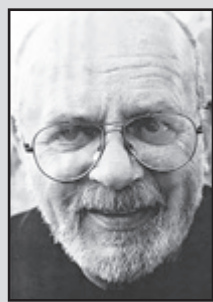


Today I did a little sightseeing, got one heck of a sunburn and came back to find the same crowd of workers waiting. I told them they needed to confront the man and demand their money but, they were too scared. So when the boss appeared I followed him and said, "You know you need to be a tough boss but you also need to be a fair boss" and then really getting brave I said to this monster of a man, "I thought the Lama family, (people who run the little store nearby who charge me 40 rupees for a pak of tissues that every other store charges 10 rupees) were the biggest cheaters in Kathmandu but I see now... you are!" He said, "Who do you think you are?" I said, "I am only a woman but, I have never cheated anyone."

The Lama store got mad at me because I refused to shop there. I used to sit and drink tea and play a dice game with the locals and kids but, Mr. Lama said I couldn't sit there anymore so I moved over to the Peopal Tree and drank my tea and played the dice game...This was how I learned the plight of these workers as they sat there, drank tea, smoked cigarettes and sometimes when the boss wasn't around, snoozed there. I'm not ready for prime time but, dammit these people have hauled 2 tons of sand and gravel up 7 flights of stairs in wicker baskets attached by cloths to their heads. They work harder than any American I know and, if they get paid, it's about \$20 a month. I did try to incite the people I don't deny it and I knew when I confronted him he would explode but, spit in my face? I know I shouldn't care about how he treats his employees, I shouldn't get involved but how could I not? They are humans with red blood like mine they have hopes and dreams like all of us. Isn't that the thread that binds us together as residents on this earth? HE'S A BUDDHIST FOR GOODNESS SAKES aren't they supposed to be benign, gentle, giving, souls? Dalai Lama arrived one day and informed me this tree was a temple and I was disrespecting his culture that he was going to call the police and have me deported. This was my first encounter with the BIG MAN. I dared him to call the police and pointed out that he may own the hotel but, he doesn't own the tree. In a rage he told me I needed to shop at the Lama store and I simply said, "I don't do business with cheaters."

The Peopal Tree is a very sacred tree. Buddha found enlightenment under it... Hindus say Shiva was born under it and that Krishna died under it. I never pass this tree without reaching out and touching it with tika. Joel, I'm fighting for my f'in life. There are so many stories I could tell you like the human trafficking that goes on in this region. Eight women died last month in the gulf states as domestics/sex slaves. Nobody cares..they are women. I was at customs trying to claim a computer cord and used cell phone my daughter sent. Customs are quite corrupt. They seized and then demanded 13,000 rupees tax on electronics. Cardboard boxes of dead swollen bodies were moved by fork lift to the waiting area while the grieving families haggled over the amount of tax to be paid. The smell, the corruption are all endemic to this part of the world. After two bribes and a 5,000 rupee tax, my property was handed over. I walked past the corpse cartons clenching my stomach and noted a Dubai return address...this was those eight women! - Judy the Hun

"Don't Tell Me Who I am... Let me guess!" The Middle Years (Part I) "I Have No Energy For The Daily Grind"



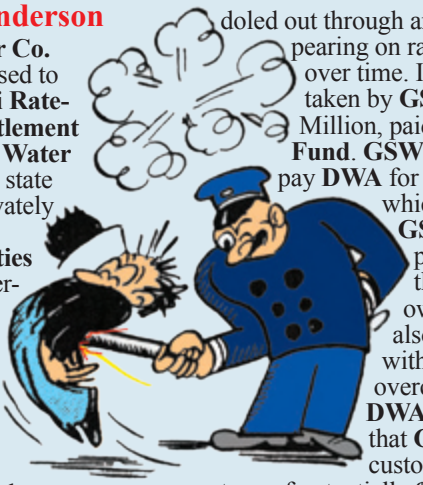
Sound familiar? You might be in the midst of a mid-life crisis. It's that time when we find out that security does not lie in another person. It can only be found within. The time has arrived when we need to be still, reflect inward and not subdue anxiety and depression with excessive drinking, gambling shopping, frantic activity, or work. We have a choice - we can either cling to old illusions and deny reality or we can look inward and try to begin to understand the meaning of our lives. It's not just action and doing anymore. It's the meaning behind the doing that's important. Mid-life crisis occurs in many people, not only artists and creative ones, even though people who have pushed their creative outlets aside seem to get hit especially hard.

Check Out My Website/blog: www.DrPeterMilhado.com

The mid-life passage is an initiation ritual. The great work of Jan and Murray Stein, Jungian analysts out of Chicago, gives us three steps of initiation; 1) Separation, 2) Liminality, and 3) Integration. 1) Separation: Mid-life is a crisis in identity when we need to separate from certain personas or social masks which we primarily form during adolescence and young adulthood. These identities were greatly influenced by our willingness to agree with others as to who we are and what we're like - or by being excessively the opposite (i.e. the "rebel", "outsider", "loner", etc). Often personas try to create a favorable impression (i.e. the "nice guy", "dutiful daughter", "supermom") or we get locked into 24 hours a day roles and unconsciously hide behind being a "doctor", "cop", "career woman", etc). When these identities slowly begin to dissolve we are left wondering who we are and what we're like. Signals at the onset of the "separation" are boredom, disillusionment, loss of interest in career, spouse, family, friends and a sense of loss, emptiness and feelings of defeat. Night time dream themes include destruction of old buildings, heading into unfamiliar territory, or more dramatically, the loss of a parent, a child or someone close to us who had had great influence on our personas. It is very disorienting as the self is separating from former identifications. In therapy it's important to hold and tolerate the anxiety and tension so the patient can withstand the gap between the old identity and the new one not yet known. A premature solution would be to help the patient restore the old persona, which would reduce anxiety, but would also deprive him or her of the opportunity for a soulful transformation to inner wisdom. Next time Liminality and Integration. Love to Mother Meera. One for all and all for one. PETER RUDOLF MILHADO, PH.D. Lic #MFT14142 38 Years Experience drpetermilhado@gmail.com • (805) 640-1810 Blog: www.DrPeterMilhado.com Extensive Experience With Folks Over Forty and Artists In All Creative Fields

Golden State: Caught With Their Hand in the Cookie Jar

Golden State Water Co. (GSWC) confessed to knowingly gouging Ojai Ratepayers in a June 29 Settlement by the State Division of Water and Audits (DWA). The state agency regulates the privately held water company and perhaps the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) oversight. The settlement cannot be appealed. The DWA found that GSWC senior management knew about violations in their own competitive bidding process which resulted in higher than normal bid costs which were then passed downstream to the ratepayers. Most significantly, the commission found that for years GSWC knowingly based additional Rate Increase requests on rates GSWC knew were inflated. The Commission found this resulted in rate payers being gouged in Ojai and elsewhere in the millions of dollars. The cover-up was not disclosed until a "senior officer", a whistleblower from within GSWC management who was not identified, came forward to the Commission with the damaging information.



doled out through amortized surcredits appearing on ratepayers monthly bills over time. In addition to the money taken by GSWC, they are fined \$1 Million, paid to the State General Fund. GSWC will also have to pay DWA for three separate Audits which will go back to 1994. GSWC must also reimburse the rate payers for the fees paid for their own internal audits and also for costs associated with their cover up of their overcharging practices. The DWA Commission found that GSWC had gouged customers statewide to the tune of potentially \$31 Million, but reached a compromise only requiring GSWC to return just \$9.5 million (approximately 30%) to the victimized ratepayers statewide. The ruling does not bode well for Golden State Water (GSWC), which faces the very real possibility of losing its Ojai Water Franchise, thanks to the non-profit public advocacy group www.OjaiFLOW.com. OjaiFLOW seeks GSWC removal. On July 13, a water main broke (see photos, Page 4). The VIEW contacted GSWC



GSW Busted Continued, Page 4... "Men and fish are alike. They both get into trouble when they open their mouths" - Author Unknown LETTERS TO THE EDITOR editor@ojaiandventuraview.com

www.YouTube.com/OVVtaView

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HELP of Ojai 2009 Tax Returns List it as a 501(c) 3 Non-profit. The Returns list "15. Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits" as "\$751,778" The Return was signed by Executive Director Terri Wolfe on 2/4/11. The CPA Firm/Preparer's signature is Listed as Soares, Sandall, Bernachi & Petrovich, LLP, Oxnard. According to the Return Wolfe earns a \$68,750 Salary. SOURCE: Guidestar









# Utopia

Photos © 2011, Joel Anderson



For at least one summer night Utopia was found in the Upper Ojai where Free Expression, Tolerance, Relaxed Inhibitions and Intention of Spirit RULED.



Photos © 2011, Joel Anderson



Second Narrows, just upstream from West Fork, usually requires a swim, but the sediment from the Day Fire means it is still a shallow wade, until some big stormflow washes all the sand down to our ocean beaches. Landscape Photos by Alasdair Coyne



This beautiful pool gives some idea of the scale of the Sespe Gorge, sprinkled with gigantic boulders. Not so much hiking as rock-hopping with a backpack.



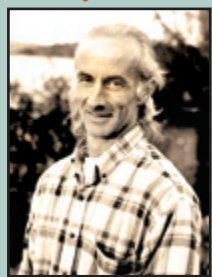
Some parts of the lower Sespe look a lot like Arizona.



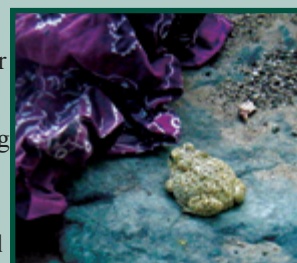
Some summer flows allow Iain Coyne to float a small rapid for a few yards. It's fun to have floaties on the Sespe!

## Summer in the Sespe Wild

It's always wonderful to hike down the lower Sespe Gorge in summer, when the pools are often a warm 80 degrees. This year's trip, July 8 through the 11th, was no exception. We had along a founder of Keep Sespe Wild, who'd moved out of state 16 years ago. He had always wanted to do this hike again for several years, but work had always gotten in the way. And then there was a friend from the Czech Republic, who'd lived in Ojai for a while, a decade ago. He was visiting his old haunts with his girlfriend, and they both managed to fit four



days down the Sespe into their 3-week visit. The first day is always a long haul, down to the Sespe from Dough Flat Trailhead via the Alder Creek Gorge. The road was closed a while before the trailhead, requiring an extra 45 minutes of walking, which added up to a 10-mile day. That's quite enough mileage on a hot day for this writer. Down in the Sespe Gorge, you see swal-



A two-inch-long endangered arroyo toad liked the look of a visitor's hanky early one morning.

lows zooming around, feasting on flying insects; and the descending scale of the hard-to-see canyon wren seems to be in the air all day long. Trout are to be seen in many of the pools. For the past few years, the sedimentation resulting from the Day Fire has meant that the lower Sespe has had very few pools at all, and therefore trout were really scarce. At this point, some of the many magnificent pools are slowly reappearing, as are the trout. The several narrows, which usually require hikers to swim, are still filled with sand. It may be many years until swimming them is once again the only way through. As the sediment lessens, so does the population of endangered arroyo toads, which frequent sandy beaches as juveniles. Their usual habitat is in the Rose Valley area of the upper Sespe. There's nothing quite like hearing the sound of the river day and night for 3 full days – yes, right here in Ventura County, where the Sespe Wilderness is part of the largest roadless area near any big city in the nation.

– Alasdair Coyne, www.SespeWild.org



## Ojai Independence 2011 ~ Breaking Out!









Garry Boyer and his Fender Blue Moto in April.

Golden China: Mystery Band Guitarist Allegedly Assaulted

On June 24 hired Musician Garry Boyer, while performing at the Golden China restaurant in Ventura was allegedly assaulted by a bouncer, David Davis, according to a Ventura Police Incident Report.

Officer Kerr also took an "Incident Report" first interviewing the bouncer, Davis. Officer Kerr stated in the report that he spoke to several witnesses, however only two more were included in his report; Golden China Owner, Kuo Chen, and patron of the establishment, Andres Gonzalez.

Interestingly the report goes on to state, "However Davis stated that he admittedly pushed Boyer a little harder than what was really necessary and Boyer fell back onto the stage tripping over equipment and possibly injuring his ankle."

According to Boyer, approximately 13 eyewitnesses were not interviewed by the Ventura Police Department and he said his attorney is planning on filing a complaint.

Boyer also said his Fender Blue Moto guitar, Made for Export, was smashed. According to a repair estimate provided by Boyer, Tim Gibson Guitarsmith, Camarillo, estimated the damage to the instrument at \$990 in repairs.

Photo © 2011, Joel Anderson

vided by Boyer, shows the guitar to be a "2003 FSR LTD Clear Blue Moto, Serial #MZ2079629 0001 OFF."

Bouncing Do's and Don'ts

According to http://www.ehow.com/list\_6299856\_laws-be-ing-bouncer.html "Use of Force: Bouncers and other security officers are often confronted with drunk, aggressive and even violent people and situations. Though their job is to maintain security and safety, they cannot act in a way contrary to the law.

THE 24th OJAI BOWLFUL OF BLUES SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24th 2011. OJAI BOWL LIBBEY PARK BOWLFULOFBLUES.COM

Action Down The Palms in Carpinteria. Photos © 2011, Joel Anderson



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The Reverb Slide

Legendary Apple Recording Artist Jackie Lomax left for his native Liverpool last week, where he'll be playing gigs and, including a week in the studio recording, be there for six weeks.

Recently at The HUB, Christopher Hawley Rollers rocked the house and are planning a Hub Redux (check the schedule) or two coming up.... The Buddhahead Groove Factory provided some isoteric slow-me-down, speed-me-up riffs, also don't forget 29 Mules (out of Moorpark).

Geico Slammed for Improper Billing

Starting next month, GEICO will begin implementing a 10.7% overall rate decrease for its California auto insurance policyholders. GEICO originally asked the California Department of Insurance (CDI) for a 4% increase to its automobile insurance rates, but the nonprofit Consumer Watchdog challenged the hike.

Photo © 2011, Joel Anderson

HUB PHOTOS. A collage of various photos from the HUB venue, including musicians performing and patrons socializing.

PRESS RELEASE OJAI CLASSIC ROCK & REGGAE FESTIVAL - 3-Day Music Festival Features Top-Named Tribute Acts/Aug. 12, 13 & 14

OJAI, CA - OJAI CLASSIC ROCK & REGGAE FESTIVAL (www.OjaiRockFest.com), a 3-Day music festival rolls into the brand new Libbey Bowl in Downtown Ojai on Friday Aug. 12, Saturday Aug. 13, and Sunday Aug. 14, 2011.

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THE HUB ENTERTAINMENT. Best Pub in Ojai for what Ale's Ya! THE HUB COCKTAILS. THE HUB is Ojai's Finest Night Hotspot Rockin' Locals Since 1948

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VIEW MUSIC LISTINGS LIVE WIRES & HOT TIPS

8stops7 - a hard rock band from Ventura, California. Vocalist Evan Sula-Goff explained the meaning of the band's name as, "Basically, seven is a symbol of something you want to get away from, and eight is the door you go through to get there."

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Support Revolution

3/Aug - Wed., Fullerton Concert, 6:30pm/560 E Silver Pine, Fullerton... The Mighty Cash Cats, info: www.MightyCashCats.com

6/Aug - Fri., The HUT/Meiners Oaks aka M.O.Town... 646-0670, Studebaker feat. Pat Buley

10/Aug - Sat., The HUB/Ojai... 272-8344, Frank Barajas & the Corsican Brothers

11/Aug - Sun., Hollywood Bowl, L.A., Blues Night Robert Cray, Keb' Mo', Mavis Staples, 8pm 323/850-2000

12/Aug - Fri., The HUB/Ojai... 272-8344, Nektare - A unique style of rock with a juicy undercurrent of blues, funk, soul and psychedelia.

13/Aug - Sat., Beach House Taco/Ventura Pier, Ventura, 5-8pm... The Brian Faith Band, Band info: 964-3035, www.YouTube/user/brianfaithbandsongs

14/Aug - Sun., Hollywood Bowl, L.A., Smooth Summer Jazz Dave Koz & Friends w/ Bobby Caldwell & Sheila E, 6pm 323/850-2000

19/Aug - Fri., The HUT/Meiners Oaks aka M.O.Town... 646-0670, Big Adventure

20/Aug - Sat., Blackbeards, Ventura Marina, 1591 Spinaker Dr, 7pm, Ventura... The Brian Faith Band, Band info: 964-3035, www.YouTube/user/brianfaithbandsongs

20/Aug - Sat., The HUB/Ojai... 272-8344, Nektare - A unique style of rock with a juicy undercurrent of blues, funk, soul and psychedelia.

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Next Issue of the VIEW Out End Aug

More Americans have died in psychiatric hands than in all the wars since 1776.

Although psychiatric facilities no longer make public the numbers of people who die in their care, one can easily extrapolate the current tally. Those figures present a grim and shocking scenario—more patients dead than Americans killed in battle in the two Gulf Wars, the Vietnam War, World Wars I & II, the Civil War, the Revolutionary War, and all wars in between.

REPORT PSYCHIATRIC ABUSE. IT'S A CRIME.

Contact: Citizens Commission on Human Rights International www.cchrventura.org • P.O. box 449, Camarillo, CA 93011 805-371-1576

GENERAL PUBLIC WARNING: Psychiatry is hazardous to your mental health.

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Enjoy the Real VIEW

Due to A Capacity Crowd Which Exceeded Fire Department Capacity, Casitas Water Co. Cancelled the Scheduled July 27 Public Meeting, Details Pg 2 of The VIEW & Go To Our Website: [www.OjaiFLOW.com](http://www.OjaiFLOW.com)



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# STOP THE GOLDEN STATE WATER RIP-OFF!

Paid for Ojai FLOW that supports the acquisition  
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## 3rd Annual MENTOR MADNESS POKER RUN

### Car & Motorcycle Show



**Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

7:00 am - 6:00 pm Soule County Park, Ojai Awards @ 3:00 pm

In memory of

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Horseshoes

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Poker Run 8:00 am- 9:30 am \$25 per entry (includes BBQ lunch)

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