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Lighthouse Peddler

March 2016

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Issue #173

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Finally! Greg Brown Comes To The Coast. March 17th Concert at Arena Theater

Over the years Arena Theater has presented performers at various stages of their careers: early/new, mid-career, and veterans. This is particularly true since the theater's mid-1990s rebuild. Through it all, music lovers on the Mendonoma Coast have come to appreciate the variety of performers, the solid acoustics of the theater, and of course the talent performing in an intimate setting.

In 2007 a discussion was underway about which talented performer could next be brought to the Arena Theater stage. More than one person suggested Greg Brown. What was interesting about that conversation was that of the small group of people, two were enthusiastic about bringing Brown to the coast, one was supportive but afraid Brown wouldn't be interested in making the drive—from wherever he performed the night before—to Point Arena. The other two people asked "Greg who?". Brown

has carved out a successful career in songwriting, recording, and touring but he remains one of those successes with rabid fans and others who, to this day, might say "who?"



In any case, Brown wasn't available for the show in 2007 but his name has continued to come up in similar conversations, as in "I wonder if we can get Greg Brown this year?" Whether it was Arena Theater's hard work, good fortune, a newly found desire by Brown to drive the Jenner Grade on Highway One, or simply serendipity, the fact is Greg Brown will perform at Arena Theater on March 17th, and we should

rejoice.

In the mid-1990s, Jon Pareles reviewed a performance for the New York Times. The short version is "Greg Brown's voice is a gravel-floored basement full of memories, ruminations, lusts, fractured visions and last-ditch

continued on pg 9

Beside the well-trod path . . . Little Cottage in the Woods, Pacific Woods. Sited on four acres of towering redwoods, this two bedroom home emerged like a phoenix from the flames with a bright brand new interior from floor-to-ceiling, wall-to-wall! Beautiful wood cabinets contrast with dark grey countertops in a kitchen complete with wood burning stove and breakfast bar open to the living room. All fixtures throughout the home, propane wall furnace, water heater, electrical and plumbing are new. A second structure, an "A-Frame" cabin, is currently used for storage. Zoning allows potential



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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

It looks like there will be plenty of things to do this month so let the Lighthouse Peddler be your guide.

The Old Blind Dogs perform at 215 Main in Point Arena on Monday, March 14. This authentic and highly original acoustic band brings their traditional Scottish music to the coast. See page 3.

Journey in Sensuality • Anna Halprin and Rodin, A Film By Ruedi Gerber screens March 26 at Arena Theater. See page 3.

David Steffen writes about the coming change at the venerable Four Eyed Frog Bookstore and its equally venerable owner. See page 4.

Richie Blue performs at the Garcia River Casion, bringng his blues, boogie woogie, rock-a-billy and more. See page 5.

North Coast Filmmaker Joe Mickey premiers his film *India Short Stories*. See page 5.

The Mendocino County Museum Road Show returns to Arena Theater on March 12. See page 6.

Given the need for a little planning, the Peddler thought it a good idea to tell you about a special event—Seed & Salve. A Weekend On The Prairie, April 15-17. See page 6.

Arena Theater Film Club screens *The Manchurian Candidate* (7th), *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* (14th), and *Brazil* (28th). See page 7.

The Peddler's David Steffen writes about his "Longing For The Cold War". Who would have guessed? See page 8.

Petaluma poet Patti Trimble will be reading at Third Thursday Poetry at 215 Main Street in Point Arena. The story and a sample of her work are here. See page 9.

Contributor Tony Stanhol considers Freeway Furniture. That and other decorating tips are in his March column. See page 10.

Mitch McFarland's Scuttlebutt looks at the surprising state of business in Point Arena. See page 11.

Contributor Karin Uphoff takes a look at one of Mendocino County's wild weeds. Cannabis Sativa (marijuana). See page 12.

The Gray Whale Census and other ocean mammal topics will be the focus of the Point Arena Lecture Series this month. See page 12

Gualala Arts hosts the Arts of Tibet on March 24, including an update on Tibet and a healing ceremony. See page 13.

Art in the Schools is an exhibit at Gualala Arts this month along with an opening reception. See page 13.

Lighthouse Peddler Publisher Dolly Steffen reflects on the arrival of her daughter Caitie. See page 14.

March 5, Arena Theater presents *Manon Lescaut*—its Met Live in HD opera offering, including the opera stars Kristine Opolais and Roberto Alagna. It should be a feast for the eyes and ears. See page 16.

Shakespeare is once again on the big screen at Arena Theater with a National Theater Live production of *As You Like It* March 19. See page 16.

The Artists at Albatross Reach will be centerstage at Gualala Arts this month, featuring mezzo-soprano Jennifer Beattie. See page 16.

Greg Brown's long anticipated visit to the coast is set for March 17. The buzz is strong for this legendary singer / songwriter. See Cover Page.

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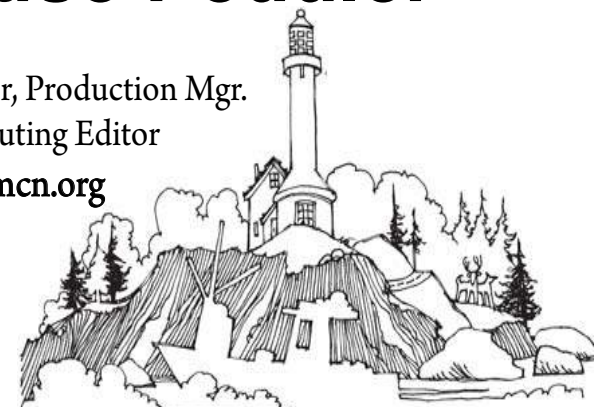
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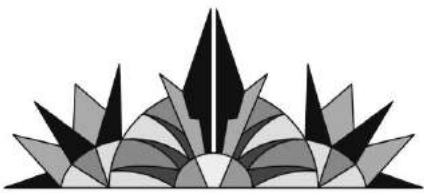
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March 2016

Greg Brown

Thursday March 17 7:30 PM

Mendocino County
 Museum Roadshow

Saturday March 12 7:30 PM

Community Film Events

India Short Stories

Tuesday March 1 7 PM

Journey in Sensuality

Anna Halprin and Rodin

Saturday March 26 2 PM

Met Opera Live in HD

Manon Lescaut

Saturday March 5 9:55 AM

National Theatre Live
 From London

As You Like It

Saturday March 19 1 PM

3rd Monday Music

Open Mic Night

Monday March 21 8 PM

Arena Theater Film Club

Mondays 7 PM

March 7 *The Manchurian*

Candidate

March 14 *Alice Doesn't Live*

Here Anymore

March 28 *Brazil*

214 Main Street Point Arena

Old Blind Dogs Bring Scottish Folk Music to 215 Main in Point Arena, March 14

When being told that you will be seeing the Old Blind Dogs, one must resist the temptation to turn

away, or call for help. This group from Scotland are not really old, blind, nor are they dogs. They are a talented band of musicians that represent the folk tradition of Scotland. And although a small country, Scot-

land has proven for centuries that size, alone, doesn't matter. The country is known for its coastline (All 6,000 miles of it), its islands (almost 800 of them), its highlands and lowlands, and cities and towns that give the people and the culture a unique character; and pound for pound there's a tradition and musical identity as deep as anyone.

Since the band's formative years (some twenty years ago), they've been the leading edge of what some have called Scotland's roots revival. Their music has been described as "an energetic mix of songs and tunes. Dynamic percussion, polished vocals, soaring fiddle and stirring pipes fuel the delicately-phrased melodies and traditional songs." While some members of the band (as with almost any group of performers) have changed over the years, the quality of their music has never wavered. These days



the band includes founding member Jonny Hardie (fiddle, guitar and vocals), along with Aaron Jones

(bouzouki, guitar, vocals), Ali Hutton (Border pipes, whistles, vocals) and Fraser Stone (drums, percussion). The Los Angeles Times wrote "Old Blind Dogs bring freshness and colour

to acoustic music steeped in centuries of Scottish folklore and history."

There are three opportunities to see the band this month*. Those of us living on the south coast will be able to see the band at the most intimate setting: 215 Main in Point Arena on Monday, March 14, 7:00pm. For those not yet acquainted with the venue, seeing the Old Blind Dogs at 215 Main is like being transported to a small pub/club in Britain (but you'll still be home in 15-20 minutes, and the food will be a little more to your liking.) The seats are limited and the pub is sufficiently intimate that you'll feel the band's sweat, or maybe they'll feel yours. Reservations and information for the Point Arena show are at (707) 882-3215.

*(The band will also appear in Willits and Fort Bragg in March.)

Journey in Sensuality • Anna Halprin and Rodin A Film By Ruedi Gerber March 26 at Arena Theater

After the international success of *Breath Made Visible*, *Journey in Sensuality* brings new insight into Anna Halprin's influential artistic work. Auguste Rodin's sculptures and Halprin's creative process come together with the music of composer Fred Frith in this poetic film of dances in nature.

While in Paris for a major retrospective of her career at the Centre Pompidou, the American dance pioneer Anna Halprin reflects on her devastation by the images of the pervasive violence in the world and seeing the most unimaginable horror of tortured, starved bodies at the Holocaust Museum. In the hopes of lifting her spirits, she visits the Musée Rodin, and is so deeply moved that she decides to create a performance based on Rodin's sculptures; expressing her vision, like Rodin, of the human body being a reflection of nature, something innocent, true and beautiful and the world's need for artistic beauty.

Journey in Sensuality - Anna Halprin and Rodin, offers for the first time ever an intimate view into Halprin's creative process and the making of a performance. It shows how she prepares the dancer, using Rodin's sculptures as a container, to create a performance that is at once authentic and visually powerful and touches the audience on an emotional level. And supporting the visuals is the brilliant, innovative score of composer Fred Frith.

Melding Rodin's sculptures and testimonials with the stunning footage of rehearsals on the Northern Californian coast, and the final piece performed by the nude dancers of the Sea Ranch Collective in a redwood forest, this film is a poetic portrait of the coming together and coming to life of the visions of two great artists.

Arena Theater is at 214 Main Street in Pt. Arena. Saturday, March 26. Show starts: 2 p.m. Doors open: 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10.



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Or not.
 - Lighthouse Peddler



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Hollywood is a place
 where people from
 Iowa mistake each
 other for movie stars.
 - Fred Allen

Old Books Are Best.

A Bookstore and Owner in Transition.

By David Steffen

Some of my best friends are books. Not necessarily in a literal sense, but rather as an allegory. I recently spent some time with a favorite old book. Sitting in a comfortable chair near Highway One in Gualala, California I understood the wisdom of the old saying, "Old books are best."

My friend Joel Crockett has decided to hang up his spurs. Heaven forbid, the rumor is true: the Four-Eyed Frog Bookstore is for sale. Sitting in that chair in the front of the bookstore this morning I recalled the adage that serves as the title of this piece. And I immediately understood that Joel is a chameleon. He's a book, and a human being, a young mind, a senior citizen, a renaissance man, a curious fellow and a visionary.

I'm not certain anyone in 2003 would have looked on the horizon and seen past the looming juggernaut of an amazonian wave and pushed forward to open a bookstore. But that was Joel's vision of community. And what a vision. Like the village square of old, his bookstore has become a place for thinkers great and small, young and old.

Even with a near term retirement, Joel is still thinking about community. The importance of ideas, of quiet, and of conversation. I've thought about the authors who have come through the Frog over the years, and who've been welcomed by scores of devotees ready to devour every one of the au-

thor's words; and authors who've come to speak with a small, respectful group of fans . . . or to no one at all. I remember my days of working in the music industry of the 1970s, 80s, and 90s, and the number of times I helped organize in-store appearances by recording artists and musicians. The same butterflies went through my stomach back then have traveled through Joel's this past dozen years. Yes it's disappointing when 2 people show up when the author deserves 200. But nevertheless, the event took place. With great attendance or with empty chairs, the author knew that the bookstore cared enough to invite people in. And with fans in attendance or not, the community is better for the event and although the author may not know it at the time, she or he too are better for the effort. Hundreds of times Joel could have said "no . . . you're not that important, so I won't host you in my store." But 30 or 40 or more times each year, he did just that.

A book store is more than a retail establishment. It has been and will always be a place of community and for community. Now more than ever if the community supports the store, the store will pay us back with interest. I hope someone steps up and buys the Four-Eyed Frog Bookstore. For the Mendonoma Coast, and regardless of his future plans, we are grateful that Joel shared his time, his energy, his books with us. We are better for it. In *Under The Tuscan Sun*, author Frances Mayes wrote, "Any arbitrary turning along the way and I would be elsewhere; I would be different." I hope someone has the vision that Joel Crockett had. To operate a bookstore on the Mendocino Coast. We are different for a turn Joel made. Happily.

Although all of the books lining the shelves of this wonderful landmark are new, they still exude something akin to time itself. I believe that the venerable Frog will continue. After all, Beverly Chew had his own sense of vision three centuries ago:

"Old Books are best!...

What though the prints be not so bright,
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Thank you Joel. From all of us.

Note:
 Pictures of Joel at the store are here—>

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I have every sympathy
with the American who
was so horrified by what
he had read of the ef-
fects of smoking that
he gave up reading.
- Henry G. Strauss

Richie Blue's 45 Years On The Boogie Highway Comes to Garcia River Casino March 25

I believe it was Buddy Guy, during a performance in the early 1990s, who told those of us in the audience that "you don't have to have the blues to sing the blues, but it helps".

Bluesman Richie Blue has endured for almost half a century and we don't know if he has the blues (and I'm not asking). The Blues guitarist, singer, and songwriter describes his life as "45 years on the Boogie Highway", but he adds "no bar too far." Richie Blue comes' to the Garcia River Casino March 25 for an 8:30pm show.

Looking at Richie Blues's touring schedule, staying on the Boogie Highway is exactly what he does. (Most recently he's played 25 gigs in both January and February.) Perhaps there's a bit of the Satchel



Paige philosophy running through his veins: "Don't look back. Something might be gaining on you". Having the talent is important and Mr. Blue has long ago proven that he has the chops. More recently (and as if more proof was needed) he's been inducted into "The Blues Hall of Fame". Richie Blue comes' to the Garcia River Casino

March 25 for an 8:30pm show.

Known for his blistering guitar playing and heart and soul vocals, his style seems to be on a highway connecting him to California and the West on one end and New Orleans on the other. Hardly a purist, he's comfortable in the blues, rock-a-billy, country swing, New Orleans swamp, and soul. Come to the Casino on the 25th. You won't be drowning your sorrows; it's more likely you'll be lifting yourself up.

The World Premier Screening of India Short Stories, Volume 1 and 2

Just when we begin looking for something special, along comes a unique film worth seeing. North Coast Filmmaker Joe Mickey spent two and a half years in India and will premiere his new film India Short Stories Volume 1 and 2 at Arena Theater on Tuesday March 1 at 7:00pm (doors open at 6:30).

Two-time Audience Award winner Mickey and his wife Connie will attend the event and lead a Question and Answer session following the screening. Mickey is known to the local audience through his film "India 101" which screened at the theater to a full house in 2012.

Says Mickey: "Set your calendar for March 1 at 7 p.m. at the Arena Theater for the World Premiere of this amazing documentary filmed in the most incredible and exotic country on the planet!" The event is a benefit for the theater and the suggested donation is \$10.

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Spend A Weekend On The Prairie, April 15-17 (It's As Close As Windy Hollow Farm in Point Arena)

For many of us who have enjoyed reading about American history (whether non-fiction or fiction), we've often wondered about those who came to settle in different parts of the "new world" (new to Europeans, that is) during the 17th and 18th centuries. The time machine has yet to be invented, but those who hunger for a taste of a simpler time can travel a short distance along the Mendocino Coast and arrive at their destination. It's time for Seed to Salve at Windy Hollow Farm near Point Arena.



The spring session of Seed to Salve is set for April 15-17 at Windy Hollow Farm. Instead of TV, computer games, smartphones, or almost anything related to 21st century technology, why not take in a much simpler, but also richer experience. This is not really for couch potatoes, as participants will spend a weekend exploring herbs on the Windy Hollow 20-acre organic farmstead. It's a unique opportunity to learn more about the world of herbs through the lens of a farmer, wildcrafter, herbalist, and cook. Classes and activities will cover everything from propagating and cultivating plants to using herbs in medicines and in meals.

A little imagination and you can project

yourself arriving, settling in, and taking an herb walk through the gardens, followed by a farm fresh meal and after dinner cordial tasting to kick off the weekend. From there time is spent planting a medicinal and culinary herb garden, wildcrafting, making syrups and salve, and blending fresh teas. Classes will be taught by garden educator Jennifer Ketring of Windy Hollow Farm and herbalist Gillian Nye of Roots Herbal Apothecary, along with guest teachers presenting tincture-making and feng shui practices.

Meals are shared family-style in the kitchen and are an integral part of the weekend. The menu celebrates the bounty of locally grown food by featuring vegetables, eggs, bread, and cheese from nearby farms, including Windy Hollow. A favorite meal from past retreats was the roasted summer squash stuffed with grains and greens accompanied with a tomato salad and wood-fired bread followed by flourless chocolate cake and holy basil ice cream.

This is a full weekend with lots of shared information and plenty of fun. Participants bring home herb starts, salve, seeds, cordial, vinegar, fresh tea blends, and memories. More information can be found at the website, www.windyhollowfarmca.com.

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Hankering For History?

The Mendocino County Museum Road Show Returns

This month the Mendocino County Museum makes watching history come alive look easy. The 3rd Annual Museum Road Show, a the-



atrical production featuring a brand new cast of characters, local lore and live music by All About Sally is out and about in March including a stop at Arena Theater on March 12, and there's nothing dry about it.

Audiences enjoy a light-hearted romp through vice, debauchery and politics in the early days of Mendocino county, featuring wine and hops history, childhood pranks, home remedies, and the critical 1916 election. Seven remarkable actors will portray more than 50 different characters, telling true stories that are touching, funny and surprisingly relevant for our

time.

With six performances, the adventure will be told throughout the County during the month of March, including March 12 at

Arena Theater in Point Arena. Doors open at 6:30pm, and the show begins at 7:30pm. (Additional performances will take place in Willits, Ukiah, Philo, and Fort Bragg. Tickets for adults are \$15, youth age 20 and under, and Seniors 65+ are \$12. Some of the content may be inappropriate for younger audiences, so youth under 12 are discouraged from attending.

Tickets and more information are available at the museum's website —www.MendocinoMuseum.org— and by phone at (707) 459-2736.

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Time Traveling With The Arena Theater Film Club

This month the club takes viewers back in time, to the Cold war of the 1960s, Alice's adventures in Arizona, and a surrealistic delight in Brazil.

On March 7th, the club screens an unlikely classic. Like many films, *The Manchurian Candidate* was not a box office hit when released in 1962. However, it found its audience over the years as the Cold War sank into a deeper freeze. The psychology of warfare was center stage in John Frankenheimer's film, with the raw battlefield images serving more as a backdrop. The film is at times chilling, brilliant, and dark, as it delivers a sense of foreboding on the audience. Brainwash-



ing was in the American lexicon barely a decade when *The Manchurian Candidate* hit the big screen, and Laurence Harvey's portrayal of the "sleeper" agent destined to assassinate the president gave everyone pause to ask "could this really happen?" Angela Lansbury, Frank Sinatra, and Laurence Harvey are the stars listed in the credits, but so too are Communism, Senator Joseph McCarthy, and the times we were living through. Rated PG-13, the film runs 126 minutes.

The Film Club's March 14th offering changes the mood considerably. *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* (1974) represents an Academy Award performance by Ellen Burstyn, an early acting role for singer/songwriter/Rhodes Scholar Kris Kristofferson, and a strong supporting role for Diane Ladd. And it marked a sea change for director Martin Scorsese whose previous films included *Boxcar Bertha* and *Mean*

Streets, and whose next film, *Taxi Driver*, would become legendary. *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* displays the elements of Scorsese's future filmmaking trajectory, but it's no *Mean Streets* or *Taxi Driver*. As with the best of plans, Alice's don't work out as expected. The marriage ends with the death of her husband, her route to Los Angeles takes a long stopover in Arizona, and her

desire to get her singing career going takes a back seat to a waitressing job in Phoenix. It's a film worth seeing for the writing, the cast which (in addition to Burstyn, Kristofferson, and Ladd) includes in varying degrees of on-

screen time Jodie Foster, Harvey Keitel, Vic Tayback (as diner owner "Mel"), Valerie Curtin, an early moment from Laura Dern, and Scorsese himself. Rated PG, the runtime is 112 minutes.

The film club's final offering is March 28th's *Brazil*. If you know nothing about this film, you must first understand that the film is not about the country. "Brazil" is the song that provides some texture to the film. *Brazil* was directed by Terry Gilliam, who transitioned from directing *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, to *Jabberwocky*, and *Time Bandits* to this 1985 release. Those three earlier films may (emphasis may) give you some suggestion that this film is another light and whimsical romp. In fact, as Janet Maslin (then) of the New York Times wrote, "Terry Gilliam's 'Brazil', a jaunty, wittily observed vision of an extremely bleak future, is a superb example of the power of comedy to underscore serious ideas, even solemn ones." Dystopian is what comes to mind. But it's not a downer. As a friend of mine quipped, "it's 1984 with a happy ending..." There is humor in the bleakness and plenty to think about in the film. And it's well worth your time. The cast includes Jonathan Pryce, Robert De Niro, Katherine Helmond, Ian Holm, Bob Hoskins, Michael Palin, Ian Richardson, and Jim Broadbent (you may remember Broadbent as Bridget's father in *Bridget Jones' Diary*). *Brazil* is rated R (some violence) and runs 142 minutes. All films begin at 7:00pm.

Note: Arena Theater Film Club membership (including membership in Arena Theater Association) is \$85 per year for individuals, \$150 for two partners. Film Club members are admitted to all screenings at no extra charge; guests are welcome at \$10 each, or \$5 for age 18 and under.



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It is useless for the sheep to pass resolutions in favour of vegetarianism while the wolf remains of a different opinion.
- Dean William R. Inge

SUDOKU

Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty : Easy

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HOW TO SOLVE:
Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

(Answer appears elsewhere in this issue)

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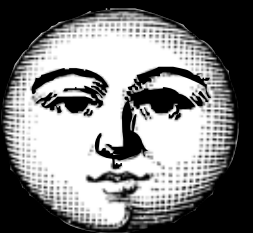


New Moon



March 9

Full Moon



March 23

Longing For The Cold War

by David Steffen

For some of us, perhaps many of us, the Cold War years had clarity. Believe it or not while there weren't rules, the Cold War gave us lines and boundaries. There was fear and yet our government sought to soothe our worried minds. Of course both sides—East and West—had people on the extremes but, to borrow a football metaphor, the 'cold warriors' generally played between the 20 yard lines. Not much scoring but no nuclear missile strikes either.

During the half century after WWII, America had a more unified and purposeful society, not to mention better friends, better enemies, better politicians, and better music. The unification of spirit felt during that political "ice age" was likely the end result of our collective fear of being destroyed, in spite of assurances from those in authority that we could 'survive a nuclear attack'.

What senior citizen does not recall being lovingly informed by a kindergarten teacher that if we wanted to get home safely tonight, we'd better know how to duck and cover, as in duck under your desk when you



hear the warning or see the flash of the A-Bomb, and then cover your head. Right. Even the older children were fed the idea that they could 'survive an atom bomb'.

No discussion of those pesky radiation burns or ingesting some residual particle of U-235. Instead, "OK kids, the bright light is gone, the mushroom cloud is pretty, the city's destroyed, but we're just fine. Get home safe! And don't forget to read Silas Marner for tomorrow." This is not an attempt to trivialize the Truman-to-Reagan era, (or for that matter Stalin-to-Gorbachev.) We felt the tension, witnessed occasional provocations, and were sometimes heartened by moments of detente. Khrushchev visited America, and then that silly U2 spy plane thing happened. There were years of atmospheric nuclear tests with regular forays into unilateral brinkmanship. The proxy war with China, also known as the Korean "Police Action", morphed into uneasy and often violated truce along the 38th Parallel. The militari-

zation of western Europe through NATO was a reflection of the occupation of eastern Europe under the guise of the Warsaw Pact. We lived through the Berlin Wall, and the Cuban Missile Crisis. Everywhere the *raison detre* was expressed as defeating the "Decadent Capitalism" of the West, or the "Godless Communism" of the East.

Providing additional boundaries for our lives were some lighter cultural influences. Like Mad Magazine ("What-Me Worry?") and its offbeat humor. Its satire was sometimes dark, and like other cultural touchstones it had double-entendres for intergenerational readers, i.e. the odd-ball humor of Spy vs. Spy. On television there was Rocky & Bullwinkle providing viewers with A-Bomb comic-relief featuring Boris & Natasha; a bit like the Adams Family with nukes. *The Man From U.N.C.L.E.* gave us the organizations UNCLE and THRUSH squaring off as "good" and "evil". There was even a credit at the end of each episode thanking the United Network Command For Law Enforcement for its assistance in the production. (No such organization existed but suggesting it was a real agency was a little like the childish joke ending with "made you look".) *The Man From U.N.C.L.E.* was mirrored with humor in *Get Smart* with its agents of "Control" and "Kaos".

Two big screen offerings in 1964 were *Fail Safe* and *Dr. Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb* (1964). In the drama of the former, Henry Fonda portrayed "The President", attempting to be a rational voice with his Russian counterpart. In the end, the wayward American nukes destroyed Moscow, and Fonda's president prevented a full out Soviet nuclear response by dropping an American nuke on New York City. (Ted Cruz probably liked that part of the film). *Strangelove's* black comedy was center stage with Peter Sellers in three roles: as Group Capt. Lionel Mandrake (suggesting Britain's WWII Field Marshal Montgomery), American President Merkin Muffley, telling the members of his cabinet that even when discussing global thermonuclear war, decorum is required: "Gentlemen, you can't fight in here! This is the War Room." And finally there was Dr. Strangelove himself, an

obvious preview of Dr. Henry Kissinger's role in the Nixon White House. Ironically Kissinger helped open American relations with "Red" China by organizing a meeting between conservative Nixon, and Mao and Chou en Lai. (Twenty years later, the cultural relevance of that meeting was not lost on fans of *Star Trek*, when Spock tells Kirk the old Vulcan saying, "Only Nixon could go to China.") *You Only Live Twice*, the 1967 Bond film was contrasted with *The President's Analyst*. Deadly suave vs. deadly humor. Exposed to both fiction and fact, by the 1970s we continued to see the lines.

In the 1980s the acronym MAD emerged providing a shortcut to imagining the end result of unleashing weapons of war in the Atomic Age: Mutually Assured Destruction. MAD reinforced a simple premise: nuclear war was insane. We ALSO accepted another new phrase: Nuclear Winter. It took "MAD" and further defined the outcome of a nuclear war in two words. So instead of launching a global thermonuclear war, over the decades the East and West engaged in proxy states and proxy wars, as in Vietnam, Angola, Korea, Syria, Israel, Nicaragua, Palestine, and Cuba. But the world began to believe that there were actual lines, and launching a nuclear war was a line not to be crossed.

Through all those years, music was an important ingredient in American culture. There was always someone, somewhere, inspired and willing to write and record a song about the times in which we lived. Something to give us a tweak on the nose, a slap to the back of the head. Today we sometimes feel as if there is no relevant music, or we're less inspired by music, or music is no longer enough. (Name me two widely



recognized songs that we all came to know as the anthems of the "Occupy Wall Street" protests. . . . time's up.) In keeping with the current state of technology, protests have become less frequent, but more visual; like standing up at a Trump rally asking for tolerance and being thrown out of the room, often with disregard for personal safety. Highly visible buy hardly new. Trump has (as has the GOP) become the new "Bull" Conner. Half a century ago Conner—the Commissioner for Public Safety—enforced racial segregation and denied

continued on pg. 13



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BROWN from cover.

humor. . . He went on to sing about loneliness and crumbling marriages, about lessons in life from an old hillbilly, about remorse and about bitter disillusionment: 'Lord, I have made You a place in my heart/But I don't reckon You're gonna come.'"

The gravel and dust permanently attached to Brown's vocal chords lends its own credibility to his music. You can almost hear the hundreds (thousands?) of small venues he's played in a thirty-plus year career. For any reader who's still in the "Greg Who" category, rest assured this is a performer who may be late coming to the coast, but is just in time just in time for some of us who gave up hope. And it's a performance perfectly suited to the acoustics and intimacy of Arena Theater. Few performers are as compelling as Brown.

Whether you're already a fan, have listened to his recordings, heard him on *A Prairie Home Companion*, or are new to Brown's music, it's a must see concert. I recall seeing the late Hoyt Axton at the Quiet Knight club in Chicago in 1974, and to this day it's a memory worth sharing. A stage as special as Arena Theater is another worthy, intimate venue, and your attendance will provide you with years of memories and, not to mention, bragging rights. "I recall when Greg Brown performed at Arena Theater. It was one of those memorable performances. . ."

Petaluma Poet Patti Trimble Featured At Third Thursday Poetry In Point Arena

By Blake More

On Thursday, March 17, at 7:30pm The Third Thursday Poetry & Jazz Improv Reading Series at 215 Main in Point Arena will feature Petaluma poet Patti Trimble. The reading will begin with live improv jazz and an open mic with jazz improv; the reading will conclude with more live improv jazz.

Poet Patti Trimble began reading and performing in Northern California with her 1990s events (with musician Bill Horvitz) for Sebastopol Center for the Arts, Watershed Environmental Poetry Festival, and Petaluma Poetry Walk, and as co-founder and festival poet of the Tuolumne Poetry Festival in Yosemite. Her poems are published widely, and her resume includes grants, residencies, conferences, recordings, and a long list of poetry performances in the US and Europe.

Patti says, "I've always been fascinated with poetry in its basic form, it's original form, the lyric spoken word, especially with music. I mean, the written poem is a relatively recent development, and for thousands of years in western culture,—and still in many countries and communities around the world—poetry has been spoken to music in rhythm, presented live in community as a form of the news. There's a good reason for these live performances: from Greek plays through Yeats, Gertrude Stein, Ginsberg, Dylan, poems come alive when read aloud. Gatherings in real time give us a chance to think and feel, while another person expresses, as well as possible in words, what many of us wish we could put into words. And so of course, the poet has a responsibility. When I write and present poetry, I hope people are moved to think a little bit differently, to experience a richer and more complicated version of the world news.

"I travel a lot, and when I moved to Sicily part time—a place where ideas of culture, family, the environment are really old, and a place where immigrants are now arriving from Africa and the Middle East—my perspective has changed so much. I think more about social justice, how I can talk intelligently about nature and wilderness, how any of us can live peaceably with our neighbors. I'm working on a poem about traveling, migration, extinction: actually about everything, love, life, and wonder in the anthropocene era: I'll read excerpts from that piece around the Bay Area this spring, and hope I can present the long version with a full band and maybe a speaking chorus in late 2016. I also write less colloquial and more structured poems for the page, these days many of them are about myth, family,

and walking around in Sicilian orchards."

Patti lives in Petaluma and Sicily. She teaches writing and art history for various OLLI programs and Point Reyes Field Institute, and Sicily Center for International Education. She writes for the San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival, and is writing a poetry collection from Sicily, and a memoir of New York Abstract Expressionists.

Patti's website, www.pattitrimble.com, has poems on it, and you can hear spoken word and music from her 2014 poetry and music CDS at www.outofoundrecords.com. The CDs are *In the Middle of the Night of the Road of My Life I Found Myself in a Tangled Wood*, with improvisation by eclectic musician Peter Whitehead. *Hello Heaven—Poems from Arabic Sicily*, with Arabic poetry sung by Tunisian poet Ramzi Harrabi and new English translations by Trimble, Farajullah, and Harrabi. New York poetry impresario Bob Holman wrote: "With a stand-up cello as the Circles and Patti Trimble's voice our Dantean guide, we find that the road between Truth and Beauty is a narrow one indeed. But with her skilled blend of poesy and music, there's no other journey so worth taking. ITMOT-NOTROMLIFMIATW is a Classic Right Now." You can hear cuts from both CDs.

Third Thursday Poetry is supported by The Third Thursday Poetry Group, many anonymous donors, and Poets & Writers, Inc. through a grant it has received from The James Irvine Foundation.

DRAKES BAY SONG

Blink.
The owl flying across my poem
is the god of acceptance.

Blink.
What is the difference
between a god and a sign?

Blink.
I've been watched by owls
and don't always like it.

Crow robbed Falcon's nest last week,
Owl observed from Cypress branch.
Falcon whirled through sky and
screamed.

Fox ran by, light feet and Rabbit in
her mouth.
Swinging swinging, Death's ears,
Death's fur, hanging to the ground.

Blink.
Owl stares from Cypress branch.
Fox runs lightly home to kits.
Rabbit? who, who knows?

Patti Trimble 2015

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- Charles de Gaulle





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Solution to Sudoku

... And Now The View From Another Coast "Freeway Furniture" By Tony Stanol

It's a phenomenon I encountered only after leaving New York for Los Angeles. Sure, New York has the monopoly on rudeness, roadside litter and aggressive drivers. But LA has it beat on road missiles careening off the back of pick up trucks straight at you as you blissfully cruise down the freeway at 65 miles per hour. It's freeway furniture and there's no stopping it.

It's everywhere. Freeway furniture is now included as part of the traffic reports on the radio as if it's as common as a weather report: "There's a mattress in the left center lane on the 101 Freeway at Topanga..."

I heard on the radio that some organization assembled all the freeway furniture it could find on freeways during one day and completely furnished a four bedroom house!

Freeway furniture is one of the driving features that sets L.A. off from the East Coast. Drivers, believe it or not, seem to be more polite here, too. Remember, I come from a lawless land where a taxi driver would think nothing about wedging his big yellow Crown Vic with iron-reinforced bumpers in between two cars in a space only big enough for a moped; all while traveling 60 miles an hour in rush hour traffic on the FDR Drive. And he'll flip you the bird for not giving him the right of way fast enough.

On the LA freeways, people politely let you in front of them in traffic. Honking your horn is virtually non-existent and I don't know why. I find that a good honk is useful even if just to snap someone out of their cell phone stupor in the car. At the same time, all the turn signals seem to have been removed from the cars in Los Angeles. I've come to not expect signaling within city limits. But in the suburbs, I don't understand why people don't just signal their intentions as they approach me from the left so I don't have to wait for them just to find that they turn left next to me at the intersection. In cases like this I usually give them a good toot on the horn to serve as a reminder of the rules of the road.

And don't get me started about driving in the rain. You'd think that the 405 Freeway was replaced with an ice rink the way Angelinos pussyfoot around in their cars and still manage to get into countless accidents. You shouldn't be handed a drivers license unless you've logged hours behind the wheel



in deep snow, sleet and freezing rain as I have before moving here.

But how to explain all the freeway furniture? Compared to the East, there seem to be a lot more overloaded pick-up trucks piled high with belongings, tools and boxes on our roads.

Maybe it's that the trucks around the New York area tend to be enclosed to prevent pilferage. You're more likely to encounter a ton of roadside litter on any given New York roadway than an armoire or a settee.

Things just randomly fall off of trucks in LA onto the freeway. My older daughter once came across what turned out to be thousands of individually cellophane wrapped fortune cookies dancing up the 405 from Santa Monica. She had to navigate her Mustang around them so as to avoid any bad luck.

Perhaps some law will be passed and enforced dealing with the securing of possessions and furniture on the backs of trucks. Until then, my daughter is furnishing her new apartment, so this weekend we're going furniture shopping for her. On the 405.

Arena Theater Association is Looking for Board Members

If you've seen a first-run film this year, or attended a live concert event, or participated in a community meeting, or just stopped in for some of the great popcorn, perhaps you might be interested in supporting the theater by becoming a board member.

The Arena Theater Association is seeking board members for three seats that are up for election in April of this year. Each seat is a three-year term obligation, and the deadline to apply is Friday, March 18.

Anyone interested in becoming a board member for the Arena Theater is encouraged to submit a letter of interest briefly describing background and area of interest (e.g. live shows, cinema, special talents such as fundraising, or simply general). Candidates must be a member in good standing; non-members may join prior to the March 18 submission deadline. Candidate statements will appear on the ballot, brevity is encouraged at 50-100 words.

Candidate statements can be submitted via email at info@arenatheater.org, by mail to Arena Theater, PO Box 611, Point Arena, CA 95468, or dropped off at the Arena Theater business office. More information is at the Arena Theater office at (707) 882-3272.

The Arena Theater Association will hold its annual Membership Meeting and Board Election on Monday, April 18, at 6 p.m., at the theater. The meeting will include the yearly membership party with music, a potluck, food and drink.



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Scuttlebutt

by Mitch McFarland

In the 40 some years that I have been observing economic life in Point Arena, I have observed several expansions and contractions. Unfortunately, often the contractions were greater than the expansions, and lasted longer.

During the 1960's Point Arena hummed along with a fully staffed Air Force base, a strong logging industry, and a still viable fishing industry, but by the end of the 1970s things started to go badly. The first hit was probably the closing of the air base which transferred numerous airmen and their families out of the area. Cut and run logging by corporate owners in the 1980s "liquidated" the forests and led to the end of this area as a major lumber producing region and contributed to the collapse of the salmon industry.

Life support for the economy came in the form of pot money that surged into the region as a result of a huge increase in the price of weed owing to the Reagan/Dukemejian war on pot. Loggers and fishers headed to the back woods in an attempt to keep the wolf away from their doors.

In the early 1990s Point Arena took another big hit when Tony Gaussoin came from San Diego, bought several commercial properties and dislocated 5 businesses in town. His properties still sit dormant for the most part and are now some of the most rundown looking buildings in town.

I wouldn't be writing all this if there wasn't something more positive to say and there is. Point Arena is actually undergoing a major economic expansion and it is not based on pot money (the price of weed is crashing to historic lows with no uptick in sight).

It is hard to say just exactly when this began. Some would say the creation of the Stornetta Lands National Monument is a major driver. It did immediately lead to more than a doubling of hits on the Lighthouse Peddler website. Others point to the wholesale rebuilding of the old Seashell Motel, soon to be the Wildflower, by Ken Hansen and Laura Cover. Others see the cleaning up of the property on the east side of the highway on the hill entering Point Arena from the south as a good first step. Matt Maticzyk's tile shop entering town brought life to that moribund property and next door Lisa Joakimides replaced a dilapidated garage with a beautiful new building for her Lisa's Luscious

business. The creation of the B Bryan Preserve helped put Point Arena on the map and now, along with the lighthouse, is one of the major tourist attractions on the coast.

On a recent visit to City Hall I discovered that 14 new business license applications have recently been filed. Lena Bullamore has retired and closed Everything Under the Sun, but Teresa Santana has bought the building and is opening a gift shop at that location. Monica Moore and her aunt, Kelly MacKay, are opening a flower shop and gift shop at the wharf and her brother Zan is negotiating to open yet another business at that location. John Dupont, owner of the commercial building at the cove, is doing major renovations to that 25 year-old structure.

The recent transplants from Sonoma County, Ariana Mazzucchi and her partner, Casey, have purchased the old Disotelle's restaurant building and have opened a gift shop at that location. They also acquired a large ag parcel just south of town and are raising sheep and other activities.

Though Cady Case has closed the Pacific Plate restaurant adjacent to the Sign of the Whale bar, Aaron Peters will be re-opening it soon.

This last year has even seen 2 new houses built in the city limits. This might not sound like much unless you realize that virtually no new homes have been built in Point Arena in the last 20 years.

Though they have managed to plant tens of thousands of daffodil bulbs along the town's roads in the last few years, the Point Arena Merchants Association had dwindled to just a few members, but a recent re-organizational meeting of the group brought out some 25 people. One area of discussion was the creation of a main street beautification project to spruce up the town and clean up some of the few remaining buildings that need attention.

All of this comes at a time when the City council has recently hired a full-time, highly-experienced professional City Manger to sort out the structure of city government and guide the city through future development. For the City's part they have acquired the old campground property at the cove (now referred to as the "rock wall" property) and have secured the former washhouse building with a new roof and soon a coat of paint.

As the California economy continues

to boom, everyone expects that this will be a big tourist season, which should create a nice bump in sales tax receipts, plus with the anticipated opening of 14 rooms at the Wildflower, the Transit Occupancy Tax fund should grow as well.

The best part about all this development is that it is largely an organic growth. It is not due to an influx of corporate money. There is no new big mall being built, a prison complex, or Disney-like playground. The future of Point Arena will be a mix of tourism, moderate resource extraction, potential rebounding of the salmon industry (unless climate change prevents this), some marijuana related business, and a simple recycling of money within our own Go Local economy.

When I was working at the pier in Point Arena often tourists would say to me that what they really loved about visiting Point Arena was that it hardly ever changed. Year after year they could return to a place that was familiar to them and not paved over and filled with corporate signs and ticky-tack housing developments. Of course, those of us who live here have seen many changes, but they have been incremental and home-grown (for better and worse). The basic character of the town is the same- working class, diverse, and open-minded (and a bit quirky). As Point Arena moves into the future I am confident that it will retain its fundamental character and meet the future challenges with courage, determination, and good humor.

Nighttime Tour March 23 at Point Arena Lighthouse

Regular readers of the Lighthouse Peddler know we always publish the New Moon and Full Moon dates for the month (see page 8). This month the Point Arena Lighthouse's tour is scheduled to coordinate with the Full Worm Moon on March 23rd.

According to the 2016 Farmer's Almanac: "As the temperatures begin to warm and the ground begins to thaw, earthworm casts appear, heralding the return of the robins. The more northern tribes knew this moon as the Full Crow Moon, when the cawing of crows signaled the end of winter; or the Full Crust Moon, because



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the snow cover becomes crusted from thawing by day and freezing at night. The Full Sap Moon, marking the time of tapping the maple trees, is another variation. To the settlers, it was also known as the


Lenten Moon and was considered to be the last full moon of winter.

Tickets are \$30 per person or \$50 for two, and include champagne or sparkling juice, light refreshments and a souvenir flute. Gates open at 7:00, tour starts at 7:30. Reservations are required and must be made by March 20th by calling (707) 882-2809. The lighthouse is located at 45500

Lighthouse Road, Point Arena.

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Words On Wellness

by Karin Uphoff

The bright green new unfoldings of spring is a good reminder to 'eat your leaves'. Tender and tasty, young apple, nasturium and fir tips are packed with nutrition, and if we venture to nibble the body blessed with nature's complex medicine. One of nature's more complex medicines is Cannabis Sativa (marijuana), although it's not exactly growing on the headlands. Leaves of this plant are strongly anti-inflammatory, immuno-regulatory and hormone balancing because of a fat-based molecule called Cannabidiol (CBD). Flower buds of cannabis also contain CBD along with 5-20% THC in it's sticky resin, while the glands on the leaf and trim contain one-fifth to one-half the THC depending on the strain. Current medicinal use of this plant for cancer, epilepsy, anxiety and many autoimmune disorders are using whole cannabis extracts with carefully balanced ratios of leaf to bud, CBD/THC.



Receptors for cannabinoids are found in all vertebrates and especially abundant in the human brain plus nearly all tissues of our body. They are part of our endocannabinoid system, which regulates many basic functions like eating, sleeping, memory, relaxation and immune modulation - everyday mammalian activity one hopes! Our bodies produce endogenous cannabinoids to keep our

own endocannabinoid system humming. The cannabinoids we produce bind to primary receptors: CB1 located in the brain and neurons throughout the body, and CB2 found mostly in the immune system. For example, mother's milk is rich in endocannabinoids similar to THC that bind to CB1 receptors in the brain, stimulating appetite and proper neural development. THC can attach itself to either receptor in us, while CBD has little binding affinity. Instead, CBD indirectly stimulates cannabinoid signaling by suppressing the enzyme that breaks down our endocannabinoids, thus conserving them.

Though Marijuana far exceeds any plant so far in the abundance of many types of cannabinoids, it turns out that most plants have trace compounds that activate our endocannabinoid system. So, what have you been eating that mimics the effects of molecules from cannabis? Plants like echinacea (aster family), the citrus family, the brassicas (mustard, broccoli), chili peppers, carrots, celery, various culinary herbs and many of those edible spring greens, to name a few. By eating a plant-based diet, rich in raw green leaves and flowers, you can help to regulate your own cannabinoid system.

Karin Uphoff can be reached at www.rainbowconnection.net.

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Talk on Mendonoma Gray Whale Census at the Lighthouse March 19

The Point Arena Lighthouse Lecture Series will feature a talk and slide presentation by Scott Mercer of Mendonoma Whale and Seal Study on Saturday, March 19 at 4:00pm in the Fog Signal Building at the Lighthouse, 45500 Lighthouse Road, Point Arena. Admission is \$5. Space is limited and reservations are recommended.

Humpback whales and blue whales, as well as the familiar gray whale, also frequent the Mendonoma Coastline and are often seen by bluff walkers as well as boaters. Scott's presentation will feature new graphics and information on the behaviors of humpback and blue whales in the Eastern Pacific Ocean and will concentrate on the results of this year's Gray Whale Census, with comparisons to the 2014 and



2015 census counts. Impacts of El Nino on this year's count and on the movements of whales will be part of the discussion.

In addition to gray whale census results, Scott will discuss the ecology of gray whales in their Arctic feeding grounds, Mexican breeding grounds, and on the migration in between, including timing of migrations

and the speed of the whales' travels. The effects of climate change on the movements and fitness of the species will be discussed.

Scott and his wife Theresa (Tree) began their effort this season on December 19, and will continue into mid-April. This is their third consecutive census of migrating gray whales. The Mercers recently presented their 2014 and 2015 data at a major international marine mammal conference in San Francisco.

Scott is author of three books including *The Great Whale Book*, and *Whalehead Nation, Creating and Keeping an Environmental Ethic in Children*. For more information, or to make a reservation, call the Lighthouse at (707) 882-2809.

Photo by Peggy Berryhill.



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Turning To Art With A Fresh Perspective

In the spring a young man's—and a young woman's—fancy turns to art. At least we hope so, as Gualala Arts presents "Art In The Schools—Young Creative Minds". Visiting the art center should be a joy for all art lovers this month. Youth often brings an unexpected perspective to the creative process, unhindered by convention. And yes, (for those in doubt) that's a good thing.

The Opening Reception is Friday, March 11, 5:00pm to 7:00pm, and the exhibit continues through March 27 at the Burnett Gallery & Elaine Jacob Foyer at Gualala Arts. Prepare to be impressed.

Gualala Arts Center Presents Arts of Tibet Tibetan Monks: Tibet Update and Healing Ceremony

Tibetan Monks from Gaden Shar-tse Monastery will offer a Tibet Update and Healing Ceremony Thursday, March 24, at 7:00pm at Gualala Arts Center.

The Rinpoche traveling on this "Sacred Arts of Tibet" tour will update participants about what is going on with Tibet, answer questions, and lead an ancient healing ceremony known as Vajravidarin, a Tantric ritual of purification.

The Lama will guide participants through visualizations and create a diamond-like impenetrable layer of light around and within the participant. A donation of \$20 is requested to help raise money for the preservation of Tibetan culture.

Representatives from this group have visited the Gualala Arts Center several times before and have shared their culture with all aspects of the local community. An example of their work is here.



COLD WAR from page 8

civil rights to black citizens in Birmingham, Alabama by using attack dogs, firehoses, and worse. (See the Charles Moore photograph on page 8). The difference then, the abuse was a wakeup call to anyone on the sidelines. Today's boorish and thug-like behavior seems to embolden the supporters, while those in opposition can complain for one news cycle; and like the introduction of another shiny object, the noise dies down as the media loses interest. Until it happens again.

It's my belief that we are not sufficiently confronting today's bigots, warmongers, and racists in our midst. Trump, Cruz, Rubio, and the others say anything and the greatest casualty is the truth. We can only hope that at some point they will each be called to account. Whether by a citizen in the streets, a famous newscaster, a war veteran, or a musician on stage. Presidential wannabes are calling for "carpet-bombing" the Middle East, deporting 12 million people, building a wall along our border, ex-

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cluding members of one or more religions from entering the U.S. solely on the basis of their religion, and declaring that we need waterboarding and [actually] it should go further. A counter-message to these dismantlers of the Constitution must emerge, and soon.

As I prepared to write this column, I reviewed a list of recordings. I kept searching for a contemporary narrative to protest the warmongers, to counter the nativists, and to refute those with a flawed history of the founding of the Republic. The more I thought about it, the less important a long list of recordings became. Beyond David Rovics, who is constantly writing, recording, touring—his website declares "Music is no spectator sport, [we should] become a co-conspirator and organize a gig, translate my songs into other languages or join the Better Anarchist™ Club and help me get to the next protest"—we need music to transcend the moment. We need today's Bob Dylan, Phil Ochs, Woody (or Arlo) Guthrie, Nanci Griffith, or Shona Laing to raise

their voices. But we must recognize that the lines are no longer as clearly drawn as they were during the Cold War.

Racists are getting away with being racist. Warmongers are wrapping themselves in the flag to justify bombing indiscriminately. Bigots are openly expressing their abhorrent bigotry. Don't ask where the "anti-ISIS" songs are. Instead, understand that hatred is obvious within America today. Everyone has a duty to protest the borderline insanity of these modern day John Birchers. As New Zealander Shona Laing asked thirty years ago in her song "Soviet Snow", are we keeping "One eye on the winter? Are we wide awake? Is the world aware?" While I'd like to believe that we are awake and aware, it seems, maybe, not so much.

Mad Magazine Cover Information
 Mad #30 (right) December 1956
 Cover Artist: Norman Mingo
 Cover Border Artists: Harvey Kurtzman and Will Elder
 Mad Logo: Harvey Kurtzman
 Courtesy: <http://madcoversite.com/doug.html>

The Journey by Dolly Steffen

My daughter celebrated her 28th birthday last month on February 7. You might say “okay, so what!” Let me digress. The year was 1988. It was a beautiful September day in Seoul, South Korea, and the city was bustling with tourists, photographers, journalists and athletes. The eyes of the whole world were watching and anticipating the Summer Olympics that were only a few days away. The people of Seoul were in a celebratory mood and it was palpable.

Meanwhile, back in Los Angeles it was August of 1988. A couple anxiously awaited the arrival of a Northwest Orient Airlines flight from Seoul. Butterflies whirled in their stomachs as they delicately held a photo of a beautiful 2 month old baby girl; she was now 7 months of age and they chose the name Caitlin for her. The previous two years of interviews, paperwork and planning would finally pay off. They were about to meet their daughter for the very first time. Finally the plane arrived and slowly lumbered to the gate. Deplaning began and their eyes were riveted on every exiting passenger hoping that the next one held their daughter. The waiting was excruciating and as the last passenger deplaned their hearts sank. Clutching her photo they left confused and broken hearted. No answers, no explanations, just questions.

That couple was me and my husband, David. After another few weeks of waiting we decided to *take the bull by the horns*, as they say, and found ourselves winging our way to Seoul, South Korea to finally bring our daughter home. The first of several days of “introductions” to her would take place the following morning at the adoption agency. The emotional trials of the past several weeks left us exhausted, blessing us with a decent nights sleep and energy for the exciting day ahead. The agency kindly sent a car for us as navigating the over-crowded streets of Seoul was a most challenging task at best. Upon arrival at the agency we were greeted with great enthusiasm and politeness. Those darn butterflies were back again! After the formalities were over the social worker led us into “the room”! This is the point where you are jumping out of your skin with excitement juxtaposed with “Oh My God” what if she doesn’t like us. It’s a long flight back to the States! The door suddenly opened and the social worker slowly walked in with our bundle of joy and gently placed her in my arms. Funny though, she didn’t look quite like her photograph, but of course she was

now seven months old.

She was such a sweet, quiet little baby. After a few minutes the door to “the room” opened again and a most humbled social worker entered and whispered to the Agency Director. David turned to him and quietly mouthed the words, “wrong baby”? The embarrassed Director nodded yes. Now they had to pry that sweet little girl from my arms. Fate does have a sense of humor though. A few moments later our daughter was brought into the room and the waiting was finally over. She took one look at us and that’s when the crying started and didn’t stop through the entire visit. The foster mother knew this was the point where she had to start letting go and didn’t intervene. I felt so ill prepared and all efforts to calm our little daughter were in vain. She wasn’t about to make this change in her life easy on us. With each day’s visit the crying turned into screaming and David and I were starting to feel panic set in. The next visit would include the 10 hour flight home.



Well the departure day had finally arrived and we were about to start our life as a family. Our baby girl’s displeasure with us was understandable as she had been with her foster mother for seven months now. We were nothing but interlopers trying to throw a wrench into her comfortable daily routine. The butterflies in our stomachs were now replaced by knots and a foreboding sense that our bundle of joy was not going to give up without a fight. Would she finally acquiesce? We were about to find out.

For the fourth and final time we were ushered into “the room”. The tearful foster mother gently placed our baby girl into my lap for the final time. I had empathy for this soft spoken, gentle woman who lovingly cared for so many babies before, once again having to say good by. We would forever be indebted to her. Fighting back tears of joy was suddenly interrupted by a strange silence in the room. Caitlin was not crying. Was there a force in the universe interven-

ing and telling this little one to give the Americans a break. My first instinct was to treat her like a stick of TNT, don’t move, don’t breath, lest the screaming commence. We boarded the airport shuttle and said our final goodbye. Caitlin happily slept, oblivious to the start of her new life. We effortlessly moved through the airport, accepting all the congratulations and well wishes. We were actually starting to feel a bit more relaxed. It was a few hours before departure so we headed for the Korean Airlines Club where we could bask in the glow of our newly acquired parenting skills.

Caitlin awoke. The crying began. With every attempt to decipher her source of anxiety, her decibel level of crying rose. I felt an angry mob brewing in the Club. Two hours of walking the hall, diaper changes, bottles and rocking were of no avail. The crying was now at the screaming stage. We were frantic!

Every once in awhile in life you are given a blessing. This one was in the form of an elderly Korean woman, cleaning lady who happened to take pity upon these new parents. With only gestures to communicate she gently took Caitlin into her arms and enveloped her into this magical body hold. The crying stopped!! As it was boarding time, she quickly coached me through the hold and gestured good by. We entered the cabin and found many familiar faces from the Club. I could imagine they were not to happy to see us again. David and I were like pillars of stone, fearing any movement or breath would awaken our daughter again. Halfway through the flight she opened her eyes and we held our breath, but no crying. After a diaper change and a bottle, she fell fast asleep again. Upon landing a celebratory surge of clapping thundered through our section of the plane in honor of the baby that stopped crying.



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We were back at the Los Angeles airport again, just like August 1988, only this time we were finally a family. Oh by the way, we never did learn why Caitlin wasn’t on that Northwest Orient flight. Looking back we wouldn’t of had it any other way.

Post Script: When Caitlin turned six years of age, we took her back to Seoul to meet her foster mother. Out of 11 foster babies, Caitlin was the only one to return to see her again. Her foster mother passed away shortly after that trip.

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by Margie E. Burke

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ACROSS

1. Bottom line
5. Petty malice
10. Aquarium growth
14. School founded in 1701
15. Knight's "suit"
16. Frost lines
17. Organ knob
18. W.C. Fields persona
19. French door part
20. Churchill's "___ Finest Hour"
22. Get into
23. Like days of yore
24. Alluring
27. Whistle blower?
30. Roped by all fours
31. Venomous snake
34. With intensity
36. Layered
38. Prepare to fire again
39. Faze

40. Type of bypass surgery
42. Long letter
43. Wallet bill
44. Leak stopper
46. Bamboozle
47. Sign of things to come
49. Girder material
52. "___, humbug!"
53. Pass-the-baton race
57. Word sung on 12/31
58. Shish ___
60. Brawny competitor
61. Catch
62. Nome home
63. Exploitative type
64. All there
65. Disadvantaged
66. Make, as money

DOWN

1. Dermatologist's concern
2. Solemn vow
3. ___ gin fizz
4. Not so hot
5. Calendar abbr.
6. Early online service
7. Bring in
8. Hammer slantingly
9. "To ___ is human ..."
10. Big name in computers
11. Amount of work
12. Characteristic carrier
13. Call from the flock
21. Warm-up at the Belasco
23. Raphael or Rembrandt
25. Platoon member
26. Demeanor
27. What a hold holds
28. Neptune's domain
29. Beat
31. Bit of high jinks
32. Artillery burst
33. Spruce up
35. Youngster
37. "___ alive!"
41. Sauerkraut, essentially
42. Virility
45. Apt
47. Ambiguous statement
48. Musical show
49. Get smart
50. Yellowfin, e.g.
51. Exuberance
54. Mona ___
55. Allege
56. Ball material
58. Connections
59. Part of EGBDF



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Met Opera, Live in HD March 5: *Manon Lescault*

As part of the Met Opera Live in HD series, Arena Theater will telecast Giacomo Puccini's *Manon Lescault* on Saturday, March 5. The production features Kristine Opolais, a rising star in the world of opera having performed in *La Boheme* and *Madame Butterfly*, as well as a 2014 production of *Manon Lescault* at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. Tenor



Roberto Alagna is a star in his own right. As the *New York Times* reported, "the tenor . . . rescued the Metropolitan Opera's new production of Puccini's 'Manon Lescault,' when the production was thrown into crisis with the illness of tenor Jonas Kaufmann.

Opolais and Alagna portray the ill-fated lovers in Puccini's passionate adaptation of the classic novel about a free-spirited country girl who becomes the toast of Paris. Puccini made the story his own and infused it with a new level of frank emotion and a flood of melody. Sir Richard Eyre's new production is set in the 1940s.

Having been to the Met while living in New York, I can attest to the special nature of sitting in one of America's great places for operatic performance. That being said, I can heartily recommend this local option with no reservations. The theater is comfortable, the aisles are spacious, the price is reasonable, and most importantly—

for many—the hour is very civilized. Once the production begins you quickly forget about the hour and become engrossed in the performance. And at the conclusion, you can walk into the sunlight, drive along the ocean, stop and have lunch, a glass wine or a cup of coffee and talk about the performance with friends, or just reflect on the performance by yourself.

Arena Theater is at 214 Main Street in Point Arena. Tickets are \$24 general admission, \$22 senior, \$18 student. Saturday March 5 at 9:55am (doors open at 9:15am).

Arena Theater Brings Shakespeare to the Coast!

As You Like It

March 19, from National Theater Live

OK, if you're not up on current events, the reality is that, brace yourself, William Shakespeare will not actually be on the coast this month. As a matter of fact, he's dead. Happily, however,



Patsy Ferran as Celia, and Rosalie Craig (right) as Rosalind.

the great works of the "Bard of Avon" live on and become refreshed every year. And that is the good news about the Bard's works in general, and this production in particular. For the first time in thirty years, the National Theater presents *As You Like It*, starring Rosalie Craig (London Road, *Macbeth* at Manchester International Festival) as Rosalind.

With her father the Duke banished and in exile, Rosalind and her cousin Celia (Patsy Ferran) leave their lives in the court behind them and journey into the Forest of Arden. There, released from convention, Rosalind experiences the liberating rush of transfor-

mation. Disguising herself as a boy, she embraces a different way of living and falls spectacularly in love.

This National Theatre production is presented in contemporary staging and in modern dress, with a stunning set and a spectacular scene change into the Forest of Arden. If you believe you know nothing about Shakespeare's play, consider this: *As You Like It* features one of Shakespeare's most famous and oft-quoted speeches, "All the world's a stage", and is the origin of the phrase "too much of a good thing".

Running time is approximately 180 minutes including a 20-minute intermission. Tickets are \$18 general, \$5 youth (18 and under), online at www.arenatheater.org and at the box office.

Jennifer Beattie, Adam Marks, and Matt Albert Headline Chamber Music in March

Gualala Arts Chamber Music presents an afternoon concert featuring Mezzo Soprano Jennifer Beattie, Violinist Matt Albert and Pianist Adam Marks Sunday, March 13, at 4:00pm at Coleman Auditorium. Many readers will recognize the names immediately. Others may be familiar with the Artists at Albatross Reach. And still some others may be persuaded



to attend the concert based only on a desire to discover something new and someone special.

Those familiar with Beattie know that this is a rare opportunity to hear the voice that's been warmly received throughout the music community. She's been called a "smashing success" by the *San Francisco Examiner*, has been praised for her "exuberant voice and personality" (*Opera News*) and her "warmth" (*New York Times*). A remarkably engaging and versatile performer, she

embraces a wide range of repertoire, from Handel to Puccini to Mahler to new American music. Mark your calendar.

Bruce Jones and Dean Thompson The Dolphin Gallery Exhibit in March

The Dolphin Gallery has announced its plans for March, and it includes a new exhibit and reception. The gallery will formally welcome the works of Dean Thompson and Bruce Jones at an opening night reception Saturday, March 5 from 5:00pm to

around the world. This month Thompson once more offers a potpourri of creations that are both artistic and useful, including decorated furniture, pots, concrete sculptures, and handmade journals, all of which have won awards at the annual Art in the Redwoods show since he first entered them in 2004.

He attributes his artistic inspiration to watching his Gramma Daisy weave on her gigantic loom when he was a small boy. Her weaving combined both aesthetic creativi-



7:00pm. The show runs through Tuesday, March 29.

Jones, a familiar face on the coast, returns to the Dolphin for his third two-person show, with new original works in watercolor, ink and colored pencil. Shape is an essential element in Jones' work, and the March offerings will bear that out. Each piece reflects his fascination with shape whether found in a seascape, the human body or even a motorcycle. The only requirement for his subject matter is that it captures his imagination.

Thompson's stimulation seems to come by what he finds on his trips

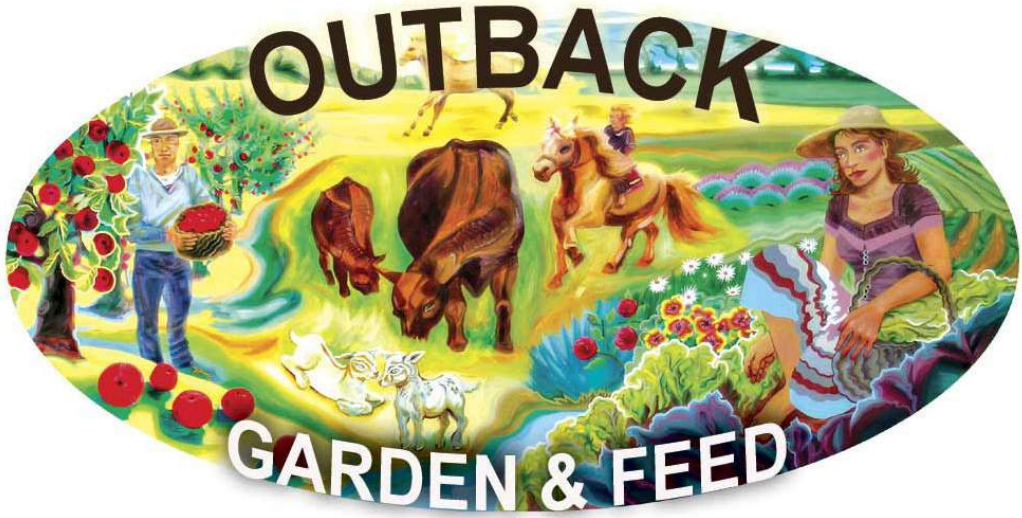


ty and practical application. It is also a craft that has ancient roots. These influences are clearly seen in this show.

The reception is open to all.



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