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Lighthouse Peddler

Issue #179 September 2016

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Jarekus Singleton at Arena Theater Blues For The 21st Century • Friday, September 16

It's not exactly the same as your first love, but it's pretty close. The first time you go to a club and see a quality blues musician in the flesh and sweat, you usually end up a bit caught up in the moment. The music, the audience, the lyrics, all wrap themselves around you. It's an unexpected embrace. Warm, but not smothering. Emotional, but it's no tearful trainwreck. That's the wonderful contradiction about the blues. It doesn't bring you down. It lifts you up. It's a release from whatever may be ailing you at that particular moment. If you haven't been to one of the Blues On The Coast shows this year, it is time to get up out of your chair and step into the greatest blues club north of the Golden Gate. At least for that evening. Friday,

September 16. The music starts at 8:30pm.

At just 30 years old, Jarekus Singleton is not your stereotypical image of the grizzled traveler of bygone days. The genre is transcendent and we are blessed with a new generation of players, and Singleton is one of them. He's a musical trailblazer with a bold vision for the future of the blues. Maybe it's in the dirt, the soil of Mississippi. Singleton comes from the launching pad for Charley Patton, Muddy Waters and B.B. King. His cutting-edge sound, equally rooted in rap, rock and blues traditions-is all his own. He melds hip-hop word-play, rock energy and R&B



© Mikael Samuel

grooves with contemporary and traditional blues, turning audiences of all ages into devoted

cont'd on page 4

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The year seems to be flying by. Maybe it's all the things we can do on the coast. Bluesman **Jarekus Singleton brings Blues to the Coast** on Friday the 16th at Arena Theater in Point Arena. (Cover).

Dragon's Breath Theatre is set for the 17th Anniversary Variety Show and Art Walk. (Page 3.)

The Cosmic String Duo plays for two events at 215 Main on Labor Day Weekend. (Page 3.)

All the answers can be found here. (The **September Crossword** puzzle answers, anyway.) Page 3.

Peggy Berryhill, the driving force behind local radio station KGUA will be at Sunday @ The Library. (Page 4.)

The **Queer Queens of Qomedy** can't get enough of the Mendonoma Coast; right back at ya. . . (Page 5.)

Blake More gives us a preview of this month's poet, Marin County Poet Laureate Prartho Sereno. (Page 6.)

Point Arena's **Annual Harborfest** to support the pier at Arena Cove is Sunday September 4. (Page 5.)

Nuts, seeds and berries are on Karin Uphoff's mind this month in her **Words on Wellness** column. (Page 7.)

Gualala Arts' **70th Birthday** Celebration. (Page 7.)

Sudoku is here with numbers, sequences, boxes of nine, and other ways to stimulate the mind (or trigger a headache). Page 7.)

Two films are set for September by **Arena Theater Film Club**. (Page 8.)

New exhibits announced at **Gualala Arts, opening** September 9. (Page 8.)

The **Dolphin Gallery** shows off two artists with dimension. (Page 9.)

Tea Time with author **James Norwood Pratt** is set for Gualala Arts on September 25. (Page 9.)

"Honey, It's Always About The Sax" is **David Steffen's** topic this month. Spelling error? (Page 10.)

Our beloved **Coast Community Library** is in need of a community hug (and some funding.) Page 11.

Miss the Midwest? "Ya Betcha" is the first column from our newest, and occasional contributor **Sally Marshall**. (Page 12.)

Improve your mind with a 5-class course of **study in Fort Bragg**. (Page 12.)

Mitch McFarland ponders whether Roundup pushes us to "the last roundup" in this month's Scuttlebutt. (Page 13.)

News & Notes—late breaking news is here. (Page 13.)

Voting is on the mind of **Marghi Hagen** this month. We can't escape so get some insight on casting your ballot this fall. (Page 14.)

The sun comes to the aid of Arena Theater. Read Armand Solero's piece. (Page 14.)

The **Crossword Puzzle**, as always, is ready to challenge you. (Page 15).

Our thanks to contributors Marghi Hagen, Mitch McFarland, Sally Marshall, Blake More, Armand Solero, and Karin Uphoff.

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Lighthouse Peddler

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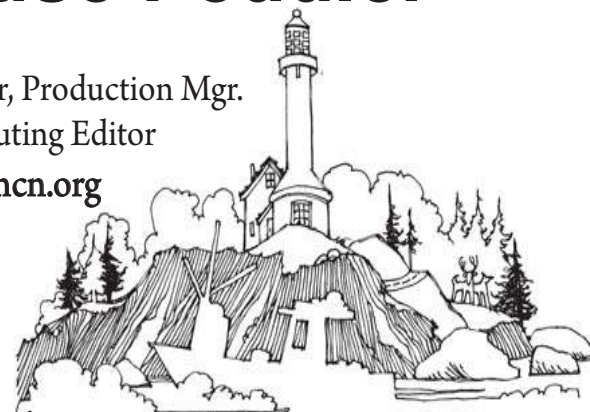
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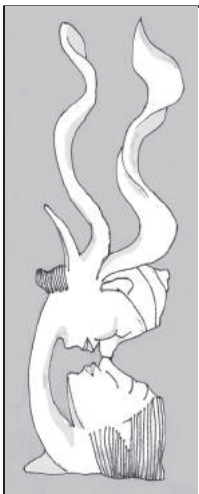
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Dragon's Breath Theatre Returns September 10 Annual Variety Show & Art Walk

Saturday, September 10th, Fred and Cheryl Mitouer of Transformational Bodywork Associates (with co-production assistance of Blake More), present the 17th annual Dragons' Breath Theatre Variety Show & Art Walk.

As always, the show lineup offers a mix of seasoned and first time performers, some local, others from the Bay Area and beyond. Surprises always abound (last year Grammy award winning musician KT Tunstall did an acoustic performance). This year's acts include circus arts, dance, music, comedy, drama, poetry, fire dance and storytelling. Out of town performers include Trapeze by Amanda Grace, dramatic comedy by Lisa Hori-Garcia, Ed Holmes and Rotimi Agbabiaka of the San Francisco Mime Troupe, performance artist Sherry Glaser, poet Hal Robins, and the return of New Orleans pianist Nelson Lunding and friends.

This year's local talent includes musical performances by Ava Peterson, F.A.M., Chris Skyhawk, Cassie and Wayne, Black Sugar Rose, Barbara Schultz, and others; spoken word by James Humecky Jr., Blake More, Fred Mitouer; dance by Blake More and Melissa Newhall & Maria Kostick; and of course, other special surprises.

The night will end with the artwalk and a DJ dance party in the art studio area. Small

bites and tapas plates provided by Barbara and Fernando of Anchor Bay Store. The Dragons' Breath Theatre space itself is the hand-hewn outdoor amphitheater nestled on a hillside on the Fish Rock property of Fred and Cheryl Mitouer, co founders of the Pacific School of Massage and Healing Arts and Transformational Bodywork Associates and long time community members. Incorporating their careers in Transformational Bodywork, organizational consulting, movement disciplines, holistic health counseling and massage, the pair started Dragons' Breath Theatre seventeen years ago as a forum for cultural experiments in consciousness and irreverent play.

The show also includes the Dragons' Breath Gallery "Art Walk", which this year will include hats by Chris Bee, jewelry by Ling-Yen Jones and several other artists. In Fred's words, "Dragons' Breath is just us folks – fun, creative and edgy performances under the stars with old friends and new connections. We love the mix of fresh talent and professionals and the soulful way the performers and audience interact."

Dragon's Breath Theater is located at the dragon gate on 44800 Fish Rock Road (car-pooling advised). The gate opens at 5:00 and the show starts at (more next column)



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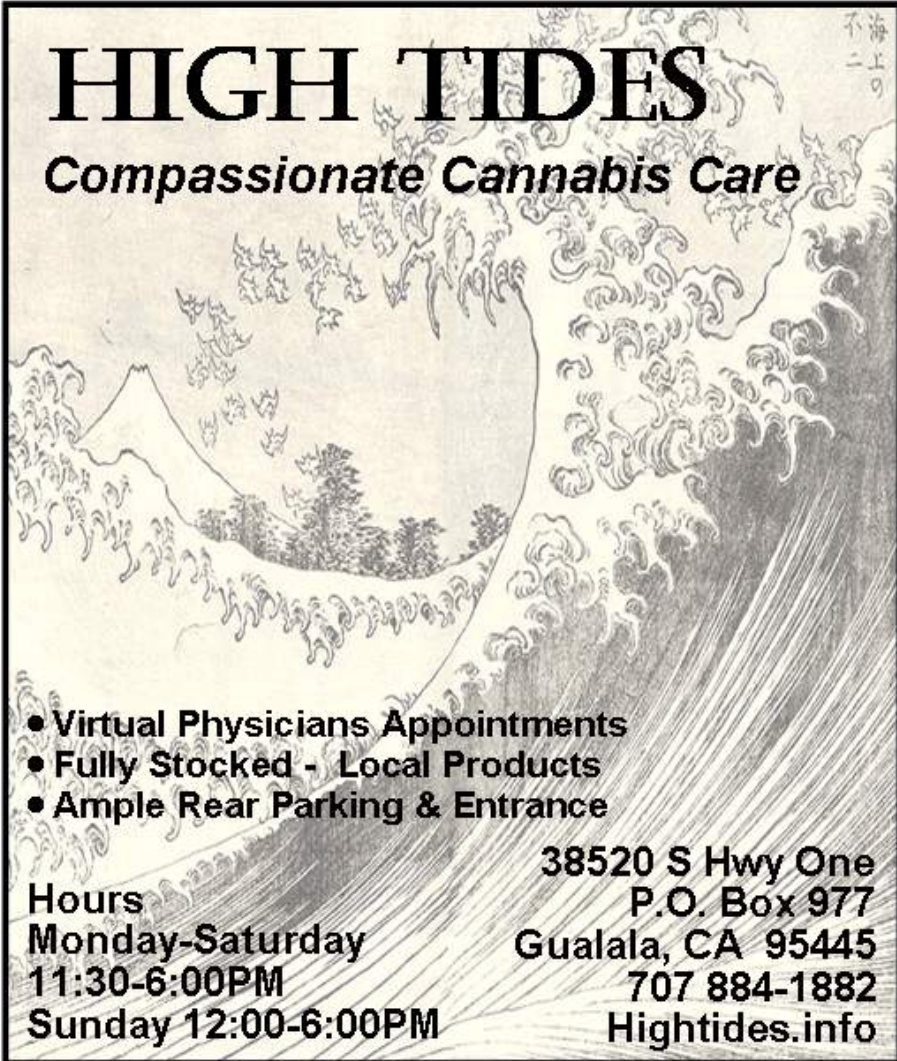
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Cosmic String Duo At 215 Main September 1&2

Karl Kummerle and Martin Masakowski, also known as the Cosmic String Duo will perform in Point Arena on Thursday and Friday, September 1 and 2. The Thursday show begins at 8:00pm. Friday includes an Art Opening beginning at 6:00pm. (Can't get enough? They'll be in Willits Saturday September 3.)

The duo will perform their contemporary world music String Duets. Both Kummerle and Masakowski hail from New Orleans and draw heavily on their jazz repertoire as well as music learned during their travels in Eastern Europe. The duo also features original compositions and lots of fun improvisation! Karl plays the 5 string violin and Martin bows the 5 string bass.

215 Main is across from Arena Theater on Main Street in Point Arena. Information is at 882-3215.



6pm, September 10th. Pack a picnic and bring blankets. Mature children over 13 or with parental discretion; please leave dogs at home. The admission is a suggested donation of \$20 (sliding scale is available and nobody will be turned away for lack of funds), with profits going to Sparx Storytelling. For more information, call 707-884-3138 or email mitouer@mcn.org.



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Life Behind the Mic with Peggy Berryhill Sunday @ the Library

Over the past few years the coastal community has come to know Peggy Berryhill, the determined media person who launched KGUA. Those of us who've lived here for at least a few years sometimes think of the dynamo Peggy as mirroring the legendary James Brown as the "hardest working woman in show business". On Sunday, September 11 at 2:00pm she'll be at the Coast Community Library, 225 Main Street, Point Arena.



Award-winning radio producer Peggy Berryhill will share stories of her life and times behind the mic. Peggy is a Muscogee Tribal member and co-founder of the Native Media Resource Center and KGUA Radio in Gualala. She is the host of "Peggy's Place," the popular radio show that features interviews with local residents weekdays at 9:00 am Refreshments provided. It's free and all are welcome. For more information, call the library at 882-3114.

BLUES from cover page

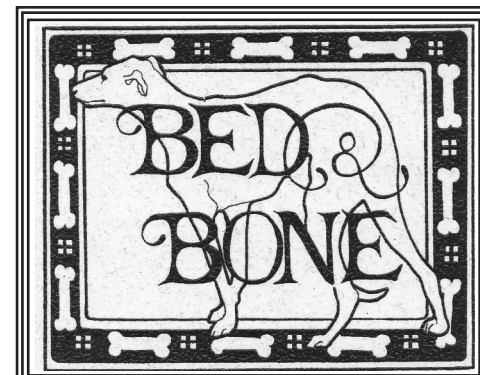
fans. With his untamed guitar licks and strong, soulful voice effortlessly moving from ferocious and funky to slow and steamy to smoking hot, Singleton is a fresh, electrifying bluesman bursting at the seams with talent.

Singleton's personal view on his craft is simple: "I love the blues tradition, and have always been inspired by the masters. But I want to create something for today's audience that is as original and new as those blues masters were when they first started making records. I want to create blues for the 21st century." He's won awards, accolades, rave reviews, and plenty of fans. No time like the present to discover a new musician. Take a friend, a parent,



a child, or a stranger. Make the night feel like you've been transported. You will be.

Arena Theater presents Jarekus Singleton as part of the 2016 Blues On The Coast concert series. The theater is at 214 Main Street (Highway One) in Point Arena. Doors open at 8:00pm. Music starts at 8:30. Tickets are \$20 and are available at Four-Eyed Frog Books and The Sea Trader, Gualala; Arena Market and the Pier Chowder House and Tap Room in Point Arena; and at Twist in Mendocino, and online at Brown Paper Tickets. Support live music on the coast, and learn a new word for the blues: Jarekus.



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Arena Theater Puts a Smile on Your Face! Queer Queens of Qomedy Arrive September 23

In these heavy-duty political days it's good to have a shoulder to cry on. It's even better to have someone to laugh with. As it happens, you are soooo lucky. September brings the Queer Queens of Qomedy to Arena Theater in Point Arena, Friday, the 23rd, at 7:30pm. Doors 6:30 p.m.

For the third time, comedian Poppy Champlin (below) is bringing her troupe, The Queer Queens of Qomedy, to the Arena Theater stage. According to Champlin,



"If it works once, do it again." Champlin's highly sought after Queer Queens show has been touring for eleven years and Point Arena luckily is part of her stomping ground. Champlin and two of her Queens in waiting, Sandra Valls and Mimi Gonzalez, will hold court at the Arena Theater at 7:30 p.m.

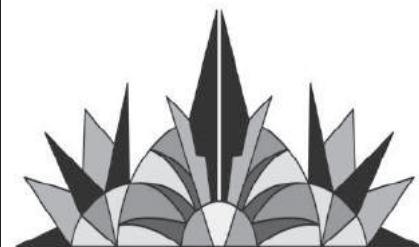
Champlin's a veteran comic with television credits including Logo, Showtime, HBO, VH-1, Joan Rivers, Oprah, Comedy Central, and appearances on Olivia cruises. Valls is a native Texan hailing from Laredo. She has two Showtime specials, "The Latin Divas of Comedy" and "Pride: The Gay and Lesbian Comedy Slam." Curve magazine named Valls (right) "one of the top badass comics to watch out for." Mimi Gonzalez (top right) has appeared on Ellen, The Today Show, Que Loco and has risked her life by working for the troops in Afghanistan

and Iraq.

"This show is guaranteed to be a full night of rip roarin', foot stompin', pain-from-laughin', fun," Champlin adds. "Don't miss a minute of it." More on the show is at the website: www.queerqueensofqomedy.com. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and tickets are \$25, \$40 for VIP admission, which includes a cheese-and-wine



meet and greet with the comedians before the show and preferred seating. Call (707) 882-3272 to reserve a seat. Ticket outlets include Four-Eyed Frog Books, The Sea Trader in Gualala, Arena Market in Point Arena, and Twist in Mendocino. To purchase tickets online go to www.arenatheater.org. The Arena Theater bar and snack stand will be open.



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CHRIS SMITHER

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Queer Queens of Qomedy

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Words On Wellness

by Karin Uphoff

Golden grasses dance in the coastal breeze, shake their tresses and release their seeds. September heralds the season of gathering nuts, seeds and berries whether in your garden or the wilds. These super power packages are the culmination of a plant's resources condensed into a life-package for the next generation. When we eat them we are nourished by the proteins, essential fatty acids, fiber and minerals they contain. Some seeds like fennel impart lovely flavor due to potent essential oils of medicinal value. Fennel seed added to salads or tea helps strengthen digestion and calm gas and bloating. Other seeds like evening primrose and borage are very tiny but big on omega-3 and GLA oils. Birds and rodents know this, so are very busy feasting and caching this time of year on pine nuts, California bay, oak and walnut.

Nuts and seeds provide excellent food for us as well, yet they challenge our digestion. Seeds are designed to survive for a very long time in harsh environments as they wait for conditions to allow them to take root

and sprout. Because of this, they protect themselves with strong chemicals somewhat toxic to intestines. Some plants like berries grow tasty fruits around their seeds to entice animals to eat them and disperse the seeds elsewhere. We easily digest the fruit, but not the seed. Whereas all grains and most legumes must be soaked, fermented, and/or cooked in order not to cause illness, hulled nuts and seeds do not require so much processing to be edible. To get maximum nutrition out of a nut, especially those high in tannins like almonds and walnuts, it's best to soak them overnight and pour off the water, then eat

them 'wet' or dry roast on low heat. Small seeds like flax and chia, are easily eaten soaked or finely ground to gain their high omega-3 content. Other highly nutritious seeds like alfalfa, broccoli, radish and clover become a much more complete and digestible food when they are sprouted. Sprouting makes a good indoor garden during the cooler months. Now is the time to save your garden seeds for next spring and share them with others. Plants have a way of planning ahead and seeds collected from where you live, will be better adapted to next year's conditions than any seed packet you can buy.

Photograph "Fennel" by Ramon F Velasquez



If you were born in 1946, you and your friends and family are in for a celebratory meal as an honored guest of Gualala Arts Center.

Set for October 30 at 5:00pm in Gualala Art's Coleman Hall, the annual 70th Birthday Celebration is free for those celebrating their 70th birthday. Guests and family can attend for \$30 each if reservations are made in advance, \$40 for guests the day of the event.

The 70th Birthday Celebration began with a group of newly-turned septuagenarians back in 1998, and is one of the legacies of Rosemarie Hocker. It has continued almost every year since. Many find that friendships are made or often renewed during the evening.

Volunteers are also needed for hosts, waiters and chefs. If you would like to volunteer for this rewarding evening, please contact Ben Klagenberg at 785-3530 or at benwilma@mcn.org. Reservations can be made by calling Susan King at 884-1138 or drop by the Arts Center to make your reservations.



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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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Two Films In September From Arena Theater Film Club

Perhaps no brothers since the Warners have attracted as much attention in Hollywood as Joel and Ethan Coen. When you glance at a list of films on which they've shared writing, or producing, or directing credits, you always wonder what's next.

Starting in 1984, they got everyone's attention by not necessarily doing things expected of them. Their films include *Raising Arizona*, *Fargo*, *The Big Lebowski*, *O Brother Where Art Thou*, *No Country For Old Men*, and a dozen other films. The talent inside those films represents a swath through the famous and not-so-famous of Hollywood.

On Monday, September 12 (7:00pm) we get the Film Club's first offering this month, *Inside Llewyn Davis*, a music film . . . of sorts.

At the outset, Llewyn Davis (pronounced lew'-in) is stereotypical of a singer barely eking out a living on the peripheries of the flourishing 1960s Greenwich Village folk scene. As embodied by Oscar Isaac (you've seen him in *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* as Poe Cameron, a



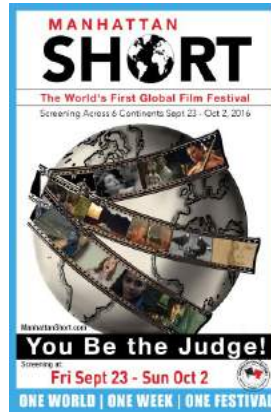
character that sneaks up on you in that film, but let's stay on point...) Isaac turns in a revelatory performance as the title character (Davis is loosely modeled on the Village folk legend Dave Van Ronk) who is extraordinarily talented but also irascible, rude, and self-defeating. His circular odyssey through an unforgiving winter cityscape, evocatively captured by cinematographer Bruno Delbonnel, is realized with poignant humor and the occasional surreal touch. Featuring a folk soundtrack curated by T Bone Burnett, *Inside Llewyn Davis* reminds us that in the Coens' world, history isn't necessarily written by the winners. In addition to Isaac the film stars Carey Mulligan, John Goodman,

F. Murray Abraham, and Justin Timberlake. Rated R, the film is 104 minutes.

The second of two offerings this month is *Manhattan Short*. Filmgoers in Point Arena will join audiences in over 250 cities on six continents to judge the work of the next generation of filmmakers when the *19th Annual Manhattan Short Film Festival* screens at Arena Theater on Monday, September 28, at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$10 per person. Free admission for Film Club members does not apply for this event.

Each audience member will receive a ballot upon entry that allows them to vote for Best Film and Best Actor. Votes will be sent to *Manhattan Short*, with winners announced at ManhattanShort.com on Monday, October 5. (More information on the films will be available in early September. "This event is not going to cable TV or Video on Demand. It's not streamed on the Internet. *Manhattan Short* is about communities bonding together via their local cinema," says founding director Nick Mason. *Manhattan Short* is the only film festival in the world that unfolds, simultaneously, in more than 250 cinemas on six continents, bringing over 100,000 film-lovers together.

Arena Theater is located at 214 Main Street, Point Arena, and is a member-supported community theater owned and operated by the Arena Theater Association, a 501c3 not for profit corporation. Additional information is at www.arenatheater.org. (707) 882-3272



New Exhibits At Gualala Arts Opening September 9

Gualala Arts Center has two exciting exhibits opening in September. The ever-popular "Remastered", wherein artists re-interpret recognized world-famous masterpieces to make them their own, and "Wild Wire Birds", featuring high-energy Sonoma artist Jonqui Albin. Both open this month.

A reception for both exhibits will be Friday, September 9 at 7:00pm and all art will remain on display through October 2. The "Remastered" art will be on display in the Burnett Gallery and Albin's work will be showing in the Elaine Jacob Foyer and the Mohr Mezzanine. Admission to the reception and exhibits is free.

Sculptor and artist Doric Jemison-Ball, curator of "Remastered" likes to quote Picasso: "All artists borrow, great artists steal."

Jemison-Ball affirms that artists have always played with each other's work and famous artists are no exception. Vincent van Gogh redid a number of the paintings of Jean-Francois Millet. Probably the most REMASTERED masterpiece in the history of art is Leonardo DaVinci's "Mona Lisa." Marcel Duchamp would like to think it all started with him when he drew a mustache on her, but Salvador Dali was right behind him, changing the face and the mustache to his. Whatever the reason, when an artist remakes another person's work, it is recognized in the art world as "Remastering," Jemison-Ball says. Local artists have had a lot of fun with this exhibit in the past and he looks forward to seeing what new master pieces arise.

Jonqui Albin is best known for her active flying wire bird sculptures, big, bold narrative paintings and powerful installation impressions. She calls herself a Bird Activist Artist, Performer, Teacher. "Habitat Bird Sketching is the source of my creativity, art and education content intended to foster personal growth and planet stewardship involvement," she states.

Albin's education projects include working with Snoopy at Charles Schultz Museum in Santa Rosa teaching kids Bird Arting and running the Eco-Adventure Program for Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods in California's North Coast State Parks. For the past seven years she has been featured as a live action painter on stage with bands at the Davis Jazz and Beat Festival.

Albin's current education program, "Bird Arting", is applying her life-long experience as an innovative artist, performer, and enthusiastic, motivational art teacher to the conservations of wild birds. Albin says her Bird Arting programs help people connect art and nature through wild bird sketching walks in outdoor habitats and workshops featuring live rescue and falconry birds.

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Dimensions in Flux At The Dolphin Gallery In September
Scott Chieffo Photography and Sophia Sutherland Ceramics
Opening Reception Saturday September 3 • Exhibit Continues Through The 25th

Do you remember seeing your first 3D movie as a kid? As you walked into the movie theater you weren't quite certain just what to expect. Needless to say any number of children (and some of their parents) jumped when the *Creature From The Black Lagoon* reached out to touch someone. 3D can be dynamic and enjoyable, but oh those glasses.



Today we still need the glasses in the theater but not all dimensional images require special eyewear.

September is a month to test perceptions with the naked eye. Perhaps you've already seen the photographs of Scott Chieffo. Any number of us have been able to capture a moment, some with a trusty 35mm digital rig, others with a classic camera loaded with Kodachrome, Ektachrome, or Tri-X. And many more, these days, feel entirely comfortable with their iPhone. Chieffo, however, operates in a different world. He regularly seizes the moment and his photographs become stunners, you know, those images that stop you dead in your tracks. Take "Seal's

Eye View No. 1" (below left). The multiple arches become dizzying . . . in a good way. Whether it's water, sun, birds, or raw nature, these photographs easily separate the grownups in photography from everyone else. And we're the better for it.

With Sophia Sutherland we move to an artist who also challenges our senses by creating in

three-dimensions. Her ceramics often incorporate a feline theme, but like any good artist, she continues to evolve, as does her work. In this, her second two-artist Dolphin Gallery show, she "reveals an equal fascination with the human body both as torsos and full figures in a variety of poses. One very distinctive hallmark of Sutherland's work is the series of small monoliths she produces with slabs from which the figure's head and arms are formed to reach out to connect with others. Often they depict intertwining lovers,



a mother and child, or a small group of individuals joined together.

Although she also works in bronze and cement, many of her ceramic pieces begin with an amorphous lump of clay she playfully refers to as a 'Gumby.' From that beginning each piece takes a life of its own. Many are hollowed out before firing with oxides or glazes that often produce intriguing results. For Sutherland, her work is always evolving. "There is always an excitement anticipating the final outcome."

She adds, "My work is overtly whimsical and covertly philosophical. [see "Dark Rider", left]. I move between the second, third, and finally the fourth dimension, where I can explore with my viewers the last stage of creativity: the work in the world."

Dolphin Gallery is located at 39225 Highway 1 in downtown Gualala. Open 10:00am to 4:00pm Thursday-Monday (closed Tues-Wed). More information is at (707) 884-3896.

Tea Time: James Norwood Pratt at Gualala Arts • September 25

James Norwood Pratt, quite possibly the world's most widely-read authority on tea and tea lore, will serve up a saucer or two of tea facts to and will sign copies of his book "Tea Lover's Treasury" September 25 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Gualala Arts Center Coleman Hall. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$5 more the day of the event. At Dolphin Gallery and Gualala Arts, and Brown Paper Tickets.



Born and raised in North Carolina on his family's land acquired before the American Revolution, Pratt moved to San Francisco and wrote "The Wine Bib-

ber's Bible," his book about California Wine.

In 1982 he published the now classic "Tea Lover's Treasury," followed by "The Tea Lover's Companion," in 1995 and the whimsical "Reading Tea Leaves" in 1996.

Pratt has been profiled as "The Renaissance man of the tea industry" in Fresh Cup magazine's 1999 Tea almanac, where Michelle Williams wrote, "Parts historian, connoisseur, and world-traveler, he has carved out a reputations as the consummate spokesman for U.S. tea consumers. His wit and dedication to the beverage

have helped spread the gospel of tea to tens of thousands of people."



Left: Artist Jonqui Albin, best known for her active flying wire bird sculptures, big, bold narrative paintings and powerful installation impressions. Albin will be part of the opening reception at Gualala Arts on Friday, September 9. See story—New Exhibits At Gualala Arts Opening September 9—on opposite page.

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Asking a working writer what he
thinks about critics is like asking a
lamppost how it feels about dogs.

Christopher Hampton

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4	9	1	2	3	7	6	5	8
8	5	2	9	6	4	1	3	7
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1	7	5	4	8	6	3	9	2
6	2	8	5	9	3	7	4	1
9	1	6	3	4	8	2	7	5
5	3	7	9	2	6	8	1	4
2	8	4	7	5	1	9	6	3

Solution to Sudoku

Honey, It's Always About The Sax

by David Steffen

I'm a passable musician, which means I play just well enough these days to be acceptable, i.e. sufficiently proficient to pass myself off as a musician. This is not meant to be some self-deprecating, aw shucks sort of evaluation. As the character of SFPD detective 'Dirty' Harry Callahan once stated, "a man's just got to know his limitations". Don't get me wrong. My days of playing guitar, electric bass, and piano were thoroughly enjoyable, but surrounded by so many talented musicians over the last thirty-plus years I've chosen to spend more time listening to others, and less time applying my talents to any instrument.

Over the years I've picked up other's instruments as often as my own, usually to help a friend move his stuff from apartment 'a' to apartment 'b'. Although having never taken a saxophone lesson or attempted to play the sax in some random moment, just picking up a friend's alto sax provided a bit of an epiphany. The design, the aesthetics, the mechanical features ooze an obvious sensuality. One's eye can unexpectedly travel from the mouthpiece, down the neck to the bow and up to the bell. Between the start and the end of that journey there exists a landscape with reeds, keys, screws, pins, tone holes, guards, and probably a myriad of other components I didn't know were there. And when the saxophone is played by someone who knows what they're doing, the sound that comes out of that bell hits you. It's like a massage, where a qualified individual plays various parts of your back to make your senses come to life. Music can have that effect. It reaches into your being without coming in physical contact. And certain recordings or live performances can pass through the dermis and take residence, even if just for five or ten minutes at a time.

The saxophone is certainly not the only instrument that can evoke feelings, including those of an erotic nature but it is, perhaps, more likely than other instruments to strike a nerve. With all due respect to my friends who are fabulous on the guitar, or the piano, or the bass, or the drums, or any other instrument, it ain't about *your* musicianship.

The saxophone is certainly not the only instrument that can evoke feelings, including those of an erotic nature but it is, perhaps, more likely than other instruments to strike a nerve. With all due respect to my friends who are fabulous on the guitar, or the piano, or the bass, or the drums, or any other instrument, it ain't about *your* musicianship.

I was fortunate enough to see the late Clarence Clemons perform with the E Street Band on four occasions, and still appreciate hearing him wail on Springsteen's catalog of recordings. But seeing him on stage you know this man and the saxophone were one complete expression of great music. The Dutch jazz musician Candy Dulfer is another player who can speak through her instrument, creating a perfect mood as exemplified in the title track from the film score of *Lily Was Here*. Or Tim Cappello stepping out on "We Don't Need Another Hero", Tina Turner's hit from the film *Mad Max: Beyond Thunderdome*. These players may not be in the same stratosphere as John Coltrane, but Coltrane wasn't like these players either. Clearly the artistry in *A Love Supreme* resides in another realm from tracks like "Born To Run" or "Lily Was Here" or "We Don't Need Another Hero". Yet music, happily, is not a zero-sum game. We're allowed to enjoy a variety of styles, genres, musicians, and so on.

As 1973 began, A&M Records looked like it was starting the year off right. One of the first singles the label released that year was "Stuck In The Middle With You" by Stealers Wheel, the UK duo of Joe Egan and Gerry Rafferty. The track was a worldwide hit. Here in the States the single debuted at #86 in Billboard on March 3, 1973, peaking at #6 on May 12. The band never repeated that success, and reportedly spent the next three years fighting about records, royalties, creative differences—just another day in the music business. But one-half of the band hit it big almost five years to the day later with "Baker Street". Gerry Rafferty's solo recording peaked at #2 on June 24, 1978, staying there for six weeks. The single deserved better. Unfortunately it was the dawn of the dance/disco age, and Rafferty got stuck behind a #1 hit by Andy Gibb. Gibb's brothers had a band you may have heard of: The Bee Gees, and the Bee Gees were on a hot streak due primarily to the success of the 1977 film *Saturday Night Fever*. Nevertheless brother Andy's totally forgettable hit "Shadow Dancing" kept "Baker Street" from reaching number one for those six weeks, and Billboard Magazine and the American public should be forever embarrassed by that bit of music history.

"Baker Street" was a moment in time. Rafferty (who died in 2011) had penned a terrific song. The message of the song included common themes many of us have experienced, as reflected in the lyrics. But the recording is memorable for more than the lyrics, the rich guitar, the synthesizer, and the other rhythmic elements. What got everyone to pay attention was the saxophone. As the track begins, the instrumentation is almost ethereal for 20 seconds or so, and then that alto sax lights up the experience for another 30-40 seconds. Rafferty doesn't begin singing until we're one minute into the track; after a minute of Rafferty, the alto once again opens up. And that's the basic rotation—(I)nstrumental (V)ocal—of the six minutes of music:

I . V . I . V . I . I . I

You get the drift. Rafferty is the recording artist and the songwriter, and the driving force behind the project. Yet the real star of "Baker Street" is Raphael Ravenscroft (1954-2014), the then 23-year old saxophonist, hired as a studio musician. During the recording session Ravenscroft "only" created the riff that almost 40 years later continues to instantly identify the recording as "Baker Street". Ravenscroft earned union scale of about \$50 (£27) for the session, and yet it is his sax solo that provides us with the instant recognition and emotional connection when we hear "Baker Street".

If the saxophone has been heretofore a bit under-appreciated in your world, expand your horizons. Consider what this instrument brings to the performance, to the recording. Whether it's Clarence Clemons, Candy Dulfer, Tim Cappello, or Raphael Ravenscroft, without their contributions, these recordings—at the very least—would have been less than they are. Like chocolate ice cream or lobster tail, a Chevy Camaro or BMW, a glass of Coca Cola or wine at sunset on the Mendocino Coast, we know the good stuff when we taste it, drink it, drive it, savor it or hear it. Enjoy it now. There's no time like the present and few recordings are as durable and as wonderful as "Baker Street". Thanks Raphael, and thanks to you all. Because it's always about the sax.



Candy Dulfer (l), Gerry Rafferty (c), Raphael Ravenscroft (r)

Time To Come Together To Help The Coast Community Library

After a few months of publishing the Lighthouse Peddler we've found ourselves participating in PAMA, the Point Arena Merchant Association. Many of the recent PAMA meetings have taken place at the Coast Community Library on Main Street, and each time I visit the library—visits that date back a decade, I'm reminded of the age-old place libraries have in community.

Like others I've observed the transition of businesses, non-profit organizations, municipal governments and individuals, to our constantly evolving 'brave new world'. Even the view down Highway One in Gualala has changed—definitely improved—by the elimination of the overhead wires and telephone poles. While the view improvement is easy to grasp, sympathy and support for other aspects of our changing coastal world is not always as simple. I noticed that Joel Crockett is selling his cameras and equipment—all of it—because he finds he's just not taking pictures like he once did, and when he does, he says "it's with my cellphone."

About a year ago, Steve Denning wrote a piece for Forbes where he considered just what smart-phones have changed and came up with a list of more than thirty tasks, utilities, and jobs. His list included address books, cameras, pagers, wrist-watches, maps, books, flashlights, land-lines, Walkmen, alarm clocks, answering machines, transistor radios, in-car navigation, airline tickets, newspapers, magazines, 411, pocket calculators, and more.

Obituaries for America's libraries have been written regularly by those who see them as a throwback to some earlier time, and unnecessary in our modern age. Many of these same people have attempted to

slash school budgets to get rid of music, art, phys-ed, and in-school libraries. Ironically they often pointed to the local public library as proof that no library (or librarian) was needed inside the school. And where would one of California's smallest cities be without the library so generously created a dozen years ago. The Coast Community Library serves people within (and beyond) a 50 mile stretch with Point Arena in the middle. They come for the internet access, to read



the newspapers laid out on one of the big round tables, to attend or host a meeting in the conference room, to watch their young children learn that reading can be fun. Oh, and people come to borrow a book to take home.

Pearl Watts recalled that "In 2004, The Friends of Coast Community Library [FOCCL] bought the old Gillmore store, ideally located in the center of Point Arena. The long and hard task of renovating the long unoccupied Gillmore building and turning it into the beautiful library it is today is now history. It has been exciting to watch it grow as an institution, providing services well beyond what The Friends had so boldly hoped it would become. The dream of so many had

come true." But alas, a decade later it has become obvious that the wonderful library needs another generation to help insure it's continued presence in our greater community.

FOCCL and the people young and old who use this jewel are faced with their greatest challenge. "At a cost of \$23,000, [FOCCL] hired an engineering firm to inspect the building and analyze the entire structural/seismic capacity of the building. They confirmed what had been feared. In a major seismic event, the roof and other connection areas are in danger of failure. Legally, The Friends are not required to do anything. However, morally and ethically The Board of Directors feels strongly that to do nothing is not an option."

The bottom line is that the cost of retro-fitting the library is \$400,000. FOCCL has pledged \$100,000 and to date the fund totals \$181,000. The glass is half full. All of us can help fill the glass to the top. We have until March 2017 to complete the task.

Wherever possible, those of you with ties to corporations on the north coast or in the city should see if those companies have charitable funds and/or grants that could find their way north. And obviously, we need to speak with anyone and everyone we see in our daily, weekly, and monthly travels. We all—directly or by association—know what having a library in a community this size means. Let's all find ways to generate another \$219,000 over the next seven months. The Lighthouse Peddler will keep our own feet to the fire by having a small reminder in every issue of the Peddler between now and March 31st. None of us want to arrive at April Fools Day 2017 and find out the joke's on us....



Gualala Arts

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Sunday, September 4 10am-5pm
Monday, September 5 10am-5pm

NCAG Studio Discovery Tour
Maps at Dolphin Gallery,
Gualala Arts Center, Discovery Gallery
Exhibit remains through September 25

Saturday, September 3 5pm-7pm
Opening Reception Dolphin Gallery
Scott Chieffo Photography
Sophia Sutherland Ceramics

Thursday, September 8 7pm
Gualala Arts Creative Writing Contest Awards Ceremony
Live readings,
Gualala Arts Center, Coleman Hall

Friday, September 9 5pm-7pm
Opening Reception Wild Wire Birds, Flying Sculpture, Jonqui Albin
Elaine Jaco Foyer & Mohr Mezzanine,
Exhibit remains through October 2

Sunday, September 25 1pm-3pm
Tea Tasting & book signing with James Norwood Pratt
Gualala Arts Center, Coleman Hall

Friday, September 30 7pm
"The Sea Ranch Songs" DVD Screening Party
With composer Aleksandra Vrebalov and videographer Andrew Lyndon
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note:

Joel Crockett's book review will return October.

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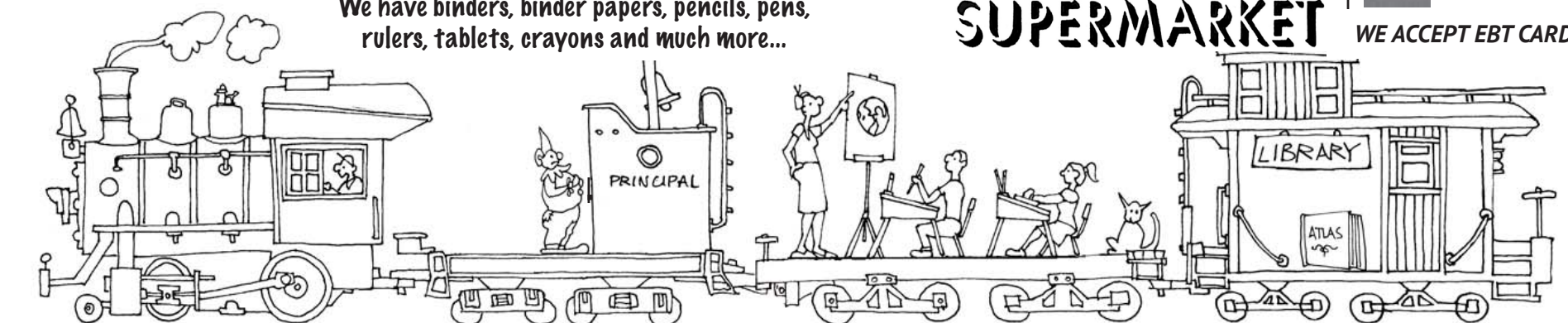
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Grassroots Solutions/Corporate Power Workshops on the Coast This Fall

The newly formed Grassroots Institute invites you to join their Mendocino College Community Extension Workshops on *Grassroots Solutions and Corporate Power* at the Coast Campus, 1211 Del Mar Drive, Fort Bragg, CA, room 112, starting Saturday, September 10, from 9:00am to 1:00pm. This will be the first of five classes that will be held every three weeks.

These classes have been taught around the County and have been a great success bringing active citizens together to understand our place and role in history both locally and globally. You are welcome to attend any or all of the workshops that are of interest.

This class links to, supports, and is supported by the work of Paul Cienfuegos, Jim Hightower, The Alliance for Democracy, Move to Amend, Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund, Democracy School, Global Exchange, and more. You can sign up for the Workshops by phone at (707) 468-3236 or online at <http://www.mendocino.edu>. The cost is \$25 for all 5 workshops.

Ya, Betcha... A Note From The Midwest • by Sally Marshall

Midwesterners love their trucks. They are possibly the most practical piece of equipment they own, because they are great for hauling things, like the mattress to the dump after the dog has peed on it. My truck and I have grown old together and are both showing some signs of wear.

I mostly use my truck to haul my kayak to the boat landing. It's so easy to just drop it into the back, tie on a few lines to secure it and then sit back and watch the other paddlers struggle to get their boats on top of their cars, sometimes with elaborate and imaginative techniques and gadgets that show the true creativity of the Midwesterner: things such as rollers to slide the boat up the back of the vehicle, ratcheting straps secured to the sides, back, front and sometimes even going through the window to the other side. They will then stand back and examine their handwork with a look of doubtful apprehension.

People who own trucks almost never trade them in. There is something about this relationship that is similar to bonding with a pet. They last just about forever. I know people who have trucks that are far older than mine and boast of odometer readings approaching 300 thousand miles – amazing!

Of course, there is the rust factor to consider. The Midwest has about four to eight months of snow, depending on which state you live in and how far north you are, and the roads have to be cleared and salted for safe travel. The salt does a lot of damage to the finish, usually covertly working its way from the undercarriage to the paint. Those first telltale bubbles on the surface, usually around the fenders, means you've got the "creeping rust" which grows in surprising acceleration until one day you see spots of it everywhere, as if your truck has come down with an incurable disease. For a while I wasn't quite sure what to do about this until the invention of Gorilla Tape! Waterproof, extremely tough and now available in seven delicious colors, I was able to find a blue that almost matched my truck – close enough. After removing the loose chunks of rusted metal, I fashioned a new fender by artfully arranging strips of blue Gorilla tape around the space where the fender use to be. Voila! I don't know what everyone was laughing about as it served the intended purpose – OK it did look a bit silly. However, I noticed more people were opting for this really economical fix on their old trucks, too.

Then, there are other things going on which I attribute to "mechanical dementia", such as the little lights on the dashboard ad-

vising me to have my engine checked: "Service Engine Soon", and the brake warning lights going on randomly, which only means my anti-lock system is resting for a while. I still have brakes, but I have to be careful when braking hard because they will lock and the tires will squeal and that attracts a lot of attention from other motorists who probably think I'm a crazy old lady. Actually,



I am a crazy old lady, in a truck held together with Gorilla tape – so there!

My mechanic said that there is a malfunction in the computer (brain?), probably due to the fact that the gas tank cover doesn't fit very well anymore (rust again). The gauge doesn't work anymore either, so it's always on "F" full, or swings to "E" empty randomly. The important thing about all these little issues is that none of them prevents the truck and I from getting to the boat landing!

Ok, so there are occasional instances of pieces of truck clunking off and rolling to the side of the road, making me wonder if that was something important but, so far we are still riding down that river road, and at a respectable 45 mph, so as not to miss the flock of Northern Pelicans doing a ballet in midair, or a majestic Eagle catching a fish, as passing motorists give me a wide berth and either shake their heads or fists.

So, if you ever find yourself traveling to the Midwest where the Mississippi River flows in southwestern Wisconsin or north-east Iowa and happen to see a blue Chevy S10 sporting Gorilla tape fenders, give me a wave and a honk, and I thank you for your support.

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Elect new Board Members

And hear the "State of the Store"

Wine Tastings, Snacks & Samples and YOU make a great evening with your Co-op!

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Gather at 5:30 Meeting at 6:00pm Stella Circle Hall 20 Mill Street



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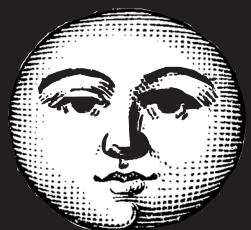
OPEN DAILY Monday - Saturday 7 to 7pm Sunday 8 to 6pm

New Moon



September 1

Full Moon



September 16



Scuttlebutt

by Mitch McFarland

I try to avoid hyperbole in my writing. The over-use of negative superlatives eventually starts eyes rolling followed by loss of attention. Things are bad enough without trying to characterize everything as “the worst” or “the most”, etc. Words lose their effectiveness when used outside their real meaning. And I like words to stay the way they are.

There are exceptions and I think I will allow one for Monsanto, which has been called “the most evil corporation in the world”. The more I read about Monsanto the more comfortable I am with that label. Frequent readers of this column have heard me rail in the past against genetically modified organisms or GMO's. Monsanto and Syngenta are the two corporations most responsible for this attack on traditional agriculture. It should be obvious to anyone who understands the capitalist system that companies do not make money for their stockholders by feeding people. They make money by selling products. In this case that means GMO seeds and chemicals. Millions of tons of chemicals. Of course, it is claimed that GMOs are suppose to limit pesticide and herbicide use, but why else would a chemical company sell seeds that can tolerate chemical sprays? Of course, it is also important to note that chemical use has increased with the introduction of GMOs.

So why the big beef this month? What have I learned about Monsanto that got me all riled up again? It is their latest trick that laid the groundwork for some pretty nasty business.

Let's start at the beginning. As you may know, glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup, the world's most widely used herbicide, is losing its effectiveness. As predicted by impartial observers, plants mutate and target weeds have developed strains that are not affected by glyphosate. This is especially true of a plant called *Amaranthus palmeri* or pigweed, which is a major headache for soybean and cotton farmers.

Monsanto makes another chemical called Dicamba, which effectively kills pigweed. Dicamba has been around for decades, and it is notorious for a couple of things: It vaporizes quickly and blows with the wind. It is especially toxic to soybeans, even at ridiculously low concentrations so Monsanto came up with a two-prong solution to this problem. First they developed a new GMO seed called Xtend that could tolerate both glyphosate and Dicamba (this is how they

reduce herbicide use). They also went about reformulating dicamba so that it wouldn't vaporize so easily, but the EPA has not yet certified it for use. Thus, farmers were sold seeds that could tolerate Dicamba, but they couldn't purchase the new form of Dicamba that didn't drift as badly.

Guess what happened? Some farmers just sprayed the old version of Dicamba and tens of thousands of neighboring acres of soybeans in Tennessee, Arkansas and Missouri have been ruined. Bob Scott, a weed specialist from the University of Arkansas says

It should be obvious to anyone who understands the capitalist system that companies do not make money for their stockholders by feeding people. They make money by selling products.

"I've never seen anything like this before. This is a unique situation that Monsanto created."

More than 100 farmers in Missouri have filed formal complaints with the state's Department of Agriculture. In Arkansas, 25 complaints have been filed. Fines for illegal spraying are only \$1000 and Susie Nichols, who is in charge of pesticide regulation for Arkansas, says, "our fines aren't stopping them." There also are reports of damage to other vegetable crops.

Most likely the new Dicamba will be approved by the EPA and, perhaps, this can work itself out. One of the problems with that is many farmers believe that they will eventually have to use Xtend seed if everyone around them are using it and spraying Dicamba. Drift and over-spray will always be a problem on some level. And wouldn't Monsanto be happy if everyone had to buy their seed-- and chemicals.

Oh yes, and there is another problem with this scenario. Jason Norsworthy, a weed expert at the University of Arkansas, has done tests in greenhouses in which he found pigweed that developed resistance to Dicamba in only 3 generations. That means that Monsanto needs to get started on yet a new GMO seed that will tolerate glyphosate, dicamba, and whatever new chemical they come up with to kill the Dicamba-resistant pigweed.

GMO's are just not working out the way many hoped they would. We haven't seen a substantial increase in crop output and

chemical use has increased, along with a nice rise in Monsanto stock price in the last year.

Extension agent Robert Goodson says that in the long run, farmers in Arkansas may be forced to take a different approach to managing weeds, probably by growing different crops. Instead of soybeans, farmers may grow more sorghum, rice or other crops. Duh.

Even the poster boy of GMO, the so-called Golden Rice, is not the panacea that it is touted to be. It was developed to deal with the very serious problem of vitamin A deficiency that affects millions of people in Third World countries. In children, it can lead to blindness. Unlike all other GMO seeds Golden Rice was developed by a non-profit, the International Rice Research Institute and was to be made freely available to poor farmers who could save seed for replanting (unlike all other GMO seeds). The technology was sold to Syngenta who will

give royalty-free license to researchers, but retain patent rights. Oh, and Gerald Barry, the Golden Rice project leader at the International Rice Research Institute is a former senior scientist and executive at Monsanto.

Dr. Vandana Shiva, an Indian environmentalist, called it a “Trojan Horse” that is being used to gain public support for all manner of genetically modified crops. Author Michael Pollan, a critic of industrial agriculture, suggested that it might have been developed to “win an argument rather than solve a public-health problem.”

Other issues with GMOs exist as well. In one study, soybeans genetically engineered to contain Brazil-nut proteins were shown to cause reactions in individuals allergic to Brazil nuts. How would an individual know not to eat soy, given that he/she is allergic to Brazil nuts and not soy?

I'm not denying that GMOs may have provided some benefit for someone somewhere (besides Monsanto). My point is that the further we move away from traditional, organic agriculture to monocultured, industrial-level, genetically-modified farming, the further we get from creating a sustainable world. I have said this before, but what is required is for lots more people to start growing food instead of relying on corporations to control our food supply. And therein lies the real problem.

News & Notes From the 'Peddler Inbox

Voter Registration: You can register at four upcoming events: Saturday September 3, and October 1 and 15, 8:30am to noon at Pay 'n' Take in Gualala; Monday, October 24, noon to 2:00pm at the Gualala Post Office. More information is at (707) 884-4703.

Book Sale: The Friends of the Coast Community Library want to remind you that there will be a sale of gently used and new books, audio, cd's, movies for children and adults on Saturday, September 24 and 25 from 10:00am to 3:00pm each day. Featured genre this month is: BIOS. Sunday is \$5 a bag day. It's all a fundraiser for Friends of Coast Community Library.

Action Network: Wednesday September 7th the Mendocino County Mobile Story Board and Presentation will visit Action Network's Point Arena office from 2:00 to 3:00pm, and the public is invited to view this fascinating exhibit. The Story Board is a collection of personal stories, art work and expressions of those who have been affected in some way by suicide.

Expo: The National Heirloom Expo comes to the North Bay this month. Seventy-five of the world's leading pure food, farm, & garden speakers, including Dr. Vandana Shiva. September 6, 7, & 8 at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds in Santa Rosa.

Dance: Join in on the Mendocino English Country Dance, Saturday, September 10. Newcomer instruction at 7:30 pm. At Caspar Community Center. \$10.00 Admission. (High School Students - Free) Support your local dance events by coming out and dancing! Calling & instruction by dance leader David Newitt. Lovely dancers and band members who kindly bring potluck food, Please also bring your own utensils and a bag to put everything in when dance is over so the volunteer cleanup people can more easily do their work.

High Tides: Compassionate Cannabis Care presents Patient Appreciation Faire Saturday, September 3 in the dispensary's back yard, 38520 South Highway 1, Gualala. Music! Dancing! Food! Vendors! Prizes! Fun! Music with Singer Songwriters Archie Cabezut and Cole Thomason, and DJ Sister Yasmin. Admission is Free admission. The party starts at 12 noon. Information at 707-884-1882.

Music: DJ Emilio comes to Garcia River Casino. Sept 16th is Mexican Independence day and he'll be playing some Latino sounds and a mix for everyone. (His signature is “music for everyone – musica para todos”).

Camera Illuminata by Armand Solero

This past Thursday, August 25th, a remarkable coincidence occurred. Every electron in Arena Theater, and the movie, *Star Trek: Beyond* was, for the first time in the theater's 140 year history, illuminated by a star, namely The Sun, passing through the medium of 50+ 300 watt solar panels, generating up to 16 thousand watts. Other theaters on the planet have gone solar, one in San Luis Obispo, but none of them on the north coast or, for that matter, anywhere north of us on the Pacific Coast. Sun power goes through bidirectional meters to PG&E, and is credited to Arena Theater (as opposed to batteries).

The first images projected by the sun were through 17th century black boxes with pin holes in them called Camera Obscura, projecting an upside down image on the back wall of the box. The Giant Camera used to do this through a revolving periscope into a darkened room outside the Cliff House in San Francisco. As the periscope turned, people inside the room could watch the world of the Bay spin by from the entrance to the Golden Gate, and down towards Half



Moon Bay. Our new Camera Illuminata, instead of showing viewers a continuous panning of Point Arena's Main Street and down Port Road to the ocean, shows us Captain Fantastic (now) and Casablanca (sometime soon again at the film club). Near the Giant Camera, beneath the Cliff House restaurant, you could play old fashioned pinball games. In the Yellow Room of the Arena Theater, you might, through special request (or a special donation) get to see the four inverter panels displaying the particular kind of juice the passing clouds, fog, and sun are sending down to you. Perhaps, through popular demand, the inverters might be coin operated someday. Anyway, it's all fun, and a great thing for our our local theater.

The panels were installed by Pete DiSimone, of Pete And Sun, with help from Randy Kolosick, over a newly sheathed roof done by Todd Iverson of Cortland Roofing. Funding, after a year's searching in which the lowest interest rate offered was 6 1/2 percent, was done privately for a much lower figure. Savings on electric bills will pay back the loan, and the theater will then be effectively owning it's own power plant. Grants for non profits pursuing solar projects are not readily available, priority going to emergency service providers.

We've done it folks. Enjoy big screen pictures, live performances, hot popcorn, cold drinks, and live opera from the Met courtesy of El Sol.

Vote The Whole Ticket by Marghi Hagen

This article isn't about the buffoon who's running for president on the Republican ticket, so it's probably not going to quell your need for vitriolic nastiness. Since that's about all we've been hearing on the news (a misnomer if ever there was one) for the past six months, I think we've become immune to the malevolence. Divisiveness and bigotry seem to have replaced decency, out of sheer repetition and habit.

But this isn't about that. It's about voting, and voting the complete ticket. It's a really boring topic, and I hesitate to write about it since I'm already yawning. But here's the thing. Who generally runs for president? An elected governor or senator, right? And where do those governors and senators come from? In most cases, they start as unknowns running in apparently unimportant (in the big scheme of things) local elections. Yet if bad choices are made at the local and state level due to lack of interest, then guess who we have as candidates when it comes to the really important elections such as senator, governor or president.

Of course, today there's a huge impact created by the influx of big money from Super PACs and large corporations; but your vote does count. President Obama is proof that individual voters rather than the big Super PACs can make the difference in the final outcome.

But how many of us do anything, other than complain, about bad laws and bad candidates? Do we know who our local and state candidates are and what they stand for? We blame the politicians, but we're the ones who put them in office, if for no reason other than sheer lack of caring.

If you're working two jobs and trying to raise kids, as many people are these days, it's perfectly understandable that figuring out the issues or which candidate is the best choice is not on the top of your list of things to do, so here are a couple of options. First off, vote from home. Sign up and get your ballot in the mail. It's easy. Then, take ten

minutes to talk with someone you trust or someone you think might have more information than you. Ask their advice. For me this year it's the county supervisor position. I don't have a friggin' clue which candidate I'm voting for right now, but I will by November because I'll talk to other people about it.

Or vote a straight ticket. I'm not a fan of straight ticket voting- the concept of voting only one party. If you're a Democrat you only vote for democrats. Republicans vote only for republicans; but if you don't know all the issues and candidates, it's better to vote straight ticket than not vote at all.

I'm preaching, but here it is. Voting is a right and a privilege. We're fortunate that we live in a state where voting actually works. I wish I could say it's still working in places like Georgia, North Carolina and Texas, but these are some of the states where voting is being taken away from the people little by little. The reason behind conservative's move to limit voting rights is that they believe some Americans are just too stupid to understand the issues. Well, we're not dumb. Maybe some of us aren't as well informed as we would like, but I think it's more likely that the conservatives behind this effort make the assumption that if we disagree with them, we must be stupid.

Don't let this happen in California. Voting takes time and energy, and it's not even a little bit sexy, but it's worth the effort. If we don't vote, we take the risk of losing that right; and we end up with candidates and issues that go completely against our own best interests. Your vote counts. Find out who and what's on the ballot other than just the candidates for president. It could make a world of difference—if not tomorrow, then ten years from now—for your kid's freedoms and rights.

And if you really want to have some fun, find out who the people are behind the voter limitations movement or who the highest bidders are for your candidates. It's pretty fascinating stuff.

"Voting takes time and energy,
and it's not even a little bit sexy,
but it's worth the effort."



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The Crossword by Margie E. Burke

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ACROSS

- 1. Hardly refined
- 6. Where heroes are made
- 10. Conniver
- 14. Currency of India
- 15. Flat
- 16. Insignificant
- 17. Drive forward
- 18. High society
- 20. Place for sweaters?
- 21. Winter bug
- 23. Dentist's directive
- 24. Cheap magazine
- 26. Nail polish
- 29. Skimmer, e.g.
- 31. Neighbor of Poland
- 33. Potato topper
- 35. Bucko
- 36. Stain
- 38. Soft fabric
- 42. Speaker's spot
- 43. Target directly

- 45. Atlantic catch
- 46. Correct
- 47. Actor's filmography, e.g.
- 51. Come out on top
- 52. Confused
- 54. Reverse, e.g.
- 56. Brahman, for one
- 58. Undertake, with "out"
- 60. "Them"
- 61. Churchgoing region
- 64. Tonsil neighbor
- 66. Motionless
- 67. Kind of rug
- 68. No-frills
- 69. Desideratum
- 70. Film unit
- 71. Respecting

DOWN

- 1. Chelsea chip
- 2. Hullabaloo

- 3. Horrify
- 4. "Get it?"
- 5. Starter starter?
- 6. Poke full of holes
- 7. Cain raiser
- 8. Open tract
- 9. Accustom (to)
- 10. ___ reflection
- 11. Weather prediction
- 12. Determined effort
- 13. "The Catcher in the ___"
- 19. Milk producer
- 22. Introduction
- 25. Common allergen
- 27. Band follower?
- 28. Daily delivery
- 30. Cousin of a gull
- 32. Give credence
- 34. Ballpark snack
- 37. Leave
- 38. Tobacco wad
- 39. "Law & Order" subject
- 40. Willing
- 41. Auction cry
- 44. Lacking value
- 48. Celebratory
- 49. Just say no
- 50. China clay
- 53. Hinder, legally
- 55. Change chemically
- 57. Coaster
- 59. Orchestral heavyweight
- 61. Coal holder
- 62. Before, of yore
- 63. Nautical term
- 65. Heflin or Johnson



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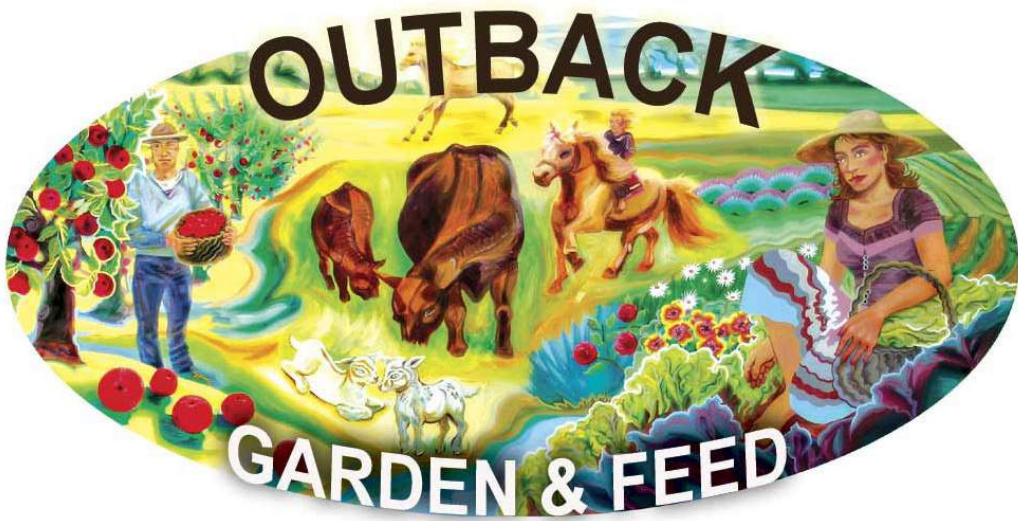
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