

Wandering and Wondering

John Maybury Columnist

Updated: 05/05/2015 05:11:43 PM PDT

MercuryNews.com

COASTSIDE SONGBIRDS & SEABIRDS

Coastside Land Trust welcomes world-renowned birder Alvaro Jaramillo as he presents an educational and entertaining workshop "Songbirds & Seabirds of the Coastside" on Saturday, May 16. The workshop will focus on behavior, field marks, ecology, and migratory patterns of local birds. It takes place at the new Coastside Adult Community Center on Main Street, Half Moon Bay. Following the workshop, Sequoia Audubon Society members will lead small-group birding tours of the coastal prairie at Wavecrest. Tickets (\$15 general, \$5 seniors) to the workshop and walk are sold separately and must be purchased in advance at coastsidelandtrust.org. Limited availability.

PH1A BUMPER STICKERS

Pacificans for Highway 1 Alternatives (PH1A) has printed bumper stickers opposing the widening of Highway 1. A \$2 donation is requested. Get yours at Florey's Book Co., 2120 Palmetto Avenue, Pacifica (open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, and 8 p.m. Fridays).

AMPHIBIAN LOVE

Leah Jay's book "Amphibian Love" is filled with dazzling nature art to help endangered animals -- for the next generation of nature lovers and protectors (leahjayart.com)

LOCAL HEROES

Pacifica Land Trust does wonderful work to restore Pedro Point Headlands (pacifica-land-trust.org). Pacifica Shorebird Alliance installed a symbolic fence at Linda Mar State Beach to protect threatened western snowy plovers that use the habitat for overwinter foraging, and it does eco-education programs (pacificashorebird.org). Pacifica Beach Coalition does regular habitat restoration and cleanups at Pacifica's beaches, not just on Earth Day (pacificabeachcoalition.org). Pacificans for Highway 1 Alternatives (PH1A) fights Caltrans' proposed widening of a segment of Highway 1 in Pacifica with videos, events, news updates, and more (ph1a-pacifica.weebly.com). Pacifica Resource Center helps low-income Pacificans live dignified, healthy, safe lives (pacresourcecenter.org).

SPRING IN THE GARDEN

On May 17 from 1 to 4 p.m., Half Moon Bay Brewing Company (hmbbrewingco.com) and the HEAL Project join forces at Mavericks Event Center to help promote healthy eating among kids and young adults, with a program called "Spring in the Garden," an open house featuring tastings, expert gardeners showcasing their veggies and flower arrangements, a demo by the Brewing Company's Chef Gaston Alfaro, featuring produce grown by the HEAL Project, and beer tastings for guests 21 and over.

PRIME DIP BLUES

Wandering & Wondering's fearless local restaurant critic Scott McKellar says, "I hope the head honcho at Prime Dip signed only a month-to-month lease. In my assessment, the food barely gets a passing grade: too much bread, not enough beef, no flavor, and the cole slaw sucks. Another one bites the dust." Tribune proofreader Jean Headley agrees about the bread and cole slaw but says she would go back for the "delicious" clam chowder.

TONGUE TWISTER

"A rough-coated, dough-faced, thoughtful ploughman strode through the streets of Scarborough; after falling into a slough, he coughed and hiccoughed." The letter combination "ough" has eight possible pronunciations in English (depending on regional dialect), and this delightful sentence above contains them all. The eight sounds are uff, oh, auh, ow, uh, oo, off, and up.

SWAMI SEZ

"What is all our human knowledge good for? We do not even know what the weather is going to be tomorrow."

MAYBURRITOVILLE