



**Inside the June
Issue:**

The Spill In Proper Perspective

By Andy Caldwell

**Shameless
Exploitation Of
The Refugio Spill** 2

**Say Good Bye To
Ma & PA, Inc.** 4

Heroes Of Naught 5

**Ordering
Salamander On A
Shtick** 7

**50 Shades Of
Brown: Gov.
Jerry Brown And
Democrat Party
Rule** 8

**Dear California,
You're In My
Rear View** 10

**Shopping For
Genes For
Mother's Day** 11

**A Reprehensible
Regulatory Ruse** 13

**If The Dunce Hat
Fits, Wear It!** 14

On May 19th, the Board of Supervisors drove a stake in the heart of the North County oil industry. They did so by singling out the industry for disparate treatment with respect to required mitigation and offsets having to do with greenhouse gas emissions. All the while, the board of supervisors saw fit to exempt all of their own operations from the same rigorous requirements. These exempt county projects include the continued operation of the county's Tajiguas landfill and the new North County jail. It is relatively easy to prove how concerned you are about greenhouse gases as long as somebody else is paying the bill.

During the course of the hearing, we all became aware of the fact that an oil spill had occurred that day on our beautiful coastline. Any such time a spill occurs, it is of course a tragedy for all concerned, however, it also becomes a crisis to exploit for some. In response to the leak, some of the oil industry antagonists in the county called for an end to fracking, even though fracking had nothing to do with this incident.

I have three comments to make here. First, accidents do happen. I will be interested to know whether the safety measures that are in place to detect pipeline breaks worked to minimize the spill? That is to say, did alarms go off indicating a loss of pressure in the pipelines? Did the flow get shut off as soon as possible? And, finally, did the company in charge of this onshore pipeline implement emergency response procedures in a timely manner? The subsequent investigation into this incident will answer these questions and hopefully serve to minimize the impacts of similar accidents in the future.

The second point is that the local environmental community and our county supervisors can't have it both ways. They can't claim to be concerned about the greenhouse gas emissions from the industry and the potential for spills along our coastline while ignoring altogether the fact that our coastline is home to the second largest source of naturally occurring oil and gas leaks in the world! Pollution is pollution, no matter where it comes from! These seeps foul our waters and the air emissions from the same are equal to all the emissions from all the vehicles on the 101 freeway every day, the largest source of ghg in the region!

This inconvenient elephant in the room covered in tar and belching out methane gas speaks volumes to living in denial. The fact is, the local industry has a relatively stellar safety record. And, relatedly, the truth is that the more oil and gas we allow them to pump out of the formations off our coast means that much less pollution from natural seepage occurring day in and day out.

Finally, cutting production here locally does nothing to ease consumption. As consumers, we must share the risk, as well as, the rewards integral to our lifestyle of abundance. Anything less smacks of unconscionable consumer greed and exploitation.

COLAB

PO Box 7523
Santa Maria, CA 93456

Phone:
805-929-3148
E-mail:
Andy@colabsbc.org

First Published in the Santa Barbara News Press

Shameless Exploitation Of The Refugio Spill

By Andy Caldwell

What I find completely unconscionable in public servants is half-truths. Our leaders should tell the whole truth so as not to mislead the people they are elected to serve. In that regard, shame on County Supervisor Salud Carbajal, Mayor Helene Schneider, State Senator Hannah Beth Jackson, Assemblyman Das Williams and the other electeds all of whom piled on the oil industry in order to further their own political career in the aftermath of the Refugio pipeline break. Of course, there was no shortage of anti-oil activists who also joined the fracas, but then again, we have come to expect the same from this cottage industry of professional agitators who have used this incident as a shameless fund raising opportunity.

What these people are completely ignoring, to the point of dishonesty, is the fact that every two days, over 1,000 natural seeps along the Santa Barbara Coastline spew out the equivalent of the oil released by this pipeline break. To be precise, some 10,000 gallons of oil naturally seep into our coastal waters each and every day! Why don't they have press conferences and mug for the cameras on that note? Further, these politicians and activists completely ignore that the industry installed a seep tent on the ocean floor decades ago to stem and capture at least some of this pollution. Finally, they give the industry no credit that decades of off-shore oil production has relieved some of the natural pressure that produces these seeps resulting in less seepage over time.

There is nothing stopping any of these professional critics from living fossil free lives. They have every opportunity today to live off the grid as they forego the benefits of gasoline, natural gas, coal and diesel fuel. But, instead the course of action they would like to take is to have our government shut down the industry via regulations, taxes and fees so as to make fossil fuels more expensive in an effort to make renewable energy more attractive. Yet, to this day renewable energy can only exist with massive subsidies, tax breaks, and outright gifts of taxpayer funds in order to feign competition with fossil fuels. Moreover, the brutal truth is that renewable sources of energy on an industrial scale have a worst environmental record than does the oil industry! Solar farms fry birds by the thousands in mid-air while wind turbines slice and dice birds, including endangered species, on a daily basis. Why no press conferences on this topic?



We Make Those Pesky
Lights Go Away



5 Locations On the Central Coast
waynestire.com

We get most all of our power from fossil fuels, nuclear power plants, hydroelectric dams, and coal fired plants. There is an argument and protest movement opposing each and every one of these sources leaving us with what alternative? Our landscape would be covered from foot to sky with solar and wind should we abandon all these traditional and functional sources that produce power 24/7/365 for alternatives that only produce power on an intermittent basis. Further, don't forget that activists and regulators just shut down a California battery recycling plant, one of the biggest in the nation, due to fears of toxic emissions emanating from the same. The point here is that there is no source of energy production that does not pose some type of concern with regard to impacts to our environment.

Our energy is brought to us by trains, ships, pipelines, transmission lines, and trucks. All manner of transport is subject to accidents as are all methods of production. We should always strive to make things safer, however, the reality for the people who actually produce things other than rhetoric? It is absolutely impossible to avoid accidents in the real world.

First Published in the Santa Barbara News Press

Das And The Dinosaur

By Andy Caldwell

The title of this column would suggest a children's story, but in reality it is a story about immature adults. Das Williams ostensibly represents us in the State Assembly. In light of the drought, it behooves you to know what Das did to perpetuate and prolong this current crisis.

A bill proposed by fellow legislators sought to streamline the burdensome environmental review process necessary to fulfill the promises made to voters who authorized billions of dollars for new dams and reservoirs. The purpose of the legislation was to ensure these projects would not get caught up in bureaucratic red tape and endless lawsuits.

Unfortunately, Assemblyman Williams, who chairs the Natural Resources Committee, killed their bill indicating that, in his opinion, dams and reservoirs are an inferior way to store water. More precisely, Assemblyman Das Williams declared that the practice of storing water in dams and reservoirs is a dinosaur in much the same way as Governor Jerry Brown believes grass lawns are a thing of the past.

A dinosaur is an animal that has gone extinct. Does that mean Williams believes Bradbury dam and Lake Cachuma have outlived their usefulness? What about the other dams that provide us with our water here on the Central Coast?

If building dams and reservoirs to store water are no longer effective methods, then what does he plan to do, other than run for County Supervisor, to give our state the immediate relief we need to survive this drought? Where would Das suggest Santa Barbara get its water supply?

Judging from a press release Das sent out last week, he wants us all to have cactus gardens! Will Santa Barbara's new moniker be "Arizona by the Sea"? Actually, that would be an unfair comparison to Arizona because they have more water than we do, having recently built dams and reservoirs!

In essence, Williams offers us nothing in terms of drought relief other than childish sound bites. Das and the Governor, by omission, are relegating urbanites and farmers to live with water in short supply. They won't address the foolhardy policies which necessitate us dumping trillions of gallons of fresh water in the ocean every year instead of capturing the

same in, you guessed it, dams and reservoirs. The drought philosophy of Williams and the Governor is not so much a solution as it is an adaptation to a crisis which emanates from their own failed leadership.

The real dinosaur in this story? Childish progressives who have failed to grasp the reality that California needs adult leadership now more than ever in the halls of our state capital. We need people who can solve problems rather than exploit a crisis of their own making. The only thing stopping California from building desal plants, dams, and reservoirs are the people who believe projects such as these pose greater problems than the drought that is upon us! They then threaten us with fines as a result of the crisis they themselves fomented as if we are the problem here.

California will soon be suffering from another form of brown, as our brown lawns will soon be accompanied by brownouts, all courtesy of one Governor Brown and his boy wonder Das. Need I remind you it was Jerry Brown who originally put the kibosh on building new dams back when he was governor the first time? Now we have dust bowl conditions on once verdant farmland, we are taking short showers and we are soon to be short on power too. That is what Brown does for you with the help of one Das Williams.

First Published in the Santa Barbara News Press




"Proud supporter of COLAB!"

Santa Maria
 1421 South Broadway

Oak Knolls
4869 South Bradley
Lompoc
705 W. Central Ave.

805.922.2900

www.yourcbasm.com

Stop in to any one of our three branches -
Where the smiles & the coffee are always on!




Say Good Bye To Ma & PA, Inc.

By Tom Burgher

If you own and operate a small business, the handwriting is on the wall. Whereas President Obama was wrong when he naively stated, “you didn’t build that business, etc.” however, it would be correct now to say, “you didn’t kill it, the Government did!”

As a current owner/operator of a MA&PA Enterprises, I was assessing the impact of the recently enacted AB 1255 which requires paid sick leave, when the LA City Council voted to require a minimum wage of \$15 per hour. This double whammy has thrown me into such a state of shock; I don’t know where to begin.

Let’s start with AB1255 Paid Sick Leave. My MA&PA Enterprises employs 3 part time workers. Yes, AB 1255 applies to them too. I’ll call them Alice, Bob, and Clare for purposes of illustration. Alice calls in sick on Wednesday, her normal day of work, but let’s us know that Clare will either cover for her or trade days with her. Alice doesn’t expect to be paid because she is not working; however, she is free now to handle health care or family issues. There is not cost impact to the business because we were going to pay somebody to work that day. Under the new law, required to be implemented after July 1 this year, Alice calls in sick and MA&PA Enterprises must pay her for her sick time off of work purportedly to assure that she has the opportunity to deal with family or health issues. However, MA&PA Enterprises still have to pay Clare, who agreed to substitute for her. Therefore, expenses double due to paying twice the wages for this single day of effort under AB1255 to assure Alice can take the time off for health care, an opportunity she had without cost to the business before this law passed. In addition, the law requires MA&PA Enterprises to pay for the additional administrative costs of tracking and informing the employee of their paid sick leave accrual and use metrics with each paycheck. When I asked the California State Labor Division who was going to pay for this? They replied MA&PA Enterprises! I asked where did they think MA&PA Enterprises was going to get the extra money to pay for it? For an answer, I got a deer-in-the-headlights stare. Sadly, they don’t know and they don’t care!

Then there is the rapid inflation of the minimum wage to \$15 per hour. These entry-level jobs were never meant to be a ladder to the CEO’s office. They are

meant as starter jobs for people, part time work for students, etc. But that aside, let’s talk about Bob at MA&PA Enterprises. He started as a part time employee 5 years ago at the then minimum wage of \$8.00 per hour. He proved himself to be a hard worker and was given a 10% raise after his first year. As he grew in knowledge and responsibility, the owners subsequently awarded him 4 additional annual 15% merit

(Continued on page 16)



WE HELP OUR CLIENTS SUCCEED BY LOWERING THEIR TOTAL COST OF RISK

Not understanding the risks that affect your business, or underestimating the potential impact of those risks, may be the biggest risk of all.

At Tolman & Wiker, *Innovative Risk Advice*™ isn’t just our tag line, it’s in our DNA. Our clients deserve and receive best-in-class risk advice and employee benefits consulting from an expert team with deep experience in key industry segments, who deliver outstanding results that help our clients succeed. For 90 years we’ve served businesses and individuals across California, the West, and around the globe as we’ve grown to be one of the top privately held, independent insurance brokerages in the nation. We look forward to working with you, too!



TOLMAN & WIKER
INSURANCE SERVICES, LLC
INNOVATIVE RISK ADVICE SINCE 1923™

(805) 922-7301

www.tolmanandwiker.com

1525 E. MAIN STREET | P.O. BOX 1099
SANTA MARIA, CA 93456 DOI LICENSE #0E52073

AGRICULTURE | CONSTRUCTION | OIL & GAS
MANUFACTURING | SECURITY | TECHNOLOGY | HEALTHCARE

Heroes Of Naught

By Andy Caldwell

California progressives suffer from a superiority complex. They actually believe they are smarter, more committed and more noble than us lesser beings. What's worse is they believe the rest of the world acknowledges them as such! Nowhere is this more evident than in the area of environmental extremism.

When California passed the most stringent regulation in the world, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB32), affecting the release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere (by restricting production and limiting our supplies of energy), the speeches that followed indicated that we would lead the world by our actions. The truth is, no other state or nation followed us off this cliff of economic self-destruction. Instead, many simply scoffed at our hubris and used the opportunity to grow their economy at our expense.

Last week, the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (comprised of all government entities in the county) determined the standard threshold for new greenhouse gas emissions would be set at 10,000 metric tons of carbon. If a project releases less than this, they are deemed in compliance with AB32. If they emit more than 10,000, but less than 25,000 tons, they will be forced to offset their emissions. Those projects that exceed 25,000 tons of carbon are already subject to the State Air Resources Board's requirements which will require them to participate in the state's auction for emission credit offsets.

On May 19, the Board of Supervisors is scheduled to come up with their own standard to comply with AB32. How is it that the APCD and the county could have different standards? It is because the state did not mandate each jurisdiction to have a set standard, especially rural county jurisdictions. This has to do with the fact that our region produces minor amounts of carbon compared to the major metropolitan areas of the state and what that means is that technically we don't matter! The state also recognizes we are already doing our fair share by virtue of the fact that all of California is already subject to AB32. Among other provisions of the law, 33% of our electricity will now be coming from non-carbon sources.

Nonetheless, Supervisors Salud Carbajal and Janet Wolf are pushing for a lower limit (potentially zero!)



than that of AB32 and the APCD. Why? Simply because they can and because of their environmental superiority complex. In essence, they don't believe AB32 is strict enough! They want to do everything they can to prove their environmental street cred at the expense of our local economy and common sense! They also know that, under the heroic guise of singlehandedly saving the planet from global warming, they will also be placing a stake in the heart of manufacturers and industrialists, mainly the oil industry, by eliminating the ability to produce and use fossil fuels, all of which are carbon based.

Symbolic gestures such as setting the threshold for greenhouse gases at near zero, while stroking the pride, ego and reputation of politicians and activists, accomplishes nothing meaningful for the environment but it will wreak serious havoc on our economy.

First Published in the Santa Barbara News Press

The Failure To Communicate

By Andy Caldwell

The board of supervisors is considering spending upwards of \$200,000 (fully loaded) per year to hire a executive level communications director. In the meantime, they have hired a consultant/contractor to put together a public information team that is trying to focus county management on the task of communication. The effort is two fold: communicating internally with their employees, as well as, the public. Let's explore this proposal.

The first question that comes to mind is what is the real goal of this effort? Is it the dissemination of information via press releases, media availability, and the use of electronic media? Or, is the real goal to bolster the county's image via political spin, fluff pieces, and a tightly controlled message? Supervisor Janet Wolf is adamant that the purpose is the former. Alternatively, Supervisor Peter Adam believes the title of the position should be Minister of Propaganda. I agree with Adam based on 25 years of watching this county operate, including during the previous time when the county had an employee fulfilling this role.

I host the only local, daily, live radio talk show that covers the entire county and much of the Central Coast. At a minimum, we cover county news at least twice a week and we abandon our regular programming during emergencies and disasters. I have also been writing local opinion pieces with a primary focus on county government for more than 20 years. Further, I have attended nearly every board of supervisors meeting during the last 24 years. In light of my various experiences, I can unequivocally tell you

this. On numerous occasions, I have had elected officials, county executives, managers, and line staff who would only talk to me off the record! Why? Because they did not want to be held responsible for spilling the beans on what is really going on.

When I speak on the air or before the board at public hearings, invariably I try to bring up what is missing in the staff presentations and the board's deliberations from an economic perspective and that of the citizenry. Thankfully, so do Supervisors Lavagnino and Adam. However, the point in all this has to do with the notion of garbage in, garbage out.

If a balanced perspective is not reflected in the deliberations and decisions, what chance will we have that the county's public information team will accurately reflect the same in the final press release? In this case, what is at stake are the values and perspective of those who believe in the concept of limited government, respect for private property rights, and the concerns of taxpayers and ratepayers.

For the record, the media consultant indicated that members of the media and community leaders had been interviewed about the proposed communication plan but for some reason, she did not interview either myself or Joe Armendariz from the Taxpayers Association. Yet, we interact with the county and the public on a continual basis. Is it safe to assume if they wanted our opinion they would rather give it to us?

First Published in the Santa Barbara News Press

Zierman
Plumbing & Heating

805-928-2510

***Serving the Santa Maria Valley with Excellent
Residential & Commercial Service Since 1950***

Ordering Salamander On A Shtick

By *Andy Caldwell*

If you would like a front seat in the theater of the absurd, you should have attended the hearing on May 22 at the Betteravia Government Center in Santa Maria. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is planning on spending \$46 million dollars on a fool's errand. The mission? Save a handful of California Tiger Salamanders who are "unique" due to years of inbreeding. I happen to know a lot about this fiasco as I was once a member of the official county salamander recovery team. I can assure you that there has never been a bigger waste of time, productivity and property than is about to be spent on this sub-species of a sub-species of a sub-species.


To understand how ridiculous this effort is, you need to understand how and why the salamander was listed in the first place along with some general knowledge about the species. First off, the species is not endangered! You can buy tiger salamanders in fish bait shops by the bucket (that is the minimum lot required for purchase!) in dozens of locales. The only reason the species is not found in prolific numbers here on the Central Coast is that they need up to four months to procreate and rear their young in pools of standing water. We happen to be short on these types of pools even in wet years.

The next big thing you need to know is why salamanders, also known as water dogs, are sold in bait shops. That has to do with the fact that lots and lots of other creatures like to eat them! Even other endangered species, including other salamanders, love to snack on salamanders! In fact, you would be hard pressed to find a biologist to prove that there is any other reason on God's green earth for this species to exist except that they make for good eating by fish, birds, and frogs! Salamanders live to be eaten and not much of anything else. Those that survive to make it out of their gestation pool go crawl into a hole in the ground until the next mating/rainy season and in the meantime, they serve no purpose known to man under the sun.

The one and only reason these inbreeds made it on to the list of the Endangered Species Act has to do with the fact that vast swaths of the North County were being converted to wine grapes and strawberry fields back in 2000. That prompted the Fish and Wildlife Service to declare an emergency, claiming the species only had a dozen or so ponds left and only so

the **HITCHHIKING POST**

in Casmalia, California



805-937-6151

many holes to crawl into, because their habitat was being converted to productive farm land.

Now, these many years later, the Service admits there are nearly five times as many ponds (60) that can support salamanders albeit, they still don't know how many salamanders there are here! That's right! Fifteen years after listing the species, the Service still doesn't have any idea how many salamanders live here. Nevertheless, they want to permanently set aside upwards of thirty thousand acres to protect these ponds and gopher holes.

If our government had any common sense, and if these bureaucrats and activists were spending their own money instead of ours, they would recognize that our climatic conditions are not conducive to a thriving population of salamanders. Salamanders need copious amounts of rain and only thrive where vernal pools are a dime a dozen. Instead, we are about to spend \$46,806,000 to ensure that some birds, fish and frogs have good eating for the next 30 years as the feds tie up some good farm ground forever.

First Published in the Santa Barbara News Press

50 Shades Of Brown: Gov. Jerry Brown And Democrat Party Rule

By Katy Grimes

As Gov. Jerry Brown prepares to sign another climate change agreement with “government leaders from around the world,” as his office announced, remember the recent agreement Brown got into with the scandalized Oregon Gov. Kitzhaber. “In October 2013, California Gov. Jerry Brown, together with the Governors of Oregon and Washington and the British Columbia Premier, signed the Pacific Coast Action Plan on Climate and Energy, “to align climate change policies and promote clean energy,” I wrote in February.

The Pacific Coast Collaborative links with the West Coast Infrastructure Exchange (WCX), a compact between California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia, formed in 2013 to promote “the type of new thinking necessary to solve the West Coast’s infrastructure crisis.” And the WCX is linked to the Clinton Foundation’s Clinton Global Initiative. And the entire scheme was intricately involved with hedge fund billionaire Tom Steyer. Steyer has said he’s willing to “spend what it takes” to implement climate change policies that are already driving up California’s gas prices –by some estimates of at least 15 cents a gallon. Steyer, a well-known environmental extremist, even wants to penalize people who contribute to global warming.

While the liberal mainstream media twists itself into a pretzel to avoid reporting much on actual news, life in California under Democrat Party rule is a real downer. California’s Governor Jerry Brown is a Democrat. All of the state’s Constitutional officers are Democrats. And the California Legislature is dominated by Democrats. The rule of law has been largely abandoned by the state’s Democrats. Consequently, the ‘anything goes’ attitude in the Legislature — legal or not — is how they roll.



The One Name In Crop

**Crop
Production
Services**



Production Inputs

**1335 W. Main St.
Santa Maria, CA. 93454
(805) 922-5848**

California, once known as The Golden State, has been tarnished; we are struggling under a dirty shade of Brown.

While I’d rather talk about the 50 shades of blond I am more familiar with, here is a rundown of life in California under the *50 Shades of Brown*:

- Gov. Jerry Brown announced a first-ever 25 percent reduction in state water usage. This symbolic gesture is offensive, since various California water and storage projects were all cancelled by Brown in his first terms as governor. “The idea of your nice little green grass getting water every day, that’s going to be a thing of the past,” Brown said. More recently, Brown has looked the other way as several million acre feet of stored water has been released from reservoirs straight to the ocean to assist migrating fish and scenic river restoration.
- The Democrat Party-controlled Legislature is trying to pass another no-exemption, mandatory vaccination bill for all school children (SB 277), as well as a mandatory vaccination bill for adults (SB 792).
- The Legislature is trying to pass, SB 128, an assisted suicide bill. Opponents of assisted dying warn that significant numbers of seriously ill people, as well as the disabled, the mentally ill, and even those who are

(Continued on page 12)

Making Bank For The Enemies Of America

By Andy Caldwell

Supposedly, the greenhouse gas emissions being generated by people exhaling along with the use of fossil fuels, the ocean, volcanoes, forests, termites, and flatulent cows has brought our planet to the tipping point. With respect to this partial list of greenhouse gas emission sources on this planet, our erstwhile Governor and our County Board of Supervisors are focused on just one source as if nothing else matters, i.e., fossil fuels.

Nevertheless, if California were to vanish off the face of this planet, along with all of our emissions, it wouldn't make a difference with regard to the amount of greenhouse gases being generated on this planet. This is due to natural sources and the massive economies revving up in China, India and Pakistan- home to billions of people who want cars, refrigerators, central heating and air conditioning.

Our county's Air Pollution Control District regulates emissions from both producers of energy, such as the oil and gas industry, along with the biggest consumers of energy- manufacturing and industry, along with facilities with boilers like hospitals and schools. The APCD board, made up of city and county electeds, have decided to focus their regulatory efforts on the largest emitters in the county, primarily oil and gas operations.

The State of California generates 500 million tons of carbon. Our county as a whole, when you include all manmade sources such as cars on the freeway, generates 5 million tons of carbon per year. The grand total of emissions from the sources the APCD has authority to regulate is from stationary sources, about 1 million tons of carbon per year. So, our county generates about 1% of the total emissions in the State with our local regulators having oversight over 20% of these local emissions.

Unfortunately, what happens in China doesn't stay in China. The greenhouse gas emissions they generate affect the total concentration in the earth's atmosphere on a scale scarcely imaginable. Whereas, California, which has the eighth largest economy in the world, calculates our emissions in the order of millions of tons of carbon, China's emissions are on a scale of billions of tons-10 billion per year to be exact! And, while America and California have actually decreased our greenhouse

gas emissions by 20% in the last couple of years, China's emission rates, based on the incredible growth of their economy, both in terms of production and consumerism, is growing at exponential rates.

What does all this mean in practical terms? China and Russia root for America's useful idiots who are helping them make bank. While California turns back the clock on our economy in order to reduce our use of energy to a function of pre-1990 levels, they are making deals to become the economic superpowers on this planet. China is buying coal like there is no tomorrow. And, China and Russia just inked a \$400 billion dollar natural gas deal. These two empires are simultaneously working on a plan to persuade the rest of the world to collapse the US economy by basing global petroleum trade on their currencies instead of ours. And, just for the fun of it, Russia financially supports the environmental organizations calling for the halt of US fossil fuel production in order to stymie their competition.

County Supervisors Salud Carbajal and Janet Wolf now seek to establish their own spectacularly stringent regulatory threshold. Moving beyond the oil industry, they seek to enforce a standard ten times stricter than that established by the APCD (1,000 vs 10,000 tons carbon)- all in order to capture the infinitesimal emissions from hospitals, schools, pools and fools who are not paying attention to their penchant for superior regulatory excess!

First Published in the Santa Barbara News Press



Health Sanitation Services

(805) 922-2121

Dear California, You're In My Rear View

By Megan Barth

I swear by my life and my love of it that I will never live for the sake of another man, nor ask another man to live for mine.

Dear California,

For the last 20 years I have called you my home. During this time, I have lived in Century City, Manhattan Beach, Rancho Palos Verdes, Corona Del Mar, and Newport Beach, prior to finding a great little spot in Irvine. I ran for a local office, became an activist in my community, and even fought the law and won. Justice was served. Quite the ride.

However, over these last 20 years, I have watched our freeways crumble, our costs sky rocket due to regulations and tax increases, our borders dissolve, welfare and entitlements explode, and the growth and greed of the government in Sacramento punish the very people it relies on.

For every dollar I make, you believe you are entitled to a significant portion of it. In fact, this state has the highest taxes in the country, the largest bureaucracy, and the most people living off of other people's money.

You continue to grow the welfare state without consideration for those that make your socialist policies a reality. We don't get a thank you card, we get the middle finger. The Liberals have won a super majority in the legislature this last election and are now deciding on a bill to allow illegal aliens the right to vote. Did anyone really think that giving illegals drivers licenses had anything to do with driving?!

What. A. Ruse.

So, as I begin the second half of my life, with the goals of getting ahead instead of getting by, and truly enjoying my hard-earned dollars, instead of being forced to do with less for the "common good," I have decided to list my home and relocate to a state where my money goes much further and my personal success and happiness can flourish.

With the money I save, I will return and you can have my tourism dollars when I visit the beach in Laguna or the wineries up North. I assume my home will sell relatively quickly as I live in a desirable area.

So, I bid you farewell and I thank you for forcing me into a decision I have been contemplating for many

CHUMASH
CASINO RESORT

Thursday, June 4th
Montgomery Gentry

Thursday, June 11th
Which One's Pink? A Tribute To
The Music Of Pink Floyd

Thursday, June 18th
Creedence Clearwater Revisited

Thursday, June 25th
Tierra

Thursday, July 9th
The Swon Brothers

years.

The great thing about money and freedom? Mobility. Shuga (my Mini) and I will be mobile soon, and when I cross the state line, I may return your middle finger as I throw Shug into 6th gear. It's all about *fairness*, right?

Reagan wisely said, "*Socialists ignore the side of man that is the spirit. They can provide you shelter, fill your belly with bacon and beans, treat you when you're ill, all the things guaranteed to a prisoner or a slave. They don't understand that we also dream.*" We do. I do. I just won't be California Dreamin' any longer. Si Puedo y Adios!

Megan Barth, Founder and Proprietor of ReaganBaby.com and nationally recognized political commentator and women's advocate

Shopping For Genes For Mother's Day

By Andy Caldwell

Thomas Malthus, centuries ago, promulgated a flawed theory that the resources of the earth are limited thus ignoring the ability of mankind to address these limitations via the advancement of technology. His theory is believed and relied on as gospel by the modern day environmental movement. Charles Darwin's theory of evolution also comes into play here based on the tenet that only the strongest people will survive as humans are forced to compete for these scarce resources.

Ultimately, Malthusians and today's hard core enviros believe population control, i.e. limiting competition, is the ultimate solution to what ails the planet. When the perfect dark storm of Malthusians logically applying Darwin's theory to humans engulfed humanity the eugenics movement, the quest to perfect the human race by weeding out the weak, was born.

The most infamous proponent of the eugenics movement was Adolf Hitler! Hitler believed that the Germans were part of a superior Aryan race meaning that they were best fit to rule the world and that it was his duty to rid the world of all the "inferiors" no matter the cost. To that end, he not only slaughtered Jews, but those he considered infirm. His infamy for genocide is well deserved but of course Hitler died and his movement with him. Not so for one Margaret Sanger who founded Planned Parenthood. Sanger's primary mission? Reduce the breeding of minorities whom she considered inferior. Though Margaret Sanger has long been dead, the institution she started lives on inflicting horrible consequences, on an international scale, including gendercide.

While Hitler and Sanger deserve the scorn of the ages, the permutations of the eugenics movement just keep coming our way. These permutations may, on the surface, appear to be harmless, but are anything but.

One of the most dangerous things for a man to do is to go jean shopping with a woman. Especially if the potential is there for her to ask the proverbial question, "do these jeans make me look fat"? Well, in this day of technological advancement, shoppers nowadays ask "do these genes make me look perfect"?

Hence, the story of two women partners who had the worse day shopping ever! They are now suing a sperm bank and the sperm bank donor for false advertising as it pertains to the quality of traits attributed to the donor. The women were assured that the donor had an IQ of 160, an undergraduate degree in neuroscience, a master's degree in artificial intelligence and he was pursuing a Ph.D in neuroscience engineering. He was eloquent, mature beyond his years and had impressive health history. At least that is how the ad read! It turns out, however, the sperm donor was a schizophrenic college drop out with a criminal record. Even worse, according to the lawsuit, the photo of the donor had been photo-shopped to remove a large mole on his cheek!

The mental illness and criminal record aside, why also sue over a mole except in pursuit of the perfect baby?

First Published in the Santa Barbara News Press



AM1440
KUHL • the information station

AM 1290
Santa Barbara News-Press Radio

Listen to Andy Live Monday Thru Friday 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM



50 Shades Of Brown: Gov. Jerry Brown And Democrat Party Rule *Cont.*

(Continued from page 8)

depressed, could end up being swept up in the new law, prioritizing cost effectiveness, over higher costs of ongoing care.

- A California law signed by Jerry Brown ordered transgender bathrooms in the state's K-12 public schools, for children to self-select whether they feel female or male, not whether they are anatomically female or male.
- The Legislature passed AB 109 ordering convicted criminals out of prisons and jails, ostensibly to reduce the overflowing prison population. The voters passed a George Soros funded ballot initiative furthering AB 109, as well as decriminalizing nearly all drug crimes, and making nearly all theft crimes, misdemeanors.
- Now the Legislature is trying to pass a bill to prevent Grand Juries from investigating and issuing indictments on police shootings.
- Gov. Jerry Brown has signed numerous gun control bills, all passed by the Legislature, including AB711 which bans hunting with lead bullets.
- Covered California, the "model" Obamacare state exchange is losing customers, has run amok with internal corruption, and is just plain failing.
- Thanks to this Legislature and governor, the state's illegal aliens enjoy free education... financial aid... student loans... low-cost auto insurance... free health care... free legal aid... welfare... all things that legal residents have to pay for. Now, State Sen. Ricardo Lara, D-Los Angeles, is proposing health coverage for illegal aliens in California.


Californians are being heavily taxed on scientifically unfounded climate change policies. The California Air Resources Board based its policies on the bogus argument that diesel particulate matter and/or PM2.5, results in increased mortality risks for California citizens. UCLA Professor Dr. James Enstrom found no relationship between PM2.5 (particulate matter) and total mortality in California, and even exposed the fraudulent credentials of Hien T. Tran, the CARB scientist and lead author of the October 24, 2008 CARB report on PM2.5 and premature death. Yet the unelected, unaccountable appointed members of the

Air Resources Board went ahead with their plan and are taxing the air we breathe, the water we drink, the land we live on, the cars and trucks we drive, heating and cooling systems, the electricity and home heating fuels we use, and our transportation fuels. Gov. Jerry Brown has allowed this to continue, and says climate change is the most important issue today.

- Gov. Jerry Brown has relentlessly pushed his High Speed Rail train project that has no reasonable purpose, nor does it have any budgetary limits. He is sustaining this high speed joke with money from the CARB's cap and trade scheme, extracted from California businesses taxed because they are deemed "polluters" by the Air Resources Board. Cap and Trade is a tax, passed illegally by a state agency, and not the Legislature.


- In October 2013, California Gov. Jerry Brown, to-

(Continued on page 15)



PATTERSON REALTY
SINCE 1979

LEADING REAL ESTATE COMPANIES OF THE WORLD
"The Top Independent Brokerage on the Central Coast"



Wendy Teixeira
REALTOR®

(805) 310-3505
wendyteixeira@aol.com
CalBRE #01345995

**"Exactly who you need
to get exactly what you want."**

CALL 805-310-3505 + WWW.CALLWENDY.COM

A Reprehensible Regulatory Ruse

By Andy Caldwell

Do you remember the old shell game? You were supposed to keep your eye on the shell that hid the pea as a master of sleight of hand movements thoroughly dazzled you into a state of confusion. Well, you ain't seen nothing yet! Just watch and see the County Board of Supervisors have a field day on May 19 making significant greenhouse gas emissions seemingly disappear before your very eyes!

Greenhouse gas emissions come from various sources. Wherever fossil fuel is burned, such as in your automobile, gas water heater, stove and cook top, carbon is emitted. Large buildings, such as hospitals and schools, release carbon when they run boilers to heat water or burn gas to run heaters. When trash disintegrates in a landfill it releases one of the more potent greenhouse gases, methane, into the atmosphere. Of course, manufacturing, oil drilling, and petroleum refining operations are also sources of greenhouse gas emissions.

To address these sources, the County of Santa Barbara is creating two distinct and separate approaches to regulating and limiting greenhouse gas emissions. By regulatory sleight of hand, however, they are separating out the oil and mining industries for disparate treatment as opposed to all other sources. They want oil and mining operations to submit to a very exacting, limiting and punitive standard while they subject all other sources to a standard that is primarily soft, subjective, and voluntary. The arbitrary distinction they have made between these various sources is to label the oil, gas and mining operations as "industrial" while rendering all other sources

as either "residential and commercial". Clever trick, but no cigar!

One of the largest sources of greenhouse gases in our county is the county owned Tajiguas landfill. Certainly, this facility is neither residential nor is it commercial! It is actually a mining operation in reverse. Instead of pulling material out of the earth, we are simply burying it! This landfill happens to be the eighth largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the entire county emitting more than 30,000 tons of carbon equivalent every year. That is three times the amount of most individual oil operations in the county! It is also more than twenty times larger than most of the mining operations in the county too!

Whereas the county seems intent to require oil and mining operations that emit more than 1,000 tons of carbon per year to eventually mitigate the same, they are allowing themselves and all other emitters under their jurisdiction the chance to be on some sort of voluntary honor system!

This plan to make arbitrary and capricious distinctions against oil and mining operations on the basis of greenhouse gas emissions is not only reprehensible, it is unconstitutional and it does not comport with the intent of state law. All emission sources should be treated equally if in fact the Board is serious about curtailing greenhouse gas emissions. These include the emissions that the county itself generates. Anything less is highly hypocritical and smacks of a punitive abuse of discretion.

First Published in the Santa Barbara News Press

TESTA 

Full Service Culinary and Bar Catering

The Premier Caterer in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties

Since 1983

"Locally Owned by Martin & Debi Testa"

805-739-0809 www.TestaCatering.com

If The Dunce Hat Fits, Wear It!

By Andy Caldwell

Ofentimes, when I am sitting in a hearing, listening to the anti-oil crowd come up with one bogus reason after another to try and shut down the oil industry, I sincerely struggle trying to figure out where they are coming from. On the one hand, I have a tendency to believe they are simply, but sincerely, naive. The other alternative explanation is that they see themselves as cunning and in their mind we the public are the stupid people they are trying to deceive. What follows is an example of this conundrum.

The Board of Supervisors received a staff report on the subject of injection wells. Injection wells are used by the oil industry and they are also used by sewage districts. When an oil company drills for oil, 90% of what comes to the surface is water mixed with oil. That is simply what is down that hole. Mother Nature, not the oil industry, made it that way. These waters are ancient seawater and they are saltier than our ocean.

The oil industry separates the oil from the water and sends the water back down the hole to the exact place from whence it came, typically a mile or so below the surface. Some sewage districts also inject brine water deep below the earth's surface. In both cases, the wastewater is injected into the oil bearing formation, well below the drinking water aquifer. These aquifers are separated by an impermeable barrier of rock. Sewer districts near the ocean don't need to use injection wells, they just dump their waste water into the sea.

You can imagine my consternation when some of the usual suspects showed up at the hearing and indicated that the oil industry should no longer be allowed to reinject the produced water back into the aquifer. Why? They claim we may need to use the water from that aquifer some day! Let's walk through this preposterous argument.

The scenario they laid out is that the droughts in California will worsen due to global warming and we could find ourselves desperate to find water wherever we can. So, they imagine a scenario where we would want to drill for this water that is a mile down below the surface? Well, guess what? If we were to tap that aquifer for the water, oil is going to come up with it when we drill, just like it does today! What will we do then? Separate the oil from the water and reinject the oil as a waste product? How foolish would that be!

Further, after separating this water from the oil, this ancient seawater would have to be desalinated. How ridiculous and preposterous to go through all that trouble when we are sitting on the edge of the Pacific ocean! There is no possible scenario where running ocean water through a desalination plant would not be cheaper and easier than trying to separate and clean this ancient sea water from deep beneath the earth's surface.

First Published in the Santa Barbara News Press

Family owned and operated by Cheryl & George Bedford

**COLAB Members, we are here
for you! Always have been, always will be!**

We want to sell your next vehicle and the next one too!

Dare to compare!



*The home of ...
True Value, Up
Front LOW Pricing!*

**CHEVY • BUICK
SUNSET
AUTO CENTER**

1300 North H Street • Lompoc

805-736-7577

sunsetautocenter.com



CHEVROLET

50 Shades Of Brown: Gov. Jerry Brown And Democrat Party Rule *Cont.*

(Continued from page 12)

gether with the Governors of Oregon and Washington and the British Columbia Premier, signed the Pacific Coast Action Plan on Climate and Energy, “to align climate change policies and promote clean energy.” The Pacific Coast Collaborative links with the West Coast Infrastructure Exchange (WCX), a compact between California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia, formed in 2013 to promote “the type of new thinking necessary to solve the West Coast’s infrastructure crisis.” And the WCX is linked to the Clinton Foundation’s Clinton Global Initiative. “California isn’t waiting for the rest of the world before it takes action on climate change,” said Gov. Brown. “Today, California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia are all joining together to reduce greenhouse gases.” The plan revealed high level appointees in the California governor’s office, other “engaged governors,” and the White House, engrossed in a scheme to define “a nationally coordinated, multi-year states strategy’ focused on driving outcomes contemplated by the President’s climate action plan, 111d, resilient infrastructure and international treaty objectives at scale.”



Independent Optometrists

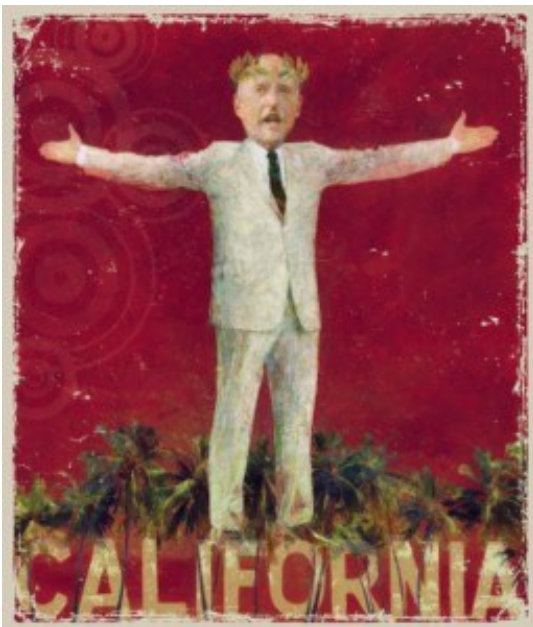
inside Costco

Santa Maria

805-925-1092

San Luis Obispo

805-544-0450



Steve Moors illustration, Jerry brown

scandals of our own, all on Gov. Jerry Brown’s watch. State Sen. Leland Yee, D-San Francisco, was arrested on federal gun trafficking and corruption charges. Yee, a Democrat gun control nut, was allegedly selling rocket launchers to Muslim terrorists in the Philippines. Sen. Ron Calderon, D-Montebello, was indicted on charges of bribery and influence peddling. Sen. Roderick Wright, D-Inglewood, was convicted of perjury and voter fraud.

Feel free to add to the **50 Shades of Brown** in the comments at FLASHREPORT. Some in the state say Jerry Brown came back to the governor’s office to finish the destruction he started back in the 1970’s. There is so much more. I’ve barely scratched the surface.

Katy Grimes, Investigative Reporter and Senior Correspondent at FLASHREPORT

- In California, we were graced recently with a set of

Say Good Bye To Ma & PA, Inc. Cont.

(Continued from page 4)

increases. He now proudly earns approximately \$15 per hour. With LA's plan to raise the minimum wage, Bob is once again, a minimum wage employee. You can imagine how thrilled he is! The problem is obvious to all but the lawmakers. Bob will now want a similar 67% increase in his wages to maintain his status above minimum wage and so forth up the wage ladder.

This minimum wage inflation causes wage compression. Some businesses will be able to raise prices to compensate for the increased costs; but then these prices also must be paid by those

gaining the higher minimum wage, thereby significantly negating its instantaneous benefit. For many small businesses like MA&PA Enterprises, which are often retail, the wage inflation cannot be offset by greater reliance on technology or automation nor can prices be increased sufficiently to address the increased costs because customers simply stop buying as prices become too high. It shortly becomes clear that business survival requires a reduction in force. This then puts an additional burden on the State-funded unemployment benefit, which of course, no one abuses.

So, why do lawmakers make decisions that cost small businesses their viability and ultimately cost the taxpayer more with no significant benefit to the worker? It's called pandering for re-election votes. Someday, this house of cards will fall.

Tom Burgher is the owner of Seaside Gallery in Pismo Beach, CA.

COLAB
Santa Barbara County

PLEASE

Donate to COLAB!

PO Box 7523

Santa Maria, CA 93456

Or, online at:

www.colabsbc.org



722 West Betteravia Rd.

Santa Maria, CA 93455 805-922-1262

www.GermanAutoSM.net - www.facebook.com/germanautosm