

HIGHLANDERS WIN PRESCRIPTIVE RIGHTS BATTLE

Attorney General George Deukmejian Recalls Questionnaires

USFS Fire Helicopter Moved from Big Sur

The U.S.F.S. fire helicopter and its helitac crew of five specially trained fire-fighters will not be stationed at Fort Hunter-Liggett during the forthcoming fire season.

One U.S.F.S. spokesman blamed a cutback in Federal funding to the removal, but another called it a "management decision."

"More people will be coming this year because the Pine Ridge trail and the Ventana Wilderness areas, which have been closed for the past two years, will be reopened, and we don't have enough manpower or equipment to cover it," said one of the spokesmen.

The closest fast attack "Helishot" will be located in Santa Maria, which is approximately 60-minute flight time from Big Sur. The Hunter-Liggett response time was 5 - 10 minutes.

With no helicopter or helishot crews readily available, the Big Sur Station might have to acquire a mule pack string to get access to the rugged wilderness areas for fire suppression.

In addition, due to budget cuts proposed by Governor Brown, the California Department of Forestry will probably lose one air tanker stationed in Hollister.

Regarding equipment and manpower at the Big Sur Station during fire season, two engines, one pumper, and a 5-man, 7-day crew will be available for response.

The Pacific Valley Station will have one new engine and a small pumper manned only five days a week by two personnel.

A three to five man crew and one pumper will be in readiness at the new USFS Nacimiento Station.

One U.S.F.S. Ranger who preferred not to be identified summed it up: "More people will be in the back country than ever before, and we just won't be able to provide the fire protection we should."



THE OLD POST HOMESTEAD will be the site of the March 18 Historical Society Meeting. See announcement on page 13. Photo from the Post family collection.

COASTAL CONSERVANCY EYEBALLS BIG SUR PROJECTS

The State Coastal Conservancy (not to be confused with the Coastal Commission or the Nature Conservancy) is looking at "many possible projects in the Big Sur area," according to Joe Petrillo, the executive officer.

The projects include possible reconsolidation of "fifty or so parcels in the Sycamore Canyon-Pfeiffer Ridge area," Mr. Petrillo revealed at a November 20 Coastal Commission meeting in Monterey where he presented a status report of the Conservancy.

During a more recent Gazette interview, Mr. Petrillo said that other projects being considered for the Big Sur area included "47 to 50 lots in the viewshed," for which development rights might be acquired or transferred, and "the acquisition of large ranches on the market which could be leased or resold."

Power of Eminent Domain

The Coastal Conservancy Act of 1976 established this new state agency who's

function is to "complement the Coastal Act of 1976 by providing management of coastal land uses through acquisition."

Although the Park Bond Act provides only \$10 million to the Coastal Conservancy, according to Mr. Petrillo another \$5 million is forthcoming from the Federal Access Program, and another \$10 to \$15 million may be available from state funds. For additional money, the Conservancy can "accept federal grants, receive donations, gifts, rents, and any other private or public financial support."

Throughout the state, says Petrillo, we've identified \$40 to \$60 million in market value of lands we're looking at."

The 1976 Act authorizes the conservancy to acquire property or interests, to use the state's powers or eminent domain, and "to lease, rent, sell, or exchange acquired land."

General Conservancy Programs

The conservancy has six areas of stated
Continued on back page

USFS UNVEILS BIG SUR PLAN

The U.S. Forest Service has just released a Land Management Plan for the Big Sur Coast.

The development of new recreational facilities include the construction of 150 "vehicle-access camping units," 200 "trail-access camping units," 127 picnic sites, 22 miles of trails in addition to a Coastal hiking-biking trail, two visitor information centers and, in cooperation with Caltrans, the Forest Service plans to construct public toilets and provide safe pullouts for scenic viewing.

"The plan sets policy and direction for the management of this area," explained Allen West, the outgoing Forest Supervisor who has just been promoted to Washington.

"We began our planning process in 1973. The object was to bring us up to the point of making a decision for the future management of this area," he wrote in an introductory letter.

The Gazette learned in an interview with the new District Planner, Robert Zechettmayer, that the plan had passed through the public review process and environmental review stages and now needs funding from Congress to be implemented. Budget approval is expected soon but, he cautioned,

Continued on back page

"No basis in law"

By GARY KOEPEL

The newly elected State Attorney General, George Deukmejian, has declared that the controversial questionnaire used in the prescriptive rights investigations in the Carmel Highlands and Cannery Row beach areas has no legal foundation.

Mr. Deukmejian has acted by ordering his staff of Deputy Attorney Generals, several of whom serve as legal counsels for the Regional Coastal Commissions, to cease distribution of the questionnaires because he could find "no basis in law" for their use.

In addition, according to Senator Nimmo in a letter to a Carmel Highlands property owner, "Mr. Deukmejian has asked me to immediately notify him if I learn of any questionnaires being distributed in my Senatorial District. I will do so, and likewise I hope you will contact me if you hear of such."

Regarding the mystery of who had authorized the use of the precedent-setting questionnaires, Senator Nimmo wrote that Mr. Deukmejian had informed him "that he has ordered his staff to cease distribution of the above questionnaire authorized by his predecessor, Evelle Younger."

The Attorney General's opinion and directive ends six months of struggle between the Carmel Highlands Property Owners Association and the Central Regional Coastal Commission.

Ends Controversy

The controversy began last August when a Highlands resident was solicited by a member of the Sierra Club to complete a numbered questionnaire which sought detailed information about access routes through private properties to reach Yankee, Malpaso, and Otter Cove beaches in the Carmel Highlands area, and McAbee beach on Cannery Row.

The questionnaire's return address was to the Deputy Attorney General's Office in care of the Central Coastal Commission in Santa Cruz.

After contacting the Deputy Attorney General's Office, the Highlanders learned that the questionnaires were being selectively distributed by various skin-diving schools and organizations, and by certain members of the Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club.

The Big Sur Gazette reprinted the entire questionnaire in its September issue, and was promptly taken to task by Evelle Younger during the final days of his gubernatorial campaign, and by Deputy Attorney General Ken Williams, who said the Gazette article was "to me, yellow journalism at its best."

Alarmed about the intent and methodology of the questionnaire, and undaunted by the attack from the Attorney General's Office, members of the Carmel Highlands Property Owners Association took the matter to the Regional Coastal Commission and asked for an explanation.

Most of the Commissioners were caught by surprise and knew nothing about the questionnaire or the prescriptive rights investigations being conducted in their jurisdiction and under their supposed auspices.

"Nefarious Tactic"

Deputy Attorney Generals Williams and Getz maintained that the investigations were authorized by the State Coastal Commission, but a State Commissioner denied that the State Panel had neither discussed or authorized it.

After several often stormy confrontations between the Highlanders and the Regional Commission, the mystery of who really authorized the investigations remained unsolved. Also unanswered was the question of the legality of the questionnaire. An investigation was requested by Commissioners Kenneth Blohm, James Hughes, and Marilyn Liddicoat.

In January, George Deukmejian was elected Attorney General, and in February he ordered the questionnaires withdrawn, thus ending what one Highlander called "a nefarious tactic that does not belong in a free society."

This Issue:

Local News	2, 8
Fire Brigade	3
Views & Viewpoints	4, 5
Incorporation Alternatives	7
Local Journal	9
Profile: Bob Nash	10, 11
Wildlife Section	12
Historical Section	13
Big Sur Youth	14
Pico Blanco	15

CONGRESSMAN PANETTA WRITES TO CAC

Mr. Roger Newell
Chairman
Citizens Advisory Committee

Dear Roger:

Pursuant to our meeting* on Saturday, Feb. 10, I am writing to confirm the basic points we discussed and agreed upon at that time. As I indicated, I am committed to preserving the unique beauty and lifestyle of the Big Sur area. I believe this can best be accomplished by local citizens working together to develop an overall plan for the management and preservation of Big Sur.

This was the basis for withdrawing a proposal I introduced last year for a federally funded study of this area. As I stated to you at that time, the local Citizens Advisory Committee should be the nucleus for such an innovative and farsighted study and I would urge federal agencies to cooperate in such an effort and withhold taking any independent action until the local study was completed.

This commitment, however, can only be successful if all of the various local groups and organizations in the Big Sur area are willing to make a similar commitment to work with the CAC in the development of such a plan. If a number of competing local citizens, groups and agencies, regardless of how justified their basic motivations, refuse or fail to unify behind the work of the CAC, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to get federal agencies to cooperate in such an effort.

Assuming that similar cooperation and support is forthcoming from both state and county agencies as well as local groups and citizens, I am committed to rely on the work of the Citizens Committee in developing the local element for the coastal plan.

To implement this commitment, I would be willing to do the following:

First, for a period of one year, I would take no legislative action and urge all federal agencies to withhold any legislative or administrative action that implements concepts affecting the Big Sur area to allow the CAC time to complete its work.

Second, I would work to coordinate all of the efforts of federal agencies having an interest in Big Sur to ensure that their resources are available to the CAC as it develops its proposal.

Third, in accordance with the CAC recommendations, I would stand ready to do all I can to see that federal agencies assist in any way possible to implement whatever steps the committee recommends as legitimate areas for federal participation.

Fourth, it is my earnest hope that the Committee will establish a firm timetable for the completion of the local plan within one year, that the plan would seek innovative and farsighted approaches to the future of Big Sur from a broad cross section of views, and that the citizens of Big Sur will strongly support and endorse its proposals.

Thank you again for taking the time to meet with me and give me the benefit of your views. I am hopeful you will be able to develop the kind of broad based coalition necessary to the work of the CAC and look forward to working with you on this difficult and challenging task ahead of us.

Leon E. Panetta
Member of Congress

*[Editor's note: Meeting took place at a scheduled meeting of the Big Sur Foundation.]

Forest Supervisor West Promoted to Washington

GOLETA, Calif. — Al West, forest supervisor of Los Padres National Forest, has been selected for a Washington, D.C. post with the U.S. Forest Service, according to Zane Smith, regional forester for the Pacific Southwest Region.

"Al has been selected as the staff director for data management for the Forest Service," stated Smith. "This selection was made in recognition of his capabilities over the past years of service here in California. Although we are sorry to see Al leave this region, we are pleased that he has been promoted to our national office."

As administrator responsible for managing the 2-million-acre Los Padres National Forest, West's past three years has included many highlights. Looking back, West commented on three specific areas.

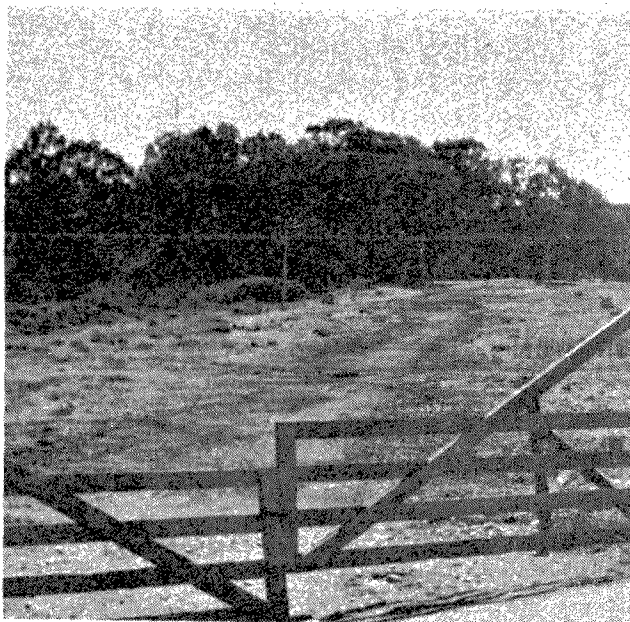
"One thing we have been able to accomplish is bringing in a wide, diversified group of district rangers," West

said. The background of the five rangers represents watershed management, wildlife and range, timber and recreation. This is helping to provide a balanced approach to managing the many resources of the Los Padres.

"I am also very pleased with the approach regarding the management of the Forest watersheds," continued West. "Historically we have looked at this activity from a standpoint of fire protection. Now this has been turned around and we are managing fuels not only for reducing fire hazard but to produce quantities of good quality water."

West added that the 1977 178,000-acre Marble Cone Fire and the successful rehabilitation that followed the burn will be one of his unforgettable experiences as forest supervisor.

West will remain as forest supervisor on the Los Padres until June 17th, which is the date for his move to Washington, D.C.



Site of the Ecology Corp Camp at Andrew Molera State Park just after ground preparation and seeding.

MOLERA PARK RESTORATION

By KEN JONES

Now that the Ecology Corps Camp has moved on, State Park Employees are attempting to restore the area of the camp to a more natural setting.

Recently, heavy equipment removed up to 16 inches of base material from the road leading from Highway 1 to the Cooper Cabin site. It was then disced and hand-seeded with a ryegrass mixture. The ryegrass should remain about three years then slowly die

out. Hopefully during this period native grasses and other plants will begin to appear.

Other actions include a formal request of Pacific Gas and Electric to remove all overhead lines and poles back to Highway 1. Pacific Telephone was also asked to remove their lines. This should take place within four weeks.

We hope to keep the community informed on the progress of this project including additional photos as the area restores itself.

Editor's Note: Ken Jones is manager of the Big Sur unit of the Department of Parks & Recreation.

New Supervisor Named to Los Padres

GOLETA, CALIF. — Frederik (Fritz) G. deHoll has been named Supervisor of the Los Padres National Forest, headquartered in Goleta, Calif., effective June 16, Pacific Southwest Regional Forester Zane G. Smith announced recently.

Mr. deHoll, Supervisor of the Cleveland National Forest, headquartered in San

Diego, will succeed Al West, who has been promoted to Forest Service headquarters in Washington, D.C., as a supervisory management analyst.

Mr. Smith said that it was fortunate to be able to transfer a person of Fritz deHoll's experience and capabilities within the region to the Los Padres National Forest.

Tidbits

The Amtrak management is determined to make the passenger trains run on time -- both of them.

The challenge of the future for Detroit is to make cars that will last as long as the payments.

The proposed new U.S. Department of Education would have 16,000 employees. Oldtimers in Washington say that should be enough to hold it together until the main force is organized.

After the age of 40, that which often passes as virtue is merely plain old lack of energy.

Scientists say it is impossible for the brain to become tired but a lot of people can sure put on a good imitation of it.

All of us could endure trouble a little better if we were sure it was only temporary.

Committees who don't want open meetings can always figure out some explanation of why they held closed meetings without violating the open-meetings law.

There are people who say that they know the one perfect tax. It's one that puts the whole load on somebody else.

The Gazette
gives you
down-to-earth news

USFS Seeks Input to Management of Ventana Wilderness

KING CITY, Calif. — The future management of the 154,000-acre Ventana Wilderness in the coastal area of Monterey County is the focus of a major planning effort by the U.S. Forest Service, according to Los Padres National Forest Supervisor Al West.

The Forest Service is closely examining two issues states Bob Breazeale, Monterey District Ranger. "Our primary objective is to take a critical look at how the wilderness has been managed in the past and what, if anything, should be done differently in the future," said Breazeale. "Some of the concepts we will be looking at will include items like trails—Is there a need for more or less trails? Should there be entry limits for the number of hikers in certain areas? What kind of facilities, like sanitation and fire stoves, are needed?—and many other subjects."

"The second issue we want to examine in our planning process is the appropriate watershed management program for the Ventana Wilderness," Breazeale stated. "By this we mean that we will be examining what management activities or actions will be necessary to protect downstream water quan-

tity and quality. Our main objective here is to manage the fuels in such a way as to prevent a wildfire like the recent Marble Cone Fire 20 to 30 years from now."

Breazeale went on to say that the interest and involvement by the public is very important during this planning process. "The Los Padres National Forest and the Ventana Wilderness exists because the people want them," said Breazeale. "Because of this it is important that we hear from all interests about the future management of this area so that the final product will reflect their values and concerns."

An 18-minute slide-tape presentation has been prepared regarding the Ventana Wilderness and the planning efforts that the Forest Service will be undertaking. Upon request, Forest Service personnel are available to make presentations for groups and agencies.

Individuals desiring additional information on this subject or that would like to be placed on the mailing list for future information may contact the Forest Service Office in King City—Monterey Ranger District, 406 S. Mildred, King City, Calif. 93930 (408) 385-5434. Attn: Planning Officer.

APOLOGY

Our sincere apologies to the photographers whose excellent contributions were inadvertently not credited in last issue's Robinson Jeffers centerfold: Morley Baer, Julian P. Graham, and Herb Erwin.

Although the photo credits were added to our second printing of 2,000 copies, we regret their omission in the first run of 3,000. The Editors.

USFS SLIDE SHOW SCHEDULED IN BIG SUR MARCH 26

Richard Zechettmayer, the Monterey district planning officer for the USFS, will present a slide and film program in Big Sur, the main topic of which is the management direction for the Ventana Wilderness.

The 55-minute program will include a slide presentation entitled "Wilderness and Watersheds," another slide show of the Marble-Cone fire, as well as a short film about the first Chief of the Forest Service called "Gifford Pinchot You're Fired."

Mr. Zechettmayer has recently transferred from his position in Oregon to assume planning duties in the Monterey District of the Los Padres National Forest.

The presentation is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, March 26, at the Big Sur Grange Hall.

Federal Reorganization Pot Boils

Reprinted from
Forest Landowners of
California Journal

The reorganization pot continues to boil. President Carter's reorganization staff, apparently, is still attempting to justify and sell transfer of the Forest Service and portions of the Soil Conservation Service out of Agriculture and into the Department of the Interior.

Substantial opposition is being encountered however, and it appears the administration may be having some second thoughts, and may be seeking a compromise. One idea the reorganization staff seems to be floating is to leave research and state and

private forestry in the Department of Agriculture, and move National Forest administration to Interior. The House and Senate Agriculture Committee, however, have indicated vigorous opposition to any such suggestion.

Meanwhile, Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland has written the President recommending creation of a Department of Agriculture and Renewable Natural Resources, with the Forest Service as a centerpiece. Under this proposal the Forest Service and SCS would remain in Agriculture, and the Bureau of Land Management, most likely, moved to Agriculture from Interior.



FIRE BRIGADE FUND RAISING DRIVE BEGINS

By FRANK PINNEY

What if you had a fire and nobody came to help? Or, what if someone came out but the equipment wouldn't function? Some of us have thought of that possibility as we put another dry madrone log in the stove and feel the heat radiate out from the firebox. Fire in the home is a devastating personal tragedy, and especially for those of us who live in a remote area.

The Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade was founded three years ago to assure that in our community there would always be someone to come to help if you have a fire. The Brigade is just neighbors helping out, donating their time and energy to insure that we have a professional-quality-structure fire service in Big Sur. We are on call 24 hours a day every day and all volunteers. If Big Sur turned over its fire protection to a State Special Fire District, supported by taxes, the annual bill would run well over \$100,000 for what we are now providing. But we feel the job can be done better for less with no extra taxation if each of us does his share.

Firefighters, like Don Krausfeldt who lives and works at CalTrans, have given uncounted hours to help prepare ourselves for the kind of emergency which occurred at Nepenthe, one Friday night last fall, when the flue burned out. Don and his wife Jean were waiting for dinner when the flames broke through. He jumped into action and helped suppress the fire while diners cleared the restaurant. The Brigade arrived with equipment, Don helped with the mop-up and clean-up, and then sat down with Jean to enjoy their delayed dinner. Saturday, Don spent the whole day with four other Brigade members at the oil fire class in

Monterey. Saturday night Don rolled out with Engine No. 196 from CalTrans and worked the fire line at the Lime Creek cabin fire. Don's experience only represents the dozens of similar stories of the support our firefighters are giving to the community. We have more than 20 volunteer firefighters donating thousands of hours of their time and our records show that we can do the job.

We have three important areas to manage to be able to fulfill our mission. First is manpower and training, and the second is communications. We have put in a lot of attention on these two areas and feel we are well on our way. The third area is equipment readiness. This area involves the acquisition and maintenance of tools and equipment to fight fires and it is here we need help from you.

We have been fortunate in the past that older equipment from state agencies has been made available at a relatively low cost. With the efforts of Brigade members this recycled equipment has been put into operating conditions and maintained. Now, with budget cuts, however, agencies are holding on to their older equipment and it is no longer generally available.

We have need now for a fast-attack pump truck and major upgrades to our existing equipment to modernize and increase our capability at a fire scene. This will cost in time and energy as well as money. With help from people like Don Krausfeldt, we now can supply the former, but we need your help for the money. Now more than ever we need your support to help us maintain and move ahead with improved fire-fighting services for our community.



ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF Pat Chamberlain feeds hose to nozzlemann Frank Trotter during a structure fire training session at the old River Village. Photo by Paula Walling.

Maybe in Montana, but Never in Big Sur

Reprinted from the Herald

BOZEMAN, Mont. (AP) — A stream of profanity blistered the ear of Bozeman Fire Chief Bud Simpson when he answered the telephone.

"It was two people talking, and they called him everything they could, with a lot of profanity," City Manager Sam Gesko said Wednesday. "As near as we could tell, they were calling from New York or New Jersey."

The call was the worst in a series of critical telephone calls from around the country—and some from Canada and Australia—which city officials have received since a rural fire association allowed a house to burn down because the owner hadn't paid his membership fee.

But it was a private association—not the city fire department—involved, Gesko pointed out, and the home was seven miles outside city limits, where the city's authority ends.

The city fire department was not summoned and "was in no way involved in this unfortunate fire, nor in attempting or refusing to extinguish it," Gesko said Wednesday in a statement aimed at disassociating the city from the fire.

Call from Houston

"I had another call this morning from Houston," Gesko said later. "It was not as abusive, but very critical. They just wanted to vent their wrath on any jurisdiction that would do anything like that."

Not only officials are feeling the heat. A Bozeman firefighter said:

"The general consensus of the guys is to lay low and not tell anybody who you are right now."

NUDE SUNBATHER DESTROYS HELICOPTER

BIG SUR—According to a recent item in Legal Eagles News, a publication for lawyer-pilots, "While a helicopter pilot landed to ask a young lady sunbathing in the nude for a date, his helicopter fell over on its side and beat itself to death."

Owners sued the manufacturers, the State of California whose non-pilot fire fighters were on board, and the firm which rebuilt the helicopter into a different configuration.

The accident occurred during a flight where three California fire fighters were on their way to fight a fire in the Big Sur area. En route, they spotted a young lady sunbathing in the nude. First, the pilot circled taking pictures; then he landed to ask the lady for a date. Unfortunately, he left the helicopter running and three passengers on board.

While the pilot was talking to the girl, one of the passengers felt the helicopter coming off the ground and pushed the cyclic control forward. The helicopter promptly fell on its side and destroyed itself. There were no injuries.

As they say in the television detective programs, the facts are not in question. The plaintiff's theory was that a positive control lock should have been in the bird to prevent anyone from moving the controls while the pilot left three passengers on board the running helicopter.

Defendants argued that under the circumstances of the pilot's anxiety to make a date, he would not have bothered to install control locks in any event.

Although the trial lasted three weeks, it took the jury 40 minutes to decide in favor of the defense. We do not know if the pilot managed to get a date with the sun-bather or not.—NPA Pilot Report.

Members of the Rae Fire Department began fighting the fire early Saturday at the home of the Harry Petroff family, who had begun moving in only 10 hours earlier.

An hour later, when firefighters discovered Petroff hadn't paid the \$40 fee to join the rural fire district, they quit.

"They had the fire almost smothered out. Then they just shut their hoses off and watched it burn," Petroff said.

Frank Trunk, president of the Rae Fire Department, offered no apologies Wednesday for the incident. He said his men had no choice.

"... Our responsibility lies with the membership and our volunteer firemen," Trunk said. "The insurance coverage we have for the protection of our volunteer firemen covers them only when they fight a member fire ..."

"I think it's real unfair for the public to expect these people to go out on a non-member fire, risk being hurt or killed and have no protection for themselves or their families."

Members-Only Policy

Years ago, the district fought all fires and billed property owners, but people almost never paid, Trunk said. That led to adoption of the members-only policy, he said.

Petroff said after the fire he didn't know he had to pay a fee for fire protection. Trunk said Petroff's real estate agent, insurance company or mortgage company should have notified him.

"I really think a man has some responsibility to himself to find out what the conditions of the area are," Trunk said. "He certainly looks to see if there is gas or electricity, that he's got water or whatever. Why doesn't he look for fire protection?"

BOOK SALES PUT OUT FIRE!

by Louis Eisenberg

Due to extensive interior remodeling of the main lodge at Pfeiffer State Park the paperback books sold by the Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade have been moved to a new location.

The book shelves are now in the Recreation Hall which is the large building in the cottage rental area.

In the two years the books were sold in the Lodge lounge, \$2,127.19 was raised to help support our Brigade.

Please continue to help stock the bookshelves by donating your used books.

There is lots of great reading material available at book sale prices.

Until the middle of May, paperbacks are on sale at three for one dollar.

Hard cover books are on sale at fifty cents each.

From May 15 to Thanksgiving, the price of books will be fifty cents each for paperbacks and one dollar each for hard covers.

Help put out a fire in Big Sur -- give or buy a book.

Support Your



Send
tax-deductible
donations to:

CHIEF
WALTER TROTTER
Big Sur, CA 93920

Man Rescued---- Partner Missing

From the Herald

A San Luis Obispo man was rescued and another is missing and presumed drowned off Pfeiffer Beach south of Big Sur.

Sheriff's deputies reported that Daniel Hayes, 25, of San Luis Obispo was pulled to safety by U.S. Forest Service rangers Wednesday evening but his fishing partner, Walter Hartung, 23, also of San Luis Obispo, was swept into the sea by a wave and has not been found.

Deputies said Jill Schlesinger of San Francisco heard a man calling for help at the beach Wednesday at 5:07 p.m. The man was stranded on a cliff and told her his friend had been pulled into the water by waves.

A MAST (Military Assistance to Safety and Traffic) helicopter from the

237th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) at Fort Ord flew Sheriff's Sgt. John R. Crisan and another deputy to Pfeiffer Beach from Monterey Peninsula Airport, where state and federal forest rangers searched the beach area and found and rescued Hayes, deputies said.

Crisan reported that the helicopter made an aerial search of the waters off Pfeiffer Beach, despite high winds and rain, while rangers and deputies combed the shore. No trace of Hartung was found.

According to deputies, Hayes said he and Hartung were fishing from a natural cave at the base of the cliff near the beach when a big wave came in and caught the two of them.

Hayes said he was able to swim to the beach but that Hartung disappeared in the waves.

1st Annual Big Sur in Concert

FRIDAY, MAY 4th
SATURDAY, MAY 5th

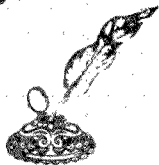
8 P.M.
Grange Hall

\$3.00 Advance \$4.00 at the door

For tickets call:

Mary Harrington
667-2521

Peter Stock
667-2225



Views and Viewpoints

The Unification of Big Sur

By Design or Decree?

by Paula Walling

"I would be willing to get along with less information about this or that officeholder's tax return or bedroom activities if I could get him or her to speak more clearly about matters of public policy," wrote Edwin Newman.

While Congressman Panetta no doubt has an irreproachable record on the first and second topics, Big Sur constituents will surely have wince and wonder at the third when they read his letter to the Citizen Advisory Committee reprinted in this issue.

Congressman Panetta's letter does not "speak clearly on matters of public policy." Instead, it was written in impeccable Politicalese, a language best understood by sifting our content words and omitting all others. Doing so, one finds one message, one word to the people of Big Sur: "Unify, unify, unify!" (Thoreau strode the woods years back with a better one, one we'd all like the chance to get back to: "Simplify, simplify, simplify.")

Unify. As though there were no value in differences of opinion. Unify. While it is one thing to suggest it, it is quite another to impose it. Unify. Our congressman decrees it. This brings about the following questions and comments to Mr. Panetta:

You state that if we "refuse or fail to unify behind the work of the CAC, it will be difficult, if not impossible to get federal agencies to cooperate in such an effort." What effort? As if it were an "effort" to keep them out of Big Sur. A U.S.F.S or national park, seashore, reserve, preserve, monument or anything else cannot come into being without its being sanctioned by a local representative. (And Big Sur people are aware that much wining and dining over the subject does go on.)

Back to clarity. If the message in your letter is something other than a threat, you ought to clarify it immediately. If it is in fact a threat, then we must deal with it accordingly.

We do not wish our land to become a battleground for two belligerent federal agencies, the Department of Agriculture (U.S.F.S.) and the Department of Interior (National Park Service). Our natural resources have been well stewarded which is why there is so much beautiful land for outsiders to "save."

Local people have been busy protecting the land - often from state and federal mismanagement - since the time the land needed protecting. It is a commitment we accept gladly - whether or not we agree with one another on the particulars.

If there is one thing that can unify Big Sur people

however, it is the overt threat of outside interference, something you well know from the two anti-nationalization petitions signed last spring by every thinking person on the coast. You say in your letter that the basis for your withdrawing your \$350,000 study was to get "local citizens working on an overall plan for the management and preservation of Big Sur." But you indicated to one local person that you backed away because you feared Big Sur citizens would incorporate.

We want to keep our art, history, crafts, music, literature and way of life intact, alive, meaningful. Jeffers didn't go to a national park or U.S.F.S. Recreational Area to write. He chose freer surroundings.

Federal parks are for postcard writing, not manuscripts; picture-taking, not painting; organized tourism, not discovery. We don't want to see our artisans' works replaced by concessionaires who sell empty sea shells, cheap remains of once-living entities.

We are not some kind of geological freak show, we have no Pleistocene gimmicks to glorify the slide shows of mediocre photographers. Mediocrity of any kind does not fare well here.

Nor do we want the rest of the Monterey Peninsula to suffer the fallout that occurs on the outskirts of a federal tourist attraction.

A tourist from the Cape Cod National Seashore recently spoke of the enormous impact on the areas outside the Seashore boundaries, the instantaneous appearance of fast food chains, motels, curio shops. No one could stop them, she said.

Carmel Valley would be overrun in such an event, as would the Highlands and the rest of the Peninsula, not to mention the fragile tide pools of San Luis Obispo County.

You say you will give us a year in which you "will take no legislative action." In a year, who knows, gas rationing or outlandish gasoline prices may well have made the entire planning process a moot issue, the *deus ex machina* for Big Sur and the rest of the Monterey Peninsula. If not, the people of the Monterey Peninsula and especially Big Sur have a right to know what "legislative action" you do plan.

As our representative, you were elected to serve minorities (not self-serving minorities who have great gains to make at the expense of the land) but the real minorities, the little people who care about where they live - else why would they stay? We want to keep Big Sur's boundaries, "boundaries of granite and spray," as Jeffers saw them. But we are not just rocks and pounding surf. We are flesh and blood as well. We deserve respect. Once again we are asking for it.

LETTER TO PANETTA....NEVER ANSWERED

(Editor's Note: The following letter to the editor appeared in the March 9, 1978 issue of the Carmel Pine Cone with the headline "Sur and Panetta." It is reprinted here as background information for the readers of this month's viewpoint)

Dear Editor:

I intend this as an open letter to Representative Leon Panetta:

To what extent are you involved in the presently unannounced project to nationalize the Big Sur coastline? I feel this question went unanswered in private discussion so now I ask it publicly. The people of Monterey County deserve to know of anything that will affect their lives (and their taxes) so radically as this Turnage, Adams, Farr and Shaw proposal to turn the county into a national parking lot.

In our discussion, you said, "Bill (W. A. Turnage) thinks we ought to just come down there and take over. I don't feel that way." I don't find his statement comforting, nor your answer to it reassuring.

Also, you said you favor the term "national reserve." What does that mean exactly? Run by the National Park Service, it would still serve to put Big Sur on more maps, all of which has me wondering who stands to make all the money, to own the parking lots, to build the restrooms, to feed and house tourists?

Have you asked the residents of Monterey County if they want their tax base eroded by such a massive federal land grab as this? Have you asked them if they want thousands more cars and busses per day on the Peninsula streets and highways? Have you asked them if they favor airport expansion to service such a national and international influx of visitors? Have you asked them if they want the crime rate that comes with a national park?

You asked me, "Do you think we shouldn't do anything?" Of course not. I wouldn't bother with this if I felt that way. Our main problem is limiting numbers of people, not inviting

more. You don't have to invite people here - they come. Let's not make it any worse than it is by pointing to it with bigger road signs.

If you must do something, help us plan. If you are sincere, attend our meetings. Perhaps there is federal money available for an outstanding planner. (But don't give us the like of the Hall-Goodhue plan. That was \$23,000 of state funds down the drain and not worth the paper it was written on.)

We must protect our coastline from overuse the way we protect anything else of value. Efforts to "save" Big Sur only serve to call attention to it. Such efforts will backfire if you mount a national campaign to do so.

The residents of Big Sur have been faithfully attending meetings and offering worthy suggestions for several years now - suggestions which in many cases reflect a lifetime of familiarity with the land. Overdevelopment concerns us deeply - so do grandiose plans for an impersonal Curry Company-style park development.

Instead, we need the complete support of the County Planning Department and the Board of Supervisors - working in conjunction with the State Coastal Commission - to assist us in the planning process.

As a community, we are getting frustrated. The county ordinances we now have need enforcing. Many need updating. Monterey County is entrusted with protecting this extraordinary coastline and working together we can do it - with good long-range planning. We need to take the initiative ourselves, not pass the buck to the federal bureaucracy.

A planner, to be sensitive to the area, must be local. He or she must be in touch with the needs of the people of Monterey County and the special problems facing each area - whether it be Carmel Valley, Salinas, or Big Sur. A planner must be able to *listen* as well as plan. So must a member of Congress.

Paula Walling
Big Sur

Viewpoints

Here are some rules:

Letters, preferably typed, should not exceed 300 words. The Gazette reserves the right to edit or reject letters which do not meet its standards of good taste, accuracy, and length. Letters must bear the name, mailing address, location and telephone number of the writer. Only your name and "Big Sur" (or elsewhere) will be printed. No anonymous letters accepted for publication.

APPALLED

Dear Editor:

We read in the Chronicle the other day of your plight to preserve your area as the unique place that it is. La Honda has protected itself thus far in a similar manner. Even though we're in San

Mateo County, we are a private community. We annually elect a new board of directors to the Guild (the Guild being our governing body made up of all the home and landowners who live here).

Issue Missed

Dear Gazette:

Perhaps I never did receive the September issue, or perhaps the second half of "Lion in the Rain-Rinsed Morning" was never published in the Gazette. I must know what happened. Please send me the September Gazette or let me know where I can read the rest of this saga.

Your paper is terrific; each month I am reminded how much I love the Big Sur area. Congratulations on your success.

Joann Rogers-Andrews

The directors report on all goings-on in each of their fields (public works director, finance director, real estate director, etc.) at each Guild meeting so the whole community can decide courses of action (if any) to be taken to best maintain and protect our community.

The going's not always easy, but it certainly pays off. Otherwise, there'd probably be condominiums and tract houses all over these hills (like Half Moon Bay).

So, anyway, we wish you much success.

Devora Bratton,
La Honda

GUILD

Dear Editor:

I am appalled and horrified by the various proposals for development on the Peninsula, in the Valley, and especially in Big Sur.

The vitality and validity of the area is based on a balance easily altered, most often destructively, by man; yet, even with advanced, sophisticated technology, beyond his/our ability to recreate.

We must preserve and nurture our interactions with our natural and elemental origins; or, like other species before us, dissolve into a too-early oblivion. Incorporation? Rezoning? Commissions? If any of the plans for development reported on in the Feb. 26th San Francisco Chronicle should ever pass into a working phase we can all kiss the area goodbye,

because it will not remain all the beautiful things it is with that kind of mindless, insensitive development.

For those of us who have long been nurtured spiritually and encouraged artistically by the area, further development is a compromise too high in price producing a loss too great to endure. For many of us who have long been soothed psychologically and inspired creatively by the area the development has already gone too far. Enough already! Let us put a halt to further development before, in addition to going beyond the boundaries of taste, development also destroys two of our most necessary ingredients for survival: our link with our spirituality and a clear perspective of our universality.

David Loring

CORRECTIONS

Two typographic errors appeared in the February issue. Both errors were in the Ventana Inn feature article.

The first error read, "Inconclusive is the ultimate fear of the remaining 20 units..." The sentence should have read, "Inconclusive is the ultimate **fate** of the remaining 20 units, which Commissioners felt should be determined by the Local Coastal Program planning process."

The second error read, "The letters had every right and ability to foreclose..." The correct wording in this statement by Mr. Lawrence Spector should have read, "The **lenders** had every right and ability to foreclose, but they have decided to give us time to come up with a workable management plan for the commission's approval of 16 units at this time."

The Big Sur Gazette regrets any misunderstanding or confusion by these errors.

The Big Sur Gazette

Gary Koepfel Publisher and Editor
Paula Walling Executive Editor
Ronni Bloom Webster General Manager
Claire Chappeller Advertising Director
Contributing Staff Writers:

Jeff Norman, William Witherup, Claire Chappeller,
Frank Pinney, Mary Harrington, Jo Hudson,
Bob Douglas, Sterling Doughty, Araby Colton,
Elayne W. Fitzpatrick-Grimm

Published Monthly September through May
and Semi-Monthly June through August

VOL. 2, NO. 3 MARCH, 1979

P.O. Box 125, Big Sur, California 93920

Telephone (408) 667-2222 1979

Subscription Rates: One Year (12 issues) \$5.00; outside Monterey County \$8.00; out of state \$12.00; foreign \$19.00.

El Rio Grande Del Sur

By STERLING DOUGHTY

The tribe gathered in the center of the sacred grove of redwood trees around the council fire, sheltered from the heavy snow of the harshest winter in memory. The elders made the sign and the scouting reports were related to the group. From every facet of their pre-homogenous community came similar sad reports. The "interested parties" were coming in droves. They carried strange reams of rice paper covered with characters too numerous for even the most scholarly to comprehend. The strangers were at first welcomed as was the custom of the days yet now the complexities of this new context perplexed the citizens to the point of requesting the most rare of phenomena in their culture, the serious meeting.

Umtek, (the more or less wise), as the elder, rose to pose the question. "Nemahu (the tribal name: those who live in harmony with the turning) you have heard the stories and you know that this is a new time. For us life is magic and music and understanding. For the Xzennywok (the new ones, whose heads are full of paper and for whom the rainbow is grey) our life is unjust. We in our weakness have inadequate conception of the regulation, the rule, the uniform. We have not understood the necessity of money and power to continue to live. There is hardly one of us who can grasp the essence of the new teaching of hypocrisy. Truly we have been shown a sign. The new ones prophecy of being the last to build the mansions of protection before the gates are shut to all others save those whose creed is of the locust. They have come from the places of the great smoke to save us from this life of grace. And their brethren shall not be permitted to join them in the mansions but will be encouraged to "visit" and pray in the way of their ancestors, reverently discarding the used vessels amongst our flowers, glimpsing the glimpse of what can no longer be seen in their homelands, for our present is for them only the long distant past. Truly our land is now too important for us to continue to live with it. The Xzennywok must make their prayers and the guardians of the Xzennywok will exact their tribute from the great feeding lots at the ends of the natural land."

As tears make no sound the silence of the tribe remained unbroken although the great trees moaned in empathy with the saddened hearts. Paranom (he who speaks from the spirit) softly spoke, "The eagle sent me to the peak and valley. The vision came and filled me with the light. We must journey for the lives of many elders, half a hoop across the northern lands. We shall carry the seeds of our great friends the trees and when we stand again in warmth where from high places we shall see the endless water. Then we shall plant the seeds and for the life of the longest tree we shall again have our peace."

And so it was that the Nemahu (whose name became in the new place Esselen) began their journey from the mountains of Central China to the land we know as BIG SUR.

BEST OF LUCK

Dear Editor:

Just wanted to express my deep appreciation for sending me those back copies of the Gazette. We've enjoyed them thoroughly.

The subject of incorporation is a complicated one, certainly, and will undoubtedly be highly controversial until it gets settled one way or another.

I wish the Gazette a long and happy life, even though there may be a handful of skeptics around Big Sur who don't seem to approve of such an ambitious undertaking. However, I feel its time had come, just as—perhaps—incorporation's time has come, although about this latter I'm with the majority who need to know more. Well, you've got a heavy responsibility with the Gazette to keep everyone well informed pro and con, and so does even the roundup. Some old-timers and diehards will resist being dragged into the modern world, and I can even sympathize with their point of view (re both incorporation and the Gazette itself), but I can't help feeling that history will take its course, as it inevitably does one way or the other.

Meanwhile, all the best of luck with it.

Randy Larson

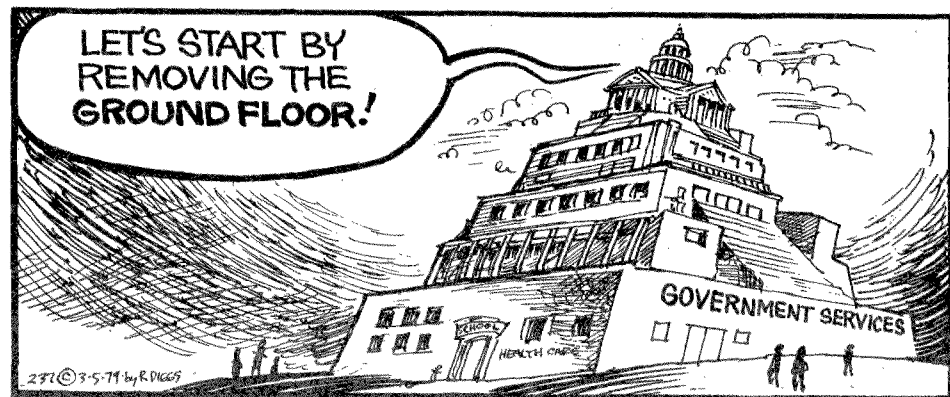
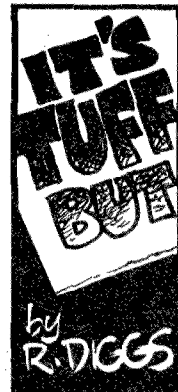
PROP 13 CUTS AT CAPTAIN COOPER

As part of the overall cut in public spending mandated by Proposition 13, the Carmel Unified School District faces a budget reduction of as much as \$700,000.

Already the school nurse, Mary Clayton, who has been visiting Captain Cooper Elementary School since its opening, has been given notice she will not be rehired (after 26 years of service).

The position of instrumental music teacher also is scheduled to be eliminated. Special education teacher Lori Perkins' position will also be cut. Several other staff cuts are possible.

"The uncertainty is very debilitating," said Bob Douglas, principal and 4th and 5th grade teacher at Captain Cooper. "We already lost all of our field trips, now we stand to lose all our paper, pencils, P.E. equipment, office supplies and we're cer-



Guest Editorial

We have a few thoughts to offer you today about those farmers bivouacked down on the Mall with their tractors.

When the Great Snow descended upon the city, the tractors and the farm trucks with four-wheel drive had no trouble at all moving around a city that was in distress.

The farmers used their equipment to meet genuine emergencies—getting patients to hospitals and, perhaps even more urgent, ferrying nurses and doctors who were needed there. Some of the tractor drivers worked straight through the night. We'd like to thank them for it!

At police headquarters, a line of badly needed cars got buried under the snow and then doubly buried when a city plow went past. The city's tow trucks couldn't rescue them. A farmer with a tractor pulled them out. He wouldn't give his name, but only said that he was from Oklahoma.

You should also know that a farmer with a plow cleared the alley into this newspaper's loading docks. Not every subscriber got a paper, but the score was a good deal better than it would have been without that tractor's help. Our gratitude goes to the farmers.

The farmers were as generous and helpful as they were exasperating and obstructive when they first came to town. Circumstances changed with that snowfall, and they showed themselves to be the best kind of neighbors in a storm.

We take their performance in the blizzard as a reminder of the harsh and uncertain weather in which farmers carry on their daily lives. They are equipped for severe conditions, as most of us in Washington are not.

The farmers came here, tractors and all, to remind the capital of a way of life that is in danger. Their remedy is higher support for farm prices. We still think that their remedy is a bad idea, for reasons that threaten the family farm as much as the consumer's budget.

But the farmers successfully recalled to this city values that lie beyond economics.

Washington Post, Washington, D.C.



THE PAT HATHAWAY COLLECTION

Pat Hathaway, Photo Archivist
HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS

568 Lighthouse Ave., Studio 5
Pacific Grove, California 93950

(408) 373-3811
By Appointment

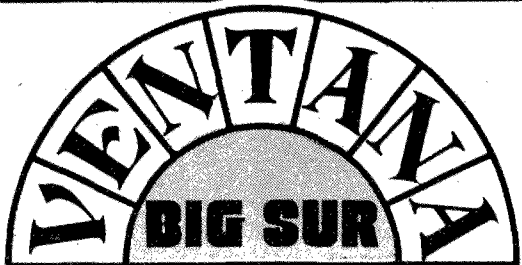
To Gazette Readers:

DEADLINES
for
Letters to the Editor
ARE THE
FIRST
THURSDAY
OF EVERY MONTH

In Big Sur

DIAL 911

in case of
emergency



Photography by Horst Mayer

A Country Inn and Restaurant in Big Sur

Ventana Inn --

an authentic year-round country inn providing ocean-view peace and privacy. Featuring Japanese hot baths, saunas, heated swimming pool, and complimentary continental breakfast.

Ventana Restaurant --

award-winning cuisine in an elegant, yet informal, ocean-view setting. Cocktails, lunch and dinner, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., every day of the year.

Ventana Store --

a country store of yesteryear, located adjacent to the Restaurant offering new standards of quality and uniqueness to gift-giving.

28 miles South of Carmel on Highway One

For Information & Reservations, Call (408) 667-2331 or Write: Ventana, Big Sur, CA 93920

Hallett Speaks

Reprinted from The Cambrian

When California voters passed Proposition 20 in 1972, the initiative created a temporary commission charged with formulating a permanent plan for coastal development and protection.

The result—The California Coastal Plan—was submitted to the legislature in December 1975. Then, in 1976, the legislature passed the California coastal act, which set up our current coastal commission and its six regional counterparts to accomplish recommendations set forth in the original plan.

The coastal commission has become a bureaucratic Frankenstein. It appears that in the name of protecting coastal land, the commission has trodden on the constitutional rights of many coastal landowners.

One example of commission excesses was publicized after last year's devastating fires and storms along the southern California coast. Beachfront residents who wanted to rebuild homes or repair damaged embankments were denied necessary permits unless they agreed to grant the state some of their property for "public access."

In another case, a coastal property owner in Mendocino county was denied a permit to build a single-family dwelling because the commission staff said that the state parks and recreation department might be interested in buying his land. The acquisition was dependent on future funding

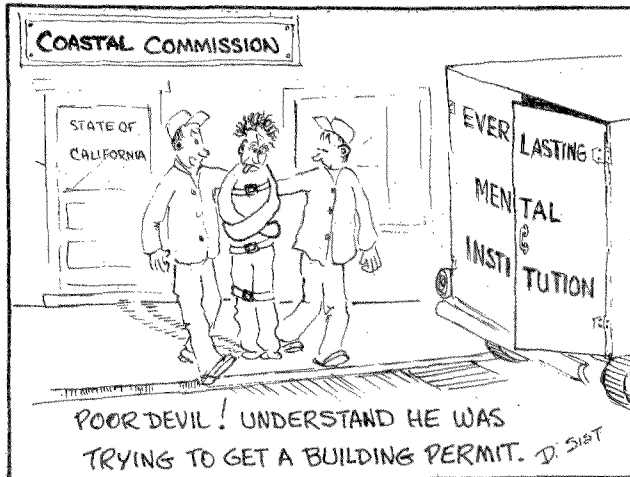
available to the department. After a five-year delay, the property owner was finally told that no funding was available to purchase his land. But, he had paid property taxes on land which he was unable to sell or use.

The commission has also come under criticism for failing to meet the prime objective of the 1976 Coastal Act—to encourage the development of local programs so that responsibility for the coastal zone can be returned to local government. At least, this is the conclusion of a study conducted by California research.

For example, local plans sent to the commission for approval are rejected because they are inadequate, but inadequate guidance is available from the commission to help local governments meet commission requirements. As a result, the state maintains its control of coastal areas, while regional commissions, which are supposed to be phased out as local programs are approved, continue to maintain control.

The legislature has to assure the implementation of the coastal act as it was intended. If current commission members are unwilling to work toward a return to local control, they should be replaced. And, if the coastal act itself is unclear and allows too much leeway for the commission, then it will have to be amended by the legislature.

Carol Hallett, Assemblywoman



COASTAL APPLICATION TO "START AGAIN FROM SCRATCH"

From the Herald

SANTA CRUZ—Trailing a year and a half of red tape, two coastal permit applicants Monday found themselves back at square one.

E. Martin and M. Bal, who won a court fight against a 200-acre scenic easement required by the Central Coast commission, came back Monday for a "de novo" hearing on their request for a 1,200-square-foot ridgetop house north of the Rocky Creek on the Big Sur coast.

"De novo" is Latin for start again from scratch, and that's what Deputy Attorney General Charles Getz told commissioners they had to do in light of a ruling by Superior Court Judge D. Richard Barelli that they had shown no substantial evidence to justify the scenic easement.

Barelli handed down his ruling in July 1978. Getz first appealed, then dropped the appeal in December 1978, allowing the case to come before commissioners again as Barelli had ordered.

Easement Required

Martin and Bal want to build a house on a 632-acre ranch. Commissioners granted the permit but required a scenic easement covering all parts of the property within sight of Highway 1.

The applicants' attorney, Sam Foster, argued Monday that Barelli's order throwing out the easement made matters simple for commissioners and a full-blown rehearing was not needed.

"The land hasn't moved, nor has the traffic changed,"

Foster said. "All considerations have already been considered. The court has ordered you to reconsider in the light of its ruling that you cannot confiscate 200 acres of land in return for a permit to build a 1,200-square-foot house. It does not require a new road, there's no adverse water effect, the house will be low-sod construction with shrubs surrounding it. The only thing wrong was the 20-acre scenic easement."

But Getz advised commissioners that they were free "to do as seems appropriate" in reconsidering the case and could even deny the permit if they chose.

Visible From Highway

Coastal planner Lee Otter said the building site could be seen from four points on Highway 1 but was about a mile distant from the "closest significant public viewpoint," the pullout at Rocky Creek Bridge to the south.

"Other houses are closer to the road but do not present a skyline profile," Otter said.

Sierra Club spokesman Carl Larson said the club had been satisfied with the earlier easement but opposed the permit without it.

Commissioner Zad Leavy noted that the house would be visible from Rocky Creek and Bixby Creek bridges as well as other points on the highway.

Leavy noted that the Citizen Advisory Committee working on the Big Sur Local Coastal Program recommended that ridgetop development be discouraged.

The commission's hearing on the Martin and Bal application was left open for the time being.

HALLETT HAUNTED

From the Californian

By ERIC BRAZIL

SACRAMENTO (GNS)—"Horried" is the way Assemblywoman Carol Hallett said Wednesday she feels in retrospect about her vote last session to extend the lives of the state regional coastal commissions.

It was a mistake, the Atascadero Republican said.

The California Coastal Commission is out of control, and constituent complaints about regional commission abuses are "an incredible amount of input" to her office, she said.

Proposition 20, an initiative, enacted the California Coastal Act of 1972, and created a state commission to supervise the coastal management program and six regional commissions to implement state policies.

The regional commissions were to have gone out of business Jan. 1, 1979, but a bill extending their lives two years slipped quietly past the legislature on Aug. 29 in half-hysterical confusion that accompanies the end of a session.

Foes of the regional commissions, which have life-and-death power over coastal zone development, say the commissions have imposed a no-growth policy from San Diego to Crescent City and have no intention of going out of business.

The bill extending the commissions' lives, AB 3478 by Assemblyman Bruce Nestande, R-Orange, "passed when no one was paying attention," Hallett said. "I can guarantee you that won't happen again. I voted for it, and I was horrified after I did it."

Hallett's colleagues who represent Monterey County, Assemblyman Henry Mello, D-Watsonville, and Sen. Robert Nimmo, R-Atascadero, have both introduced bills to amend the Coastal Act in response to specific constituent complaints.

Hallett hasn't decided whether she'll carry a coastal bill, even though she believes the state coastal commission has become "a bureaucratic Frankenstein."

She shares Nimmo's view that the constituency to force

massive change in the act doesn't exist yet, but "it's growing. People who were totally supportive of it two years ago are now getting concerned. They're starting to say 'wait a minute ...'"

Hallett said she is reluctant to get behind Mello's bill, which would make several boundary adjustments, because "the people are fearful that the boundaries may be extended inland."

(Mello has said he would not propose inland extensions not requested by people in his district. The commission is conducting its own study of possible boundary changes, and it may be that study Hallett's constituents are worried about, she said.)

The Coastal Act has provided almost impervious to legislators who want to amend it. Just one boundary change bill, making minor adjustments in the vicinity of Los Angeles International Airport and San Juan Capistrano passed last year.

Hallett said the complaints reaching her indicate the state and regional commissions are in effect extorting public access from coastal zone homeowners as a condition of rebuilding storm-and-fire-damaged homes. They also are thwarting development out of caprice, refusing permits in areas potentially useable as parks, even though no public funding is available for them, she said.

When residents of Southern California's Malibu area complained about the commission's insistence on public access as a condition of issuing repair permits in the aftermath of heavy storms, Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. denounced "bureaucratic thugs," who would take advantage of natural disasters to extend their turf.

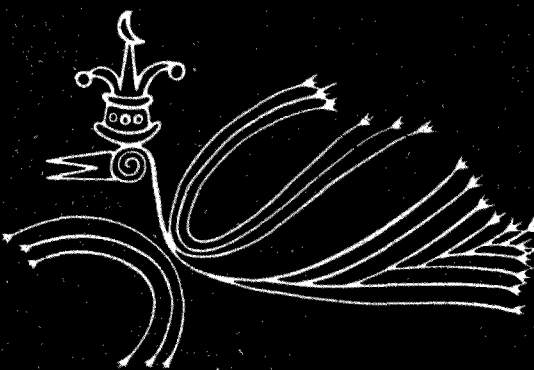
He hasn't commented on the issue since. "If enough pressure were put on the governor we might see some follow-through," Hallett said.

Nimmo's three coastal bills—altering Marina's boundary, giving Pacific Grove permission to trim its own trees without a regional commission permit and eliminating the commission's jurisdiction over some public parking areas—get their first committee hearings March 13.

EXPECT



THE REMARKABLE



THE PHOENIX

Highway 1 Big Sur California 93920



Records • Tapes Discount Prices

Fine Jewelry Sensibly Priced

3700 The Barnyard
Carmel, CA 93923
Phone (408) 625-1229

Free Record Cleaning
Cloth with this ad. No
purchase necessary.

COUNTRYMART

Gifts • Housewares • Toys

Amusing Items

(408) 372-0303

184 Country Club Gate Center • Pacific Grove 93950

Fernwood

Restaurant • Store
Bar • Service Station

CAMPGROUND

MOTEL

667-2422

Highway 1, Big Sur

New! Daily Chef Specials!

Lunch \$3.50 Dinner \$4.95

Elaine Staalenburg



HANDMADE

Velour
Clothes

Sew Softly

P.O. Box 66

Big Sur, CA 93920

408-373-4529

ALTERNATIVES TO INCORPORATION

[Editor's Note: Supervisor Sam Farr and LAFCO Chairman Michael Moore are holding a workshop on governmental alternatives for unincorporated areas on March 16 in Salinas.

The GAZETTE will print a summary of their "Guide" next issue. The following has been excerpted from Bill Zion's feasibility study. It addresses incorporation and the alternatives.]

GOVERNMENTAL ALTERNATIVES

This section assumes the major needs of the area are those stated earlier as the purposes of incorporation. There may be a variety of other or lesser needs and problems perceived by various individuals. If so, they can probably be fitted into the framework for analysis used here. The alternatives that will be considered are the five set forth in "Choices for the Unincorporated Community," the report cited earlier, namely:

- Incorporation
- Independent District
- Dependent District
- Municipal Advisory Council
- Area Planning Commission

Of the five, only incorporation changes the basic legal status of Big Sur from an unincorporated area to an incorporated town. The other four are variants of ways an unincorporated area can either influence county policy or improve services through local taxing districts. Thus the first issue discussed here is the difference between incorporated and unincorporated status. It will also serve to describe the incorporation alternative.

1. Incorporated versus Unincorporated Status

A county is responsible for a number of services countywide: welfare; health; courts; criminal prosecution and detention; finance (assessing, tax collection, etc.); library; regional parks; and various inspectional and administrative services. It is responsible for certain services, and has certain powers, only in the unincorporated area: police protection by the Sheriff; roads; planning; building inspection; and what is called the "police power"—the authority to regulate a wide variety of activities, if it chooses, in the interest of the public health, safety and welfare.

A common complaint of unincorporated communities is that the county is "too far away," is not responsive to local needs and attitudes, or follows policies at variance with local preferences. This system is often seen as unrepresentative by small communities, in that they are traditionally represented at the county level by only one supervisor out of five, and even he may have a much larger constituency elsewhere in his district whose attitudes are at variance with the small community, particularly if it has unusual characteristics. Thus there may be the local impression that the most important local governmental decisions about the community—those concerning land use, development, and environmental protection, and future community character generally—are beyond local control or even significant influence. Hence the heavy emphasis on "local control" and the lack of county responsiveness in most recent incorporations.

Incorporation gives a town the following:

- a. All the regulatory powers the county previously exercised, in particular planning and land use control.
- b. As the only constitutionally-authorized "general unit of local government" a community can have, a town government is a much more legitimate spokesman for the community than the other alternatives in dealing with other agencies of government. A town could, for an extreme example, sue the county, state or federal governments across a wide range of possible disputes. More positively, Big Sur would be an official participant in many county-wide and regional groups and activities.
- c. Responsibility, transferred from the county, for policing and roads, and their costs. The town does not have to provide these itself, and can contract with the county or others for them. It also decides the level at which these and other optional services are provided.
- d. None of these transfers of power or responsibility occur with the special district alternatives.

Incorporation also gives a city a wide variety of revenues, before levying any new local taxes. These include fixed shares of the gas tax, vehicle licenses, and other revenues the state collects for cities. It includes transfer from the county to the city of such local tax revenues as the sales and hotel-motel taxes, and it includes federal revenue-sharing. Other automatic city revenues include franchises, fines, property transfer tax, and mobile home fees. The city can also levy new local taxes, such as business licenses. None of the above are available to the special district alternatives. Proposition 13 has thrown a cloud over how much property tax, if any, a new city or district would receive. A city may also undertake almost any new service it wants and can finance, while, as noted below, districts are more limited in this regard. A key consideration is whether the revenues noted will be sufficient to finance the needed kinds and levels of city services. This varies from community to community; there are cities that need no property tax, and others with very high property taxes, at least prior to Prop. 13. This report attempts to answer that question in later sections.

Turning to the purposes of the Big Sur incorporation, the principal advantage of the town alternative in achieving those purposes appears to lie in the planning and

land use control powers and responsibilities the town would have. Cities are required by state law to adopt a much more detailed general plan than that required of the county for unincorporated communities. In some cities these plans are intended just to meet the state minimums. At Big Sur, as is set forth later, there appears to be support to develop a truly working environmental general plan and implementation program that contain special elements on scenic beauty, water supply protection, public safety, and rural community character.

2. Independent District

This type of district has its own elected governing board, like a city, and is entirely separate from the county, except for tax-collecting and legal services. Districts have been financed primarily with property taxes. Districts are not authorized to take over control of planning, land use control, environmental protection, and services from the county, as cities are, nor can they do much to preserve the character of an area, since they do not have the regulatory power or political/legal standing of a city. A district's principal purpose is to supplement county services or provide new local services, with basic powers remaining with the county. In Big Sur, the service concern has been with improving police and fire services. The most feasible type of district to do this is a Community Services District (CSD), which is authorized to provide a wide range of local services.

With respect to policing, the Sheriff would continue to have basic responsibility for law enforcement, and the California Highway Patrol for traffic enforcement, because the area would still be unincorporated. The CSD could contract with the Sheriff to provide extra patrolling and other services beyond what is now provided, or could establish a local police department to supplement the Sheriff's services. The result would be two separate police departments in the area, which would be tricky unless there was a careful division of responsibilities and coordination to avoid overlap and conflict. Under either alternative, traffic enforcement and citations could not be undertaken, as these are exclusively the responsibility of the CHP in unincorporated areas.

Respecting fire protection, the district could add to the existing volunteer fire brigade in any way agreed to, such as support funds, conversion of the brigade to a volunteer fire department, or hiring of full-time personnel. If the district undertook the fire function, that would make it a governmental fire entity empowered to enter into mutual aid agreements or contracts with other fire agencies, set fire protection standards for new development, and inspect for, and enforce the correction of, fire hazards.

Cost estimates are not available for these types of services. Assuming about \$40,000 for two additional deputies, \$10,000 for fire brigade support, and \$5,000 for overhead costs, the annual budget would be \$55,000. Prior to Prop. 13 this would have required a \$.55 tax rate; Prop. 13 and the implementing legislation currently make no provision for new agencies to receive property tax revenues. Though the "bail-out" legislation gives a first priority to public safety services, it does not provide for new agencies either. Although a CSD can levy benefit assessments and service charges, as well as the property taxes affected by Prop. 13, at present there appears to be no way to do this for police and fire services. Perhaps, prior to the LAFCO decision on incorporation, the Legislature or the courts will take further action on some of these questions. They also affect incorporation, and are discussed elsewhere in this report.

3. Dependent District

Except that it is governed by the County Board of Supervisors, rather than a locally-elected board, and is

integrated into the county administrative structure (budgeting, accounting, personnel, etc.) a dependent district has the same characteristics as the independent district described above, and all of those comments are equally pertinent. Most particularly, it has been dependent on the property tax, and basic powers remain with the County. The most feasible dependent district type, authorized to provide a wide range of services including public safety, is a County Service Area (CSA).

Note concerning both district types: It is probable a district would not work very well at Big Sur for several reasons: 1) It would have such a low level of activity that its existence and overhead costs might not be justified. This, in turn, could result in a low level of citizen interest, and fail to attract the most representative citizens to serve on the board. Recruiting and retaining qualified personnel in such a situation would be difficult; 2) as noted, financing will be questionable and probably inadequate; and 3) Most important, a district could not meet the major concerns of the area—preservation of its natural beauty and rural way of life—effectively, even if it were active and adequately financed. These concerns require police powers to control land use, development, water pollution, esthetics and the like, as well as the legal standing to generally represent and defend the area in dealings with other public agencies. The county has such powers, and a district, along with the two alternatives described below, might serve as a device for influencing the county in its exercise of these powers. But among the alternatives themselves, only a city has the requisite powers.

4. Municipal Advisory Council (MAC)

An MAC is an advisory body of local citizens, elected by the community or appointed by the board of supervisors, with the purpose of representing the community to the board. It is authorized by state law for unincorporated areas. Because an MAC meets in the community, it can facilitate citizen participation in reaching community consensus on public issues, and can officially represent the community at the county level. MAC costs are provided by the county. MACs do not provide any public services, and hence could not improve public safety services, except possibly through pressure on the county.

MACs are created by the county, and their effectiveness obviously depends on their rapport with the district supervisor. Monterey County has not established any MACs, so it is difficult to predict the extent to which a Big Sur MAC could achieve some informal local control and preservation of the area's character. However, the county has established the Big Sur Advisory Committee, which is a sort of informal MAC, as well as a number of other more limited local advisory committees. The extent of their influence may be some indication of the probable effectiveness of an MAC.

5. Area Planning Commission (APC)

Counties may establish APCs which, within designated unincorporated areas, substitute for the county planning commission. Like the latter, an APC is advisory to the board of supervisors and its members are appointed by the board. Any APC costs are paid by the county, and staffing is normally by the county Planning Department. Monterey County has not established any APCs, though its local advisory committees, such as the one at Big Sur, have filled a similar role for a number of years.

The extent to which an APC can become influential in affecting the planning and development within its area is dependent upon the same kinds of political factors underlying an MAC, and in particular, acceptance by the county board of supervisors of the spokesmen for the APC. Again, the effectiveness of the Big Sur Advisory Committee and the other local committees might be indicative.

BIG LODGE SUR

PFEIFFER BIG SUR STATE PARK • BIG SUR, CALIFORNIA 93920
(408) 667-2171



Accommodations
in quiet, off-
the-road,
natural setting

Sixty-one
cottages, some
with fireplaces
and kitchens

Heated
swimming pool,
recreation hall,
eight miles of
hiking trails



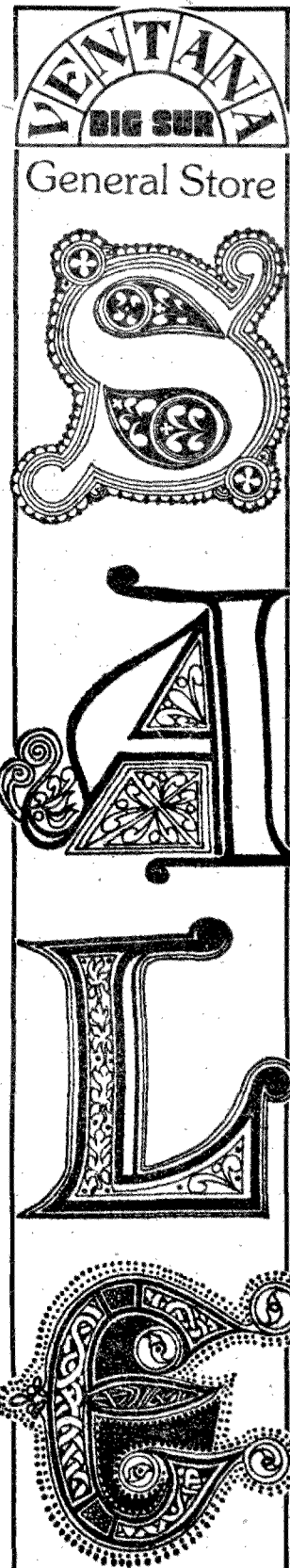
Photo by Greg Dodge

**OPENING
IN
APRIL!**
Recently
remodeled
Restaurant,
Gift Shop
and
Grocery Store

No park entrance fee
for Big Sur Lodge
guests

Open All Year

Located on Highway One
26 miles south of Carmel
63 miles north of Hearst Castle



Lettering by Graphistamp

40% OFF

- Woodwork Tools
- Garden Supplies
- Scissors
- Fabrics
- Notions
- Laces

For more information
ASK FOR ALICE

667-2331

Open Daily

Over a Rainbow

Reprinted from
Roundup

By JEFF NORMAN

It's rainbow season again. With the scattered showers of late winter and early spring come healthy amounts of intervening sunlight. These transition periods between storm and sun are when rainbow watchers are out in force.

I saw a particularly fine rainbow recently. The sun was just setting, and looking south-east from Coastlands a most intensely-hued rainbow appeared over the tawny-green slope above Grimes Canyon. The whole coast was washed in the sunset, hills and trees and clouds glowing as if lit from within, colors seeming as they do when, as a child, you first recognize green as green, or, when dreaming in color, those colors are felt as much as seen. This rainbow, which was the palette of that afternoon, was a short arc, maybe 50 degrees of a circle. But, as if to make up for its size, it appeared in duplicate, with a paler arc, in reverse color order, a few degrees above the brighter one. And, as a further mystery, the area between the two rainbows was darker than the surrounding sky.

Why were there two rainbows? Or, for that matter, why a single rainbow? Scientists know the answers, but would an explanation spoil the splendor for you and I? Descartes and Newton solved the basic problems of the rainbow hundreds of years ago, in terms that would "cripple Nature's heart," as Goethe wrote. But, not liking to be kept in the dark, I did some reading on the subject.

Rainbows turn out to be a complex phenomena, but with their explanation comes an enlightenment that serves to heighten the experience from one of simple observation to a real understanding of Nature.

We all know that to see a rainbow, one must be between the sun and the rain, with the sun behind. Sunlight strikes a curtain of rain, and

is reflected from the back of each individual drop. The light is refracted also, both as it enters and as it leaves the drop. This enables us to see the rainbow, which would be invisible if the light was reflected directly back into the sun. Newton tells us that each color has its own angle of refraction, the angle for violet being greater than that for red, at the opposite end of the spectrum. Thus, a single, or primary, rainbow has violet at the top, progressing through the warmer colors to red at the bottom.

However, light makes more than one bounce through a raindrop. If the light source is strong enough, that extra reflection will emerge as a secondary rainbow, and its colors will be in the opposite order of the primary bow, since it's been reflected twice within the drop. Simple geometry puts the secondary bow above the primary.

But what about the darker region between the two bows? The Greek philosopher Alexander of Aphrodisias described it first 1800 years ago. He couldn't explain it, but his name was ultimately applied to it, as Alexander's dark band. To state it simply, sunlight is somewhat concentrated by refraction into the two rainbows, and Alexander's dark band is a result of the decreased available light between the two.

The brightness of the colors in a rainbow is governed by the size of the raindrops as well as by the intensity of the light source. Those raindrops over Grimes last week were probably large—perhaps three or four millimeters in diameter. Fog, with its minute droplets, will produce a rather washed-out rainbow. Last summer, walking the Prewitt trail above Pacific Valley as the sun was rising over the ridge, I could look down onto the fog layer 100 feet below and see my shadow on the mist with a pale rainbow halo around the head.

Have you ever seen a rain-

bow at night? It's not impossible! A lunar rainbow is unforgettable. Several years ago I saw one while driving north on the highway near the Fuller Ranch. The almost full moon had just risen over the Coast Ridge, and it was raining out at sea. Parking the car, I got out and feasted on the vision of a luminously unreal pearly arch above the mesas at Fuller's. It stretched far out beyond the cliffs, a pure white colorless slice of Moon brought to Earth, harmony, glory and synthesis of a pale world of land, sea and sky.

P.S. (Just for the record): Monday morning, around 8:00, while the eclipse was at its maximum, that fifteen percent of the sun produced some fine rainbows, which could be seen over the Big Sur Valley and out to sea west of Coastlands.

Guitar Classes at Sunset

Beginning Tuesday, April 10th, a series of guitar classes will be taught at the Sunset Community and Cultural Center. The instructor will be the well-known local guitarist, Terrance Farrell. Mr. Farrell made a concert tour this past fall through England, France, and Germany, and recently led a workshop and lecture series in New York.

The following classes are available in six-week sessions:

6-7 p.m.—Beginning children, 12 years old and up.

7:30-9 p.m.—Adult Beginners.

9-10 p.m.—Advanced Adults.

These classes will be taught on Tuesday nights in Room No. 4, the Chapman Room, for six weeks ending May 15, 1979. For registration or more information, please call Mr. Farrell at 624-7653.

Panny

Complete Hair Care
for men & women

Big Sur 667-2101
667-2615

**Lars Naevdal
Travel**



(408) 624-5434
At the entrance to Carmel
Center Mall between
Longs & Safeway
Rio Road & Highway 1



**GARZONE'S
MEAT & DELI**

**USDA Prime Meats
& Gourmet Foods**

26340 Carmel Rancho Blvd.
Carmel, CA 93923 • 624-2266

JAMES SOMMERVILLE PASSED AWAY

On Feb. 10, 1979, Big Sur lost a true friend.

James Martin Sommerville was born Dec. 2, 1914, in Pasadena, Calif. When attending school there Jim met Kenny Meyrose and the two fellows became lifelong friends. Kenny and his wife Jean moved to Big Sur. Jim came to visit them and fell in love with the area. He moved here and for a time lived with Walter and Gueda Trotter and worked with Frank and Walt.

On one occasion, Jim, then a bachelor, visited Jean and Kenny and Jean's sister Bette was a house guest—what fate. Jim and Bette were married; purchased property in Coastlands; built their own home (and helped Jean and Kenny build their home) and they became neighbors as well as relatives.

Jim began work with the Big Sur Highway Crew in 1951; retired in 1975 after 24 years as a heavy equipment operator. On Jan. 10, 1976, the community hosted a retirement party for Jim. Many well deserved compliments were paid him and many stories reflecting his droll humor were related.

Jim was always dedicated to Community service as a Charter Member of the Big Sur Grange; an ambulance crew member; a volunteer fire fighter and a member of Coastlands board of directors in charge of water and oftentimes roads for that area. He was always so diligent and reliable and considerate he earned the respect of the entire community.

Jim is survived by his wife Bette of Big Sur; a son, James Sommerville III "Jimmy" of Carmel Valley; a daughter, Janet of Big Sur; his mother, Mrs. Anna Sommerville of Tidewater, Ore.; one sister and two brothers. Private services were conducted under the direction of the California Cremation Society and the remains scattered at sea.

The family prefers contributions to the Big Sur Ambulance Fund or to the Big Sur Fire Brigade.



First grader, Eric Griggs, takes a moment to study Robert's Rain Gauge at Captain Cooper School. For the latest Big Sur rainfall information, see Robert's Rain Gauge on page 19. Photo by Paula Walling.

Member National Chimney Sweep Guild

**TOP HAT
CHIMNEY SWEEP**

Michael Johnson
Residential & Commercial

Licensed
Insured

WOOD STOVE
FLUES

(408) 373-0515
Anytime

Jardine Arabians

Quality Arabian Horses for Sale



Alan
and Lynda
with J.A.
Magnificat

408-667-2582

Owners:

Alan and Lynda Jardine
Big Sur, CA 93920

*Sycamore Canyon
Ranch*

Do you know someone who has moved
and would like to keep in touch with
Big Sur? Why not send them a gift
subscription to the Big Sur Gazette?

Rates: \$5.00 in Monterey County, \$8.00 in California (outside
Monterey County), \$12.00 out-of-state, \$19.00 foreign.

P.O. Box 125, Big Sur, California 93920

Your name _____

SEND TO: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NOTES FROM A LOCAL JOURNAL

By Ronni
(alias Ms. Penny Name)

A Big Sur Welcome to some new neighbors and some old friends returned. Ken Weeks is back at the River Inn as executive chef. Ask about his Chef's Specials when dining at River Inn next time. They're great. Asst. Day Chef Neil Novack will be starting there on April 1st. A special welcome back to George McKeever, River Inn Store's butcher.

Greetings to the Barnetts, Big Sur Campground's new managers. Bernie and wife Mieke are busily working to ready the campground for the summer onslaught. Special attention is being given to the A-frame cabins, all three of which will be refurbished and available for renting this summer.

LOVE IS SAYING - I don't mind if its raining, sweetheart, let me open the gate for you.

Jean and Ken Meyrose have just returned from a vacation in Sun Valley, Idaho. They say they had a great trip.

Another welcome home to good friends---Whilst strolling through the Ventana Deli, the other day, it was a pleasant surprise to see Loretta and Ralph Dengate back in Big Sur. So good to see you folks again.

Something to think about... Over one hundred predictions in George Orwell's famous novel 1984, have already come true. The novel, written in 1949, foresaw many futuristic happenings such as defoliants for wide-area destruction of vegetation, data banks with detailed citizen information, artificial insemination, self-propelled bombs and mind-altering drugs.

Mark your calendars! The 1st Annual Big Sur in Concert will be held May 4 and 5, Friday and Saturday, at 8 pm in the Grange Hall. It will be an evening of music - from classical to rock. Tickets are \$3.00 in advance and \$4.00 at the door. Call Mary Harrington (667-2521) or Peter Stock (667-2225).

Two Big Sur Artists are being exhibited in separate Carmel galleries throughout the month of March. The works of Lyn Lipetz can be seen at Green's Gallery in the Barnyard, and Kipp Stewart's creations are on display at Zantman's in Carmel.

The Big Sur Gazette isn't losing a photo lab technician, Esalen's gaining a general manager. Benj Langdon was recently named General Manager at Esalen and we on the Gazette are proud to have had the opportunity to work with him.

A new workshop for female photo buffs has recently been formed by our good friend, Ms. Bonnie Hawthorne. An outstanding photographer herself, Ms. Hawthorne has organized this weekly session to provide knowledge and support to other women photographers. Call Bonnie at 373-0448.

A good time was had by all at Nepenthe's party this month. A spectacular midnight light show, presented by Mother Nature in the form of lightning, completed the evening.

Softball season is coming! Larry Brassfield reports that plans are already underway for the 1979 schedule. Rumor has it that Point Sur's team is already starting batting practice. Guess that's why they're numero uno.

LOVE AND MARRIAGE... San Francisco may have newly-engaged Mayor Dianne Feinstein and Richard Blum, but Big Sur has Joyce Thompson and Greg Dodge and Gayle Post and Eric Forrester. Both couples are planning May Weddings.

"Cuisinart" means "Art of the Kitchen" and after a demonstration at Vive La Difference in the Country Club Gate Center in P.G., I can see why they named it that. For those of you that still think a food processor is just an expensive blender, just watch one in action. Not only is it an exciting change in cooking, it's just plain fun. I'm saving up to buy one for my husband---since he's the chef in our house.

Congratulations to Al and Lynda Jardine. Their yearling, J. A. Magnificat just won 5th out of over 25 entries at the Central Coastal California All-Arabian Show, in Santa Barbara.

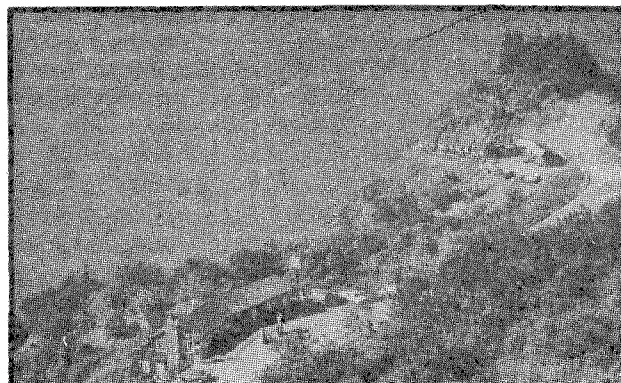
How's this for a treat for your feet... a free pair of super striped knee-hi's with a purchase of heavenly Birkenstock sandals. But Sshh, it's just for Gazette readers. See Rennie at Birkenstock's in the Paseo San Carlos, across from Wells Fargo.

NEWS FROM FERNWOOD... Manager Greg Davies has just announced that starting April 1st (and this is no April Fool's joke) Fernwood will have a nightly HAPPY HOUR from 6pm to 7pm. Drinks will be 2 for the price of 1. Also, watch for news of upcoming music events that Fernwood is planning.

The news that the 85-ton Skylab is falling back to earth could make someone a bit apprehensive. Scientists estimate that "only" 25 tons, though, will reach our planet surface. This amount of wreckage could have the same effect as a ton of TNT, or a 2,000 pound bomb, and just where it will land nobody knows. NASA, however, said that they will be able to give an hour's warning to the crash site area. How comforting!

BIG SUR QUOTABLES:

"I agree with everything you said, I just can't remember what it was." J.M.
"Sometimes you have to turn on the windshield wipers in your brain to see things a little better." S.D.



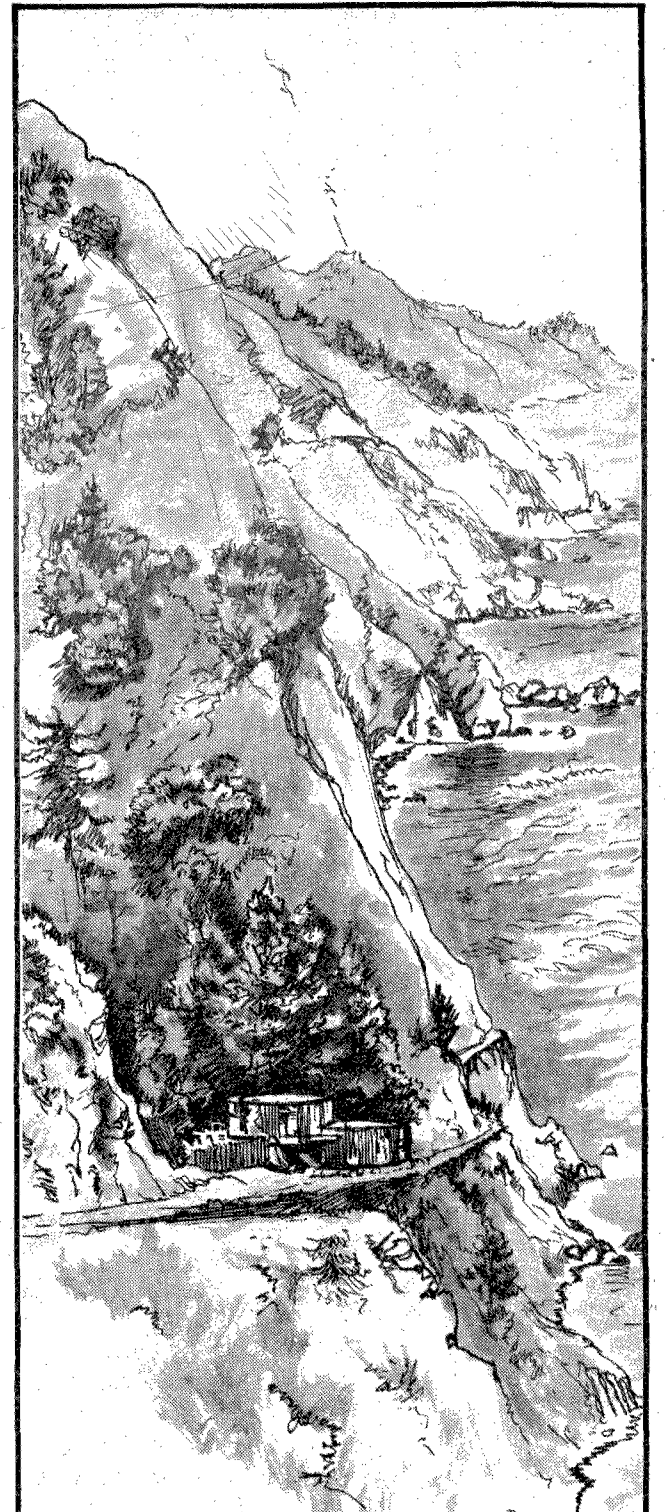
Overnight Accommodations in a rustic and comfortable atmosphere. Service Station and Restaurant featuring outdoor dining deck overlooking Coast.

Lucia Lodge

50 miles South of Carmel
38 miles North of Hearst Castle
on Scenic Highway #1

Your Hosts:
John & Ruth Harlan

Lucia Lodge
Big Sur, California 93920
Phone (408) 667-2476



Drawing by Robin Coventry

Coast Gallery

Big Sur

Historic Showplace of Big Sur Art and Coastal Crafts since 1958

OPEN 9-6 DAILY
667-2301

Located on Highway One
33 miles south of Carmel
50 miles north of Hearst Castle

A
Gazette
AD
MEANS
BUSINESS

BIG SUR
CAMPGROUNDS
& CABINS
IN THE REDWOODS
ON THE BIG SUR RIVER
CAMPSITES FOR ANY
SIZE RV TRAILER
OR TENT
Hot Showers • Laundromat
Snack Bar • Grocery
Fishing, Swimming
and Playground
OPEN ALL YEAR
26 miles So. of Carmel on Hwy. 1
Reservations 667-2322

PACIFIC VALLEY CENTER

35 miles South of Big Sur Village on Highway One
Panoramic View of Ocean and Coastline

Restaurant • Groceries • Gifts
Beer • Wine • Gas

Master Charge
BankAmericard
Visa

Open All Year
(805) 927-3083

Your Hosts:
Lee & Rhoda
Thompson

Bob Nash celebrates life in delicate line drawings

By ELAYNE WARING FITZPATRICK-GRIMM

Bob Nash is a linear poet. He lives with his wife, Rosa, some cats and a dog in a trailer on Partington Ridge in Big Sur. They sleep on a mattress under the sky. And they seem happy.

Bob celebrates life, with all its fragmentations, in delicate little line drawings. Every event is a linear occasion, as he sees things. His vision could be called mathematical mysticism.

He writes stories for children, too. But, so far, publishers have considered them "too imaginative" for the young.

About 25 years ago, Bob decided he needed more time to explore the physical world and its underlying beauty—the kind of reality not usually seen by people in their every day comings and goings. As a university student in physics and chemistry, he's seen, on slides under microscopes, other dimensions to reality and been fascinated. But, instead of pursuing research, he decided in favor of getting at nature by living with nature. He adopted the life of a caretaker of the earth and its Big Sur people.

His wife says he's "close to 60" now. But I'd guess much younger.

When I first encountered Bob, I wasn't certain how he perceived his own art. I wasn't even sure he tried to analyze it. But I did recall how Henry Miller had looked at it. Miller and Nash became friends during the years the author lived on Partington Ridge.

In a little essay, "Journey to an Antique Land," Miller wrote: "His pictographic messages, rendered in ideoliner code, seem to come from the hidden face of the moon. He has

thoroughly assessed the lunacy of earthly ventures, earthly dreams ... Not only has size become ridiculous and meaningless, but facts and figures as well and striving even more."

Miller compared Nash's line drawings with the suggestions, in ancient ruins, of dreams once realized: "All was familiar and recognizable," he said, "though part of history had crumbled away. The terrain itself, fragmented, etiolated though it was, was what one remembered of it."

Nash liked Miller's projections, but he said they were just that—projections. Projections of Miller's own feelings, just as all of us see, in any abstraction, according to our own experience.

"I wasn't as concerned with ruins as with the beauty of simple lines of nature—lines which are always interrupted but, nevertheless, make up the whole. If death, or ruin, is as basic to nature as life, so be it. But my concern was always with identity in fragmentation, the beauty of those 'linear events' Miller referred to."

Bob observed that Miller saw beauty in the broken lines of ancient ruins just as he (Nash) saw beauty in the broken lines of nature in Big Sur. "Nature," he says, "is based on fragmentation, on violence as well as continuity." All of nature does violence to every other part of nature, underall.

Nash sees beauty in this kind of violence, in the struggle for life. "When you think about it," he observes, "doesn't the carot have as much right to life as man? Violence is a necessity to life."

Nash seems to have been one of those who learned early

what the rest of us are just realizing, hopefully not too late, that all nature is interdependent, preying on some other part to live, yet all must work together for balance if life is to survive at all. The trick, as the ancient Greeks understood, is to keep all the forces of nature (gods) placated, or in balance, without hubris. Bob's calling to Big Sur may have been one of Nature's reminders to humans?

About 12 years ago, another "calling" took place. Two nuns sought refuge in Big Sur after a near-ruinous battle with church authorities over their "too progressive" Catholic order, the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart in Los Angeles. The caretaker of the house they occupied on Partington Ridge was Bob Nash.

Open to all that was naturally beautiful in that primitive region, one of the nuns, Sister Rosa, fell in love with and ultimately married the caretaker-poet. Rosa learned to reduce her own life along simple lines.

"But I expanded in the process," she smiles, "and I found God in a way I'd never understood before." She learned, from her husband, how to just "be" with Nature. In fragmentation, she found wholeness.

"As soon as I'd stepped out of my car in Big Sur, Rosa reflects, "I looked around at that incredible setting and I said, 'This is where I belong. Somehow, nuns never said those things.'"

Then, when Rosa met Bob (he knocked on her door and introduced himself as the house caretaker, of course), the Mov-



Rosa and Bob Nash relax on the grass-and-poppy-covered hilltop that is their front yard. (Photo by E.W. Fitzpatrick-Grimm)

ing Finger began to write rapidly. There he stood with his long, greying hair, tanned face framing sensitive blue eyes, and an impish grin. He looked healthy and strong and at peace, a little like some John the Baptist coming out of the wilderness eating locusts and wild honey? No. Maybe more like one of the Essalen Indians. He lived, she was to discover, with only sky and trees as his roof and had a deep reverence for Life. It came to pass that he was, indeed, preparing the way for a new life for her.

"First we became friends. He was so deep and knowledgeable and tender in his toughness. Then we fell in love. I think that's how it should be between a man and a woman," Rosa mused, but the flush on the former nun's cheek led me to conclude that the most primitive and beautiful of all instincts between a man and a woman had done its job long before friendship had developed. But I didn't argue.

Rosa told me that although she'd spent most of her life in that ultra-complicated city called Los Angeles, she and Bob agreed on many basics. Both sought a simple kind of existence where life isn't cluttered with "things and things," as she put it.

"I personally feel that if you have this kind of simplicity in your surroundings and aren't always giving in to that desire to buy, buy, buy, somehow you come to know yourself better, even come to know God in a very real sense, she explains.

When they married, Bob put a roof over their heads. A tent. But "not the kind you buy at Sears-Roebuck." It was a basic covering for their bodies, set on a wooden frame, covered with chicken wire, clear plastic and white canvas—a concession to the novice in the new order.

"In that kind of shelter," Rosa says, "there was little heat. But we never caught a cold. Then, as now, we ate simply and lived simply. We got up with the light and went to bed when it got dark. In between, we walked (together and separately), wrote, cleaned, read, loved, enjoyed. And, on special days, I tutored Big Sur children, and Bob took care of other people's property. Right now, we're doing pottery together to sell in Big Sur shops."

Bob made sure that I understood their life was not always idyllic. "We enjoy the violence of storm—are even sometimes disproportionate in our enjoyment of it, like the poet Jeffers. But we often experience that most human of all feelings—boredom. I'm suspicious of people who won't admit to occasional boredom. It's part of life. To be expected," he explained.

That first year together, after a structured life of teaching the young in parochial schools, it was hard for Rosa to let go. Her first lesson: one morning as the lovers sat on a log, drinking coffee, looking out to the sea 1400 feet below, and observing the broken line of the horizon, Rosa was afflicted with guilt. She should be doing something. Straightening things up. One didn't just sit and feel and enjoy all day. Work was what we were on earth for. At least if we were to merit such peace. But Bob restrained her as she moved to busy herself.

"Just sit down," he urged. "Just sit down and relax. I think it important we just sit and look at this. We don't have to do anything." He told her they had to get that natural beauty "into our bones." The new life was under way.

For awhile, Rosa says, we lived in a greenhouse on the edge of the sea "in the middle of wild Big Sur storms." Then they took a year and a half "off" to go to Sedona, Arizona, to caretake and greet visitors at the Chapel of the Holy Cross. They lived in a basement. And they counted, and greeted, more than 115,000 visitors. People. Too many. So they gave up this life and returned to Big Sur where they could live apart from crowds again. They moved into the trailer they now occupy with the cats and the dog.

Once more, their regular visitors are non-human—grey and red foxes, wild boar, horned owls, and red-tailed hawks. Again, life is "beautiful and simple."

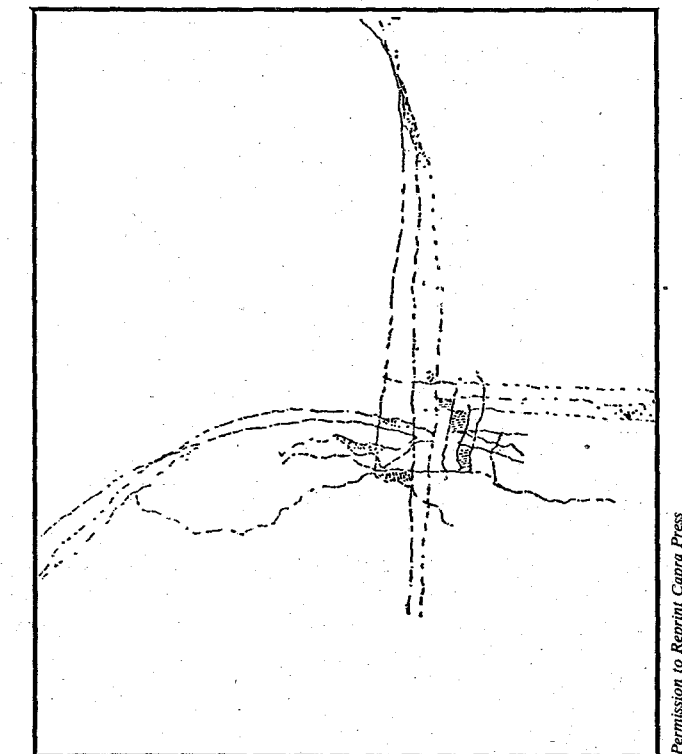
A long time ago, Bob says, he came to the conclusion that life was much too short not to be selective about what he did and where he put his body. "My father was an Episcopal minister, and I used to observe the troubled people who'd come to him complaining about how much they hated what they were doing, but, for one reason or another, felt powerless to change their lives."

Bob grew up close to nature in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, and Idaho. He knew early that it would always be important for him to live close to nature in spite of well-meaning family and a society who expected him to do otherwise.

Someone gave him a chemistry set when he was 12. And he was fascinated by the world it opened up. A passion for chemistry and physics was added to his passion for nature. But after using his scientific training for the military during World War II, he knew that he couldn't return to just science alone. He had to get at beauty directly.

"So—over protests of family and friends, I dropped out and ended up in Big Sur." Now he has time for all he values—the emotional as well as the intellectual needs. He feels balance, has taught Rosa to share that balance, and, although he doesn't believe their kind of life is for everyone, he likes to share his ideas and urges others to follow their own inner promptings.

As the Nashes talked with me, I was reminded of the words of Nobel Prize winner Albert Camus: "A man's work is nothing but a long journey to recover, through the detours of art, the two or three simple and great images which first gained access to his heart." The problem is, for most, to define those images. The Nashes seem to have succeeded.



Journey to an Antique Land

Permission to Reprint: Capra Press



The Nash "bedroom-under-the-stars."

"Nature is based on fragmentation, on violence as well as continuity."



Roses and other beautiful flowers are an important part of the Nashes life.



The Nashes look over some ceramic planters just finished in their outdoor workshop. (Photo by E.W. Fitzpatrick-Grimm)

THE RINGTAIL CAT

by Jeff Norman

"Sshhh!!! Come up very quietly. Peek out the door. He's in the laurel tree!"

Sure enough, there was the main part of a ring-tailed cat --the tail-- disappearing into the dark up a laurel branch. It was my first, and only encounter with one of our most elusive mammals.

The scene had taken place on the back porch of the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Henkel, who operate Limekiln Beach Redwoods Campground, just south of Lucia. I was wintering there, four years or so ago, in a trailer across the creek from the Henkels, and had been invited to supper with mention of a possible appearance by a ringtail as after-dinner entertainment. Betty Henkel had seen one on a couple of nights previously, and it was great good fortune to be there that night, because the Henkels have not been so favored since.

This animal might be considered rare, and is certainly only rarely seen. But its "rarity" is probably more a factor of its nocturnal habits, rather than actual scarcity.

The ringtail occurs as far north as the southwestern corner of Oregon, south through the Coast Ranges and the Sierra and into Mexico. Much of the Central Valley and desert country in California lacks the ringtail, but it ranges east into the arid regions of Arizona, New Mexico and Texas, where it is probably most common.

As can be seen from the accompanying photograph, the ringtail bears a similarity to the raccoon, and in fact both are members of the same family of Carnivores, the Procyonids. But the ringtail is a much more delicate creature. Weasel-like in body form, it may weigh as much as 22 pounds, while the 'coon averages 15 or 20, and may reach 60 pounds.

The coat of the ringtail is soft and dense, of a light brown or gingery color. The animals are sometimes trapped for this fur, but it is not of high quality and therefore not in great demand. The pelt is known in the trade as "California mink" or "civet cat", although the ringtail is closely related to neither of these mammals.

The ringtail's Latin name, *Bassariscus astutus*, literally means "clever fox", which it certainly lives up to, and there are a variety of common names as well. The Aztecs called it cacomixtle, or rush cat, and other names include coon cat, band-tailed cat, mountain cat, American civet cat, squirrel cat, and raccoon fox. In the Gold Rush days in California it got the name "miner's cat", and it seems to have been welcomed into cabins and mine shafts in the Sierra foothills because of its taste for rodents. There

are reports, too, from the 1840's, of Mexican families domesticating the ringtail for this reason.

Another cat-like quality, besides its fondness for rodents, is the presence of partly retractible claws. Since the ringtail frequently dens up in rocky areas in the daytime, this enables it to keep its claws sharp for nighttime tree-climbing.

Besides eating rats and mice, the ringtail will consume chipmunks, bats, reptiles, birds and their eggs, insects and fruits and nuts. Lloyd Ingles, the well-known mammalogist now living on the Monterey Peninsula, reports that ringtails will consume manzanita, madrone and cascara berries, and a specimen in captivity was quite fond of honey.

Research done in Texas indicates that during the summer insects and spiders account for 70% of their food, with fruits and berries mainly comprising the rest. Insects and spiders are still favored into the fall of the year, with a percentage of birds and mammals. In the winter, however, vertebrates make up the bulk of the diet, with mammals at 36%, birds at 24%, and insects only 20%. By springtime, insects and plant materials are again of primary importance.

Like the raccoon, the ringtail spends a great deal of time in trees, as has been mentioned above. The fluffy tail is an excellent stabilizer, providing balance to the animal as it leaps from branch to branch. Unlike the 'coon's tail, though, the ringtail's is somewhat longer than the body (amounting to 17 inches out of a total length of 32 inches) and has 8 incomplete bands, as opposed to the raccoon's 6 bands which go completely around the tail.

The ringtail has an exceedingly acute sense of hearing, which has no doubt been developed in response to its food preferences of rodents, with their high-pitched squeaking. Experiments have shown that a ringtail is sensitive to noise at the 70 kHz level, which didn't mean much to me, either, until I found out that house cats can be trained to respond to noise at 60 kHz, dogs are limited to 35 kHz, and man only gets up to 15 or 16 kHz. There must be an amazing fourth dimension of sound, which is all around us if we could but tune in to it.

Ringtails, which have been described as "savage" when kept alone in captivity, seem to be rather aggressive in their mating habits as well. In addition to the "explosive barks," "piercing screams", and "long plaintive, high-pitched calls" that have been mentioned, the adults utilize a special mating call. After exchanging these



A Ringtail Cat (*Bassariscus astutus*). From *Mammals of the Pacific States*, by Lloyd G.

Ingles. Used with the kind permission of the author-photographer.

courtship vocalizations, the male initiates the breeding by grasping the female by the neck and dragging her around before releasing her, at which time they copulate. The young are born in May or June, and the litter may consist of one to five young, although three or four is average. The "kittens" weigh about one ounce at birth, and open their eyes at about 32 days. After 34 days, the coat is fully developed and solid food is taken, with weaning at four months. By contrast, a baby raccoon will open its eyes at 21 days, but isn't ready for solid food for another 42 days.

Despite the rough treatment the female gets at breeding time, the two remain together after the young have grown.

I've done some investigative reporting lately, in an attempt to find out more about the local ringtails. Mr. Elliott, of the California Department of Fish and Game in Monterey, was not familiar with the ringtail's habits in the Santa Lucias, but mentioned that they are a "regular feature" in the campgrounds at the Pinnacles National Monument, in the Gabilan Mountains of San Benito County.

George Harlan, cattleman and rancher of the Lucia area, has spent a good deal of his 85 years observing our wildlife, and has seen a few ringtails over the years, mostly in rocky places near the immediate coast. He reports that they will go down to the shore at low tide and catch "crabs and other moving things. They don't seem to know that mussels are alive and could be eaten."

Katherine Short, of Coastlands, remembers spotting ringtails on the Partington Canyon Trail many years ago. She recalls seeing a glitter of eyes in the flashlight beam, then a glimpse of tail as the animal scampered away.

Margaret Owings, of Grimes Point, has a special relationship with her ringtail neighbors, as she has with so many wild animals. In this particular case, she has for many years been treated to frequent visits by a ringtail on its nightly foraging. A dish of dog food is provided, and the ringtail is "quite unafraid" in taking the food, even to the point of stealing up to an open window to take a sniff at the strange beasts inside. Mrs. Owings reports that on one occasion a "violent screeching fight" was heard in the night, and two nights later a ringtail appeared at the window, minus a front foot. The Owings theorize that it may have been battling a raccoon, but since it never returned, they fear that it eventually succumbed to its injury. Happily, though, they have also seen an adult at the window, young in tow.

Another story related by Mrs. Owings concerned an accidental trapping of a ringtail. The Owings had, the night before, set a trap on their porch for a Dusky-footed wood rat, commonly known as the pack rat. Next day, upon examining the trap, (which, incidentally, does not harm the animal in any way) they found it "quite full." The trap was opened, and the ringtail fled faster than the eye could follow. The animal had virtually disappeared. Mrs. Owings described the animal beautifully as a "live-wire, like a shrew in its tenseness."

If you have had any experiences with ringtails, if only a roadside sighting, *The Big Sur Gazette* would be interested to hear about it. Also, the California Department of Fish and Game is currently engaged in a study of the ringtail, for the development of

a protection plan for it. Your sightings may be directly communicated to the Department by writing to: California Department of Fish and Game, Special Wildlife Investigations, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA, 95814.

Be sure to include the name of the species observed, the date and time of day, exactly where it was seen and what it was doing, as well as your name, address and phone number. Special furbearer observation forms can be obtained through them, with a description sheet of the ringtail and the spotted skunk, another local inhabitant which is being studied.



For the
Aware

by Araby Colton

SOMETHING GOOD!

Senator David Roberti has introduced the "California Animal Bill of Rights." We suggest you write Sen. Roberti, ask him to send you a copy. If you approve, and we really don't see how anyone could do otherwise, write our Senator, The Honorable Robert Nimmo, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814, and urge his support of this resolution. It can be a valuable basis for upgrading our legislative programs for both domestic and wild animals.

AND NOT SO GOOD!

If you're concerned for the preservation of the wild lands in Alaska (at present set aside by Pres. Carter as National Monuments, awaiting final Congressional action), and including the present National Parks, Forests, Wildlife Refuges and Wilderness Areas, we suggest you write Congressman Leon Panetta, House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C., 20515, and ask him for a copy of the new Alaskan Lands Bill, H.R. 39, so that you can study it carefully. We have a report that it has been so amended that the wildlife of those areas will be entirely unprotected from hunting and trapping. Certain of the wildlife conservation organizations are opposing the bill, preferring to leave the lands as National Monuments. This is a subject which deserves serious consideration.

OUR MOUNTAIN LION!

The poster animal for this year's National Wildlife Week is a mountain lion! Write California Department of Fish & Game, 1416 9th St., Sacramento, CA 95814, and ask for the free kit of materials and the poster. You might express your pleasure that the mountain lion was chosen for the picture, and thank the Department for their continued protection of this glorious animal.

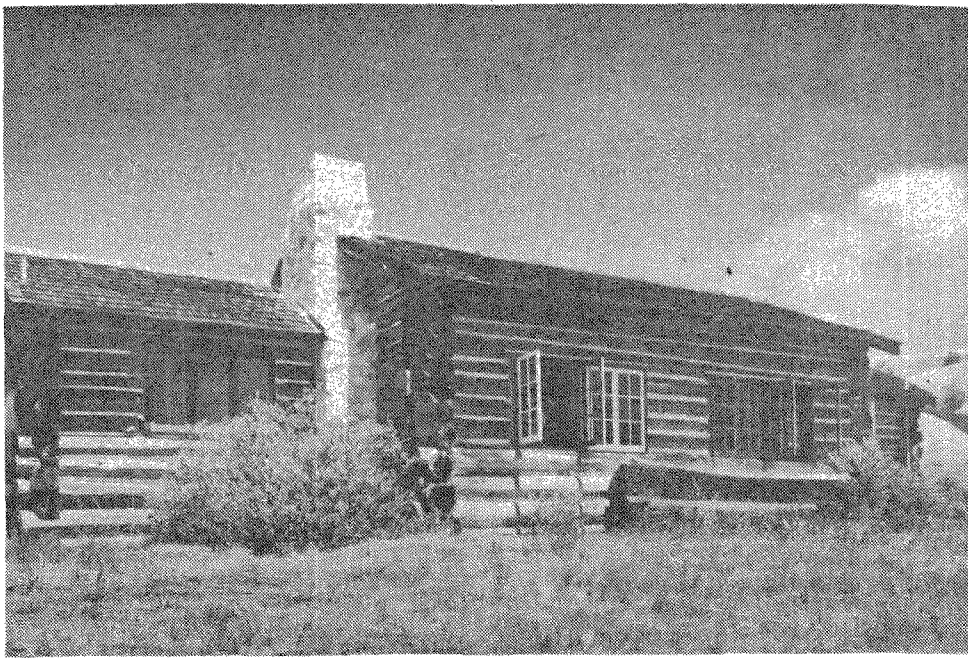


Tracks of a raccoon, about half the actual size.

Tracks of a ringtail, nearly actual size.

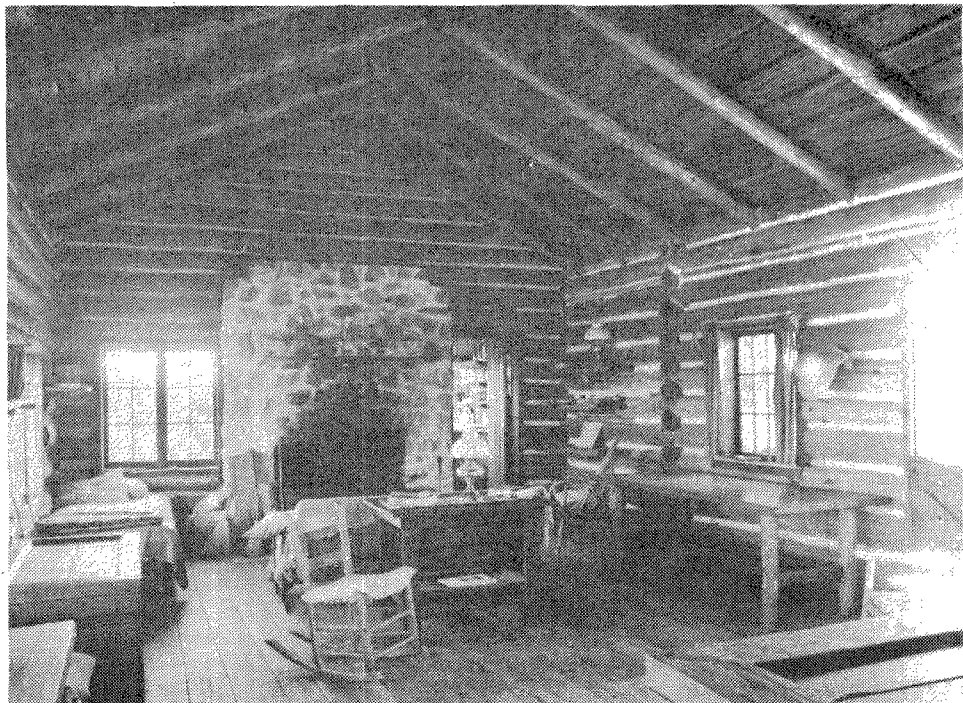


From *Mammals of the Pacific States*, by Lloyd G. Ingles. Used with the kind permission of the author-photographer.



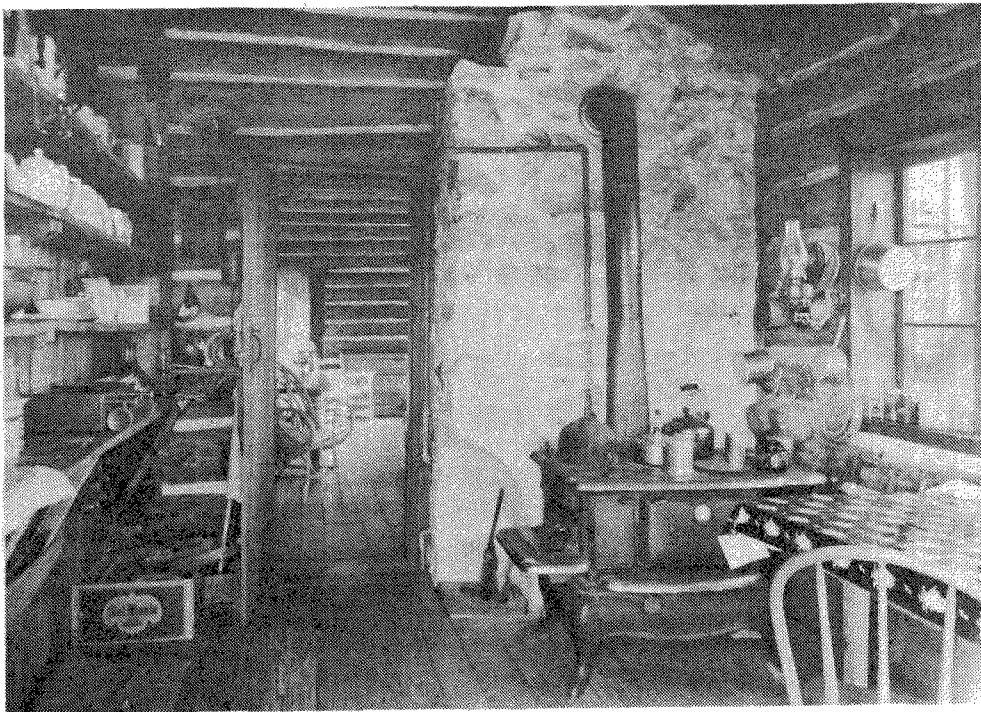
The Old Trails Club Cabin

Interview by STERLING DOUGHTY



The redwood log cabin shown here was built in the early 1920's by Sam Trotter, Bill "The Old Master" Post, and Frank Frederick. It served as the headquarters for the Trail's Club and was used as an overnight resting place for hikers and other travelers. After going through several owners, the cabin was finally purchased in 1947 by Bill and Lolly Fassett, when their daughter Kim was only nine months old.

In an interview with Gazette Contributor Sterling Doughty, Lolly remembered one of her first impressions of their new home. "The fireplace was full of bats," she laughed, and being new to the wilderness way of life, Lolly refused to return until the bats and termites were removed. "There were lots of vultures and deer, but the deer moved away once we gave the cabin life again. There were also plenty of rattlesnakes!" One major problem was the entry to the house. Having no overhang, the family had to remove all coats and wet raingear outside, before entering the cabin. So to solve the problem, Lolly built a covered porch as the first addition to the cabin. The house had two bathis because the club was for men and women. The stove that is shown had been stolen before the Fassetts moved in. Shortly after they came, Janet Tolerton came to welcome them and check out the rumors about the new residents. Once she saw Lolly and the three children she said, "I can see you have enough to keep you busy and you won't get into any mischief." "The next thing you knew," said Lolly, "we were baking bricks out in the front of the cabin. Decomposed granite, fire clay and cement, and we even made our own forms. We rented the cement mixer from Grover Meyrose, and anytime we turned it on we would be charged a days rent. So, we really thought about it every time we started it up. No one took it seriously as they thought we wouldn't make it in this land. Originally, we weren't sure what we were going to do. We knew we had to have a business and thought perhaps of a highway stand. We talked a lot about a restaurant and many architects came by with their ideas but nothing really happened until Rowan Maiden, a student of Frank Lloyd Wright, came by and was totally excited by the project. I wanted a huge room with no posts and that's when he came up with the idea of the trusses. It took 12 men to put one up. It was like a giant jigsaw puzzle. No one could put it together until Frank Trotter, who had the idea that there was a solution for everything, worked out the construction details. We were fascinated with old boards and driftwood and most people thought our affection with that stuff was pretty bizarre. But, pretty soon even Walter Trotter was saving old boards for us." And so began Nepenthe.



HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETS

By PAT ADDLEMAN

The Big Sur Historical Society will meet at Post's Homestead on Sunday evening March 18 at 7:30. Billy Post will show slides from early days on the Post Ranch. Other stories are always welcomed and even encouraged as we come together at these informal gatherings at historical sites to learn about Big Sur's past.

Charter memberships will still be accepted at or before this meeting and membership is required for meetings from now on. Yearly dues are \$10 for an individual and \$15 for

a family. Work volunteers may join for the promise of 10 hours labor per year and honorary memberships are open to those who have lived in Big Sur for 50 years and is extended to include their spouses.

Business will include reading and consideration of the Articles of Incorporation of the bylaws and the election of directors and officers. Interim officers have been Sylvia Eisenberg and Toni Nicklaus, co-chairmen; Pat Addleman, secretary; Doty Williams, treasurer and Luci Post, Membership.

JOIN
the
Big Sur
Historical
Society

It pays to
advertise in **The Gazette**

SECRETARIAL

667-2512

OFFICE

SERVICES of BIG SUR

Typing -- Bookkeeping -- Mailing Service
Manuscripts -- Transcribing -- Copying

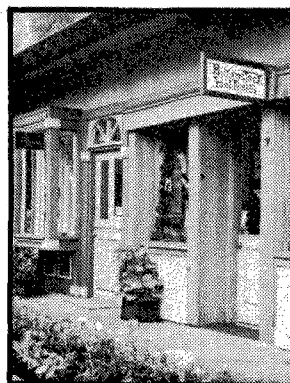
PROFESSIONAL • CONFIDENTIAL • EXPERIENCED

24-HOUR SERVICE -- PICK-UP & DELIVERY

شاکر
Shahkar
ORIENTAL RUGS
PERSIAN
PAKISTANI
INDIAN
KELIM

Largest selection
On the Peninsula
• Finest quality •

in the Mall
(between Long's & Safeway)
Rio Road & Hwy. 1
Carmel Center
Tel. 624-2929



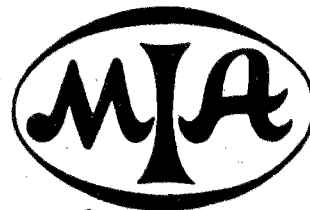
A unique store dealing exclusively in
Birkenstock & Shakti footwear
for men, women and children
Expertly Fitted • Resole & Repair Service

Birkenstock
Footprints

OPEN DAILY
10-5:30
624-5779

Paseo San Carlos
San Carlos btwn. Ocean & 7th
(across from Wells Fargo)

Free for Gazette Readers:
One pair Fashion Knee-Hi's
with purchase of
Birkenstock Sandals
(offer expires 4/15/79)



Monterey Insurance Agencies
ESTABLISHED IN 1888

All Types of Commercial
and
Personal Insurance

Alexander Heid, Jr.
Ed Magner III



Larry Durocher
Jeff Craig
Jackson Booth

General Insurance Agents and Brokers
10 Bonifacio Plaza • (408) 373-4925
Post Office Box MIA • Monterey, California 93940

Pacific Valley Wins USFS Legal Dispute

By Sean Cassidy
Michelle Provost
Naomi Mayer and
Cecilia Karlstrom

Pacific School District last month won its dispute with the U.S. Forest Service over a proposed 600 percent increase in the fee the district pays for the lease of 5 acres on which Pacific Valley School is built.

Last December the fee was raised from \$150 to \$915 a year. But, after protest from both school officials and community members, the Forest Service decided to limit the increase to less than 10 percent.

The increase was a routine matter according to Bob Hammond, Forest Service Resource Officer. "The

school property is valued every 5 years. Since the last valuation the price of surrounding property has increased greatly," Hammond said.

The school board voted unanimously at its January 11th meeting to refuse paying the increased fee.

"The Forest Service gave us the choice of paying the increased fee or cutting down the size of our playground," said Ken Halla, teacher/principal of Pacific Valley School. "The board couldn't accept either choice."

After being notified of the district's decision, the Forest Service informed the school board of its right to appeal to the district ranger.

While the school board was drafting a formal appeal,

board president Suezan Pierce organized a campaign in the community asking local citizens to send letters to congressman Leon Panetta and Forest Service officials.

"I felt that if more people expressed their feelings, it would have a great effect on the situation," Pierce said.

As a result of her campaign citizens from all parts of the community sent letters of protest to both the congressman and the Forest Service.

In early February, before the formal appeal could be filed, Panetta called the school saying that officials in Washington had reviewed the matter and had decided that the increase was inflationary and in violation of the president's wage and price

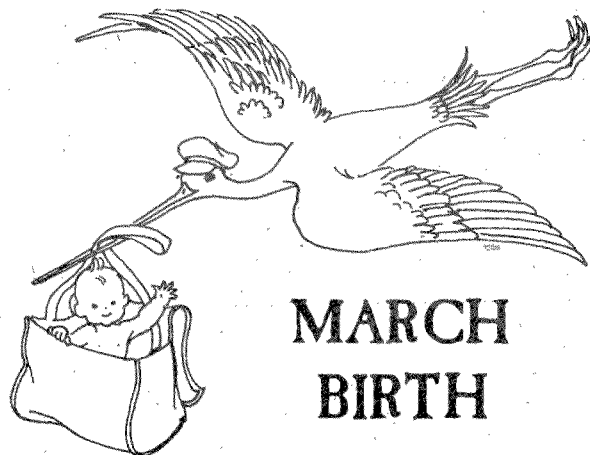
guidelines. As a result the increase was limited to 9 1/2 percent.

"It seemed to be a case of the federal government violating its own policy," Halla said.

A further effect of the school's protest was that the Forest Service changed its policy concerning all public buildings and in the future will limit fee increase everywhere.

"It just goes to show that the democratic process does work," Pierce concluded.

Editor's Note: Sean Cassidy and Naomi Mayer are eighth graders at Pacific Valley School. Michelle Provost is a seventh grader and Cecilia Karlstrom is in the sixth grade.



Phillip and Barbara Fish, of Big Sur are the proud parents of an 11 pound son, Michael Joseph Fish, born March 6, 1979, at Natividad Medical Center.

The Great Groundhog Day Pumpkin Roll



PRINCIPAL BOB Douglas, Music Specialist Bill Purdy and substitute teacher Melinda Douglas watch as Charlene Endsley and other children start the Great Pumpkin down the hill. Left to right: Erik De Groat, Laura

Thrash, Ali Monroe, Beaux Von Protz-Chamberlain, Basil Sanborn, Skye Morganrath, Jonathan McQueen, Jeremy Edwards, Carole Endsley, Gabriel Case, Sara Lee and David Eaton.

By PAULA WALLING

The Great Pumpkin generously donated by Monte Mart to the kindergarten-first-grade classroom began to show signs of rotting late in January, so a date was set to watch it tumble down the hill. Ground Hog Day!

After being rolled, leaned upon, leaped over, and sat upon for three months, bus driver Larry Brassfield positioned the Great Pumpkin atop the Captain Cooper School hill, the children drew lots, and five of them gave the push that sent it thumping down the hill.

At the bottom, children examined the remains before breaking it up and throwing it in all directions.

It was all in fun, but the field mice and pack rats took it seriously, tugging small chunks back to their nests.



At the bottom of the hill, Danielle Rial checks out the remaining seeds and pulp. The Great Groundhog Day Pumpkin was left for the pack rats and field mice to feast upon (and the groundhogs, if any could be found.) Photo by Paula Walling

Big Sur Library

Hours:
1-5 p.m.
Monday • Wednesday
Friday

SUPPORT
YOUR
LOCAL
NEWSPAPER

In Big Sur
DIAL 911
in case of
emergency

Buy • Sell • Rent
USE THE
GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS

Getting Married?
New Baby?
Promotion?
Graduation?

If you have something to write home about, call us at 667-2222 or mail a picture and your story to:

Big Sur Gazette

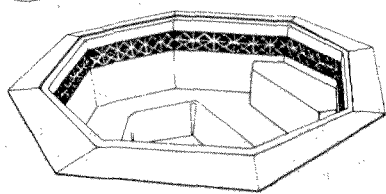
P.O. Box 125, Big Sur California 93920

tub TECHNICS
REDWOOD HOT TUBS FIBERGLASS SPAS SAUNAS

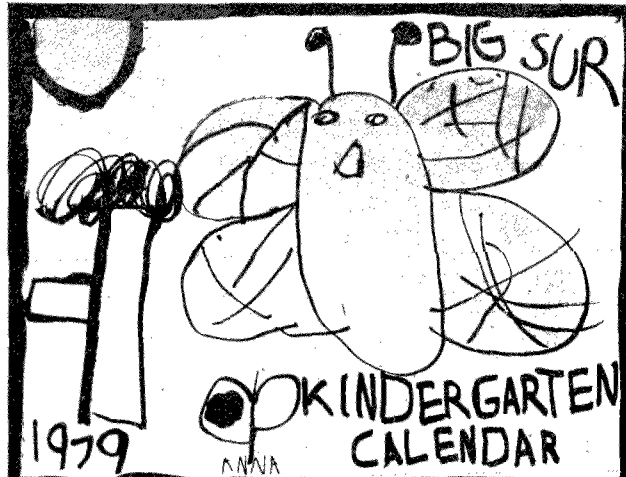
WHEN ONLY THE FINEST
WILL DO ...



classic spas
California's First Line of Spas



SHOWROOM HOURS
Monday-Saturday 10:00-5:00
Sundays Noon-5:00 • Phone 649-0940
121 Ocean View Blvd., Pacific Grove
NEXT TO ARDANS



On Sale Now!

In Carmel: Thunderbird Bookstore, Brinton's, Thinker Toys, Camera Crafts, Hallmark Card Shop, Burlwood.
In Monterey: Palace Stationery, Abinanti Music, Three Rings Bookstore.
In Pacific Grove and New Monterey: Mont Grove Craft Guild, Coop Market, Bookworks, Inc.

On Sale Locally at:

Captain Cooper School, River Inn, River Inn Store, Big Sur Library, Ripplewood, Fernwood, Big Sur Bazaar, Ventana Deli, Ventana General Store, Phoenix Shop, Deetjen's Big Sur Inn, Coast Gallery.

Thank you for supporting the
Captain Cooper School Library

PICO BLANCO

by Herb Aughinbaugh

PART II OF III

We reached the false summit only to find that last summer's fire had reached there before us, wiping out all traces of the trail. The wind-driven rain whipped our ponchos around us as we sat under an outcrop of rock, winded and physically spent. The charred remains of the trees standing solitary guard over the blackened earth only added to our depression as we again assessed our situation.

I climbed further hoping to pick up the trail. Jimmy stayed behind resolved to spending a rain soaked night right where he sat! I could climb no further and with my now wind-torn poncho swirling around me, I started back on a route different than the one that had previously taken me to this dead-end. Less than 100 yards in front of me I spotted it! As I grew nearer I could make out the trail marker! I relayed the news to Jimmy and almost ran headlong down the trail all of the time hoping that the cabins marked on the map truly did exist.

There they were! Situated in a rain soaked valley three of the prettiest sites I have ever seen. The Deauvanex Cabins! Two of the structures had not stood up under the strain of time, but one of them, with a spring running directly under and through it, was still somewhat dry. The cabin, under any other circumstances, would have been condemned mentally by anyone entering it. The wind blew through its paneless windows, piles of mildewed blankets rested on the rusty bedsprings of a homemade bunkbed, a quarter century of debris lay strewn about on her decaying floor boards but she was dry and a large stone fireplace stood out like a gem on one wall.

A three-legged chair looked like the driest piece of



Photo by Robert H. Cowen

firewood in the place. I opened one of the jars we had filled with sawdust and soaked thoroughly with kerosene for a fire lighter before departing, and soon we were drying out around a fire composed of many odds and ends of debris, including a handmade crutch presumed to be no longer needed by Mess. Deauvanex! A canned ham was broken out, complete with pineapple slices and quickly consumed. We mixed the sweet pineapple juice with our coffee, and of course, added a liberal dash of our "luxury." We toasted each other while dubbing the drink a "Pico Blanco Special." Sleep came quickly, even on those rusty, sleeping bag-covered bedsprings.

Morning brought with it an easing of the rain. Mist-like clouds clung close to the valley walls as droplets of moisture seemed to almost hang in the cool morning air. I studied over the relief map while Jimmy prepared a breakfast of "Hole-in-the-bread" eggs, bacon and coffee.

We repacked our gear and readied ourselves for the climb to the base camp. We were already a day behind schedule. I hoped that the rain would cease, at least long enough to reach the site and set up. If the map was correct, we should be able to reach the base of the summit in an hour or two at the most, barring any other delays.

We bid goodbye to the Deauvanex cabins and started our ascent up from the valley floor. The trail wound high and I could hear the rushing water of our old friend, the Sur River, somewhere, fog obscured below us. An hour's climb brought us to an acre wide meadow, lush and emerald green. Two streams flowed down to the Little Sur

from either side of the meadow forming a breath-taking waterfall directly below us. Behind us, her summit still cloud hidden, she stood majestically. Pico Blanco!

A large sycamore tree would provide some shelter from the rain and we quickly set up camp under her sheltering arms. The rain roof was barely in place over the tent when the sky broke loose again. Buckets and buckets of moisture fell from the darkened sky. We spent the remainder of the day listening to the rain falling rhythmically on the tent roof, making plans for exploration still hopeful that the rain would cease before darkness came.

An hour before sunset the sky cleared. Steam rose from the river below us creating miniature rainbows in the blue and grey patchwork sky. We began a search for firewood from downed trees that could be stripped of their rain-soaked bark. A fire pit was constructed from random stones with the help of the ol' reliable firestarter. We soon were drying out around the campfire. We watched as one set of storm clouds after another rolled in from the Pacific. The ever present wind sent them crashing into the canyon walls allowing intermittent patches of blue to appear briefly in the late afternoon sky. There would be no time today for any exploration other than the gathering of additional firewood and water from the rushing stream adjacent to the meadow.

A hearty meal of beef stew and hot French bread helped to take some of the chill from the night air. We sat quietly around the fire sipping coffee, neither of us wishing to discuss our disappointment on having taken three days to reach the base camp. The moon was partially visible and a random assortment of stars twinkled in the black-blue sky above us. Perhaps tomorrow the rain would cease, hopefully for at least a day or two.

CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE

Editor's note: Herb Aughinbaugh has been a resident of the Big Sur area since 1968. He is the author of two books of poetry and has appeared in the "New Yorker" and "Atlantic" magazines.

Big Sur Campground & Cabins

IN THE MAGNIFICENT REDWOODS
ON THE BIG SUR RIVER

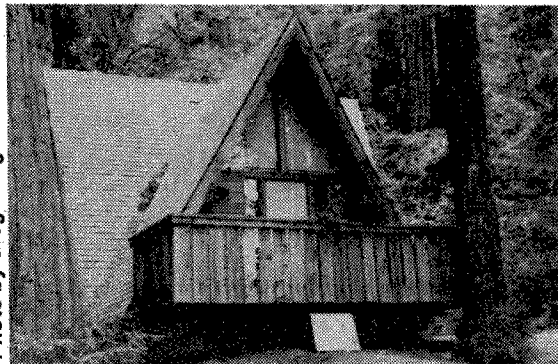


Photo by Greg Dodge

Rustic A-Frame Cabins available
on a daily rental basis
Furnished with Kitchens & Balconies

Campsites for any size RV's or Tents
Hot Showers -- Clean Restrooms

Laundromat--Groceries--Playground
Fishing & Swimming



A Distributor
of Coleman Products

OPEN ALL YEAR

26 miles south of Carmel on Highway One
Reservations accepted 667-2322

GOING TO SAN FRANCISCO?
For a delectable treat, try ...

Juanito's Burritos & Taqueria

QUALITY FOOD -- FRESH DAILY
TAKE OUT ORDERS

Open Noon to Midnight

1818 HAIGHT STREET JOHN J. LYONS
Between Shrader & Stanyan Streets 386-3037

**TORRE
ENGINEERING**

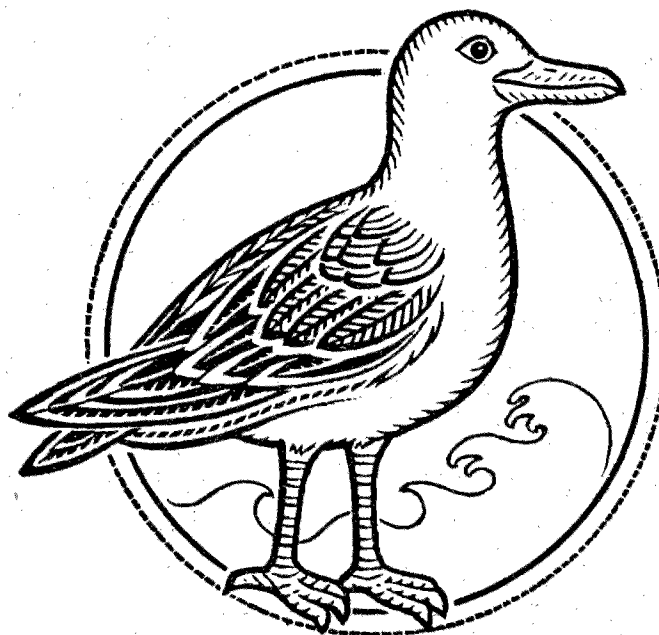
(408) 667-2220

**HACIENDA
HAY & FEED**

Hacienda Waynes Science Diet
Albers King Oat-Alfalfa

8940 Carmel Valley Rd
Carmel Ca. 93923

624-5119



**Handcrafted
Arts & Crafts**
Accent on Pottery

1 1/2 miles South of
Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park

Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Every Day

**BIG SUR
BAZAAR**

Highway One
Big Sur, California 93920
(408) 667-2197

Monterey Peninsula Herald
DELIVERY

Same Day Service!
ONLY \$4.25 per month

make check payable
and mail with coupon to:

Jimi Grossman
P.O. Box 127
Big Sur, CA 93920

YES. DELIVER THE HERALD TO MY HOME

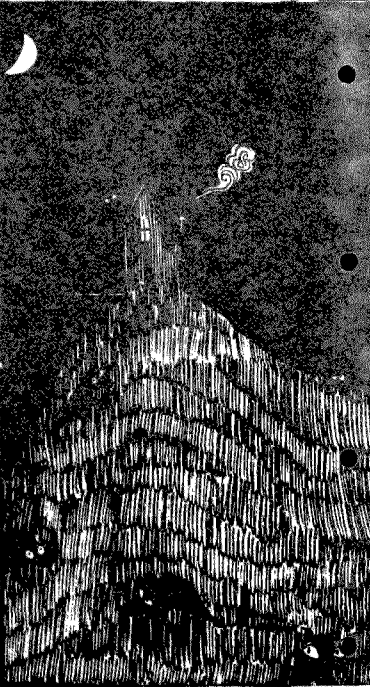
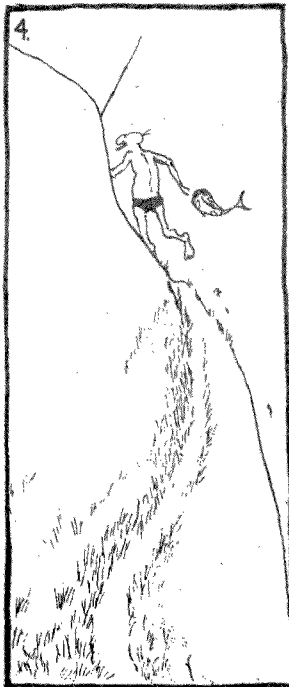
NAME
ADDRESS
CITY, STATE ZIP

The
Ballad
of
Zachary
Bone

by Jo Hudson



On days he went fishing
And held his mouth right
The joys of Bone's cooking
Would season the night



Big Sur Construction & Supply Inc.

LICENSED CONTRACTORS

667-2211

PLEASE BURN ONLY WOOD
OR PAPER IN YOUR FIREPLACE
OR BURN BARREL

Do not burn styrofoam; aluminum foil or
cans; plastic plates, cups, utensils and
wrap; plastic-lined plates, cups, etc.
Plastic, rubber, tar paper, and aluminum
emit harmful vapors. Help keep Big
Sur's air clean.

Thank You!

NEW CPOA PHONE
LIST NOW ON SALE

BIG SUR
phone list

EMERGENCY...911
resident chp officers...667-2182 OR 667-2432

POETRY
SHELL
of the
MONTEREY
PENINSULA

Invites Big Sur Residents to Participate

CATEGORIES

ADULT (18 years and over)

SERIOUS

LIGHT VERSE

TEENAGE (13 through 17)

Please state age

JUVENILE (through 12)

Please state age

SPECIAL PRIZE (for all ages)

BEST POEM ABOUT A PET

PRIZES

First Prize \$15.00

Second Prize \$10.00

Third Prize \$5.00

First Prize \$10.00

Second Prize \$5.00

Third Prize \$3.00

First Prize \$5.00

Second Prize \$3.00

Third Prize \$2.00

First Prize \$10.00

CONTEST RULES:

1. A CONTESTANT MAY SUBMIT NO MORE THAN FIVE (5) UNPUBLISHED POEMS IN EACH CATEGORY, preferably not more than twenty-five lines each, although additional lines will not disqualify distinctive work. Submit on 8 1/2 x 11 typing paper; one poem per page, each with title.

2. To conform with our system of anonymous judging, DO NOT PUT NAME, ADDRESS or TELEPHONE NUMBER ON POEMS SUBMITTED. Put this information on a separate sheet with titles of poems. Designate category in upper right hand corner of each poem; i.e. "Adult-Serious," "Adult-Light," "Teenage" with age, "Juvenile" with age, "Pet Prize."

3. KEEP COPIES OF YOUR POEMS AS NONE WILL BE RETURNED. All entries will be destroyed at the close of the Autumn contest.

4. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: Monday, April 2, 1979. Send poems to Lois Wilson, Contest Chairman, Box 31, Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

Poems submitted by judges and their families are not eligible for prizes. The Editorial Board reserves the right to make editorial or technical changes if necessary. All poems published will be copyrighted by Poetry Shell to protect the poets. Releases will be granted upon request.

NEPENTHE

Dine indoors or on our
beautiful terrace and enjoy
unsurpassed 40-mile vistas
of Big Sur Coastline.

Open daily year 'round
11:30 a.m. to midnight

Dining and Cocktails

Reservations for large parties only
667-2345

On Highway One
30 miles South of Carmel

NEW BIG SUR Telephone lists (shown above) went on sale this week at most local businesses and at the Big Sur Library. The Coast Property Owners Association sponsors the printing of the lists to benefit the Big Sur Ambulance and the Big Sur Fire Brigade. Each organization receives fifty percent of the proceeds. The lists sell for \$1.50 each; 500 were printed. The list was typeset from the August 1978 telephone directory. The drawing of Big Sur's favorite sea mammal, the Southern Sea Otter, was kindly donated by Margaret Owings.

Please observe
"no trespassing"
signs

Respect private
property

WHEN IS A SHOP MORE THAN A SHOP?

Answer, when it's an "ecology" shop. When, in the paper bag, along with your purchases, you find some politely ghastly little pamphlets, to be given to fur-wearing ladies, or an "action sheet" to help you write letters about the impending baby seal massacre in Canada... or if you find yourself writing a postcard to Interior Secretary Andrus (the shop mails it for you) about 1080 poison on our public lands...that's ARAVIC's Ecology Corner, #1 Village Center, Carmel Valley Village.

Open daily 1-5 p.m.

Pacific Legal Foundation Elects Chairman

Willard Z. Carr, Jr. was elected chairman of the board of trustees of Pacific Legal Foundation at its annual meeting on February 27, 1979, in San Diego. As a founding trustee he has served on PLF's board since the firm's formation in 1973.

Carr is a partner in the Los Angeles law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. He specializes in labor relations law and is a member of the National Panel of Arbitrators of the American Arbitration Association.

Mr. Carr, active in community affairs, is vice president of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Los Angeles World Affairs Council. He serves on the board of directors and is secretary of the Los Angeles Police Memorial

Foundation and chairs an advisory committee for recruitment, education and service of the USC Medical Center Auxiliary. Carr is also a member of the National Defense Executive Reserve. He is active in county, state, and national professional organizations and is chairman of a Labour Law Committee of the International Bar Association. He is also chairman of the Economic Resources Controls Committee of the American Bar Association. Carr is a graduate of Purdue University and Indiana University Law School.

Pacific Legal Foundation is a non-profit public interest law firm with two major offices, Sacramento, California, and Washington, D.C., and litigates nationwide. The Foundation recently filed suit to challenge the constitutionality of laws which prevent nuclear energy development in California. PLF is also suing the California Coastal Commission, charging that the Commission cannot require property owners to dedicate public easements in exchange for approval to repair or maintain their coastal zone property.

NIMMO SPEAKS

The Honorable Robert P. Nimmo, member of the California Senate (R-Atascadero; 17th District) was the featured speaker at the Monterey County Foundation of Concern's (MCFC) annual meeting on Friday, March 2, at the Rancho Canada Golf Club, on Carmel Valley Road.

Approximately 70 members and their guests heard Senator Nimmo address current legislative efforts to limit the authority of the Coastal Commission, as well as prospects for bills recently introduced, which are designed to provide more equitable treatment for property owners.

The senator's remarks were preceded by the election of Don Bussey of Watsonville, R. Edwin Norris of Salinas, and Cdr. (Ret) Harry Waddell of Salinas, to the Foundation's board of directors and by a report, to the general membership, by Russel S. Hansen, MCFC's president.

Corner of Living

By ELAYNE FITZPATRICK-GRIMM

Words of Henry Miller from *Big Sur and the Oranges of Hieronymus Bosch*, in 1957:

Today Big Sur is no longer an outpost. The number of sightseers and visitors increases yearly ... What was inaugurated with virginal modesty threatens to end as a bonanza. The early settlers are dying off. Should their huge tracts of land be broken up into small holdings, Big Sur may rapidly develop into a suburb (of Monterey) with bus service, barbecue stands, gas stations, chain stores and all the odious claptrap that makes Suburbia horrendous ...

The world being what it is, I give it as my candid opinion that anyone who knows how to work with his two hands, anyone who is willing to give a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, would be better off to abandon his art and settle down to a humdrum life in an out of the way place like this. It may indeed be the highest wisdom to elect to be a nobody in a relative paradise such as this rather than a celebrity in a world which has lost all sense of values ... wherever there are "individuals" there will always be new frontiers. For the man who wants to lead the good life, which is a way of saying *his own life*, there is always a pot where he can dig in and take root ... the American way of life is an illusory kind of existence ... the price demanded for the security and abundance it pretends to offer is too great ... the machine is breaking down. When the smashup comes, as now seems inevitable, they ("renegades" from society) are more likely to survive the catastrophe than the rest of us. At least, they will know how to get along without cars, without refrigerators, without vacuum cleaners, electric razors and all the other "indispensables" ... probably even without money. If ever we are to witness a new heaven and a new earth, it must surely be one in which money is absent, forgotten, wholly useless.

(Don't miss the exhibit of Henry Miller's own primitive art work now on display at the Coast Gallery south of Big Sur.)

(Have any quotations changed your own life? Send them, with credit to the source, to Elayne W. Fitzpatrick-Grimm, Big Sur Gazette, P.O. Box 125, Big Sur, Calif. 93920.)

HAIRCUTTING BY APRIL

Specializing in Men's Styling

By Appointment Only

667-2490

CAMPING
PERMITTED
ONLY
in
campgrounds



RIVER INN BIG SUR, CALIFORNIA

Breakfast
served 7:30 - 4pm

Served on a huge platter with homemade biscuits and strawberry jam: Two eggs any style with Chef's original hash browns and your choice of baked ham, link sausages or slab bacon.

OR
without the meat

hot cakes - stack or sh. stack
Biscuits - side order

Coffee Tea Milk Hot Chocolate
Orange Tomato Grapefruit Apple Juice

Lunch
11 am - 5 pm

RIVER INN BURGER
1/3 lb. fresh ground beef - charcoal broiled and served on a french roll with homemade fries.

FRENCH DIP SANDWICH
Sliced roast beef on a french roll with a cup of Chef's special au jus and fries.

COLD BEEF * COLD HAM
TUNA * GRILLED CHEESE
cold sandwiches
served with salad
soft drinks * Iced Tea

BIG SUR
YOUR RETURN IS OUR REWARD

VIVE
LA
DIFFERENCE



"CUISINART"®

They are all here!

The handy \$140 model (pictured)

The \$200 model - now offered with four accessories as a special bonus (1 extra bowl, 1 French fryer blade, 1 funnel and 1 apron - a \$60 value)

The \$250 model - bigger and stronger

The "Cuisinart" classes, in addition to the basic demonstrations, teach the preparation of gourmet dishes "à la Française."

With the purchase of any model "Cuisinart," you get TWO FREE CLASSES: one before your purchase for instruction, and one after to answer your questions.

Come and join Janine make butter, mayonnaise, etc. Here is the schedule:

Mondays -- 10:30 a.m.

Pastries and
Appetizers \$5.00

Wednesdays -- 10:30 a.m.

"Cuisinart"
Demonstrations \$5.00

Fridays -- 10:30 a.m.

"Cuisinart" classes
Luncheon included ... \$10.00

Saturdays -- 10:30 a.m.

1st & 3rd Saturday of each month
"Cuisinart" classes with lunch \$10.00

2nd & 4th Saturday of each month
"Cuisinart" Demonstrations \$5.00

Menus will vary each week, except for Demonstrations, but all will feature the "Cuisinart" (French translation: The Art of the Kitchen).

RESERVATIONS ONLY.....Please Call 372-5283

I am looking forward to seeing you at

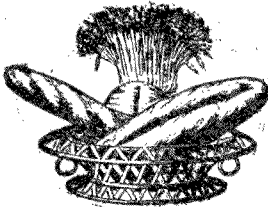
VIVE LA DIFFERENCE

190 Country Club Gate Center
Pacific Grove -- Near Alpha Beta



Claire's Cooking Corner

BIG SUR RECIPE



LEAPIN' LEMONY LEPRECHAUNS!!



Here's something to coax wee folk into tea on March 17th (or any other lucky day!)

At this time of year, dozens of Meyer lemons give a burst of color and fragrance to my weed-high garden. But, regardless of what variety of lemons you have, this quick and easy basic recipe will inspire many uses for sweetly sour treats...very rich ones!

I. Basic Lemon Butter

- 3 large lemons (or to taste) -- juiced
- 3 whole eggs -- beat lightly
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 stick butter

Melt butter in double boiler; stir in sugar; add eggs and lemon juice. Cook and stir until thickens. Cool in refrigerator. This will keep for at least a week.

II. Some Suggestions

1. **Lemon Cloud Icing:** Fold whipped cream into lemon butter and liberally lather any good cake, though my favorite is the Sour Milk Layer Cake, on page 640 of *Joy of Cooking*. In place of the teaspoon of vanilla, I add 4 tablespoons of Natural Almond Flavor by Flavor Mill. First, cut each layer of cake in half and spread with plain lemon butter, then cover with Lemon Cloud Icing.

2. **Lemon Tarts:** Fill tart shells with plain lemon butter and top with whipped cream.

3. **Quick-Snack Tarts:** Graham cracker squares spread with lemon butter and whipped cream. Though less elegant, almost more tasty than the above!

4. **Pie:** Make a graham cracker crust and fill with lemon butter mixed with whipped cream, or plain and topped with whipped cream; serve with slices of ripe banana on top.

5. Your turn!

TOR HOUSE ACQUIRED

The Robinson Jeffers Tor House Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization, today formally took title and possession of Robinson Jeffers' Tor House and Hawk Tower on Carmel Point, subject to a life estate by Mr. and Mrs. Donnan Jeffers, who will continue to live in the easterly wing of the property.

A check in the sum of \$67,500 was delivered to the Jeffers representing the downpayment on the \$250,000 total purchase price for the famed literary landmark, with a note in the sum of \$177,500 representing the balance of the purchase price.

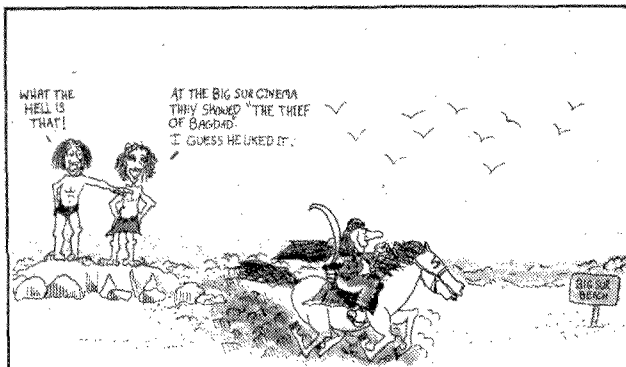
The transfer became possible when the National Trust for Historic Preservation assigned its option to purchase Tor House to the local Foundation as the organization's fund-raising efforts topped \$100,000 in 1978.

Frederick S. Farr, Chairman and President, said, "We are most grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Jeffers for reducing the purchase price of Tor House (its appraisal was quoted at over \$500,000) and to the National Trust in acquiring the option a year ago. We fully appreciate the Trust's encouragement of our efforts to acquire this historic, valuable property."

"Our Foundation is likewise very grateful," Farr continued, "to the many contributors who helped us make our goal, particularly to the Maureen Coburn Church Trust and the City of Carmel, both of whom gave \$25,000 to our fund. Numerous small contributions from throughout the state and from as far away as Massachusetts and New York helped considerably in achieving our goal along with the aid of a host of volunteers."

Farr concluded by saying that the Foundation intends to make Tor House a literary center with a writer in residence from time to time. Fund raising will continue in full force with an ultimate aim of \$300,000 over a three-year period to make deferred payments on the purchase price, provide for repairs, maintenance on the property and to establish an endowment to support Tor House as a literary center.

Tor House and the garden and Hawk Tower will be available for visitation on a limited basis as soon as a docent program has been established by the Foundation. A variety of other related projects are being planned and shaped for the immediate future.



Big Sur Cinema Draws Crowds

March 1st was the grand opening of the Big Sur Cinema, and the good attendance proved that Big Sur loves movies. In fact, the growing number of Thursday night movie-goers has prompted Cinema co-ordinators David Jones and Stuart Selig to include Saturday Matinees for the kids beginning in April.

The upcoming feature movies are:

March 22---NOTORIOUS [1946] USA

B & W

A favorite Hitchcock film with exceptionally sensitive performances by Ingrid Bergman and Cary Grant in a spy-thriller full of breathtaking sequences. Director: Alfred Hitchcock

March 29---THE RULING GLASS [1972] U.K.

COLOR

A devastating and blood-curdling satire on the British upper classes. Stars Peter O'Toole as the 14th Earl of Gurney who arrives fresh from an insane asylum to claim his inheritance.

April 5---WEDDING IN WHITE [1972] Canada

COLOR

Selected as Best Picture of the Year at the 1972 Canadian Film Awards, it is set in an impoverished fishing village during World War II and tells the story of a girl forced to preserve the family honor.

April 12---CITIZEN KANE [1941] USA

B & W

Orson Welles has created a cinematic masterpiece with his first film. It is an emotion-packed story of Charles Foster Kane - with rather pointed parallels to the life of William Randolph Hearst.

SEMINAR ON JEFFERS

Readings in Robinson Jeffers will be offered as a weekly seminar, beginning Wednesday, March 14, at 9:15 a.m. at the Carmel Foundation, 8th and Lincoln, as part of the Monterey Peninsula College "mini-semester" program. Course coordinator,

Elayne W. Fitzpatrick-Grimm, said that the Tor House Foundation, which has purchased Jeffers' stone house and tower on Carmel Point for limited public visits and use by writers and scholars, is cooperating with the College Learning is Living program for older adults

in the course.

She said the course will feature in-class readings and discussions of selections from Jeffers' controversial narratives. Currently enrolled MPC students may take the course free of further charge. Fee for new students is \$7.

pukka

...a new boutique for contemporary clothes



The Sundress
in a rainbow of colors - 100% cotton

- a. 23.00
- b. 27.00

711 cannery row • monterey
upstairs in the monterey canning co. bldg.

tel. 372-3142
open 7 days
mon.-thurs. 11-9
fri. & sat 11-10
sun. 11-5

The Gazette

is YOU!

Inform us of the news events in YOUR life.
Newsroom number: 667-2222

Carmel Rancho Liquors

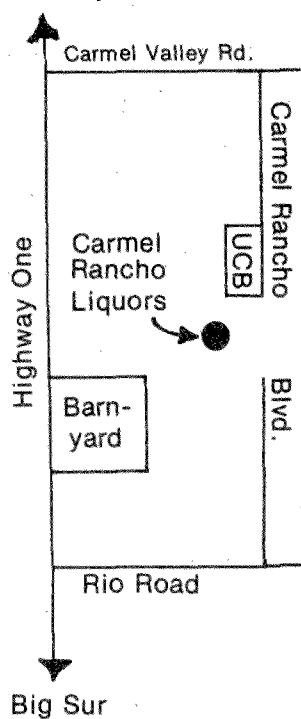
Just off Hwy. 1 -- at the mouth of Sunny Carmel Valley

Full selection of Imported & Domestic Beers, Wines & Liquors

FREE ICE
WITH MINIMUM PURCHASE

WE WELCOME
BankAmericard, Visa, Master Charge & Traveler's Checks

Monterey



HOURS

Mon.-Fri.
8 a.m.-9 p.m.
Saturday
9 a.m.-9 p.m.
Sunday
10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Phone 624-2100

Garzone's
Meat & Deli
in same bldg.

P.O. Box 125
Big Sur, CA 93920

Coastal Conservancy Eyeballs Big Sur Projects

Continued from front page

involvement. It can acquire lands for agricultural preservation for which "a concerted effort is to be made to return suitable acquired agricultural lands to private use or ownership after imposition of use restrictions."

Second, coastal areas with "scattered ownership, poor lot layout, inadequate open space, and other incompatible land uses" can be acquired; "restored," and reconveyed for either public or private use.

The Conservancy may award grants to local public agencies to enhance areas of natural of scenic resources in which compatible private development "may be permitted."

Resource Protection Zones

A fourth area of involvement is in working with the Department of Parks and Recreation. The Conservancy can establish

"buffer" areas around sensitive public beaches, parks, and preserves by rezoning into a "Resource Protection Zone" (RPZ). The Conservancy can grant money to Parks to acquire any interest in lands deemed "eligible" for RPZ rezoning by the Coastal Commission.

An example of the RPZ rezoning is the recent request by the Department of Parks and Recreation to establish an RPZ designation for the area extending south from Carmel Valley River to Yankee Point, from the ridgeline to the sea.

Another realm of Conservancy involvement is the "Reservation of Significant Coastal Resource Areas" by funding the Department of Parks and Recreation to "acquire and hold coastal lands that would otherwise be lost to public use." These lands can be held for ten years and are then either sold to another public agency or disposed of "at fair market

value."

The last major realm of involvement deals with the acquisition of public accessways. Through the Conservancy Act, the State Parks is also "given authority to develop a system of public accessways to and along the coastline," and grants are given for "access acquisitions."

To qualify for action under the Conservancy Act, the preservation, restoration, and enhancement projects must be specifically identified in the final Local Coastal Program.

Private Land Trusts

"Those lands which the Coastal Commission chooses to preserve from development may be acquired through local land trusts," Mr. Petrillo informed the Gazette during the interview.

"Grants of \$100,000 are available to local land trusts," he stated, adding "the program

is novel in the United States."

When asked if he had been in communication with the new local Land Trust, Mr. Petrillo replied, "I've spoken often with Zad Leavy of the Big Sur Trust about the Big Sur projects."

During the discussion period following Mr. Petrillo's presentation, Commissioner Zad Leavy, who is also the legal counsel for the Big Sur Land Trust, remarked that the priority projects were for preservation, restoration, and recombination, and that the Coastal Conservancy programs could "return the State's investment in a ten-year period."

Copies of Mr. Petrillo's report, titled *Park Bond Act and Coastal Conservancy Summary* and other information regarding their activities may be obtained from Joe Petrillo, Director, Coastal Conservancy, 1416 Ninth St., Room 1335, Sacramento 95814. Telephone: 916-322-2358.

USFS UNVEILS BIG SUR PLAN

Continued from front page

ed, "nothing in the plan is written on stone."

Camping Facility Expansions

The construction of "up to 150 vehicle-access camping units" would increase the existing 105 units to 255. "Desirable locations would include Plaskett Ridge Road, Former Willow Creek Dump, and Lower Willow Creek Road." Such a camping unit consists of a "vehicle parking space, picnic table and cooking stove with toilet facilities available."

The construction of "up to 127 vehicle-access day-use units" would occur on the west side of Highway 1. "Such desirable locations include Cape San Martin, Salmon Creek, Wild Cat Creek and Prewitt Creek. A "day use unit" is described as one "that may vary from a single paved parking space or a parking space with a nearby table, cooking stove, water and toilet facilities."

The building of up to 200 trail-access camping units will be located to distribute the recreational uses over as wide an area as possible. Such units are defined as having "a picnic table, cooking stove, and other rustic toilet facilities."

Land Acquisitions

The Plan proposes to "acquire up to 2,500 acres of private lands within the forest boundary if the land becomes available for purchase and funding is provided."

A listing of the specific lands which are "suitable for ac-

quisition with land and water conservation funds" can be found in a 1975 USFS report titled *Monterey Coast Recreation Composit*. Private lands slated for acquisition within the Ventana Wilderness can be found in the *Los Padres Boundary and Landownership Adjustment Plan* (an unpublished report).

In addition, the USFS proposes to acquire lands to secure easements for additional trail rights-of-way for foot and equestrian access along the Coast Ridge Road."

Trail Development

The Land Management Plan calls for construction of 22 miles of new trails to be added to the existing 125-mile trail systems. The emphasis is to provide access to "presently little-used portions" of the area so as to distribute campers, called "dispersed camping." To accomplish this, according to the plan, "several rights-of-way would be required."

A Coastal hiking-biking trail is also planned. Because only 21 miles of the proposed Coastal Trail could be built on Forest Service lands, cooperation with the state and county is being sought. "Such a project could greatly reduce the existing public safety problem from current bicycle and pedestrian use of Highway 1."

Visitor Information Centers

In cooperation with California state agencies, two visitor information centers would be constructed. One would be con-

structed "in the vicinity of Big Sur" and the other near Salmon Creek.

Also in cooperation with Caltrans, the Forest Service plan proposes to construct four to six public toilets at day use sites along the Coast Highway, and to help provide "safe pullouts where travelers may safely park and view the coastal landscape."

Unpublished Reports and Additional Information

Regarding land ownership at the time the plan was drafted, according to the document, "There are 164,138 acres within the unit boundary. Of this total, 68 percent (111,549) acres is National Forest, 29 percent is private land, and three percent is the other public ownership."

Additional matters of possible local relevance can be found in two "unpublished reports" which are footnoted in the plan.

One report is titled "Visual Resource Management: Big Sur Coastal Planning Unit," and it addresses watershed interpretation and management policies. The report is the foundation of a "Visual Resource Inventory Map" found in the Land Management Plan. The map classifies all properties, public and private, for the Forest Service's "visual quality objective."

The five visual quality categories are called retention, partial retention, modification, maximum modification, and preservation.

The second unpublished report is titled *Los Padres National Forest Boundary and Landownership Plan*. Completed in December 1973, this plan began the process which led to the present Land Management Plan.

Among other long-range planning concepts, the boundary and ownership plan states: "The Los Padres National Forest will eventually propose that the coastal section of the Monterey District be given formal classification. This area will likely include all of the land situated on the west-facing slope of the Coast Ridge, and extending north from the southern Monterey County line to at least the northeast corner of Section 33, Township 19S, Range 2E, M.D.M." [Near Pfeiffer-Big Sur State Park]

Both unpublished reports are on file at the Forest Supervisor's Office in Goleta and at the Monterey District Office in King City. These reports can be read and reproduced but not removed from the office.

For additional information or copies of the Land Management Plan, contact either of the offices referenced above.

Free

CLASSIFIED AD TO EVERY SUBSCRIBER

SUBSCRIBE NOW TO THE NEW
MONTHLY NEWSPAPER

The
Big Sur Gazette

P.O. Box 125, Big Sur, California 93920

☐ Yes! Send back issues. Begin
subscription with issue No. 1.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

\$5.00 in Monterey County • \$8.00 Outside Monterey County
\$12.00 Out of State • \$19.00 Foreign
Published monthly September through May
and semi-monthly June through August (15 issues)



Citizen's Advisory Committee Meeting

SCHEDULE

Second & Fourth Tuesday
of each month

Development of LCP

**Big Sur
Grange Hall**

Residents are invited
to attend & participate