



YOUR GUIDE TO THE WORLD'S ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS

THE COMPENDIUM NEWSLETTER

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JULY — AUGUST 2016 VOL. 44, NO. 4 ISSN #0198-9103

“The World Is A Basket”



drawing by Jan Timbrook

For thousands of years, the Chumash people lived in coastal California, from San Luis Obispo to Santa Barbara, a homeland of uncommon biological richness and diversity, with over 1,500 species of plants. The Chumash women were renowned for their skill and artistry in basket making. The other essential items in life from food to medicine, clothing to tools were derived from the natural world. This drawing is from one of a set of eight Chumash Life notecards available from the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 2559 Puesta del Sol, Santa Barbara, CA 93105, www.sbnature.org, 805-682-4711, and found in the book *Chumash Ethnobotany* by Jan Timbrook.

EDITORIAL—NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CENTENNIAL

This year, the United States National Park Service celebrates its 100th anniversary. The over 400 national parks, monuments, and other areas have been set aside for the public to enjoy and for their unique cultural and natural history to be preserved. This is a unique heritage for which Americans can be proud. It also started a movement worldwide to protect special environments and natural and cultural treasures.

Included in the list of national parks are well-known areas such as Yellowstone, Yosemite, the Everglades, the Redwoods, and the Grand Canyon, but also included are remote sections of Alaska and Hawaii and colonial history such as in Philadelphia and Boston or civil war sites such as Gettysburg. Quite frankly, there are so many places deserving to be part of the national park system but legislators will not vote for such protection and will not fund their purchase, maintenance, and operations. The Service needs over ten billion dollars for deferred maintenance. They have had to cut back on staff and provide fewer naturalist programs. Rangers should be leading visitors on guided walks rather than staffing ticket counters and cleaning bathrooms.

To get a glimpse of some of the park treasures, MacGillivray Freeman Films has created a 3D IMAX film ***National Parks Adventure***, narrated by Academy Award winner Robert Redford. The cinematographers followed a trio of adventurers on their quest to experience America's wildest, most historic, and most naturally-beautiful places. The audience will watch world-class mountaineer Conrad Anker, adventure photographer Max Lowe, and artist Rachel Phol as they soar up exposed rock faces, hurtle down steep mountain cliffs and explore other worldly realms biking, hiking, and climbing their way across America. To make this giant screen film about the national parks required: 299,100 feet of 65 mm film (about 57 miles); 14.8 hours of film for a 43-minute movie; \$2,000 per minute of film since each roll of this gigantic film format only holds 3 minutes of film; 5 film crews (a 2D crew and a 3D crew plus an aerial crew, a timelapse crew, and a digital crew; and shooting over 9 months in more than 30 parks and historic sites. As narrator Robert Redford, a renowned actor, filmmaker and leading conservationist summed it up: "*National Parks Adventure*" captures the stunning beauty of our wild places and reminds us these landscapes are an essential part of the human spirit."

The power of America's National Parks is undeniable. It is important for every citizen to try to save more wilderness and wild areas, more historic places, and more ecosystems for endangered wildlife. There is beauty and magnificence in every national park. Let us hope that these stay in public ownership and management since there is a group of so-called environmentalists who want to privatize the parks and make them commercial entities. Even though the government may sometimes not operate as economically as a private business, they have the public interest in mind and not corporate profits. The nature and quality of the parks would change dramatically if we allowed these enterprises to take over. What is needed is simply more governmental support for our incredible legacy.

John Muir, father of the national park system, in 1912, stated that, "Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul alike." Even if a place isn't a park, one can still enjoy our state, county, and city natural areas, our national forests and wilderness, and our public lands operated by many federal agencies including the national wildlife reserves. Let's protect and enjoy as much as possible.

ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTIONS RADIO SERIES

ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTIONS, hosted by Nancy Pearlman, is Educational Communications' international, award-winning interview radio series airing on commercial, listener-sponsored, and college-operated stations as well as on the internet. The series has continued weekly since 1977 and is the longest-running environmental program in the United States. Shows are taped on location throughout the world or at facilities in the Los Angeles area provided by the Ecology Center of Southern California. If you wish to be a guest, simply telephone Nancy at (310) 559-9160 to schedule a time and place.

Stations airing *Environmental Directions*:

KBPK, 90.1. FM out of Fullerton College in Southern California

Friday, 6:00 PM and Sunday, 7:30 PM, live simulcasts on www.kbpk.fullcoll.edu

KKMJ, 95.5 FM, KAMX, 94.7 FM, KJCE, 130 AM, out of Austin, Texas

Stations are part of Entercom Broadcasting and are hot new music, soft music, and talk formats; various times, usually on Sundays

YouTube: ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTIONS WITH NANCY PEARLMAN

Dates below are for the first week of airing on KBPK:

#1992A, April 3, 2016, Liz Cabrera Spencer, Marketing Director, Smart Utility Systems; Former Global Marketing Manager, Emida, and Kurt Sweetser, Vice President of Alliance Partnerships and Customer Relations, Smart Utility Systems; Former IT Manager and Director of Business Relations and Client Services, Southern California Edison—technology for apps for water and energy conservation; helping utilities find out how customers are using energy and water; cloud, mobility and analytics to improve customer behavior in saving resources

#1992B, April 3, 2016, Eileen Oldroyd, Realtor, Broker, and Owner, Oldroyd Realty; Member of Green Advisory Board, National Association of Realtors; District Vice President, Women's Council of Realtors, California; Former Chair, Green Committee for the Orange County Association of Realtors—having green elements in homes improve their value for sales

#1993A, April 10, 2016, Bill M. Alley, Ph.D., Hydrologist; Director of Science and Technology, National Groundwater Association; Former Chief, Office of Groundwater, U. S. Geological Survey and Hydrologist in their Colorado District's Surface Water Branch, Systems Analysis Group; Former Groundwater Coordinator, National Water Quality Assessment Program; Former Coordinator, Regional Aquifer System Analysis Program; Recipient numerous awards —High Plains Aquifer as source of water; remediation to clean up contaminants for water quality; groundwater resource evaluation; lead and methane in water

#1993B, April 10, 2016, Jeremy Birnstingl, Ph.D., BSc, MSEE, CEnv, Vice President, Environmental Technology, Regenesys; Former Founding Managing Director, Regenesys Europe—reversal of groundwater and soil contamination from hazardous industrial chemicals; bioremediation using natural systems in cleanup of groundwater/in situ cleanup

ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTIONS RADIO SERIES CONTINUED

#1994A, April 17, 2016, Mark Legg, Ph.D., Registered Geophysicist; Licensed Professional Geologist; President, Legg Geophysical, Inc.; Adjunct Professor, Geological Sciences Department, San Diego State University; Associate, Tsunami Research Center, University of Southern California—offshore geology including earthquakes and faults, tsunamis, tectonics, and fault scarp, in southern California, USA, Baja California, Mexico, Turkey, and the Caribbean

#1994A, April 17, 2016, Christine Wong, Division Manager for southern California, USAgain—donated used clothing collection and reselling for reuse; textile recycling

#1995, April 124, 2016, Consumer Products Expo Exhibitors—Lindsey Parry, Founder, 4Love Clothing: making clothes in Panama with indigenous women; using portion of proceeds to Sowing Seeds of Love; Catherine Cu, Co-Founder, Cocofloss: dental floss; Ton Albers, Thermostat Sales and Distribution Product Manager, Venstar: energy efficient thermostat app; Lori Leib, Creative Director, Bodyography; Makeup Artist, Robanda International: body and skin care products and makeup; using some proceeds to help women in South Africa; Paul Auclair, Product Manager, Pedego Electric Bikes: electric bikes for transportation and recreation; Nikhil Arora, Co-Founder, Back to the Roots: growing food in boxes and cans; Sarah Jane Kiesel, Founder, Sarah Jane Jewelry & Design: hand-made earrings and necklaces from recycled materials; Joseph K. Moore, President and CEO, First Defense Nasal Screens: using nasal screens to protect against air pollutants; Misti Barnes, Author, *If You Leave Me, Can I Come with You*; Blogger, Speaker; Owner, Ideal Beauty: permanent makeup and skincare; inspirational thoughts; and Marianne Bier, General Manager, Diamon Veneer: manufactured diamonds

#1996, May 1, 2016, Dr. Richard Oppenlander, Founder and Director, Inspire Awareness Now; Dentist; Author, *Comfortably Unaware: What We Choose to Eat Is Killing Us and Our Planet* and *Food Choice and Sustainability: Why Buying Local, Eating Less Meat, and Taking Baby Steps Won't Work*—promoting a vegetarian diet immediately, not slowly; why meat eating is causing over 50% of global emissions that is causing climate change; refusal of establishment to acknowledge contribution of raising animals for meat is major source of pollution, not just factories and transportation

#1997, May 8, 2016, Eibrom Tesfay, Tour Guide, Abstract Land Ethiopia Tours—significant places and people to see and meet in the East African country of Ethiopia; unique history and ecosystems

#1998, May 15, 2016, Dan H. Foley III, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, Department of Natural and Behavioral Sciences, Sul Ross State University; Vice President, Texas Herpetological Society—Texas endangered turtles, amphibians, and reptiles; ecology of amphibians and reptiles in Texas, California, Mexico, and Guatemala; chameleons of Madagascar; chuckwallas of Nevada; Leatherback turtle of Costa Rica; Rio Grande Cooter (riverine turtle) in Pecos and Devils River; surveying new areas of Texas for new species

ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTIONS RADIO SERIES CONTINUED

#1999, May 22, 2016, Ayele Bekerie, Associate Professor, Department of History and Heritage Management, Mekelle University in Ethiopia; Former Professor of African Studies, Cornell University—history of civilizations in Ethiopia dating back to 3,000 BCE; Queen of Sheba; Aksumite Kingdom; 80 ethnic groups in Ethiopia; 200 kingdoms in Ethiopia; ecosystems of East Africa including 40% of Africa's mountains that are in Ethiopia; early (1st-5th century AD) Coptic Orthodox Christian churches

#2000A, May 29, 2016, and rerun on June 5, 2016, Hans Johnson, President Progressive Victory; Founder Institute for Smart Waste Policy; President, East Area Progressive Democrats—plastic pollution; keeping the California plastic bag ban; public policy-making, environmental advocacy

#2000B, May 29, 2016 and rerun on June 5, 2016, Wendy Butts, CEO, Los Angeles Conservation Corps—community conservation projects for past thirty years for at-risk young people including hillside restoration, tree planting, graffiti removal, constructing community gardens, enhancing parks and playgrouns, recycling beverage containers, restoring natural habitat, and giving scholarships

#2001, June 12, 2016, Dr. Hanna Mounce, Coordinator, Maui Forest Bird Recovery Project; Executive Director, Na Koa Manu Conservation, Inc.—protecting and researching endangered bird species in Hawaii including: Akeheke (crested honeycreeper), I'iwi, Hawaii Amakihi, Apapane, Maui Alauahio (Maui creeper), Hawaiian honey creepers especially the Kiwiku (500 left in the world); 41 honeycreepers (17 extinct and 14 are federally listed endangered); threats to Hawaiian forest includes habitat destruction, ungulates, introduced predators, avian disease, non-native birds, and climate change

#2002A, June 19, 2016, Dr. Jan Timbrook, Curator of Ethnography, Anthropology Department, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History; Author, *Chumash Ethnobotany: Plant Knowledge Among the Chumash Indians of Southern California*: Chumash Indian uses of native plants of southern California especially in the Gold Creek Ecological Field Station in Little Tujunga, San Fernando Valley; creating exhibits on native cultures and caring for collections of Native American artifacts

#2002B, June 19, 2016 Dr. Robert West, Professor of Geology, East Los Angeles College; Coordinator, Gold Creek Ecological Field Station, Los Angeles Community College District—using for college classes study and research the 240-acres nature reserve in Little Tujunga Canyon of the City of Los Angeles in southern California; unique geological formations including earthquake faults in area

#2003A, June 26, 2016, Richard Mathews, Member of the Board of Directors, Save Porter Ranch; President, North Valley Democratic Club; Official, Democratic Party; Computer Architect—stopping the gas leaks in Aliso Canyon, southern California at the Natural Gas Storage Facilities in the Santa Susana Mountains; natural gas blowout overlooking Limekiln Canyon affecting residents in the Los Angeles City areas of Porter Ranch, Chatsworth, and Granada Hills; nuclear waste and chemical pollution at the Santa Susana Field Lab; stopping land development in Dayton Canyon and Hidden Creek

ECONEWS TELEVISION SERIES

ECONEWS, produced and hosted by Nancy Pearlman, currently airs on over 50 cable channels (governmental, educational, and public access stations) in more than 21 states reaching about 19 million homes weekly. Each show gets about 300 airings over a four-year period due to multiple plays and reruns. There are over 600 programs produced since 1984. Special documentaries have aired on the PBS satellite and in other countries and venues including film festivals. ECONEWS is provided free-of-charge to television stations via a distribution network of DVDS. Copies may be obtained for \$10.00 which covers dubbing, postage, and handling. Featured are programs done by our professional camerapeople and editors as well as our student interns and volunteers. Your tax-deductible donation allows us to continue to provide the ecological message to the public and to encourage ecotourism. Check the credits for the help by our volunteers. Titles are listed on www.ecoprojects.org.

Our YouTube Channel is: ECONEWS with Nancy Pearlman.

#3010, PROFESSOR MUGA IN KENYA AND DR. TONY JUNIPER IN THE UNITED KINGDOM—Review by Leslie Lewis

Host Nancy Pearlman has conversations with two leading environmentalists/conservationists who describe the importance of protecting our natural ecosystems. Dr. Tony Juniper is: Special Advisor to the Prince of Wales Charities International Sustainability Unit; Fellow, University of Cambridge's Program for Sustainability Leadership; Founding Member of Roberts Bridge Group that advises international companies; and award-winning author of many books including: *What Has Nature Ever Done for Us: How Money Really Does Grow on Trees*; *Spik's Macaw: The Race to Save the World's Rarest Bird*; and *How Many Light Bulbs Does It Take To Change A Planet*; and co-author of many books including: *Parrots: A Guide to the Parrots of the World*, and *Harmony* (with His Royal Highness Prince of Wales and Ian Scully). Professor Joseph Ouma Muga is: Deputy Vice Chancellor and Professor, School of Environmental Studies, Moi University, Kenya; and Managing Director, Environmental Renaissance Institute. Muga was a leader in Kenya's political independence movement and served as a Former Minister in the Kenyan Parliament and Former Minister for National Security and Environment. He has taught in the Department of Geography, University of Sidney, Australia, in the Geography and Geology Department, Makerere University, Uganda, and at the University of Zambia. From their different perspectives and experiences, they both have concluded that we must do more to protect our wildlife and the natural ecosystems that the flora and fauna and human beings depend. As they point out, we have only one earth and too much is taken for granted. Dr. Juniper gives examples about the loss of vultures in India, the loss of pollinators in Southwest China, and the loss of coastal mangroves, coral reefs, salt marshes and intertidal mudflats and their impacts on natural disasters. He stresses that billions of dollars are lost due to physical damage or personal health by not protecting nature and that the human economy would be better served if we protect nature. Professor Muga describes how important it is to manage wildlife in Kenya and elsewhere and to control poaching; how wildlife corridors are needed for gene pool protection; that pollution in lakes and rivers such as Lake Victoria take a toll on wildlife and humans; and how climate change is affecting wildlife and humans. The depth of work of these two gentlemen is tremendous and their contributions are extremely valuable. These are superb dialogues!

WILDLIFE STATE OF AFFAIRS

AFRICAN PROVERB—“If you think you are so small to make a difference, you haven’t spent a night with a mosquito.”

PTEROSAURS—Until October 2, 2016, the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County in Exposition Park, (900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90007, (213) 763-3218, www.nhm.org) will feature “Pterosaurs: Flight in the Age of Dinosaurs” exhibit in conjunction with the American Museum of Natural History in New York. The exhibit shows these diverse winged reptiles, the first back-boned animals to evolve powered flight. Recent discoveries in Italy, Germany, China, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Brazil have enabled scientists to theorize about how these ancient creatures dominated the sky. The specimens show how the pterosaurs ranged from the size of a sparrow to a two-seater plane. Despite popular misconceptions, pterosaurs were not dinosaurs although the two groups are closely related. In fact, these flying reptiles were the first vertebrate animals to evolve powered flight, diversifying into more than 150 species of all shapes and sizes spreading across the planet over a period of 150 million years from 220 million years ago until they went extinct 66 million years ago. The colossal *Tropeognathus mesembrinus* had a wingspan of more than 25 feet but the *Nemicolopterus crypticus* only had a wingspan of 10 inches. *Quetzalcoatlus northropi* is the largest pterosaur species known to date; but they still have an unknown species of giant pterosaur unearthed in Romania in 2012 which may be bigger. The fossil of *Anhanguera santanae* died and fell into a lagoon in Brazil 110 million years ago and was buried by fine sediment and the mud formed a hard shell called a nodule around the remains, protecting and preserving the pterosaur for posterity. A pterosaur egg found in China in 2004 shows that the young were likely primed for flight soon after hatching. A pterosaur cast fossil of the *Rhamphorhynchus* preserved wing membranes and reveals that long fibers extended from the front to the back to form a series of stabilizing supports. *Sordes pilosus* was the first species to show that pterosaurs had a fuzzy coat and were probably warm-blooded, just like birds and bats and even some dinosaurs. Much, though, still needs to be discovered and learned about these animals. The closest living relatives are crocodiles and birds.

BOBCATS—Sometimes known as catamount, lynx cat, wildcat and other names, bobcats are *Lynx rufus* and is taxonomically related to the Canadian lynx, both representing the only short-tailed wild cats in North America. Its species name, rufus, hints at the reddish color. These cats are found throughout the United States and into Canada and Mexico. With a range so extensive, they can be found in a variety of habitats, ranging from denser forests to shrub-dominated deserts to mountain habitats. They are strict carnivores, consuming small mammals such as rodents, squirrels, and rabbits. They stalk their prey so they need shrub cover for hunting. Female bobcats give birth to two to three young each spring and the kittens stay with the mother until the late summer or early fall. Males do not participate in raising the young and they spend most of their time defending their territory from other males. These animals are not a threat to humans and rarely to pets. [Source: John Laundre, Assistant Director of the UC James Reserve in Idyllwild, California. They set up motion-sensitive cameras to document the bobcats in the San Jacinto Mountains of the San Bernardino National Forest]

CURRENT LAND USE

GOLD CREEK ECOLOGICAL FIELD STATION—Located in Little Tujunga Canyon in the northeast section of the San Fernando Valley of the City of Los Angeles, is the Gold Creek Ecological Field Station. This site is owned by the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) and is operated by a committee of volunteer professors from the District's nine colleges who use it for student field trips, study, and research. Originally it was the Watt's ranch which was purchased by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) in 1950 for \$60,000. It was supposed to be used to teach agriculture to students from Pierce College as there were apple, pear, apricot orchards on the site. When the site was transferred to LACCD in 1969 when the LAUSD and LACCD split, faculty from the natural sciences realized that they had a natural habitat with native plants worthy of protection and useful to biology, botany, geology, and archaeological students and faculty. The elevation of Gold Creek is about 2080-2640 feet. In 1975 a California EPP Fund (license plate) grant provided funding for the building of the Blockhouse which contains a classroom, storage room of specimens, and restrooms. Funds are needed for a solar panel so that there can be light at night so astronomy classes can utilize the station. There are five self-guided nature trails prepared with a syllabus containing lessons, lists of flora and fauna, and other useful information. Many species still need to be cataloged and discovered especially the insects. There are two amphitheaters, a garage, and a bridge over the creek, many added since 2000. Significant events that have occurred at Gold Creek include the 1971 earthquake (Richter of 6.4) which destroyed the farm house on the site. The November 26, 1975 fire (the previous burn at Gold Creek was in 1918) burned most of Gold Creek, but did not burn the Blockhouse/classroom. A couple of years ago the Station Fire used Gold Creek as a firefighters staging area and used most of the water from the area. There was major flood following the burn on Feb. 10, 1978. Little Tujunga Canyon Road became impassible due to road washout at four places. Three hundred feet of the Gold Creek road about the Blockhouse and parking lot was washed out.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY DELTA—The largest estuary on the west coast of the Americas is the San Francisco Bay Delta. It provides drinking water for more than 25 million Californians, irrigation water for more than three million acres of farmland, a home and recreational backyard to millions of Californians, and essential habitat for over 700 species of wildlife including the commercially valuable Chinook salmon. The Delta, though, is in serious decline. In 2008, the Governor's Delta Vision Task Force acknowledged that, "A revitalized Delta ecosystem will require reduced diversions at critical times," and recommended that the State Water Board adopt new water quality standards by 2012 that increased spring Delta outflows, reintroduced fall outflow variability, and increased San Joaquin River inflows to the Delta in February to June. Despite these repeated acknowledgements that existing standards aren't protecting water quality and instead of updating and strengthening the standards, the state has instead waived and weakened them further. Since the state adopted the Water Action Plan in January of 2014, it has redirected more than 1.3 million acre-feet of water (enough water to supply the city of Los Angeles for about two years) away from protecting Delta water quality to upstream and export water users. The Natural Resources Defense Council, The Bay Institute, and Defenders of Wildlife have filed suits to get EPA action.

ISSUES UPDATE

PLASTIC BAG BAN—In November of 2016, a “yes” vote is needed to preserve the first-in-the-nation law banning plastic bags. Plastic pollution takes several forms and exacts a steep price from tax-payers, including millions of dollars spent by local governments to pull plastic from storm drains. It also blights our parks and private property. It poses a health threat to infants with suffocation, to children and adults from plastics that infiltrate our water supply and food chain, and to turtles and marine creatures that suffer by ingesting them. Nearly two-thirds of Californians support the plastic bag ban. Last year, Governor Jerry Brown of California signed a statewide ban on tiny plastic microbeads, used in some facial cleansers and lotions. They escape most filters and pervade our lakes and waterways where they absorb toxic compounds such as PCBs and get consumed by fish that humans eat. In January of 2016, Sacramento joined the list of more than 130 cities and counties throughout California that ban throwaway plastic bags. It continues Californians’ shift to paper and reusable bags, often made with recycled material. [Source: Hans Johnson, President of Progressive Victory and founder of the Institute for Smart Waste Policy, hansj@progressivevictory.com.]

NUCLEAR WARHEADS—There are over 450 nuclear warheads that remain on alert in missile silos under the Great Plains of the United States. Each of these 335-kiloton hydrogen bombs is ready to destroy entire cities without 30 seconds of a presidential order, or, perhaps more likely, with these decades-old and strategically obsolete missile systems, by an equipment malfunction or operator error. More details are in the book *Nuclear Heartland: Revised—A Guide to the 450 land-based missiles of the United States* from The Progressive Foundation, 740A Round Lake Road, Luck, WI 54853, nukewatch1@lakeland.ws or www.nukewatchinfo.org.

CALIFORNIA RECYCLING RATES—California’s overall recycling rate fell to 47 percent in 2015, below the 50 percent or better rates achieved since 2010, and far short of the 75 percent goal set by the legislature for 2020. The newly-released data from the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) shows that disposal amounts increased by 2 million tons in 2015 compared to 2014, resulting in more waste, higher costs and an additional 200,000 tons of direct greenhouse gas emissions. Contributing to the recycling drop are low commodity prices, closed recycling centers and cheap disposal alternatives. The low commodity prices for paper, plastics and metals are driven by low oil prices, which in turn makes processing and producing virgin materials from natural resources appear to be cheaper. Low commodity prices have resulted in the closure of more than 662 recycling centers in California over the last 12 months, with potentially hundreds more closing after July. In addition to low commodity prices, recyclers and composters must also compete with artificially low priced disposal options that fail to incorporate their true environmental and regulatory costs. While new policies have been adopted in an effort to increase recycling (including requirements for businesses to recycle and compost), sporadic enforcement, under investment, and slow implementation have undermined program effectiveness and failed to offset increased consumer consumption of disposables. [Source: Californians Against Waste, (916) 443-5422]

ECOLOGICAL ACTION COMMITTEE—BY ANNA HARLOWE

SUPPORTED:

Funding and replacing Flint, Michigan's water pipes and infrastructure

Department of Fish and Wildlife in the state of Washington's recommendation to maintain the endangered status for killer whales (orcas)

Keeping state authority in the final Toxic Substances Control Act

Creating the Greater Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument to protect the desert grasslands and coniferous forests with towering cliffs that have springs and tributaries flowing into Grand Canyon National Park's Colorado River; such designation would protect archaeological treasures too

Having all nations sign the Paris Climate Agreement

More action to protect the remaining 97 wild Mexican wolves in New Mexico and Arizona

Stronger penalties in Australia for incidents of animal cruelty especially against two men who tortured and killed a koala

Voting Rights Advancement Act, Voter Empowerment Act, and Democracy for All Amendment, and Government by the People Act/Fair Elections Now Act, which bills would restore protections against voting discrimination, ensure equal access to voting, limit undue influence of money in politics and amplify small contributions from everyday Americans

Twenty-year extension of the mineral withdrawal in the Sweet Grass Hills of north central Montana

OPPOSED:

Gold mining near the boundary of Yellowstone National Park and in the tributary watersheds of the Yellowstone River

Incidental take of roughly 100 spotted owls as part of the Westside Fire Recovery Project (opposed the salvage logging operation at the expense of wildlife recovery)

South Africa's plans to legalize that nation's rhino horn trade

The state of Arizona forcing the closure of the Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center which takes in abandoned and abused animals.

EPA proposed drinking water standards that would allow more radioactivity

URGED:

The FMO Development Bank to withdraw investments in the Agua Zarca Dam

Closing "Just Pups" pet store in East Brunswick, New Jersey, because of animal abuse

Canceling Nordic Mining's permit in Norway for its proposed mine in the Engebo Mountain and to save the pristine Forde fjord from mine waste dumping and to drop lawsuit against protesters of the mine

Russia to outlaw the capture of wild whales and dolphins for tourist attractions

PepsiCo to demand that its suppliers, anywhere in the world, halt the expansion of palm oil at the expense of forests and communities

COMMENTED:

United States Department of Transportation's proposed rule that requires states to set standards for greenhouse gas emissions and to require that Metropolitan Planning Organizations develop implementation strategies to achieve these standards. Transportation needs to be cleaner and more sustainable

Seafood Import Monitoring Program and urged that the standards be tougher so that all seafood sold in the United States is safe, legally caught, and honestly labeled

EDUCATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS REPORT—BY NANCY PEARLMAN

ACTIVITIES BY NANCY PEARLMAN REPRESENTING ORGANIZATION

(partial for January-April 2016 and for May-June 2016)

Attended: Los Angeles Master Chorale and Ramon C. Cortines School of Visual and Performing Arts Oratorio “Woman at the Window: The Triangle Factory Fire”; Azerbaijan Food Writers Dinner; Rabbi Hanoch Teller’s Talk based on his book “Heroic Children: Untold Stories of the Unconquerable” (about the Holocaust) at Museum of Tolerance; USC Talk about Ghetto Photos from Poland during the Holocaust; Mark Taper Forum Play, “The Mystery of Love and Sex”; 46th Annual Laguna Folk Dance Festival Dance Sessions and Concert; Vesolo Folk Dance Evening; Alternate Water Source Press Tour in Santa Monica; Women’s Comedian Talk in West Hollywood; Ocean’s Orchestra at the Aquarium of the Pacific; Folk Rock Blues, Joe’s Great American Bar and Grill Band; West Los Angeles Group of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club talk about an Alaskan trip; G2 Gallery Reception on the National Parks; Jerry Rubin’s Activist Support Circle; Allison Dutch’s “All Products Media Showcase”; and David Resnick Gallery Reception

Screened: At IMAX film “National Parks Adventure”; “South LA Rugby”; Golden Globe Foreign Language Nominee Film Series and Panel Discussions: “Mustang” (France), “The Brand New Testament” (Belgium/France/Luxembourg), “The Fencer” (Finland/Germany/Estonia), and “Son of Saul” (Hungary); Film about architect Jules Shulman; “Tangarine”; “Positive Exposure”; “When Justice Isn’t Just” (Holocaust documentary); “Claude Lanzmann: Spectres of the Shoah” (marking the 30th anniversary of “Shoah’s” 1985 release and commemorating International Holocaust Remembrance Day)

Organized Fundraiser: “Dr. Ken” Television show taping (thanks to attendees who helped make this fundraiser possible)

Staffed: Literature table at: the Deane Dana Friendship Park and Nature Center’s Environmental Fair in San Pedro and at Pitzer College Career Services’ “Career Fair for Nonprofit and Public Service”

Listed: Bennington College Internship Program

Joined: California Wilderness Coalition Hike near the St. Francis Dam area in the Santa Clarita Valley section of the Angeles National Forest to see potential wilderness in the Castaic Units

ACTIVITIES BY NANCY PEARLMAN AS TRUSTEE FOR THE LOS ANGELES

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT (LACCD) (in addition to Board and Committee Meetings)

Attended: Memorandum of Understanding Signing Ceremony with Consul General of Mexico and Chancellor of the LACCD; East Area Progressive Democratic Club; Sustainable Business Council Reception; G’Day US-Australian Dialogue on Water Management and Drought; SEIU Leadership Reception; “Celebrating Rosa Parks and Susan B Anthony” at Women’s Leadership Series at City of Los Angeles Mayor’s House with LA First Lady Ay Elaine Wakeland, the Getty House Foundation and the LA Unified School District Superintendent Michelle King; Ethiopian Deputy Consul General Meeting; Building Trades Council Meeting; LA as Subject Archives Meeting; LA Chamber of Commerce Dinner; UCLA Talk by the Department of Ecology; Los Angeles City Mayor Eric Garcetti’s Open House for Local Elected Officials; California Attorney General Kamela Harris’ presentation; Center for Asia Pacific Policy at Rand, “Maritime Issues in the East and South China Seas” Symposium; Consulate General of Azerbaijan in Los Angeles Presentation of “Black January”; Regensis Workshop; “Combating Cancer of Extremism” Panel Discussion by Pacifica Institute; and West Los Angeles Travel Department Program

FILM REVIEWS/IMPRESSIONS

SLINGSHOT: IT'S TIME TO CHANGE—This award-winning, 88-minute film by Paul Lazrus who has a 30-year career in directing, producing, and writing for film, theater, and television, focuses on inventor Dean Kamen. From his medical inventions to his creation of the Segway Human Transporter, Kamen wants to solve problems that help people in need and that ease suffering. His most recent efforts are focused on the world's water crisis and improving on his "SlingShot" water purification system created to obliterate half of human illnesses on the planet which are caused by water-born pathogens. He has done tests in Central America and Africa and acknowledges that technology alone is not the answer but cultural shifts must also be made. Kamen reminisces about improving home dialysis and choosing to forego parenthood while lamenting he has only one lifetime for inventing. He is an inspirational character, a quirky genius who has a sharp wit, and a person with a provocative worldview. Kamen encourages young people to appreciate scientists and creative individuals. He reconceived kidney dialysis, engineered an electric wheelchair that can travel up stairs, improved the heart stent, built portable insulin pumps, founded the FIRST robotics competition to inspire young people and more. He holds over 440 U. S. and foreign patents. The SlingShot is a small, energy-efficient vapor compression distiller that can turn any unfit source of water (river sludge, seawater, poisoned well water, or even a 50-gallon tank of urine) into potable, safe water without any need for chemical additives or filters. He believes that funding for large-scale development projects to solve the water crisis is not the answer and that small-consumer solutions will serve the better good. For more information: Adam J. Segal, The 2050 Group, 1177 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 500, New York, NY 10036.

INSIDE THE GARBAGE OF THE WORLD: THE UGLY TRUTH ABOUT PLASTIC POLLUTION—This 79-minute Philippe and Maxine Carillo film, www.pamcfilms.com, carillofilm@gmail.com was produced in 2014 to highlight where garbage really goes and how to stop this world-wide disaster. This informative, in-depth expose unveils the condition in the oceans where massive (continental size) conglomerations of plastics float. The plastic does not disintegrate but becomes smaller and looks like food for the ocean life which will feed on it and consequently die from starvation. Some of the experts featured are: Captain Charles Moore, Anna Cummins, Dr. Andrea Neal, Dr. Anthony Andraady, Dr. Mark Browne, Dr. Daniel Jordan, Mary Crowley and more.

ILLICIT IVORY—KCETLink Media Group (KCET.org/ivory and LinkTV.org/ivory), the Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens, and Wildlife Conservation Society's 96 Elephants Campaign (www.wcs.org and www.96elephants.org) partnered with the television series EARTH FOCUS to create a special film *Illicit Ivory* that investigated the devastating effects of the ivory trade. African elephant populations are dwindling especially due to the illegal ivory trade which also links to insurgency groups and organized crime. Environmentalists support a moratorium on ivory products throughout the United States and throughout the world. As John Lewis, Director of the Los Angeles Zoo commented, "these giants, so specialized in their adaptations, do not tolerate significant change. Mass slaughter is significant and requires that we heed this call to action to protect their futures." An elephant is killed by poachers every 20 minutes to feed an insatiable demand for ivory (alternative materials do exist). At this rate the African elephants may be gone in as little as ten years.

MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

PERSONAL APPAREL

4Love is a socially-conscious company that utilizes the power of fashion to empower indigenous women. They employ women from the Ngobe-Bugle tribe in Panama. Their **clothing line** utilizes the tribe's traditional clothing style as inspiration. Each product created highlights and preserves the tribe's authentic *nagua*, a geometric pattern that is handmade by layering fabric on top of one another. The collection consists of four dress styles, accessories, and home goods. Even head wraps are made in the lovely patterns and colors. In addition to providing the women work, they also have a community center where their children are welcome for tutoring in reading, English, and art programs. Contact them at 4loveclothing@gmail.com or go to facebook.com/4loveclothing or visit their nonprofit at www.sow-ingseedsoflove.org.

Sarah Jane Jewelry & Design has lovely earrings and other **jewelry**, all hand-made by Sarah Jane utilizing traditional metalsmithing techniques. She has transformed sheet metal and wire into fashionable accessories. She also has jewelry created from sterling silver, copper, brass, and nickel. The parts that come into contact with the costumer's skin is silver so that your skin doesn't turn green. Contact here at sarahjanejewelry.com or sjanejewelry@gmail.com.

ValleauApparel has some "fashion-forward, comfortable, positive-image boosting **active wear** for women. Each piece is designed in San Diego and manufactured in California. The collection offers sports bras, bottoms, and accessories in rich, vibrant colors and unique designs. Contact: valleuapparel@gmail.com, www.valeuapparel.com.

Bohlux makes in the United States, master leather artisan, custom-designed luxury **handbags** or as they say "comora leather atelier couture handbags." They have hand and shoulder bags, totes, accessories, clutches, and even a cord holder. Contact: Bohlux, P. O. Box 7759, Cotati, CA 94931, (415) 686-1145, www.bohlux.com.

PERSONAL CARE

Cocofloss is a soft, textured **dental floss** infused with coconut oil and coconut flavor. While the products are made in Italy, the company, Cocolab, is based in San Mateo, CA 94401, team@cocofloss.com, (415) 851-5611, www.cocofloss.com. It was founded by sisters Dr. Chrystle Cu and Catherine Cu to help save teeth from decay.

Murphy's Mosquito Sticks are 100% natural, Deet-free **repellents**. The company, Murphy's Naturals, www.murphysnaturals.net, (888) 314-5109, is based at 1053 E. Whitaker Mill Road, Raleigh, NC, with the fragrance made in the UK and USA and the incense made in China. They make their products from "responsibly-sourced plant-based ingredients." They use citronella, lemongrass and rosemary essential oils. Two percent of their gross revenues go to "goodwill organizations that share our vision of a healthy environment while supporting the health of our local and global communities."

Tasty Clean is a flavored natural **cleansing wash** that "cleans things that go into your mouth. Great for baby items, bottles, toys, utensils, retainers, mouthpieces, instruments, fruit and more." It is made in America using "green technology" and uses apple cider vinegar with all natural ingredients. From Kidease, mykidease.com, jessica@mykidease.com, (214) 316-9856.

MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

FOOD AND DRINK

Obrigado is a premium 100% **coconut water** from Bahia, Brazil. They claim it goes “from tree to bottle in 24 hours.” They do not add sugar and never make it from concentrate. Each tree is individually nurtured and has its own barcode. They believe in practicing sustainability through balanced, eco-system farming and fair trade with 500 people employed working on their own 400,000 trees. In Portuguese, Obrigado means “thank you.” In the U. S. contact: Aurantiaca USA, pburke@obrigadonatural.com, (651) 330-1299 or www.obrigadonatural-usa.com.

Unique has been making **pretzels** in the United States since 1921. Now they have created **pretzel shells** that are “all crunch, no filling.” Flavors include: honey mustard, bacon cheddar, tangy ranch, buffalo, multi-grain, extra dark, and original. All are “natural” with no cholesterol and no trans fat. Contact is: Unique Pretzel Bakery, 215 E. Bellevue Ave., Reading, PA 19605, uniquesplits.com or (888) 477-5487.

California Wine Club, 2781 Gold Course Drive, Unite B, Ventura, CA 93003, (800) 777-4443, www.cawineclub.com, promotes California artisan winemakers. They have a neoprene **wine** bottle carrier. As a club member, you get handcrafted limited production wines and stories about the families.

Axiom provides **plant-based protein** ingredients that are: USDA organic, vegan, allergen friendly, whole grain, tested low metals, 100% natural, non-GMO, clean labels, “clinically shown as good as why protein,” and “generally recognized as safe.” They were the first and largest manufacturer of haxane-free, organic brown rice protein and the only company providing trifecta. Axiom Foods is at 12100 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 800, Los Angeles, CA 90025, (800) 711-3587, info@axionfoods.com.

International Aloe Science Council, 8630 Fenton St., Suite 918, Silver Spring, MD 20910, (734) 476-9690, is a not-for-profit trade organization for the aloe vera industry. The **aloe vera plant** can be used in dietary supplements, skin care products, beverages, and a wide variety of other products.

Back to the Roots has created an easy way to **raise food** in your kitchen by providing plant seeds in cans, jars, and cardboard “milk” cartons. The directions are easy; for example: for **sage** it says “just add sun and water; 1. open can and add 1/2 cup water to start; 2. place can in sunny window and sprinkle sage seeds (included) onto soil; 3. harvest and enjoy sage right from this can!” Just as easy as their **organic dill, cilantro, or basil**. The founders started by becoming urban mushroom farmers. Their products are non-GMO, certified organic by Ecocert ICO, LLC; even the potting mix is made of 100% organic materials. The can is 100% recyclable and the information is printed with vegetable ink. You can harvest their mushrooms straight from the box by just adding water and they will be ready in 10 days but there can be multiple crops. Their **Stoneground Flakes Cereal** (purple corn, California whole wheat, or with cocoa clusters, and with organic cane sugar and a pinch of sea salt). Or you can get their **Breakfast Toppers** that come in blueberries, almonds, and buckwheat or raisins, sunflower seeds and buckwheat, or dates, coconut and chia seeds; you just mix into your cereal, oatmeal or yogurt. (Interestingly, buckwheat is not related to wheat but was first grown over 5000 years ago in Central Asia and is one of the few plants that contains all 9 essential amino acids. Contact: Back to the Roots, 424 2nd St., Oakland, CA 94607, (510) 922-9758.

Snak Club located in El Segundo, CA 90245, www.snakclub.com, has snack packets of **Honey Cashews** that have no trans fat, no cholesterol and no preservatives

IMPRESSIONS/BOOK REVIEWS —WILDLIFE AND HABITAT

SOUTHERN AFRICA SAFARI: BEYOND THE CONCRETE JUNGLE—SOUTH AFRICA, BOTSWANA, ZAMBIA—by Vonne Martin; AuthorHouse, 1663 Liberty Drive, Bloomington, IN 47403; www.vonnesventures.com; hardcover; ©2013. With hundreds of pages of stunning, large, closeup photographs of southern Africa's wildlife, Martin captures the beauty of the animals and land in this oversized full-color limited edition. As an underwater photographer for thirty-five years, she successfully tried land photography and has shared her month of traversing the African grasslands documenting wildlife in their natural environment including: birds, cheetah, rhino, giraffe, and smaller mammals such as the mongoose. You will feel as though you are there watching lions wrestle, zebras racing, and elephants stomping the ground. She uses her photos to weave a story of hope and to educate readers on the potential harm done by human poaching and construction to the African landscape.

BITTEN: MY UNEXPECTED LOVE AFFAIR WITH FLORIDA—by Andrew Furman; University Press of Florida, 15 Northwest 15th St., Gainesville, FL 32611; 177 pp.; \$24.95 hardcover; ©2014. Enjoy the author's journey as he discovers his adopted state of Florida where he has spent seventeen year finding out about its unique natural environment. Each chapter highlights a fascinating aspect of his attempts at night fishing, growing native plants, birding, and hiking the Everglades. He learns to fish for snook, a wily fish that inhabits the concrete-lined canals that crisscross the state and he seeks out the state's oldest live oak, a behemoth that pre-dates Columbus.

KOALA HOSPITAL—written and photographed by Suzi Eszterhas; Owlkids Books, 1700 Fourth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710; 44 pp.; \$17.95 hardcover; ©2015. As part of the Wildlife Rescue Series, this book introduces young readers to the world of animal rescue and demonstrates the importance of animal conservation and respect for wildlife. And adults as well as children can enjoy the beautiful pictures of koalas as Eszterhas tours a hospital on the eastern coast of Australia. These soft, furry marsupials are cared for until they are able to be reintroduced into the wild.

THE NARROW EDGE: A TINY BIRD, AN ANCIENT CRAB & AN EPCI JOURNEY—by Deborah Cramer; Yale University Press; 304 pp.; \$18.00 paperback; ©2016. As author of *Great Waters: An Atlantic Passage* and *Smithsonian Ocean: Our Water, Our World*, Cramer provides uplifting portraits of animals and their habitats. In this book she follows the odyssey of the red knots, a shorebird about the size of a cup of coffee. Each year they fly a 9,000-mile journey from Tierra del Fuego to the Arctic and back. Along the way, they feed on beaches in Texas, Georgia, the Carolinas, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, and New England. Horseshoe crabs are ancient animals that have essentially remained unchanged for over 450 million years. Their blue blood is essential to human health, detecting life-threatening contamination of medicines and medical devices. Their energy-rich eggs are critical food for the red knot's seemingly impossible journey. Human impacts threaten both species across the bird's entire range of 24 countries and 40 states. The *rufa* red knot is the first U. S. bird listed under the Endangered Species Act because of global warming. The author provides an uplifting portrait of tenacity of both the small birds and of the many people who devote their lives to keeping red knots flying. A fantastic read about wildlife and conservationists.

IMPRESSIONS/BOOK REVIEWS —INSPIRATIONAL

CELEBRATING PLANET EARTH, A PAGAN/CHRISTIAN CONVERSATION: FIRST STEPS IN INTER-FAITH DIALOGUE—edited by Denise Cush; Moon Books/John Hunt Publishing, Laurel House, Station Approach, Alresford, Jants SO24 9JH, United Kingdom; 183 pp.; \$19.95 paperback; ©2015. Various articles by different contributors attempt to explain the fears and prejudices of a Pagan viewpoint toward spiritualism and about the role of ritual practice, myth, music, and poetry in each tradition and in inter-faith encounters that can work toward shared approaches to appreciating nature. Selections are from a British Pagan, a leader in the Christian Forest Church Movement and earth-centered Christianity and academics.

A CURIOUS MIND: THE SECRET TO A BIGGER LIFE—by Brian Grazer and Charles Fishman; Simon and Schuster, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, Y 10020; \$25.99 hardcover; ©2015. As a Hollywood film and tv producer with over 43 Academy Award nominations and 149 EMMYs, Grazer has created many award-winning productions. This book is a personal account of how he has shared conversations with luminaries such as science fiction writer Isaac Asimov to medical researcher Jonas Salk. He believes we live in a golden age of curiosity because we have the freedom to ask questions and the tools to figure them out. Fishman is an award-winning business journalist bringing his writing skills to tell this story.

FREE WILL: POSITIVE MOMENT—by Mike Becker; illustrations by Mike Becker; www.1421art.com; ©2013. This booklet can be read in a few minutes or you can contemplate each colorful drawing and Becker's one sentence thoughts for the week such as : "Set as your goal what the challenge will make of you to achieve it" or "Disguising feelings masks truth to self and prevents positive, sustained action" or "Communicate as naturally as you breathe."

THE MORAL ABC OF ASTRONOMY'S ETERNAL ALL-ONE-GOD-FAITH UNITED THE HUMAN RACE! FOR WITH BOMB & GUN WE'RE ALL ONE OR NONE! ALL ONE!—by Dr. E. H. Bronner with help from son Ralph Bronner; Dr. Bonner's All-One, Visa, CA; 70 pp; ©2015. Best known for his pure Castile liquid soap, Dr. Bronner identified himself in this booklet as an Essene Rabbi and Soapmaker. He was a chemist who license 6 of 53 patents and became famous for his natural "Dr. Bronner's Magic Soaps." He lived from 1908 through 1997 and saw his father, mother, and wife murdered and was tortured and blinded. His viewpoints and thoughts about life, science, and religion are inspiring and thought-provoking.

IF YOU LEAVE ME, CAN I COME WITH YOU? DAILY MEDITATIONS FOR CODEPENDENTS AND AL-ANONS. . . WITH A SENSE OF HUMOR—by Misti Barnes; www.mistiBwrites.com; \$15.95; 400 pp.; ©2015. Even if you are not a codependent or need Al-Anon, you can be inspired by some of the information, ideas, and thoughts presented in this book. Barnes has 365 daily meditations and suggestions for how to use humor, what to say or not say to your partner or kids or other human relationships or what strategies to use for staying sane around difficult people. She advocates "stop chasing moving trains," explains how "people don't need your help," and explores why "your opinion doesn't matter."

SPECIAL REPORT—MINERALS

Hundreds of minerals are mined every day because they contain something that is useful and valuable to humans. Sometimes mined for their metals such as iron and copper, others are mined for special physical properties that are useful in industry or at home, such as halite and quartz. Hopefully mining conditions will improve and not be so destructive to the environment. Not only does The Petroleum Museum, 1500 Interstate 20 West, Midland, Texas 79701, feature exhibits and stories about petroleum and energy, but they have a large exhibit hall with stunning minerals. Their Edward H. Judson Memorial Mineral Collection features specimens from around the world.

It has been said, “If it is not grown, it has to be mined.” Items in our lives that did not come from a plant or animal come from minerals in the ground. For example: copper comes from the mineral malachite and is used to make electrical wires. Quartz is used to make glass. Halite (the mineral name for salt) is used to season food. A mineral is not just a rock in the ground, it has to have these qualities:

1. inorganic, which means that it is not made by a living organism.
2. a solid with one unusual exception. Native mercury is an element and is the only metal (and mineral) that is a liquid at room temperatures.
3. made by nature which means minerals are not made, directly or indirectly by human activity.
4. composed of elements that come together in a predictable chemical formula. (For example: quartz is always one atom of silicon (Si) and two atoms of oxygen (O), SiO₂).
5. a member of one of seven unique crystal systems because every mineral has a regular crystal structure.

There are over 3,800 known minerals and the list is growing because new minerals are discovered every year. Every mineral forms crystals but there are only seven different crystal groups:

- *the cubic or isometric system—diamond, galena, gold, silver, fluorite, garnet, halite, copper, and pyrite
- *the hexagonal system—beryl, benitoite, graphite, molybdenite, and vanadinite
- *the rhombohedral system—calcite, quartz, rhodochrosite, siderite, and dolomite
- *the tetragonal system—rutile, scapolite, wulfenite, and zircon
- *the orthorhombic system—aragonite, barite, celestite, goethite, and marcasite
- *the monoclinic system—augite, biotite, epidote and hornblende
- *the triclinic system—plagioclase and microcline feldspars, ulexite, turquoise, and albite

In 1824, a mineralogist from Austria, Friederich Mohs, chose ten common minerals and arranged them in order from softest to hardest. This scale is still used: 1. talc, 2. gypsum, 3. calcite, 4. fluorite, 5. apatite, 6. orthoclase feldspar, 7. quartz, 8. topaz, 9. corundum, 10. diamond. For example: everyday items would be pencil, 1.5; fingernail, 2.5; copper penny, 3.5; pocket knife, 5.1; window glass, 5.5, and steel file, 6.5.

Color is most unreliable for determining the identity of a mineral species. Other factors that are considered are specific gravity, luster, cleavage and fracture. In an average American's lifetime, he or she will use: almost 1,000 pounds of copper; 27,500 pounds of salt; 840 pounds of lead; over 27,000 pounds of iron ore; almost 2 troy ounces of gold for electronic gadgets like computers, cell phones, and television; and over 500 pounds of zinc.

SPECIAL REPORT — CLIMATE CHANGE

As a continuation of Nancy Pearlman's editorial in the March-April, 2016, *Compendium Newsletter*, this Special Report adds some additional information and thoughts about the International Climate Agreement. At the United Nations Paris Summit last November-December, 2015, the Parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change Agreement welcomed the adoption of United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/70/1, "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," in particular its goal 13, and the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the third International Conference on Financing for Development and the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. They recognized that climate change represents an urgent and potentially irreversible threat to human societies and the planet and thus requires the widest possible cooperation by all countries, and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, with a view to accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions.

They also recognized that deep reductions in global emissions will be required in order to achieve the ultimate objective of the Convention and emphasized the need for urgency in addressing climate change. In addition, they acknowledged that climate change is a common concern of humankind and that the Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote, and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities, and people in vulnerable situations, and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women, and intergenerational equity. The extensive statement goes on to speak to the need to consider the impact on developing countries, the gap in emissions between countries, and other relevant issues such as the need for acceleration of goals, the importance of providing finance, technology and capacity-building support, and the need to promote universal access to sustainable energy.

Bill McKibben, in a May 6, 2016, EcoWatch article, asks the question, "What are you waiting for?" He points out that global warming is the biggest problem we have ever faced as a civilization. He provides examples where the marine reefs are already bleached of life; the drought in India is so severe that there are armed guards on dams to prevent the theft of water; and that we have had the hottest month on record ever measured on the planet. And we have also had the highest wind speeds ever measured in the western and southern hemispheres. McKibben expresses exasperation at the fact that we have had international conferences and countless symposia and lots of websites yet people and nations are still waiting rather than taking immediate and necessary actions and pushing harder. He comments, "Yes, we need to have 'everyone work together.' Yes, we need a 'multi-faceted, global effort.' But you know what we really need? We need to keep oil and gas and coal in the ground, keep it from being burned and adding its freight of carbon to the global total. . . . The planet is well outside its comfort zone—that's what it means when whole ecosystems are obliterated in a matter of days. . . ."

Indeed, most environmentalists consider climate change the most serious ecological crisis that has to be dealt with but let us not forget the root cause which is overpopulation. Action at all levels is needed now!

CORRESPONDENCE GROUP/ACTION ALERTS**#2057, PHTHALATES IN FOOD AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS**

Phthalates are dangerous chemicals found in everything from food and plastic toys to cosmetics and vinyl flooring. They disrupt normal function of hormones and have been linked to reproductive health problems, birth defects, brain impairments, and developmental delays in children. These chemicals end up in our household dust, which then enter our bodies when we breath, touch contaminated surfaces or eat food. These toxic chemicals are found in food, children's toys and countless other products, and can cause reproductive health problems, birth defects, brain impairments and developmental delays in children. Consumer and environmental advocates want these hazardous chemicals banned from food, toys, and other children's products.

TARGET: Elliot F. Kaye, Chairman, U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
Dennis M. Keefe, Director, Office of Food Additive Safety
4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814

#2058, FUEL ECONOMY OF CAR STANDARDS—DOCKET NO. EPAHQOAR2015-827

The national vehicle standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency in 2012 are already proving to be a great success. Cars and trucks are more efficient than ever before saving consumers money, reducing oil consumption, and cutting global warming pollution. These standards are the largest single step the United States has taken to reduce oil consumption and global warming pollution. However, the standards currently on the books are still not enough to meet the United States' commitments to the Paris Climate Agreement or to combat dangerous climate change. Analysis by the Union of Concerned Scientists shows that cost-effective technology exists to exceed these standards by 2025 and to make cars even cleaner and more efficient by 2030.

TARGET: Department of Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx
1200 New Hersey Ave., S.E., Washington, DC 20590
Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., #1101A, Washington, DC 20460

#2059, SEISMIC AIRGUN BLASTING IN THE ATLANTIC

Oceana wants passage of the Atlantic Seismic Airgun Protection Act which would create a moratorium on geological and geophysical activities related to oil and gas exploration along the East Coast. This includes seismic airgun blasting which is an extremely loud and dangerous process used to search for oil and gas deposits deep below the ocean floor. While the Atlantic Ocean is currently safe from the threat of offshore drilling, seismic airgun blasting is still being pursued in an area twice the size of California. The noise from the blasting is so loud that it can be heard up to 2, 500 miles from the source. Marine mammals, fish, and turtles are especially vulnerable because they depend on sound for communication and survival. Along the Atlantic Coast, nearly 1.4 million jobs and over \$95 billion in gross domestic product rely on healthy ocean ecosystems.

TARGET: Your U. S. Senators, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510

#2060, COPPER MINING AND THE SMITH RIVER

American Rivers, 11101 14th St., N. W., Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20005, is opposed to a proposed new copper mine by the foreign-owned mining company Tintina Resources in the headwaters of Montana's Smith River. Other copper mining on other rivers in the area already superfund toxic sites needing cleanup.

TARGET: Montana Governor Bullock, P. O. Box 200801, Helena, MT 59620-0801

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WHO AND WHAT WE ARE—WWW.ECOPROJECTS.ORG

EDUCATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, INC. is a non-profit, all volunteer organization founded in 1958 dedicated to improving the quality of life on this planet. Nancy Pearlman oversees its many environmental projects, including: 1970, **ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES LIBRARY**, 1971, **ECOLOGY CENTER OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**, 1971, **THE COMPENDIUM NEWSLETTER**, 1977 **ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTIONS** radio series, 1984, **ECONEWS** television series, 1993, **PROJECT ECOTOURISM**, 1998, **CAMPUS GREENING**, 2000, **HUMANITY AND THE PLANET AND AFRICA IN NEED**, 2004, **EARTH CULTURES**, and other projects. The group works on environmental, social, peace, and humanitarian issues from the local to the international level.