

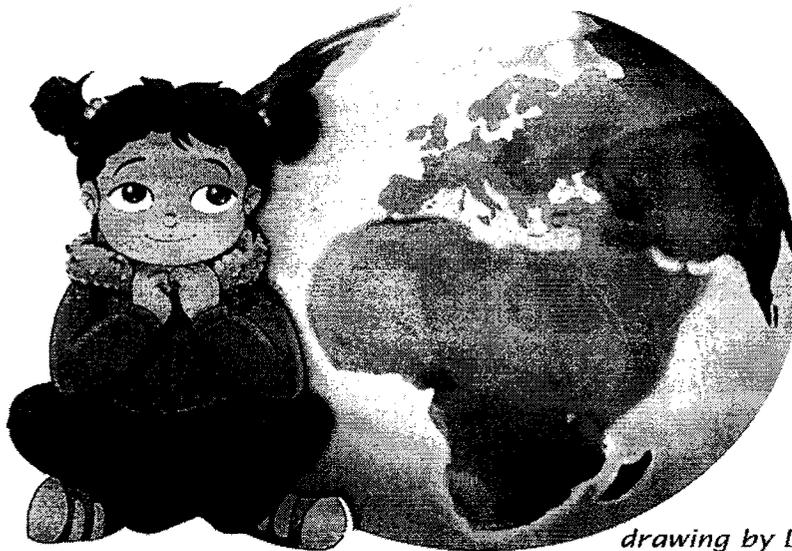
YOUR GUIDE TO THE WORLD'S ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS

# THE COMPENDIUM NEWSLETTER

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## SEASON'S GREETINGS



*drawing by Daniela Frongia*

In the book **THE ADVENTURES OF CAMELLIA N. --- THE ARCTIC** by Debra L. Wideroe and illustrated by Daniela Frongia [Notable Kids Publishing, LLC, P.O. Box 2047 Parker, Colorado 80134; 34 pp.; \$16.95 hardcover; © 2016] readers take a journey with pint-size explorer, Camellia N., as she sails on her adventure to the Arctic.

A touchingly sweet children's story, the author educates young readers about the importance and beauty of the natural world. It also presents an inspiring message to protect and conserve our natural resources, an important lesson for the next generation of environmentalists. Other volumes in the series cover other places.

Throughout the year, in every season, we must love and preserve every region on our Earth. Reading to young people initiates our children as eco-activists.

## EDITORIAL—PEACE AND THE NUCLEAR AGE

During the Holiday Season, there is a lot of emphasis to love each other and to have peace on this earth. Indeed, with so many conflicts around the world by various nations fighting over territory and resources, with wars between ethnic groups, and with the destruction of our fellow creatures, the plants and animals, it is difficult to image if we can live in harmony and have peace among people, nations, and other species. In order to affect a change in attitude, an environmental consciousness is needed as is literacy in the concept of peace. For example, the United States has a Department of Defense (formerly Department of War) but we have no Department of Peace. Likewise, we have an Environmental Protection Agency and various Departments focused on land and wildlife (the Interior with the National Park Service and Agriculture with the National Forest Service) but we have no Department of Ecosystems to bring us together with the flora and fauna.

As human beings, we have the power to protect our planet or drive ourselves and most life on Earth into extinction. We have become our own greatest threat to our survival, which is an alarming yet incredible fact. Paul K. Chappell, in a leaflet called, "Why Our World Needs Peace Literacy" from the **Nuclear Age Peace Foundation**, [wagingpeace.org](http://wagingpeace.org) or [nuclearzero.org](http://nuclearzero.org), believes that we need to have seven forms of peace literacy; literacy in: our shared humanity, the art of living, the art of waging peace, the art of listening, the nature of reality, our responsibility to animals, and our responsibility to creation. Certainly if we had a better understanding in these areas we would be more likely to achieve a more peaceful world.

In addition to extinction of other forms of life, which is occurring at a very high rate, humans may destroy both the human species and other life forms with a nuclear disaster. The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation has another leaflet to achieve an end to nuclear weapons, "15 Moral Reasons to Abolish Nuclear Weapons." Accompanied by relevant pictures, they state that "Thou shalt not: kill; threaten to slaughter the innocent; cause unnecessary suffering; poison the future; hold hostage cities and their inhabitants; threaten to destroy civilization; abandon stewardship of fish and fowl, birds and beasts; put all of creation at risk of annihilation; use weapons that cannot be contained in space or time; waste resources on weapons that could be far better used for meeting basic human needs; fail to fulfill the obligation to negotiate in good faith for nuclear disarmament; covet thy neighbor's missiles; worship false idols; and keep silent in the face of the nuclear threat to all we love and treasure." Their fifteenth reason is "Thou shalt live by the golden rule, doing unto others as you would have them do unto you."

David Krieger, M.A., Ph.D., J.D., founder of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation and President of the organization since 1982, has written a 174 page book "**Zero: The Case for Nuclear Weapons Abolition.**" Helen Caldicott, Australian pediatrician, author, and anti-nuclear activist states that Krieger "has summarized in a heart-rending discourse the reasons why it is imperative for the human race to dismantle its nuclear arsenals." This easy-to-read book provides background about Hiroshima and Nagasaki as well as the Cuban Missile Crisis and problems in places like Israel, India and Pakistan. There is even a hypothetical conversation between Socrates and Einstein when Socrates asks the scientist about his famous quote: "The unleashed power of the atom has changed everything save our modes of thinking, and thus we drift toward unparalleled catastrophe."

To have peace, we should consider abolishing nuclear weapons. Some of Krieger's reasons to do so are: They are instruments of dehumanization as well as annihilation. They are long-distance killing machines incapable of discriminating between soldiers and civilians. They threaten the destruction of cities, countries, and civilization, of all that we have created, of all that is human, of all that exists. Nuclear war could cause climate change and nuclear famine, putting human existence at risk. They threaten to foreclose the future, negating our common responsibility to future generations. They make cowards of their possessors, and in their use there can be no decency or honor. They divide the world's nations into nuclear "haves" and "have-nots," bestowing false and unwarranted prestige and privilege on those that possess them. They are a distortion of science and technology. They mock international law. They waste our resources on the development of instruments of annihilation. They concentrate power in the hands of a small group of individuals. They are morally abhorrent.

## 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](http://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:

#2010A, August 14, 2016, Sasahulish L. Tekelemariam, Traffic & Sales Manager, Ethiopian Airlines—airline efforts to reduce fuel consumption; trees planted for every passenger; Ethiopian Airlines efforts to adopt sustainable business practices

#2010B, August 14, 2016, Mary E. Flowers, CEO & Managing Director, Global Green Development Group, Inc.; Chair, African Global Economic and Development Summit; CEO, Smart Women Global Fund; Executive Officer and Treasurer, District Export Council of Southern California—Climate change and how it affects the environment in Africa; biofuel program; growing the Jatropha tree in West Africa; 300 megawatt gas power plant in Nigeria; programs for women in Nigeria, Cameroon, Ghana, Cote 'Ivoire

#2011A, August 21, 2016, Joe Gonzales, Franchise Owner, DetailXperts of North Los Angeles; Member, Woodland Hills Chamber of Commerce; Former Retail Executive—vehicle cleaning services using steam technology without soap that uses 1% of the water used in conventional methods; use of Energy Star products

#2011B, August 21, 2016, Cristian Arnsperger, Ph.D., Professor of Sustainability, University of Lausanne, Switzerland—perma-circular economy; alternate economies and transition to sustainable societies

#2012, August 28, 2016, Josie Antonio Gonzalez, Guide; Cultural Interpreter, Bella Guatemala Travel; Archaeologist—Maya artist and artifact specialist; Maya archeological sites; ecotourism and cultural and natural history in Guatemala

#2013A, September 4, 2016, Deborah Weinrauch, Directory, Friends of Culver City Animals; Member, Lucy's Sanctuary for Holy Land Donkeys; Member, Humane Society of the United States; Director, Animal Welfare Committee in Culver City, California; Director, Puppy Love; Director, Culver City Cares—new developments in animal welfare and the environment; food, medicine and blankets to homeless pets; collection of donations for animal rescue during natural disaster

**ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTIONS RADIO SERIES CONTINUED**

#2013B, September 4, 2016, Janice Aria, Director of Animal Stewardship, Animal Research & Development, Ringley Bros. and Barnum & Bailey's Center for Elephant Conservation—wild and domestic animal use in Ringley Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus; caring for former circus elephants in sanctuaries; protecting wild Asian Elephants in their natural habitat

#2014, September 11, 2016, Steven Aceti, Executive Director, California Coastal Coalition; Member, San Diego Association of Governments; Member, Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project; Attorney; Member, Green California (Project of California League of Conservation Voters—legislation related to coastlines, wetlands, and beaches, especially in California; use of artificial reefs; sea-level rise problems and solutions; resource funding in Sacramento, California and nationally

#2015A, September 18, 2016, Om Agarwal, Ph.D., Founder and Managing Partner, Trerra Solar Power; Member, National Institute of Technology, Kourkela, India, Overseas Alumni Association—why solar is disruptive; potential impacts of solar, solar power in India & the rest of the world; pioneering countries in solar

#2015B, September 18, 2016, Palash Das, CEO, Pinnacle Consulting, LLC; Member, National Institute of Technology, Kourkela, India, Overseas Alumni Association—energy and utilities; using solar; software to sell meters and pipes in the United States and India

#2016A, September 25, 2016, Shawn Cox, Director of Golf, The Fairmont Grand Del Mar; Member, Professional Golf Association of America; Golf Professional of the Year San Diego PGA 2013; Professional Golf Association of America—18 hole golf course in San Diego, California using sustainability features such as using recycled water; composting of grass after removal; creating wildlife habitat; changing to native plants

#2016B, September 25, 2016, Jacco Van Teeffelen, Director of Operations, Fairmont Grand Del Mar, San Diego, California; Former Director of Food and Beverage, The Savoy in London, England—sustainability in hospitality industry especially in hotels' food, rooms, and infrastructure

#2017A, October 2, 2016, Rabbi Ronald Hoffberg, Rabbi, The Masorti Community in Prague, Czech Republic; Professor of Jewish History, Charles University in Prague; Speaker; Tour Guide, Prague, Czech Republic—Judaism and its beliefs in protecting the environment; preservation of Jewish towns in the Czech Republic

#2017B, October 2, 2016, Janet Galli, Certified Health Education Specialist; Organizer, the Teammate Wellness Program Vitality for Healthcare Partners Medical Group, part of Darita; Certified Lactation Educator—coastal cleanup at White Point Beach, San Pedro California; protecting marine mammals at San Pedro rescue center; new health facility in El Segundo, California

#2018, October 9, 2016, Umit Isin, Manager, Founder, and Owner, Equinox Travel Turkey; Archaeologist; Guide, Ministry of Culture & Tourism, Republic of Turkey—results of archaeological survey of Lycian, Greek, Roman and Byzantine era ruins; excavations in Arykanda and other Antalya sites along this section of the Mediterranean Sea in Turkey; hiking in the Taurus Mountains; 4x4 tours in Turkey; eco-tourism trips in Greece, Turkey and the surrounding regions by boat and overland; tourism helps protect the endangered sea turtles that nest on the beaches; providing tourists with green, sustainable accommodations and traditional food and song and dance

#2019A, October 16, 2016, Mark MacCracken, CEO, CALMAC Manufacturing Corporation; Former Chair of Board, United States Green Building Council; Distinguished Lecturer, American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, Air Conditioning, and Engineers—thermal energy storage; energy storage equipment

**ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTIONS RADIO SERIES CONTINUED**

#2019B, October 16, 2016, William Maiman, Marketing Manager, MechoSystems; Former Adjunct Professor of Advanced Lighting Design, Interior Design Department, Fashion Institute of Technology (a State University of New York institution); Member, National Electrical Manufacturers Association—uses of daylight in conceptual architecture; shade cloth innovations

#2020A, October 23, 2016, Matthew Kennedy, Owner, Costello Kennedy Landscape Architecture; Landscape Architect; Enrolled Member, Ponca Tribe of Nebraska; Designer of Ethnobotanical Garden at Autry Museum of the American West, Los Angeles, California—Autry Museum of the American West's ethnobotanical garden with 70 native Californian species; plant uses by Native Americans in California

#2020B, October 23, 2016, Eric Gower, Founder & CEO, Breakaway Matcha; Former Columnist and Food Writer, San Francisco Chronicle; Editor for the Japanese Prime Minister; Author of four cook books including *Breakaway Cook*—Japanese green tea; organic and non-organic Matcha tea and its introduction to the United States

#2021, October 30, 2016, Gary Petersen, Partner, Environmental Problem Solving Enterprises; Board Member, Green Seal; Director, The California Office of Green Seal; Former President of Ecolo-Haul Recycling; Environmental Director, Recycle America; Vice President, Waste Management, Inc.; Member of the Board, California Integrated Waste Management Board—GS-33 Standard for lodging properties; Green4Green Incentive program for LA hotels; Green Seal lodging industry sustainability certification program; benefit and successes of certification programs; Westin Bonaventure GS certification; starting recycling in the 1970s

#2022A, November 6, 2016, Steven Kutcher, Entomologist; Biology Instructor, West LA College, Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD); “Hollywood Bugman”—insects at Gold Creek Ecological Reserve in the Tujunga Canyon, a 240+ natural area as part of LACCD

#2022B, November 6, 2016, Colleen Stratton, Artist; Founder, Anam Caras Arts; Creator, Anam Caras Characters—creating characters in prints and children stories that are called in Gaelic, “soul figures”; watercolors & ink illustrations using fantasy animals to create letters

#2022C, November 6, 2016, Jan Hogrewe, Founder, Just Jan's; Chef—organic & healthy jams and marmalades

#2023, November 13, 2016, Tulin Serra Somersan, Archaeologist; Licensed Tour Guide, Equinox Travel in Turkey; Guide, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Republic of Turkey—Lycian, Greek, Roman and Byzantine Ruins in the Antalya region of Turkey; Zeytintas Cave/ Duzlercami National Park in Taurus Mountains; Kitanaura ruins; Olympos Ancient City; Cape Gelidonya Lighthouse; Arykanda Ancient City; St. Nicholas Church; Kekova Island; Kabak Hike; Kaunos Ancient City; Turkish food; Antalya Expo 2016; cultural and natural history ecotourism adventures in Turkey

#2024A, November 20, 2016, Juan Devis, Chief Creative Officer, KCET Link Media Group; Television Producer—“Tending the Wild” documentary series in partnership with Autry Museum of the American West about Native American uses of plants and alterations of their ecosystems in California; segments cover using fire to alter landscape, plants for baskets, and medicinal uses of plants

#2024B, November 20, 2016, Natalia Gaerlan, Project Manager, The Trust for Public Land; Landscape Architect & Urban Planner—Multi-benefit projects to capture stormwater and create “green” alleys in Los Angeles, California; community engagement in these eco-activities

## ECONEWS TELEVISION SERIES

ECONEWS, produced and hosted by Nancy Pearlman, currently airs on over 40 cable channels (governmental, educational, and public access stations) in more than 19 states reaching about 18 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. 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](http://www.ecoprojects.org). Our **YouTube Channel is: ECONEWS with Nancy Pearlman**. Featured are programs done by our professional camerapeople and editors as well as our student interns and volunteers.

### **#3104, KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA—Review by Max Meisler**

Host Nancy Pearlman visits Kuala Lumpur, the capital city of Malaysia. This program highlights the rich historical and cultural tradition of this southeast Asian nation. There are many different ethnic groups but this episode begins with footage of traditional Chinese-Malaysian folk dancers. A must visit is Independence Square, an important historical site surrounded by buildings from the era of British colonization, such as the Sultan Abdul Samad Building, the Brickfields Residences, and the Royal Selangor Club.

Lourdes Francis Joseph, our Malaysian Tour Guide, explains that the Polo & Cricket Fields at the center of the Square which was the first location at which the British flag was lowered and replaced with the Malaysian flag following the end of colonization. The flagpole there is the tallest in Southeast Asia. Next we take a tour of the Kuala Lumpur City Gallery where, guided by Horyan Chan, we learn about the rich history of Kuala Lumpur, which means in Malay “muddy estuary.” Located at the confluence of the Gombak River and Klang River, Kuala Lumpur is an historical center of trade in this region of the world. We also see an exhibit displaying handmade carvings made from native, sustainably-sourced wood.

Pearlman travels to the Batu Caves, a sacred Hindu site. The caves, which are located roughly 8 miles from the downtown area, were discovered in the 19th century by an American naturalist exploring the limestone formations in the area. The caves were soon used as temples by the local Hindu population, who immigrated to Malaysia from India to work on the rubber plantations. The temple, which is at the top of a set of 272 steps, features a gold statue of Hindu deity Lord Murugan, which is the tallest statue of the deity in the world. The main temple, known as the Sri Maha Mariamman Temple, is located inside a beautiful limestone cave. At the temples, monkeys roam around freely and the Hindu priest blesses us with good luck and health.

Touring around the downtown area, we see people wearing traditional folk garb along with western wear. At the High Petronas Twin Towers which, at 1483 feet (88 floors), we travel to the viewing floor to observe the city from the tallest structure in the world. Azrul A. Azis and Saffu Bahari Din, who are with

**ECONEWS TELEVISION SERIES CONTINUED****#3104, Continued**

the Towers, show Nancy the buildings and the surrounding 53-acre park and mall which were built in 1999. They explain the use of solar panels that provide 40% of the energy for the complex.

At the Royal Selangor pewter factory, Nancy has the chance to make a pewter pendant and see the largest pewter mug in the world. Datin Munken Chen, a descendant of Royal Selangor's founder, explains the history of the company and its corporate activism to protect the endangered local tiger population.

Finishing this visit to KL, as the locals call their city, Nancy enjoys stops to interact with the local street vendors, listen to local street musicians, see other houses of worship such as mosques and eat at the fine restaurants. Nancy stays at the excellent accommodations offered at the E&O Residences Hotel. She also enjoys an evening of food, live music, and dance at the Songket Restaurant. Kuala Lumpur showcases the vibrant and diverse cultures of the increasingly prosperous country of Malaysia.

**#3105, FRANGIPANI LANGKAWI RESORT AND SPA, MALAYSIA—Review by Max Meisler**

Host Nancy Pearlman visits the first designated green hotel in Malaysia. Anthony Wong, the Managing Director of the Resort and an adjunct professor at the University Utara Malaysia in its College of Arts and Sciences, takes us on a tour of the 10-acre property. Wong explains that as a young mountaineer he was inspired to protect the environment. He promptly started a company in 1976 to do conservation work. In 2005, Wong's company bought the Frangipani Langkawi Hotel, intending to remodel it to make it the greenest hotel in the world. To accomplish this lofty goal, Wong has remodeled it with over 200 different sustainability programs. Hereplaced the existent landscape with lush native plants, which naturally reduce the temperature of the resort through perspiration. Wong also planted an organic orchard and garden, which provide the produce for the resort's kitchen. The lush landscaping and gardens are irrigated by collected rainfall—especially during the December–April dry season—and reclaimed water, which is treated without chemicals using wetland plants that remove heavy metals. In renovating the facility, Wong also rebuilt the guest residences to maximize natural lighting and installed solar hot water heaters. By deconstructing, rather than demolishing, the old guest residences, Wong was able to reduce waste and building costs by reusing as much of the old buildings as possible. The native landscaping attracts a large population of birds to the resort, which help eliminate the need for pesticides by eating insects. Following our tour of the stunning beachfront, lush grounds, and organic gardens, Wong introduces us to Ian Lim, the resort's Executive Chef. Wong explains that the kitchen is designed to maximize natural light and ventilation and uses solar panels for hot water. The kitchen also separates waste into seven different bins to maximize reuse and recycling. Kitchen food waste is composted to provide fertilizer for the organic gardens. The kitchen staff prepares a delicious organic meal made from ingredients found at the resort. The wetland landscaping that Wong has planted to treat the resort's wastewater is a model of modern treatment capability. He explains that the water is tested every six months and consistently meets the highest quality standards, despite never being treated with the harsh chemicals that are normally used in water treatment. The Frangipania Langkawi is a beautiful resort and provides a great example of a sustainable business model. Naturalists are available to guide the visitor around the island and to help them replant the mangrove forests.

## WILDLIFE STATE OF AFFAIRS

**BEES**—Honey bees contribute to 15 billion dollars to the United States agricultural economy. A queen bee in a managed colony can live between three to five years. There are about 40,000 individual bees live in a hive. All worker bees are female. One species of honey bees was imported from Europe over 700 years ago. Honey bees are not native to the United States. Wild bees in the United States are solitary in nature and are not prone to sting. They are three times more effective at pollinating plants than other pollinators. Wild bees contribute to about four billion dollars to the United States agricultural economy. Each nest contains about eight to ten eggs. There are more than 4,000 species of wild bees native to the United States.

**TORTURE OF TRAPPING FOR FUR AND FUR FACTORY FARMS**—Throughout the world, between 50 to 100 million mink, foxes, bobcats, nutria, chinchilla, coyotes, beavers, lynx, and other animals plus an astounding one billion or more rabbits are brutally killed every year for their fur. Between Canada, Greenland, and Namibia, over 900,000 seals are bludgeoned to death with wooden or large ice pick-like clubs for their fur. China imprisons millions of arctic foxes, raccoon dogs (a species of canine), domestic cats and dogs, and other animals to be killed for their fur. China is the primary supplier of raw unfinished fur in the world, providing at minimum, 50% of the world's supply. Trapping entails setting baited and concealed steel-jawed traps and wire snares mostly on public lands, including the National Wildlife Refuge System, to capture coyotes, bobcats, beavers, fishers, lynx, otters, martens, wolverines, and other furbearing animals. Once caught, animals usually linger for several days and nights in sub-freezing temperatures in agonizing physical pain and emotional torment. Many animals slowly die of shock, starvation, or dehydration, while others succumb to exposure in freezing temperatures, suffocate in neck snares, are killed by other animals, or die from the crushing injuries of the trap itself. In their incomprehensible despair, animals often either chew through their legs or they twist their caught limbs until they break, so they can escape. Death for trapped animals is gruesome as well as completely unregulated. Trappers kill the exhausted and helpless animals by bludgeoning, stomping, drowning, shooting, or strangling them to death. In addition to furbearing animals, traps often catch undesired animals trappers consider "trash," including all kinds of birds, various endangered species, and cats and dogs. These animals are often killed and thrown away. Fur factory farms are not the answer either because of their cruel conditions. There is no protection in place as neither the Animal Welfare Act nor the Humane Slaughter Act governs how animals are raised, housed, or killed on fur factory farms. To cut costs, fur factory farms hold tens of thousands of animals in tiny, filthy, and barren wire cages stacked on top of one another. Huge amounts of ammonia from the animals' urine and feces burn their eyes and lungs. Temperatures are extreme: either frigidly cold in winter or swelteringly hot in summer with no temperature controls in place. The anguish and despair of life in a crowded cage causes many animals to attack each other or self-mutilate, with biting at skin, tails, and feet a commonplace occurrence. Time is spent frantically pacing and circling endlessly, and even cannibalizing of cage-mates is routine. After a life of misery, animals on fur factory farms are torn from their cages and brutally killed by horrific methods such as gassing, poisoning, neck breaking, and genital or anal electrocution. The only way to stop the brutal fur trade and horrific abuse of animals is to never buy fur, including anything with fur trim. You can also ask retailers to stop selling fur and avoid designers willing to profit off this misery. [Source: In Defense of Animals, 3010 Kerner Blvd., San Rafael, CA 94901, (415) 448-0048, [www.idausa.org](http://www.idausa.org)]

**AMPHIBIANS**—That amphibians are the most imperiled class of vertebrates in the world is largely beyond debate. Such threats as habitat loss and overexploitation for meat or the pet trade are decimating amphibian species worldwide. Each year, hundreds of millions of frogs are eaten domestically or traded internationally for the meat, pet, laboratory research, and dissection markets. While some come from breeding farms, often raised in unhygienic and inhumane conditions, many others are ripped from the wild with significant adverse ecological consequences. Salamanders and newts are also eaten, but they are most coveted for the pet trade. They, too, are removed from the wild in large numbers, with similar impacts to ecosystem health and function. Indeed, wild amphibians are exploited without any credible information about population numbers or other basic biological information about the species. Without such data, the sustainability of domestic and international trade cannot be assured. There have been rapid declines in population size for 435 amphibian species with habitat loss and overexploitation afflicting 233 of those. Since 2004, 38 species were known to be extinct and 120 species probably extinct. [AWI Quarterly]

## EDUCATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS REPORT — BY NANCY PEARLMAN

### ACTIVITIES BY NANCY PEARLMAN REPRESENTING ORGANIZATION

**Attended:** Tom Vo Realty Appreciation Luncheon; Burbank Philharmonic Orchestra's Young Artists Competition Awards and Performances; NARAL Pro-Choice California and Big Money Comedy Show; Folk Rock n Blues Band (Stefani Valadez and Steve Moos); Colombia Business Forum; Community Action Fund dinner; Antioch University's MA in Urban Sustainability and Undergraduate Studies Programs Sustainable Supper; "Native American Uses of Gold Creek Plants" Talk by Dr. Jan Timbrook; Idyllwild Arts Summer Program Concerts: Wind Symphony and Symphony Orchestra; Hammer Museum of UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability "Can California's Water Ever be Sustainable?" Panel; National Institute of Technology, Kourkela (India) Overseas Alumni Association's Third Annual Convention; Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter's Political Committee; Alyson Dutch's Holiday Product Media Event; Green Festival; International United States Green Building Convention/Expo; Autry Museum of American West Press Preview. Natural History Garden and eco-exhibits; Verde Valley School Los Angeles Reunion; Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Promotion Dinner; Environetics Architectural Firm Reception; "Cabaret" Fundraiser for Kitty Bungalow Charm School for Wayward Cats and Zoetis for Shelters; Puerta Vallarta Tourism Dinner; Palm Springs Tourism Dinner; Idyllwild (in Idyllwild, California) Halloween Party; CalTech Folk Dancers Bulgarian themed Halloween Event

**Screened:** USC Documentary Class Final Films: "Al-iman" and "Trapped"; Museum of Tolerance documentary and discussion about Shanghai, China's acceptance of roughly 20,000 Jewish refugees during WWII; "WWII and the Hitler-Stalin Battle for Azerbaijan's Oilfields"; Atomic Age Film Festival film, part of the International Uranium Film Festival; G2 Green Earth Film Festival: "The Frog Photographer," "Pride," "Sticky," "Out of the Wild," "Extinction Soup," and "Medicine of the Wolf"; LA Film Festival's "Life Animated" (about autism); Azerbaijani film "Young Voices: Ancient Song: Untold Story of the Azerbaijani Refugee Children from Karabakh"; Star Trek: The Future Begins"; "Amanda Knox"; "Loving"; Polish Oscar submission for best foreign film

**Presented:** "Jews of Azerbaijan" and "Azerbaijan: Land of Hope and Inspiration" ECONews shows to Temple Har Shalom in Idyllwild

**Listed:** SRDS.com database; American Library Directory

**Documented:** Ecotourism opportunities in the Antalya region of Turkey, especially the Lycian, Greek, and Roman ruins

**Mentioned:** *News-Herald* Newspaper in Southwest Texas; The John Lautner Foundation Newsletter

**Participated:** Database webinar by Cultural Arts; Survey by the VIA Institute on Character; Fairmont Newport Beach Hotel luncheon featuring honey from their bees; The ReUse People of America quarterly Board meeting

**Showed:** Pearlman Mountain Cabin to Japanese Architectural Magazine editorial staff

**Spoke:** At premiere of "Azerbaijan: Land of Hope and Inspiration" ECONews show at the Consul General of Azerbaijan in Los Angeles; before Merry Makers Club at Culver City's Senior Center on ecotourism adventures; Oaks @Ojai ecotourism talk

**Donated:** Clothes, household items, and books to Goshen K. International (in Kenya), Help Center (in Idyllwild, California), and Uniedo a Las Comunidades (in South Central Los Angeles, California and Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico)

## EDUCATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS REPORT CONTINUED

**Premiered:** Five documentaries about Azerbaijan were shown at the Action on Film XII International Film Festival and Writers Celebration in Monrovia, California. The half hour shows were well received. They included: *Azerbaijan: Land of Hope and Inspiration*; *Azerbaijan: Muslim and Christian Villages*; *Jews of Azerbaijan: a Model for Muslim-Jewish Coexistence*; *Azerbaijan: Cultural and Natural History*; and *Baku: Jewel of the Caspian*

**ANNUAL BOARD MEETING**—Educational Communications Inc. held its annual Board of Directors and membership meeting September 1, 2016, in Los Angeles. Officers were reconstituted, approval of projects adopted, and reports of activities presented. All financial papers were properly filed.

**DONATIONS**—If you shop at Ralphs, please register for their Community Contributions Program at [www.Ralphs.com](http://www.Ralphs.com). Indicate that you would like them to contribute to Educational Communications, NPO#91246. By simply purchasing items as usual, Ralphs will donate money to our organization.

### **ACTIVITIES BY NANCY PEARLMAN AS TRUSTEE FOR THE LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT (LACCD) (in addition to Board and Committee Meetings)**

**Attended:** Telacu Awards Dinner; Mission College Food and Wine Festival; National Womens Political Caucus Luncheon; Gold Creek Ecological Field Station Open House; Trade-Technical College's Culinary Fest; Valley Economic Alliance Awards Program; AECOM Reception; Retirement Lunch at Harbor College for Chef Giovanni Delrosario; California Black Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner; LA Conservation Corps Annual Spring Luncheon; The Valley Economic Alliance "Valley of the Stars" Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony; Los Angeles County Democratic Party Central Committee; Los Angeles City Foundation Gala; African-American Women Policy Organization Awards Dinner; Armenian National Congress of America Gala; Supervisor Knabe Reception; District Leadership Strategic Plan Governance Institute for Student Success; Trade Tech Foundation Gala; Los Angeles County Democratic Party Roosevelt Awards; Mission College Faculty Guild Luncheon; Trade-Tech Staff Guild Meeting; Turkish Consul General's Republic Day Celebration; Mission College Groundbreaking for Sunland/Tujunga Satellite Classroom; Yes on Prop CC luncheon; 11th Annual Archives Bazaar by L.A. as Subject

**Spoke:** Mission College 2016 Graduation Ceremony; West LA College Faculty Professional Learning Day (Flex Day)

**Met:** Faculty Guild; Operating Engineers Local 12; Management Association Meeting

**Toured:** Central Basin Municipal Water District (CBMWD) Tour of: CBMWD headquarters and talk of their imported water delivery system, the Sanchez Adobe Historical Site native plant demonstration garden, Pump Station, and Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County Headquarters and treatment facility; Central Basin Municipal Water District and the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) State Water Project Inspection Trip of: Oroville Dam and Feather River Fish Hatchery, MWD's Legislative Offices for Bay-Delta Conservation Plan Update, Hood Intake Facilities, Delta Cross Channel, Harvey O. Banks Pumping Plant (beginning of the California Aqueduct), and Big Break Visitor Center

## **LETTERS-TO-THE-EDITOR**

Gertrud Sivalingam and Jo Becker (Spix e.V. netzkraft Movement, Marsst. 70 D-46509 Xanten, Germany)—They describe their movement's three objectives: "We want sustainable eco-social economic development. Prices must include the environmental costs, if necessary with social compensation. Avoidable damage to the environment should be banned and we should strive for a sustainable economy!"

N. John Hasegawa, Ph.D., President, Merry Makers Club—"I wish to send you heartfelt thanks for your presentation, sharing part of your 46 years of environmental experiences. Time is never enough and we regret we could not give you more time. When we take care of our environment well, we are all winners. Regrettably, often the human race failed to listen to the cry of our earth. Thank you, Nancy, again for sharing your precious time with us in a cute Siberian costume."

Serra Somersan—Regarding her radio show, "Oh, this is wonderful Nancy, thank you!!!"

John Edward Jordan, LACCD faculty member 1976-2009—"Nancy Pearlman: Los Angeles Community College District Elected Board of Trustee Member who not only upheld the public trust but the trust of faculty."

Galen Bullock, LACCD Union Representative—"Thank you for being so attentive to the concerns of the students and employees of the Los Angeles Community College District. Thank you for being so focused on being a trustee."

Celeste Mergens, Days for Girls—"... What beautiful films. And what an adventure. I've been to Kenya more than a dozen times and have not climbed Kilimanjaro... now I've got the 'fever.'"

Dawit Aragaw—"Excellent presentation, thank you so much Nancy for presenting your wonderful radio show."

Carol Acosta—"... You serve an important capacity, do vital work for little or no compensation I am sure. Your job is one of those that keeps the country moving and in focus. Thanks..."

Carol Sucek King—"... We are inspired by your past year's productive projects, from achieving your family home's placement on the National Registry of Historic Places, to your travels and documentaries, to your offering to serve again on the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles Community College District. Truly wondrous all!"

Jennifer L. Jackson—"Nancy, what an amazing video, beautiful. And congratulations to you for accomplishing your goal..."

Ayele Bekerie—"I had a chance to listen to the interview [Environmental Directions #1999]. It is well done and well put. I hope that you will be able to share it with the Ethiopian Community in Los Angeles and the US at large..."

## **IN MEMORIAM**

Tom Hayden: civil rights activist, author, and legislator

Alan Hart: author and educator who saved open space in the southeast part of the United States

Bette Jane Cohen: director and producer and editor of the film "The Spirit in Architecture:  
John Lautner"

## ISSUES UPDATE

### RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATION OF THE GREAT LAKES

Beyond Nuclear, 6930 Carroll Avenue, Suite 400, Takoma Park, MD 20912, is working with the Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA) and a coalition of 110 organizations to protect the Great Lakes against the hazards of radioactive contamination. The Great Lakes Basin has dozens of nuclear "hot spots" from uranium mines and mills to atomic reactors, radioactive waste storage to nuclear materials transportation, and even proposed radioactive waste dumps. The Great Lakes provide 21% of the world's and 84% of North America's surface fresh water and the drinking water supply for 40 million people in eight states, two provinces, and Native American (Indian) First Nations. This effort has now culminated with a report commissioned by the CELA and the filing of a citizen-initiated petition, under the authority of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement of 2012, officially nominating hazardous radioactive isotopes as Chemicals of Mutual Concern. Letters of support are needed to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (Davis.cameron@EPA.gov) and the Environment and Climate Change Canada (Michael.Goffin@canada.ca), co-chairs of the Great Lakes Executive Committee as both the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and Great Lakes Fishery Commission have recently done.

### ROUNDUP HERBICIDE

Monsanto wants the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer to retract its report that said that their herbicide *Roundup* caused cancer. They claim that the report was biased and contradicts regulatory finding that the chief ingredient, glyphosate, is safe when used as labeled. The working group of the IARC, based in Lyon, France, said after reviewing scientific literature it was classifying glyphosate as "probably carcinogenic to humans." Farmers have been using glyphosate in increasing quantities since Monsanto in the mid-1990s introduced crops genetically engineered to withstand being sprayed with *Roundup* herbicide. "Roundup Ready" corn, soybeans, and other crops are popular because of the ease with which farmers have been able to kill weeds. But weeds have developed resistance to glyphosate, leading farmers to use more herbicide. The U. S. Geological Survey estimated agricultural use of glyphosate in 2012, the most recent year available, at more than 283 million pounds, up from 110 million pounds in 2002.

### RECYCLING AND REUSING

Terminology is confusing. Here are some definitions: Recyclable=can be recycled; recycled=made from recycled content; biodegradable=can be composted; renewable=made from renewable materials; reuseable=can be used again; and upcycled=converted waste. So be sure products are made from recycled material and can be recycled too.

### FLAME RETARDANTS AND CHILDREN

In 2013, the Center for Environmental Health tested nap mats from California, New York, Washington, Alaska, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Connecticut and found ten different flame retardant chemicals (or chemical mixtures) in the nap mats. Flame retardants have been linked to cancer, genetic damage, impacts on fertility and reproductive health, allergies, hormone disruption, obesity, early puberty and more. The casing of nap mats is often made of PVC and those advertised as antimicrobial are treated with triclosan. The negative health impacts of foam, vinyl, and triclosan have all been well-documented. There are twelve states that have policies regulating flame retardants, but much more needs to be done.

## **UNDOCUMENTED IN THAILAND SPECIAL REPORT — BY CAROL ACOSTA**

Carol Acosta is a retired teacher from southern California who has retired in Thailand. Through her Rotary Club and other outreach, she is helping young girls in her area. She has prepared some of the following comments. If you are interested in helping any of the young people that need assistance contact her at [Cacostatravel@gmail.com](mailto:Cacostatravel@gmail.com). She will tell you about individual students and you can personally pick one girl to help. Full or partial sponsorship is needed. She has personally arranged partial and full sponsorships for more than 20 young people. If you help you will be met with open arms and plenty of thanks. You can even make a trip here and meet some of the kids. Their hospitality is fantastic.

Many people, over 400,000 at last count, though born in Thailand, are undocumented because their births were not registered properly. They may even have birth certificates. No matter, they are undocumented and have virtually no rights. The vast majority of the undocumented are members of various hill tribes.

The undocumented can attend school now, but they are limited in the jobs they can perform: no nurses, doctors, lawyers, etc. They cannot own land, they cannot secure bank loans for any purpose, they cannot vote, and they cannot even obtain a required driver's license. That makes going to school a challenge. They must either try to find work or hope for scholarships or sponsorships if they are to earn university degrees and become contributing members of society. Nor can they travel outside their province without a letter from the government granting them permission to do so. A passport is out of the question. The undocumented have no voice and are often cheated in their workplaces.

Another problem is trafficking and those living in slavery. Where there is extreme poverty, ignorance, and lack of identity or status, trafficking and modern slavery is more prevalent. Combine those factors with greed on the part of the traffickers and apathy on the part of those who simply ignore the problem either because they are not aware it exists or simply don't care about the suffering of the disenfranchised, and you have a social catastrophe of immense proportions. The undocumented are the most vulnerable to human trafficking. They are looked down on by the main society and do not have the resources to even understand what trafficking is.

Young people are easily duped by people of "charitable organizations" promising to help them secure good jobs and even their Thai ID papers. Beware when donating money. Know your recipient and what your money is going to do for the people you are hoping to help. Unfortunately, it is common practice to use religion as a means to obtain your money and often it does not go to the intended cause.

Education is the best way to combat the problem of child trafficking. The Rotary Club of Maechan and their friends are beginning work on an educational pilot project to bring awareness to the villagers. They will supply reading materials, emergency cards with phone numbers and banners to display as a warning that the community will not tolerate trafficking of its young people. Intervention, when needed, will be by known local police who have the resources to take the appropriate action.

**BOOK REVIEWS/IMPRESSIONS**

***CITIZEN SCIENTIST: SEARCHING FOR HEROES AND HOPE IN AN AGE OF EXTINCTION***—by Mary Ellen Hannibal; The Experiment, 220 East 23rd Street, Suite 301, New York, NY 10010-4674; 423 pp.; \$24.95 hardback; © 2015. Hannibal, an award winning writer and environmental thought leader, shares her own inspiring story of discovering the heroic cast of volunteers, amateur writers and naturalists who have worked to understand and save wildlife. She demystifies science and argues that anyone can participate in science and that such participation is of vital importance to the scientific community's understanding of today's so-called "Age of Extinctions." Though science has long been perceived to be confined to academia, Hannibal emphasizes that many important environmental discoveries increasingly rely on citizen observers and hobbyists thanks to their contributions to the data pool. Throughout, she offers a compelling call to action: engage with the natural world, and you, too, can contribute to a scientific understanding of our earth's ecosystems and how we may save them.

***THE FUTURE OF CLEAN ENERGY: WHO WINS AND WHO LOSES AS THE WORLD GOES GREEN***—by Gary Schwendiman; AuthorHouse, 1663 Liberty Drive, Bloomington, IN 47403; 197 pp. paperback; © 2015. Rebutting the prevalent view that adequately addressing the energy and economic crises of a changing climate requires radical change, Schwendiman offers a conventional approach to solving the world's problems: capitalism. He argues that the best solution will revitalize the world economy and meet humanity's needs in the face of a changing climate. However, he proposes the mass production of nuclear generators; it is questionable if this is the best way to achieve the energy demanded. He believes that "ethanol will win the fuel conference." The author presents an optimistic endorsement of innovative energy technology.

***REINVENTING GREEN BUILDING: WHY CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS AREN'T WORKING AND WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT IT***—by Jerry Yudelson; New Society Publishers, P.O. Box 189, Gabriola Island, BC, V0R 1X0, Canada; 266 pp.; \$24.95; © 2016. Jerry Yudelson, a professional engineer and former president of the Green Building Initiative who has been dubbed "the Godfather of Green," presents a data-driven argument against certification-oriented green building. With buildings still producing 50 percent of carbon emissions in the developed world, it is clear that the supposed green building revolution has either failed or has yet to occur. As a LEED Fellow and author of over 13 books in the field, he understands that we must employ creative, outside-the-box solutions. He presents a means to realizing this revolution while cutting costs sufficiently to make green building viable on a mass scale by integrating true climate mitigation strategies, and driving significantly better performance.

***THE NEW BREAD: GREAT GLUTEN-FREE BAKING***—by Jessica Frej and Maria Blohm; Photos by Filippa Tredal; Shiffer Publishing, 4880 Lower Valley Road, Atglen, PA 19310; 143 pp.; \$24.99 hardback; © 2015. With stunning photographs of delicious food and easy-to-read recipes that have ingredients listed on one side and instructions on the other, bakers can create flaxseed rolls, sourdough bread, baguettes, tortillas, muffins and more. The delicious varieties of bread can be made from buckwheat flour, fiber husks, psyllium seeds, cornmeal, potato flour, polenta, and rosehip powder. The authors even include sandwich and wrap recipes and dips and sauces.

**BOOK REVIEWS/IMPRESSIONS—NOVELS**

**MYLAST CONTINENT**—by Midge Raymond; Scribner/Simon and Schuster, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020; 320 pages; \$26.00 hardcover; ©2016. The award-winning author tells the story of two researchers who meet and fall in love in Antarctica, a land of cleaving icebergs and melting glaciers. This continent is a fragile place, imperiled by the world to the north. The researchers study the emperor and Adelie penguins but disaster strikes as a cruise liner in the area starts sinking. Raymond provides a prescient and poetic glimpse into what happens when our smallest missteps take on grand proportions. She takes us on a voyage deep into the wonders of the Antarctic and the mysteries of the human heart.

**TALIA AND THE CAPTURE OF WRATH: BOOK 1**—by C. J. Quinn; Create Space/Amazon; 247 pp.; © 2016. A world traveler turned Pacific Northwest mom who has managed a spa, a horse farm, and a cooking business, the author believes fantasy novels to be richly imaginative, compelling platforms for writers to explain complex and difficult issues. This book is the first installment in her new middle-grade portal fantasy series where she ingrains in its readers a deep need and call to action to care for the Earth. In the story, a nine-year-old enters the world of Talia where his adventure begins. Quinn subtly tackles the questions that surround the fate of the Earth while delighting the reader with a captivating story.

**THE WINDFALL**—by Diksha Basu; Crown Publishing Group; 304 pp.; \$26.00; © 2017. Originally from New Delhi, India, Basu divides her time between New York City and Mumbai and has taken her experiences to write a charming social comedy and family drama set among the upper class of modern India. With warmth and imagination, she cuts to the core of what it means to hold a family together in an ever shifting world. She navigates the complexities of upward mobility, romantic entanglements, marital power dynamics, and parental expectations.

**NONOFFICIAL ASSET: THE IRAN AFFAIR**—by William Sewell, Think Smart Press; 409 pp.; © 2013. The author is a security expert and long-time veteran of the United States Intelligence Community who has taken his real experiences and written an engrossing international spy novel. The main character has a day job but serves as a contractor for the CIA in such places as Islamabad, Baghdad, Shanghai, Kazakhstan, Kabul, and Langley. This thrilling story shows how skills, training, tactics, mettle, and allegiance to family and country helps prevent a nuclear catastrophe.

**I AM NO ONE**—by Patrick Flanery; Tim Duggan Books/Crown Publishing Group, 1745 Broadway, New York, NY 10019; 352 pp.; \$27.00 hardcover; ©2016. Flanery has created a stunningly crafted novel exploring privacy, paranoia, and the hazards of memory. As a professor of Creative Writing, he has taken his skills to compose an Orwellian drama for the post-Snowden world. The main character has dual citizenship and has to explore the issue of national and cultural identity. The protagonist is an expert on surveillance so the author explores the issues of who feels violated by surveillance and what privacy really means. Flanery has written an entertaining story.

## MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

### HOUSEHOLD

**GoSleep** has created a patented “upright sleep system” designed to help travelers enjoy restful sleep while on the go. The combined memory foam pillow has an inventive (straps to tie to seat) large sleep mask designed to prevent the annoying head-bob many travelers experience or you can use the pillow for your back or as a seat cushion. . This veteran-owned American company designs and manufactures in Los Angeles, California, [www.GoSleepUSA.com](http://www.GoSleepUSA.com).

**Super Grid Lock** was invented by Melinda Moore of Sweet Home to prevent keys and lock picks from unlocking deadbolt. These strips of cloth with velcro are used to attach to the deadbolt and the door handle. To obtain more information go to: <https://supergriplock.com/abc-news-report-on-bump-keys/> or contact SGL, 548 50th Avenue, Sweet Home, Oregon 97386, (541) 378-4533.

**Automatic Sliding Doors** from Stanley Access Technologies, [www.stanleyaccess.com/dg-greenstar](http://www.stanleyaccess.com/dg-greenstar) has their eco-friendly “Dura-Glide GreenStar” system to meet the market demand for window and door technology to support energy-smart and Green Certified buildings. The average commercial building is estimated to waste 30% of its energy consumption, a trend that is compounded by rising energy costs.

**Refillable Bottles** with wide-mouths which are easier to fill are available from **Brincatti**, 23763 Madison St., Torrance, CA 90505, (855) 373-2700, [www.brincatti.com](http://www.brincatti.com). Their bottles have a second, wide-mouth opening which is significantly larger than a typical bottle opening making filling, refilling, washing, and reusing bottles easy. They have travel bottles and personal care bottles, household sprayers for cleaning products, and bottles for the health and beauty items. This simple, innovative design greatly reduces one-use plastic pollution by enabling consumers to easily reuse bottles reducing the amount of discarded plastic bottle waste by as much as 50% in many product categories.

### FOOD

**Vegetarian Starter Kit** written by the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, 5100 Wisconsin Ave., N. W., Suite 400 Washington, DC 20016, (202) 686-2210, [www.physicianscommittee.org](http://www.physicianscommittee.org), has prepared this fifteen-page booklet that discusses: the whys and hows of a healthier diet; the new four food groups guidelines; useful tips for beginning a vegetarian diet; delicious low-fat, no-cholesterol recipes. They have tips for meal planning for children, dairy-free dining, cooking without eggs, etc.

**Monograno Felicetti** is a maker of organic, Italian pasta. It is imported from the Dolomites mountains in Italy, where it is made from durum wheat by artisan pasta makers, the Felicetti family. Crafted with mountain air, fresh spring water, pure cereal semolina, and an understanding of the traditional art of pasta making, Monograno Felicetti's products are of the finest quality and are delicious. They have a variety of products including: penne, penne lisce, linguini, and spaghetti. These are delicious with a variety of sources and ingredients. Contact: Pastificio Felicetti SRL via Felicetti 9, Predazzo (TN), Italy; [www.monogranofelicetti.com](http://www.monogranofelicetti.com).

**Just Jan's fruit spreads** are made in small batches and are the spread of choice for a number of luxury hotels and restaurants. Started in a home kitchen in 2012, Just Jan's are all natural and gluten free. The brand offers a number of interesting flavor combinations. Contact: [jan@justjans.com](mailto:jan@justjans.com); [www.justjans.com](http://www.justjans.com).

## MATERIALS AND RESOURCES CONTINUED

### PERSONAL

**Wildflower I-phone cases** are limited edition and handmade from artistic fabric designs. Each case is hand assembled and treated as a work of art while being durable enough to protect your phone. Michelle Carlson creates these wildflower case, each is unique. Contact: [www.wildflowercases.com](http://www.wildflowercases.com); P. O. Box 3639, Ventura, CA 93006.

**Deborah Lindquist Eco-Couture** is the ecological option for the fashion forward and style savvy. One of Los Angeles' most renowned environmentally-conscious designers, Lindquist has exquisite apparel, accessories, and home decor pieces made from a mix of recycled and sustainable and organic fabrics. Their **cards with envelopes** are made of 100% recycled paper. Contact: [www.deborahlindquist.com](http://www.deborahlindquist.com), P. O. Box 751, North Hollywood, CA 91603; (310) 993-3248.

### YARD

**Wild Birds** can easily be attracted to your backyard and are a pleasure to watch. Many items are available from **Wild Birds Unlimited** via their various stores and websites or by visiting or contacting Wild Birds Unlimited, 25416 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90505 (in the Rolling Hills Plaza), (310) 326-2473. They have over a hundred items in their store related to **wild birds** from **backyard feeders**, greeting cards, guide books, and to proper food (the birds deserve proper seeds or nectar). Their experienced naturalists will also assist you in choosing the best items for your location. For example they have the tail prop suet feeders that attract a variety of birds including non seed-eating birds. The fruit and mealworm feeder offers birds a different type of feed. The hanging tray is great to put out seeds and peanuts. There are a variety of tube feeders especially for the finches and hummingbirds. Specialty feeders can come in stainless steel mesh and rustic copper or through a cloth mesh bag. The feeders are designed differently for windows, trees, and other locations. They offer **seeds**: premium oil sunflower, safflower, deluxe blend, no-mess blend, choice blend, and supreme blend. If you prefer to attract **squirrels** there are special boxes, stations, and feeders. The waterworks section has **birdbaths**, even some that are heated. Of course **bird houses** allows the birds to nest in your backyard. Don't forget to have good **binoculars** to enjoy getting close to your wild visitors. **Field Guides** will help if you want to identify the species. For those who want something simpler, get the "**Local Backyard Birds**" card that has colorful pictures and names of common birds.

### REFERENCE ITEMS

**Pi Day** should be about "Making Math Memorable" with hands-on activities according to Cy Tymony, 21143 Hawthorne, #622, Torrance, CA 90503, <http://Sneakymath.com> or [cy.tyony@yahoo.com](mailto:cy.tyony@yahoo.com). Go to his sites: [PiDayFun.com](http://PiDayFun.com) and [Sneakymath.com](http://Sneakymath.com), to download free "Pi Day Fun Cards," a "Pi Detector" and more free projects. Even for those who are not mathematically inclined, you can learn some interesting facts including what pi is: the ratio of a circle's Circumference to its Diameter. The ratio is ALWAYS 3.14. . . ! or more precisely:  $\text{Pi}=3.14159265358979323846264338327950288419716939937510582097\dots$

## CORRESPONDENCE GROUP/ACTION ALERTS

### #2065, ATLANTIC COAST PIPELINE

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is accepting public comment for their DEIS regarding a proposed natural gas pipeline. Passing through West Virginia, Virginia, and North Carolina, the Atlantic Coast Pipeline is a threat to vital water resources and commits the region to continued dependence on environment-wrecking fossil fuels. Moreover, the region's energy needs are met by existing infrastructure, making this pipeline unnecessary. The FERC is accepting public comment through April 6, 2017.

TARGET: Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr., Deputy Secretary

RE: Docket Nos. CP15-554-000, CP15-554-001, CP15-555-000, CP15-556  
FERC, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426

### #2066, WOLVES IN WYOMING AND WESTERN GREAT LAKES

Congress is considering legislation to strip wolves of protections granted by the *Endangered Species Act*. The legislative bills, H.R. 424, and S. 164, directs the Secretary of the Interior to remove protections from wolves in Wyoming and the Western Great Lakes in a move that runs counter to the available science and court rulings. This would place the fate of the wolves in the hands of the relevant states, which would lead to hunting and trapping of wolves, a disaster for the rebounding wolf population.

TARGET: Your Congressperson, House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515

Your Senators, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510

### #2067, DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE

The Department of the Army has issued the final easement necessary for the completion of the Dakota Access Pipeline, which encroaches on the traditional burial grounds of the Standing Rock Sioux Nation and threatens to contaminate their sole source of drinking water. Beyond the risk it poses to the Native American community (and the continued disregard for tribal customs by the US government), the pipeline must be opposed because it furthers the United States' reliance on unsustainable fossil fuels. Bakken Crude Oil, an especially flammable, heavily polluting fossil fuel, should not be introduced to the domestic market at all. Environmentalists want you to express your opposition to continued construction of pipelines in the United States by withdrawing your business from corporations that support these ventures, such as Wells Fargo Bank.

TARGET: Your Congressperson, House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515

Your Senators, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510

### #2068, VOYAGEURS NATIONAL PARK

Located in Northeastern Minnesota, Voyageurs National Park is over one million acres, with more than 1,000 pristine lakes and 1,200 miles of rivers and streams. It and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness are currently being threatened by sulfide-ore copper mining. This extremely pollutive technique leaches dangerous chemicals into the pristine watershed leading to extensive damage of the natural ecosystem.

TARGET: U.S. Forest Service, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 441 G St., N.W., Washington, DC 20314

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**WHO AND WHAT WE ARE—WWW.ECOPROJECTS.ORG**

Educational Communications, Inc., a non-profit organization founded in 1958, is dedicated to improving the quality of life on this planet. Nancy Pearlman oversees its many environmental projects, including: the ECOLOGY CENTER OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (a regional conservation group begun in 1971), *THE COMPENDIUM NEWSLETTER* (1971), ECONEWS television series (1984), ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTIONS radio series (1977), PROJECT ECOTOURISM (1993), and EARTH CULTURES (2004). Other projects include: the ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES LIBRARY, CAMPUS GREENING, ECOVIEW newspaper articles, and HUMANITY AND THE PLANET (including Wells for Burkina Faso and Kenya in Need). The group works on all environmental issues from the local to international level. Services provided include a speaker's bureau, award-winning public service announcements, radio and television documentaries, and input into the decision-making process. Programs include clothes donations and folk dance performances. We educate the public about the problems and the solutions for saving all species and for preserving our earth. All activities are handled by volunteers