



Owning exotic animals is dangerous for humans and inhumane to the animals. When humane societies or authorities such as the California Fish and Game, or the United States Department of Agriculture confiscate these animals, the animals require care for life. In southern California, one such sanctuary is The Shambala Preserve, run by The Roar Foundation, www.shambala.org, P. O. Box 189, Acton, CA 93510, (661) 268-0380. It has over 235 exotic felines at their facility, with each cat getting the best human, nutritional, medical, and emotional care possible for captive animals.

EDITORIAL—NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

In West Los Angeles, California, neighborhoods have created their own identity and name. I live in a little community called Crestview that is south of the city of Beverly Hills, north of the city of Culver City, east of the community of Beverlywood and west of the Fairfax area. The old Spanish-style homes were built in the 1930s. Designed for walking, the main streets of Robertson, Pico, and La Cienega Boulevards have all the family-owned markets, cleaners, beauty parlors, drug stores, cafes, yoga and fitness centers, and service shops. The religious establishments range from orthodox Jewish shuls to reform synagogues and even the Workman's Circle (promoting the Yiddish language), to the Egyptian Coptic Christian Church, Sikh Ashrum, Catholic Church, Protestant Churches, and Humanistic groups. And along Robertson Boulevard at Preuss and Airdrome is a tiny Los Angeles City Recreation Center and Park that is in a triangular plot of land that could fit about three houses.

This park currently has some half basketball outdoor courts, a basketball court inside, a child care center and playground, a picnic area, and some green space with large trees. Various precincts use the meeting rooms for voting, there is a kitchen that has been used for free meals such as the Thanksgiving dinner or the Peace Picnic where you get Asian vegetarian dishes, Eastern Mediterranean items, American standard pizza and hot dogs, and European Kosher foods all in one setting. There is a stage and the indoor area has various community meetings.

Over ten years ago, a Los Angeles City bond was passed to give money for upgrades. Since little had been down to the park and buildings for the thirty-four years I have lived in the area, I was excited when meetings were held years ago about what type of improvements could be made. Community members suggested expanding the children's play area, putting in some more native plantings, and even having the main building have a green roof or parking or solar panels. Yet, the city, without input these past couple of years, hired an architect to turn this postage stamp park into a regulation indoor basketball court which requires 18 parking spaces and then having the remaining open space be more outdoor basketball courts. How unfortunate that a place that could be a green oasis for the community of all ages is to be transformed into a place just for young men who like to play basketball. And because those men come from a community south of Crestview (their park has no plans to build them a basketball court), there is now a rift between the various groups and individuals. The community wants a children/toddler playground, picnic area, green space, and exercise area. They want to save the 40 mature trees, they want a kitchen for events, a stage for presentations, a police drop off station, and a park that serves everyone.

Other schools and parks within a couple of miles radius have regulation basketball courts. Renovating the current buildings would cost more than tearing down and rebuilding but the question remains: why does the new building not reflect all the current uses? Ironically, the city plans presented at a community meeting where more than one hundred residents recently showed up (they really do care), had the Crestview neighborhood unnamed even though the city has put up signs on the streets saying we exist. Los Angeles is park poor when it comes to green spaces. Here is an opportunity to make a difference and create some natural open space; it has been done elsewhere, why not here?

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

KLIQ, 1670 AM, www.4Klig.com out of Los Angeles (Lakewood), California

YouTube: ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTIONS WITH NANCY PEARLMAN

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

<u>#1931A, February 1, 2015, Dr. Frank Gomez</u>, Professor of Chemistry and Research Development Liaison, California State University, Los Angeles; Member, Board of Trustees, Don Bosco Technical Institute, Member Board of Trustees, Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital; Member, Board of Directors, Southern California Conferences for Undergraduate Research; Recipient, CSUPERB Biotechnology Faculty Research Award; Former Member, Board of Education, Montebello Unified School District; Author of over 100 technical articles and two books—microfluidics for biological, chemical, agricultural, and medicinal purposes; methanol fuel cells; paper-based microfluidic formate fuel cells; small portable devices (cell phones, computers, etc.) needing micropower

<u>#1931B, February 1, 2015, Michael Dray, J. D.</u>, Attorney; Technical Operations Manager, Hydrogen Research and Fueling Facility and for the College of Engineering, Computer Science and Technology, California State University, Los Angeles; Former Chemical Technician, GFS Chemical, Inc.; Former Power Plant Chemical and Instrumentation Technician, American Electric Power-Columbus & Southern Electric Company; Former Power Plant Steam Operating Engineer, Waste-to-Energy Electric Plant, City of Columbus, Ohio—first hydrogen refueling dispenser in the United States to pass type evaluation, Sustainable Energy and Transportation Technology Program at California State University, Los Angeles; collaboration with California Fuel Cell Partnership, California Energy Commission, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and Air Resources Board for hydrogen research

ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTIONS RADIO SERIES CONTINUED

#1932A, February 8, 2015, Dr. Barry Hibbs, Professor of Geologic Sciences/Hydrogeology, California State University, Los Angeles; Former Member, National Water Research Institute's Independent Advisory Panel for Groundwater Replinishment Project for the Department of Water and Power, City of Los Angeles; Fellow, Geological Society of America—risks and benefits of reclaimed water use; fracking risks to groundwater and surface water; selenium in Swamp of the Frogs March in San Diego Creek Watershed in Orange County, California; groundwater aquifers on international borders especially between the United States and Mexico; contaminants in groundwater systems

<u>#1932B, February 8, 2015, John Anderson</u>, Project Director Environmental, Vanir Construction Management; Environmental Planner—building codes for health related infrastructure like hospitals; contract with California Office of State Health Planning and Development to have lead agencies understand rules and regulations for CEQA compliance; spotted owl preservation in old growth forests; conversion of Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles to K-12 campus for the Los Angeles Unified School District

<u>#1933A, February 15, 2015, Carolien Gehrels, MA</u>, European Director Big Urban Clients, Arcadis; Vice Mayor of the City of Amsterdam, The Netherlands from 2006-2014; Founder, Amsterdam Advanced Institute Metropoliten Solutions—city marketing campaign in Amsterdam for water management and waste to energy; creating a sustainable city

<u>#1933B, February 15, 2015, Jan van der Grift</u>, Landscape Architect; Program Representative, Room for the River; Owner Bureau Plano; International Cycling Advisor—environmental assessments for big city projects; restoration of natural flood plains and water storage areas in The Netherlands; creating bicycle friendly cities

<u>#1933C, February 15, 2015, Sas Terpstra, MPA, MSc</u>, Strategy and Management Consultant, Twynstra Gudde (TG Water)—water governance; collaboration between governments to engage stakeholders and managing water resources especially in The Netherlands

<u>#1934A, February 22, 2015, Wally Geer</u>, Architect; Partner and Design Principal, SRQRD; Member, Board of Directors, The ReUse People of America—thirty years of building sustainability including creating high technology factory built housing; green building helping the environment and economy; deconstruction as a major element of sustainable construction

<u>#1934B, February 22, 2015, Kristin Williams</u>, Central Valley and Sierra Regional Manager, The ReUse People of America; Former Loan Officer and Realtor—reducing waste by saving historic and architecturally unique materials through deconstruction; creating financial benefits to bridge the gap for deconstruction in the construction industry

ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTIONS RADIO SERIES CONTINUED

#1935, March 1, 2015, George Shea, Playwright; Children's Book Author; Environmental Journalist; Recipient, Pongo Award from the Orang Utan Republik Foundation; Author of biography, *Rachel Carson: Founder of the Environmental Movement*; Producer, Williamstown Theater Festival and Playwrights Horizons, and other off-Broadway productions; Writer of Play, *Dr. Keeling's Curve* and <u>Mike Farrell</u>, Actor of Television, Film, and Stage; Star of the TV Show MASH (played Captain B. J. Hunnicutt); Film Producer, *Patch Adams*; Political Activist (against the death penalty and for animal and human rights); Actor in Television Series *Providence, Clarence Darrow, and JFK*; Solo Performer of one-man show, *Dr. Keeling's Curve*—research on atmospheric carbon dioxide levels (CO2) that created the iconic chart known as Keeling Curve; presentation of the life of the scientist Dr. Keeling who started his research in 1958 at Mouna Loa Observatory in Hawaii and whose daily recordings continue to the present to show increases in parts per million of CO2

<u>#1936A, March 8, 2015, Drew Maran</u>, Builder; President and Founder, Drew Maran Construction, Inc.; Advisor to the Board of Directors, The ReUse People of America—building models to popularize green systems in home building; reduction of landfill waste, especially the 7 percent of concrete through utilizing deconstruction procedures; changing from Portland concrete; carbon footprint of buildings

<u>#1936B, March 8, 2015, Ken Ortiz</u>, Chicago/Mid-West Regional Manager, The ReUse People of America; Former Developer—promoting and operating deconstruction projects in the midwest of USA

<u>#1936C, March 8, 2015, Gustav Joslin</u>, Senior Vice President/COO, Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino, California—incorporating deconstruction in county redevelopment projects

#1937A, March 15, 2015, Green Festival Exhibitors and Participants, Kevin Danaker, Co-Founder, Green Festival; Representative, Global Exchange—international trips; fair trade products; green expos; Sara Amir, Author; Activist; Senior Management Consultant, California Environmental Protection Agency—promoting green awareness and action; Sylvia M. Medina, President & CEO/, Green Kids Club; Environmental Engineer; Author; Creative Director and Joy Eagle, Illustrator, Green Kids Club—creating books for children where kids talk to animals; saving endangered species; Ron Alkali, Owner, Vital Hemp—clothing from hemp; Bonnie Freeman, Representative, Osa Mountain Village in Costa Rica—sustainable communities and intentional living; Rachel Day, Owner, Big Brazos World Village—world instruments made from natural materials; Mitch Rofsky, President, Better World Club—green auto and bicycle roadside service; Gregory Wright, Owner, Wright Thinking—creative ways to be green; Jesse Long, Owner, Global Just Designs—hand-woven fabrics and outfits from Guatamalan designs and artists; Lois Arkin, Founder, Eco-Village, Los Angeles—model ecological communities in cities; Jared Leifert, Representative, Hugo Naturals—vegan skin care products; Elmer Polatoy, Creator, EZWYP—biodegradable wet wipes

<u>#1937B, March 15, 2015, John Anderson</u>, Environmental Project Director, Vaneer Construction Management Company—EIR training for people in the building industry

ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTIONS RADIO SERIES CONTINUED

<u>#1938, March 22, 2015, Dr. Mark Nelson</u>, Environmental Engineer; Chairman, Institute of Ecotechnics; Head, Biospheric Design Division, Global Ecotechnics Corp.; Head, Wastewater Gardens International; Director, Birdwood Downs Company (Derby, West Australia); Author, *The Wastewater Gardener: Preserving the Planet One Flush at a Time*—handling solid waste; wastewater treatment through constructed wetlands both small and large; developing innovative wastewater solutions in Iraq, Mexico (Akumal and Talum), Bali (Indonesia), and Puerto Rico; traveling on the R. V. Heraclitus to study the world's oceans; organic farm in Aix-en-Provence, France; serving as an original team member of Biosphere 2 in Arizona (1991-1993)

<u>#1939A, March 29, 2015, Guenny Pires</u>, Filmmaker; Visual Arts Teacher; Founder, Txan Film Productions and Visual Arts, Inc.; Producer and Director, *Contract* also *Heart of Amilcar Cabral*— the environments and social struggles in the former Portuguese colonies of Sao Tome e Principe and also of Cape Verde in West Africa; story of the independence leader Amilcar Cabral; ecological and social problems of contract labor on the cocoa and coffee plantations of these West African island countries

<u>#1939B, March 29, 2015, Ted Reiff</u>, President, The ReUse People—promoting deconstruction in the construction industry; taking down buildings and homes in a manner such that the materials can be reused; having warehouses to resell the useable material from deconstruction projects including wood floors, tiles, hardware, windows, doors, and appliances; providing a certification program for those who do deconstruction to be sure it is done in a safe and proper way

<u>#1940A, April 5, 2015, Annie de la Bouillerie Goeke</u>, Co-Director and Co-Founder, Earth Rights Institute and Earth Rights Institute Living Lab Program; Co-Founder, United States Green Party; International Sustainable Development Consultant; Commissioner on Status of Women and Young Girls, City of Santa Monica, California—providing Sustainable Leadership courses; Guatemala emersion ecotourist experience; four to six week summer action eco-research assistance in Guatemala; Living Lab programs in Africa (Nigeria, Mali, Equatorial Guinea, Senegal, and DR Congo)

<u>#1940B</u>, April 5, 2015, Samuel Sukaton, Associate Organizing Representative, Sierra Club—Trans-Pacific Partnership Campaign to stop the agreement; rules on treaty fast track (Trade Promotion Authority) by Congress; "Stopping Dirty Fuels" campaign; opposing fracking in California; responsible trade promotion

<u>#1941A, April 12, 2015, Ray Dapp, CCIM, CSM</u>, President, RD & Associates; Member, Board of Directors, Orange County Chapter, United States Green Building Council; Executive Director, Los Angeles Chapter, Net Impact; Certified Commercial Investment Manager; Certified Sustainability Manager—Kashiwa-no-ha Urban Development Project in suburban Tokyo, Japan; sustainable issues in the building trades; regional revitalization and creating "environmental future cities"

<u>#1941B, April 12, 2015, Tina Ford</u>, Hike Leader, The Oaks at Ojai Resort—hiking in the foothills of Ojai, southern California, and through the native chaparral habitat and planted orchards

ECONEWS TELEVISION SERIES

ECONEWS, produced and hosted by Nancy Pearlman, currently airs on over 70 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. Titles are listed on www.ecoprojects.org. Your tax-deductible donation allows us to continue to provide the ecological message and to encourage ecotourism. Check the credits for the help by our volunteers. <u>Our YouTube Channel is: ECONEWS with Nancy Pearlman</u>.

For the most recent, check out "Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro"

https://www.youtube.com/watch v=MRVjNIEqPvE&feature=youtu.be

and Tarangarie National Park, Tanzania,

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hO-BkRJIroE&feature=youtu.be

#3005, TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK, TANZANIA—Review by Alex Fournier and Leslie Lewis Host Nancy Pearlman travels to the East African country of Tanzania and takes a wildlife safari to the Tarangire National Park, known for the largest number of herds of elephants in the world. Lowrence Mbwana, Guide for Simba Safaris (Arusha, Tanzania) and Cultural Vacations and Safaris (Orlando, Florida, USA), finds great viewing areas for the wildlife of the region and explains their behavior. The park is over 8,000 square kilometers. The name "Tarangire" is attributed to the zig-zagging river that winds its way through the park but the term also comes from the warthog hunters of the region who use it to describe the zig-zagging evasive movement of the warthogs.

The various camps and rest areas allow tourists to enjoy gazing upon elephant families numbering in the 50s and 60s per herd. The elephants slowly walk across the plains, the dirt roads, and the riverbeds to graze and drink water. Along the road, we stop and watch large baboon troops where the young play. Other flora and fauna are observed at many points on the drive and we the visitors stop and watch and take pictures without leaving the vehicle, which has a standup area for viewing. Sleeping lion families are encountered as well as other predators and herbivores including impalas and their young. At the picnic area, birds of every size and color and shape surround the site. Tourists from various countries share their experiences. Between game drives, we enjoy a relaxing time at the Sopa Lodge with its first class amenities and its delicious buffet meals. There is a pool for relaxation. For evening entertainment, Felix Apolinary's dance troupe performs traditional dances to the drumbeat of musicians. Resort guests join in on the dancing. At the restaurant, the chefs and servers sing as they bring special cakes to the travelers and encourage them to join in on the "conga" line. From the decks of the lodge one sees balloons moving across the savanna. On top of the roofs and in the walkways there are many different kinds of mammals, rodents, and reptiles that are cute and fun to watch. Throughout the trip, the beauty of the land and wildlife make for a most memorable experience worth the time and money.

CURRENT LAND USE

SIERRA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA—Sitting at the southernmost edge of the Klamath-Cascade, just north of Lake Tahoe, Sierra Valley is the largest alpine wetland in the United States. The forests, meadows, and wetlands are home to brown bear, mountain lion, Sierra Nevada red fox, coyote, mule deer, beaver, badgers, Great Basin pronghorn, and Rocky Mountain elk. Mountain snowmelt and rain feed the valley's extensive wetlands, where lush meadows and pastures form the headwaters of the Middle Fork of the Feather River and then the Sacramento River, key to California's water supplies. The wetlands are a major stop on the Pacific Flyway for 230 migrating bird species and the valley provides breeding habitat for more than 17 rare or threatened species including the Sandhill Crane, White-faced Ibis, and the Black Tern. Settlers have used the area for cattle ranching and timber production. The Pacific Forest Trust, 1001-A O'Reilly Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94129, pacificforest.org, is working with landowners to establish conservation easements. 4,467 acres of working lands have been protected.

ANTARCTICA—The region has warmed faster than almost any other place on earth, with year-round temperatures increasing by 5 degrees F in the past 60 years and wintertime temperatures soaring by 11 degrees F since 1950. As a result, sea ice now blankets the ocean along the western Antarctic peninsula three months less a year than 30 years ago. As Antarctica ice melts, sea levels rise and animals suffer.

GULF OF MEXICO—BP recently agreed to a settlement for their role in the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The \$18.7 billion settlement between BP, the United States Justice Department and the five Gulf states is the largest environmental penalty in history. Restoration has been in limbo for five years and wildlife and ecosystems have suffered, so hopefully improvements will be made.

SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS NATIONAL MONUMENT—Plans are being drafted for this unique resource in southern California. Management needs to provide protection and interpretation of the scenic, recreational, water quality, rich cultural history, scientific, wilderness, watershed, rivers, vegetation diversity, and ecological values and features of the area. Environmentalists are advocating that the freeflowing character and outstanding values of rivers and streams be considered for National Wild and Scenic River designation, including the East, West, and North Forks of the San Gabriel River, Little Rock Creek, and upper San Antonio Creek. Recreational opportunities should be improved in the San Gabriel River Canyon, upper Little Rock Creek, and other high use areas. In addition, there should be increased environmental education, interpretation, and environmentally-protective infrastructure (bathrooms, signs, etc.), and more ranger patrols. There also needs to be a resolution over the conflicts between the Cogswell Dam operations and downstream flows needed to sustain threatened and native fish and provide high-quality fishing. An analysis needs to be made to include management and funding problems of not including all of the San Gabriel Mountains in the National Monument including the Mount Baldy area, Lytle Creek, the Angeles Front Country west of Pasadena, and the Tujunga/Upper Los Angeles River watershed. Other considerations in the planning should be for a transportation plan that promotes public transportation as well as withdrawing the monument from mining as required by the 2014 Monument Proclamation and the 1928 Angeles Forest Reforestation and Watersheds Act.

WILDLIFE STATE OF AFFAIRS

PACIFIC FISHER—The fisher is the fifth largest member of the weasel family in North America. The males weigh between eight to twelve pounds and the females between four and six pounds. The fisher needs large live trees, snags, and downed logs for denning and rearing kits. Females may have one to four kits per litter. Fishes are mesocarnivores. Their diet primarily consists of prey including snowshoe hares, mountain beavers, and porcupines but they are known to east huckleberries too. Mesocarniovres, which are more diverse and occur at greater densities than larger carnivores (e.g. grey wolves), play an important role in regulating "the abundance and distribution of a variety of other species through predation and competition" (Lofroth et al 2010). The Mount Rainier National Park and North Cascades National Park Service Complex, 810 State Route 20, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284-1239, is considering a restoration plan for the fisher and whether there should be reintroductions of fishers into the National Parks where these endangered animals have been absent since the 1990s.

NUMBER OF SPECIES—from *Zoo View*, Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens, 5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90027. The zoo is located in Griffith Park and has free parking.

- 5-20 million estimated species on earth
- 1.8 million known to science
- 1.35 million of these species are animals
- 64 thousand are vertebrates: mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, and amphibians
- 7 thousand reptile species known in 1992
- 94 hundred reptile species known in 2012
- 25 percent of all mammals are globally threatened
- 13 percent of all birds are globally threatened
- 41 percent of all amphibians are globally threatened

SAOLA OF VIETNAM AND LAOS—One of the most surprising zoological discoveries of the twentieth century was in 1992 when biologists from Vietnam and the World Wildlife Fund found and describe a new species of bovid, *Pseudorynx nghetinhensis* or the saola. While local hunters had collected the horns of this animal that resembled those of the orynx (a large African antelope) there had been no matched species known from Asia. The new (to science) species was subsequently confirmed to occur in several areas of the Annamite Mountains on both sides of the Vietnam/Laos border. The common name saola means "spinning wheel posts" in the Lao language. Because of the straight, twofoot-long horns that can look like one in a profile, the press labeled it the Asian unicorn. The the villagers the horns looked like the small spinning wheels that they used. The saola is by far the lagrest terrestrial animal of undisputed existence in the world that has never been seen in the wild by a biologist. Most information about it comes from the local people, camera-trap photographs, and encounters with a few short-lived captive animals although there are no saola in captivity anywhere in the world today. The main threat to the animals is illegal yet widespread hunting for wildlife commercial trade in its range. They don't try to capture saola but it is killed as a by-catch in the pursuit of other species valued in traditional medicine and as bushmeat. Intense levels of snaring are a particular concern. Roadbuilding is also increasing human population. [Source: Zoo View]

ECOLOGICAL ACTION COMMITTEE—BY ANNA HARLOWE

SUPPORTED:

Starbucks and Green Mountain Coffee withdrawing membership in the Grocery Manufacturers Association which opposes Vermont's food labeling law

Recognizing the rights of the Guarani communities and demonstrate socially-and environmentallyresponsible investment in Ibera and creating a buffer zone between plantations and local farmers

Designating critical habitat for the western population of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo and prohibiting pesticide use in the habitat

United States' recent bilateral agreement with China to cut carbon pollution

Funding by the World Bank for off-grid renewable energy projects

Creating a level play field for clean energy development by providing a production tax credit

Adding the 1,000 remaining St. Lawrence River beluga whales to Canada's list of endangered species Having the Arctic Council create an Arctic Sanctuary

Cracking down on inhumane animal treatment by China and Thailand and having fur lining labelled so that raccoon and dog fur is not passed off as fake fur

Developing a clean and equitable freight system in California that cleans up the air

Commitment by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Obama Administration to end the slaughter of elephants for their ivory by helping to stop the illegal wildlife trade

Protecting large expanses of sage grouse habitat to stem decline of the species

Establishing a permanent trawler ban in Australia's waters because of the massive destruction of wildlife caused while the nets are dragged across the seafloor

Designation of critical habitat for ringed seals in the Bering, Chukchi, and Beaufort Seas **OPPOSED**:

Monsanto's dicamba and glufosinate resistant cotton and soybeans (wanted USDA Biotechnology Resource Services to disapprove these products)

Offshore drilling in Bristol Bay and surrounding North Aleutian Basin waters of the Bering Sea Big Thorne auction on the Prince of Wales Island in the Tongass National Forest

Skinning dogs alive for their fur in China

PepsiCo company making products like Doritos from palm oil plantations that destroy rainforests Don Sahong Dam in southern Laos because of the threat to the Mekong River and the livlihood of its resources and potential harm to the people of Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Thailand

HUMANITY AND THE PLANET PROJECT

The groups in Kenya and Tanzania that we are helping are constantly requesting items. Julius needs a printer, stationery, cartridges, and a laptop or desktop computer. Felix wants a video camera. Alice distributes children's clothing but needs resources to build a well and a solar panel at the orphanage. Silvano needs shoes and boots for his assistant guides. Faustine needs gifts for kids such as pencils, books, and clothes to give at Solar Mama's workshops. Basically, whatever you can use even if it needs repair is of value. Call Nancy 310 559-9160.

<u>Attended</u>: Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter's Political Committee; California Water Symposium by the UCLA Institute of Sustainability; CalTech Folk Dancers; Water/River Symposia by the Consul General of The Netherlands and Netherlands Economic Mission at Marsh Park; Host Committee for the Green Festival; DARE Program by the Consul General of Azerbaijan in Los Angeles; Los Angeles Travel & Adventure Show; Travel Massive; Ceramic Museum Tour, "Modern Moves" by Carol Bishop Photo Exhibit at the Neutra Institute Museum and Gallery and her "Le Borbusier and the Modernist Legacy" at the Theatre Raymond Kabbaz; "Sustainable Harmony" Panel Discussion at Natural Products Expo West; Press Luncheon at BS Taqueria Restaurant (downtown Los Angeles) and St. Francis Reserve Winery; Tour of USC School of Dramatic Arts; Salon on the Spiritually Creative Life Talk about the architect Neutra; Natural Products Expo West; Consumer Products Event on Eco-gear; Easter Pageant at Church of Living Waters; Idyllwild Community Passover Seder; California Science Center's Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit; G2 Gallery photographic exhibit about oceans

<u>Surveyed</u>: Answered questions for Walden University student Cecilia Bell for her report on policy changes as a result of the Civil Rights Movement

<u>Participated</u>: Board of Directors Meetings of The ReUse People of America, California Greenworks, and the Universal Pantheist Society; Pitzer College Nonprofit and Public Service Career Fair; Dance Week at The Oaks at Ojai; 36th Annual Los Angeles Environmental Education Fair; Renewable Energy Dialogue with Ragnheiour Elin Arnadottir, Iceland Minister of Industry and Commerce

<u>Viewed Films at Screenings</u>: Oscar-nominated documentaries *Citizen Four; Salt of Earth; Timbuktu; Men of Montford Point Camp* (BADD); *The Joyful Reunion* (Taiwan); "Celebration of French Language" Film Series by the International Organization of La Francophonie, *Bowling Killers* and *Les Ames de Papier* (Belgium); West Hollywood Women's Leadership Conference Mini-Film Festival's Geraldine *Ferraro: Paving the Way, Anita:Speaking Truth to Power, The Interpreters Collective Respivativity, Faces of Change: Lilly Ledbetter 's Story, Daisy Gates: First Lady of Little Rock,* and *Take the Power; Jerusalem 3D*; Death with Dignity Film; *City of Gold* (about the Los Angeles Times Food Critic) <u>Spoke</u>: Consul General of Azerbaijan in Los Angeles Program at Pico Shull about the 20th Anniversary of the Massacre; KTYM Radio Show with Andra Hoffman about community colleges on the "Earl Hutchinson Special with Pedro Baez"; Public Hearing/Meeting opposing the improper redevelopment of the Robertson Recreation Center

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

<u>Attended</u>: Investiture Ceremony for Dr. Francisco C. Rodriquez for LACCD Chancellor; Los Angeles Valley College Community Services Center Dedication, their "Site Unseen: Incarceration" Exhibition at the LAVC Art Gallery, and Valley College Gateway & Athletic Training Facility Groundbreakings; District Swearing-In Ceremony for Ted W. Lieu, 33rd Congressional District; Los Angeles Southwest College Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Cox Building School of Career and Technical Education <u>Featured</u>: In picture of BuildLACCD Program Highlights Newsletter for the LAVC Athletic Training Field Groundbreaking

ISSUES UPDATE

HOME AIR QUALITY-From Lawrence Gust, BS(EE), BBEC, CERSA, CMR, Gust Environmental, www.GustEnviro.com, (805) 644-20008, www.BuildingBiology.net. He points out that over 90% of our time is spent indoors and according to the EPA, 65% of our buildings are polluted, sometimes as much as six to ten times higher than city pollution. That is why he makes suggestions to improve our environment. He believes that Diet+Attitude+Exercise+Healthy Building=Health and Well-being. Control moisture sources which is where water mold grows: fix water intrusion and clean up within 36 hours; vent outside bathroom, kitchen, clothes dryer, and stove hood; and reduce irrigation that wets the house foundation. Control dust mites and animal dander: wash sheets weekly in 130 degree F water; vacuum mattress, chairs, and carpeting; replace pillows every 1 to 2 years; and install solid surface floors in bedrooms. Eliminate combustion gases: use outdoor air supply for fireplace and wood stove, use outside vented stovehood when using gas stove; and use sealed, power-vented water heaters and furnaces. Eliminate toxic pesticides: do not use pesticides indoors and use alternative pest control that is nontoxic. Eliminate volatile compounds (VOCs): store toxic/volatile compounds outside of living space; use safe paints and sealers with no VOCS; and open windows when painting or cleaning. Reduce particulates: Use a 3M Filtrete 1250 or better furnace filter; replace filters regularly; use hard floor surfaces rather than wall-to-wall carpet. Improve ventilation: Keep a few windows slightly open at all times

WATER USE AND CONSERVATION: TESTING FOR LEAKS — The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, www.ladwp.com has a chart for conserving water. They recommend checking for leaks on your property. Ideas for conserving water: Don't run the faucet, refrigerate a bottle of tap water instead of letting water run until it is cold. Wash dishes by hand. Don't run water when doing dishes or brushing teeth. Aim sprinklers on plants away from driveways and sidewalks. Use a broom instead of water outside. Water use—Tub Bath: 25 to 35 gallons; Dishwasher: 10 to 20 gallons per load; Clothes Washer 20 to 50 gallons per load; Toilet 1.6 to 5.0 gallons per flush; kitchen and bathroom faucets: up to 2.5 gallons per minute; shower: up to 2.5 gallons per minute; garden hose: up to 8 gallons per minute. To check for links—Turn off all water fixtures inside and outside of the home. Look at your water meter and observe the triangle or sweep hand in the case of a straight-water meter (looks like a speedometer on your car) or the dial which is labeled "one foot" or has no label in the case of a round water meter (has dials). If all water fixtures are off and there is movement on the triangle/sweep hand or one foot dial, there is a leak on the property.

ECOFEMINISM—Women are half the world's population, working two-thirds of the world's working hours, receiving 10% of the world's income, and owning less than 1% of the world's property. Nini Zhang, Professor of Philosophy at Beijing Foreign Studies University in China, believes that ecofeminism is part of the constructive postmodernism movement based on Whiteheadian process thinking and offers a new understanding of the real world by rejecting the mechanistic version and male-defined version of nature as "stuff." [Source: *Process Perspectives*, Center for Process Studies, 1325 North College Avenue, Claremont, CA 91711, www.ctr4process.org]

IMPRESSIONS/BOOK REVIEWS CONTINUED—ECO-ACTIVISTS BY LESLIE LEWIS

SOUNDINGS: THE STORY OF THE REMARKABLE WOMAN WHO MAPPED THE OCEAN FLOOR—by Hali Felt; Henry Holt and Company, 175 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010; 352 pp.; \$30.00 hardcover; ©20012. The heroine of this biography is Marie Tharp, who in 1952 as an oceanic cartographer discovered the mid-oceanic ridge which in turn proved the then questionable theory of continental drift. In an era when women were relegated to being secretaries or assistants, Tharp nonetheless reached beyond cultural norms and made it her life's work to map the hidden contours of the ocean floor. While her male colleagues went on expeditions to collect soundings (records of sonar pings measuring the ocean's depth), Tharp stayed on dry land and analyzed and compiled this data to create a comprehensive map that laid the groundwork for proving continental drift. Sadly, she did not receive credit for her identification of the ridge at the time of its discovery. That honor was given to Maurice "Doc" Ewing, the Director of Columbia's geological observatory and Bruce Heezen, her colleague. Hopefully, Felt's extensive research can correct history and give credit where due.

THE BOND: OUR KINSHIP WITH ANIMALS, OUR DALL TO DEFEND THEM—by Wayne Pacelle; HarperCollins Publishers, 10 East 53rd Street, New York, NY 10022; 423 pp.; \$26.99 hardcover; ©2011. As president and CEO of The Humane Society of the United States, Pacelle has encountered many animals and been involved in countless cases to help save them, both wild and domestic. He presents an urgent call to answer the needs of millions of at-risk creatures. This landmark work is the passionate, insightful, and comprehensive examination of our special connection to animals. The author explores the biological and historical underpinnings of the human-animal bond and reveals our newfound understanding of animals including their remarkable emotional and cognitive capacities. His stories go from slaughterhouses to desperate animals needing rescue after hurricanes, from dogfighting to killing of wildlife near national parks. He takes on the arguments of opponents and critics of animal protection from rifle associations to farm bureaus and even kennel clubs. This is an eye-opening must read.

IMAGINING WILD AMERICA—edited by John R. Knott; The University of Michigan Press, 839 Greene St., P. O. Box 1104, Ann Arbor, MI 48106; 236 pp.; \$55.00 cloth; ©2002. As a professor of English, Knott takes the writings from major environmentalists about wilderness and wildness and makes a case for its continuing value. He focuses on the works of John James Audubon, Henry David Thoreau, John Muir, Edward Abbey, Wendell Berry, and Mary Oliver. He brilliantly explains how each writer illustrates different stages and dimensions of the American fascination with wild nature. This is a superb contribution to the growing literature of ecocriticism and is an excellent response to and critique of recent arguments about the constructed nature of wilderness. While reading about these people's actions, you will also gain a better appreciation of the importance of saving our wildness.

THE 100 GREATEST AMERICANS OF THE 20TH CENTURY: A SOCIAL JUSTICE HALL OF FAME—by Peter Dreier; Nation Books, 250 West 57th St., 15th Floor, New York, NY 10107; 512 pp.; \$19.99 paperback; ©2012. To list all of these leaders would take a full page but they are familiar names in their fields of activism and accomplishments. In 4-5 pages for each person, he includes their picture and background about who they are and what they achieved and what they overcame for their success.

IMPRESSIONS/BOOK REVIEWS CONTINUED CHANGING SOCIETY AND SELF—BY LESLIE LEWIS

MEDIATING CULTURE THROUGH FILM: CONVERSATIONS AND REFLECTIONS ON FILMMAKING AT TARTU WORLDFILM FESTIVAL—edited by Pille Runnel; and NGO Worldfilm Society and Estonian National Museum, Veski 32, 51014, Tartu, Estonia; 114 pp.; ©2008. This volume celebrates the fifth anniversary of a festival which is a meeting point of different forms of documentary and anthropological filmmaking and also an arena for representation of different cultures of the world. The commentaries by the speakers from around the world reflect the pragmatic, contemplative, entertaining, and adventurous sides of documenting traditional activities of "the Fourth World" (nonindustrialized groups of people). Fascinating reflections by anthropologists about their recording behaviors and activities versus making a documentary for the public.

CLEAN CURES: THE HUMBLE ART OF ZEN-CURING YOURSELF — by Michael DeJong; Sterling Publishing Company, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016; 192 pp. hardcover; 20 black and white illustrations; \$20.95; ©2009. Using inexpensive, basic ingredients including apple cider vinegar, baking soda, honey, lemon, olive oil, and salt, DeJong provides some remedies to such common health problems as fatigue, ear ache, bedwetting, athlete's foot, aching muscles, bruises, coughs, colds, food odor, heartburn, migraines, stress, and more. Minor ailments do not always have to be treated with strong, dangerous chemicals/drugs/medicine. This book is part of the CLEAN series which is a "mindset, a philosophy, and an alternative to mass consumerism."

THE NATURAL KITCHEN: YOUR GUIDE TO THE SUSTAINABLE FOOD REVOLUTION—by Deborah Eden Tull; Process Media, 1240 W. Sims Way, Suite 124, Port Townsend, WA 98368; 283 pp.; \$1795 paperback; ©2010. This is not a recipe book but a guidebook to set up a kitchen that provides healthy and sustainable food, help you create green menus, create eco-friendly cooking and storage techniques, reduce waste, and basically make your kitchen the place to change your life from being a consumer to an earth steward.

I LOVE GOD'S GREEN EARTH: DEVOTIONS FOR KIDS WHO WANT TO TAKE CARE OF GOD'S CREATION—by Michael and Caroline Carroll; Tyndale Huse Publishers, Inc, Carol Stream, Illinois in association with WordServe Literary Group, Ltd., 10152 S. Knoll Circle, Highlands Ranch, Co 80130; \$12.99 paperback; 184 pp.; ©2010. Each two-page chapter (they are divided into 90 days) starts with a biblical quote and then a discussion of current issues related to the them, a paragraph connecting the scriptures to the ecological concerns, and then a paragraph about what the individual can do. Each of these sections ends with a riddle, a fun fact, or joke. This is a quick read for children, teens, or adults.

WAKE UP!—by David Krieger; A Nuclear Age Peace Foundation Book, 1187 Coast Village Road, Suite 1, PB 121, Santa Barbara, CA 93108; 115 pp.; \$14.95 paperback; ©2015. This book of short poems covers such topics as "truth is beauty," "War," "Global Hiroshima," "Peace," "Portraits," and "Imperfection." He uses his poetry to promote his activism in his efforts to educate and advocate for peace and a world free of nuclear weapons. He wants to empower peace leaders be they the average citizen or world politicians.

MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

FOOD

<u>Algae: ENERGYbits</u>, 9 Hawthorne Place, Suite 6R, Boston, MA 02114, energybits.com, are made from 100% organic spirulina algae which are instantly absorbed, loaded with protein, and contain 40 vitamins and minerals. They have no other ingredients. They can be a great low calorie snack and also an "athletic recovery fuel/immune builder." Since algae is a plant, this product is not a supplement even though the tablets (not pills) can easily be swallowed. The shelf life is about two yearsAlgae is considered to have the highest concentration of protein, chlorophyll, beta carotene, antioxidants, and vitamins in the world; NASA says that "one gram of algae has the nutritional equivalent of 1,000 grams of fruits and vegetables." Algae is a crop that is grown in water and is harvested in about one month. <u>Cereal and Teas</u>: <u>Teechia</u>, www.teechia.com (800) 498-3434, has a "Super Seeds Cereal" made from chia, flax, quinoa, amaranth, ramon, and pumpkin that is gluten free with no sugar added. Their Blueberry date mix is 6g fiber, 6g protein, 26g whole grains, and 1100mg Omega-e Fats. They make a "Herbal Coffee Hazelnut" that is non-acidic, 75% organic from buttery hazelnuts enriched by golden roasted almonds, dates & figs or their "Herbal Coffee French Roast" that is organic with no caffeine made from intense, deep coffee notes from roasted ramon seeds.

<u>Wild Fish</u>: <u>Wild Planet</u>, www.wilplanetfoods.com, 7 High St., Huntington, NY 11743, has a variety of products from the ocean that are sourced sustainably. They have no BPA used in their can lining and are non-GMO. Some are even pareve (Kosher). The "<u>Wild Sardines in Extra Virgin Olive Oil</u>" is cleaned and scale-free and lightly smoked; these provide an excellent source of Omega 3. Their "<u>White Anchovies</u>" are packed fresh in water and are lightly salted. white anchovies are an abundant, sustainable species and a great way to eat lower on the food chain. The "<u>Wild Pacific Sockeye Salmon</u>" are sustainably caught, boneless and skinless. Conservationists advocate wild salmon as opposed to farmed salmon. This is a product of Canada and is caught in the cold, pristine waters of North America and are canned fresh and never previously frozen. The "<u>Wild Albacore Tuna</u>" are 100% pole and troll caught which is the most sustainable fishing method because dolphins and turtles are not harmed because they do not use long lines. This can of food is also pareve.

SUSTAINABLE TRAINING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE PROGRAMS

Leadership in Sustainable Development OnLine Course—The Earth Rights Institute Living Lab has courses running for seven weeks with two to three hours per week; www.UDEMY.com or www.erilivinglab.com; info@erilivinglab.com, (310) 403-6693. course includes webinars, creative workshops, discussions on the definition of sustainability, information on the UN Millennium Development Goals, videos of their HAPI (Holistic Action Planning for Innovation) process in a Mayan community seeking sustainable development solutions, and the opportunity to follow the impact of the community's solutions over six months.

<u>Environmental Science Programs with the National Park Service</u>—NatureBridge, 20720 Ventura Blvd., Suite 265, Woodland Hills, CA 91364, naturebridge.org, has residential environmental science programs in national parks where young people can explore and analyze the wonders of the natural world.

MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

RESORTS

<u>The Oaks at Ojai Resort and Spa</u>—Nestled in the Ojai Valley about one and a half hours from Los Angeles and one hour from Santa Barbara, California, The Oaks, 122 E. Ojai Ave., Ojai, CA 93023, (805) 646-5573, www.oaksspa.com, (800) 753-6257, is a full service resort providing programs to help you lead a healthy life. They have daily fitness activities and themed weeks where you can choose what you want to do from hikes and cycling to dance classes, yoga, and pool exercises. There are informative seminars, food talks, and guided tours of the town's art galleries. Their fixed meals and plentiful snack options are geared toward a low calorie intake to help you lose weight. Their spa has facials, massages and other pampering treatments. The accommodations are first-class. For skin care needs, the lotions, masks, and other featured products at the spa are from <u>Skin Authority</u>, 5900 Sea Lion Place, Suite 100, Carlsbad, CA 92010, (859) 546-0282, www.skinauthority.com.

CLEANING

<u>Soap</u>: <u>Sunfeather</u>, Bowling Green, FL 33834, (800) 276-5313, www.sunfeather.com, has handcrafted kettle-made soaps using fairly traded and certified organic oils of olive, coconut & palm, organic herbs, spices, fruits, grains, and all natural clays. These bars of soap for hand and body washing are cruelty-free and biodegradable. Sandy Maine, the founder, has been making these since 1979. <u>Bamboo</u>: <u>NatureZway</u>, 6015 Randolph St, Commerce, CA 90040, www.naturezway.com, (313) 581-3000, has numerous cleaning solution products made from bamboo including: bamboo perforated towels 25 ct that can be used up to 100 times; bamboo floor wipes that fit most brand name sweepers, bamboo bath tissue with a 6 pk of 400 sheets, compostable waste bags that come in 4 sizes including

PET, bamboo 2 pk sponge that uses a cellulose sponge inside, and a bamboo 2-piece cleaning cloth.

SNACKS AND WINES

<u>Chewing Gum</u>—<u>Glee Gum</u>, Verve, Inc., 305 Dudley St., Providence, RI 02907, (401) 351-6415, www.GleeGum.com, has a chewing gum that contains no artificial colors, flavors, sweeteners, or preservatives. Their six classic flavors are sweetened with Fair Trade cane sugar and brown rice syrup while three flavors of sugarless Glee use 100% xylitol from American birch and beech trees. There are just five calories a service and cost \$1.25 per pack. The Glee Gum Pops is a lollipop which is the world's first and only 100% natural gum pops. Each pack for \$4.49 contains a mix of three tasty flavors with bubblegum centers; sweet strawberry, crisp green apple, and juicy orange. They are gluten-free, allergy-friendly, certified kosher, and vegan.

<u>Varietal Wines</u>—<u>St. Francis Winery & Vineyards</u>, 500 Pythian Road @ Hwy. 12, Santa Rosa, CA 95409, (888) 675-WINE, has produced for over 30 years top-quality wines in Sonoma County. They run their operations at various vineyards in a sustainable way while creating hand-crafted wines for their Reserve Tier including: Dry Creek Valley for the Reserve Zinfandel, Sonoma Valley for the Reserve Merlot, and Alexander Valley for the Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon. They are aged in100% French Oak barrels. The Zinfandel comes from old vines that are 60 to 100 years old. As part of the Kobrand Corporation, the company also has wines from Europe and South America.

FILM/EXHIBIT REVIEWS—BY LESLIE LEWIS

SUNSHINE SUPERMAN—This Magnolia Pictures, 49 West 27th St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10001, release in conjunction with Scissor Kick Films, Flimmer Films & Submarine Entertainment Productions was made by Marah Strauch. The 101-minute non-fiction feature film focuses on the beginnings of BASE (Building, Antenna, Span, and Earth) jumping in the 1980s where sky divers went to new places and heights to jump from fixed places. It features the historic footage shot by Carl Boenish, the father of the BASE jumping movement and is a documentary portrait of his and his wife's feats of foot-launched human flight. Carl and Joan broke the BASE jumping Guinness world Record in 1984 on the Norwegian "Troll Wall" mountain range but within days, triumph was followed by disaster. The story is told through a stunning mix of Carl's 16 mm archive footage, well-crafted re-enactments, and state-of-the-art aerial photography. Carl believed that this extreme sport was an expression of the human spirit and the connection of nature and humans. You will leave breathless and inspired.

JERUSALEM 3D-Narrated by Benedict Cumberbatch, this giant screen, IMAX, film adventure describes life in the city of Jerusalem, Israel, and how this place is sacred to half the people on earth and has been fought over more than any other place in history. The city has been conquered and destroyed, rebuilt and reinvented, repeatedly over 5,000 years. The creators of this film take viewers on a cinematic journey soaring high above the Holy Land and plunging deep into the vibrant Old City to experience iconic sites and explore on a grand scale the intersection of science, history, and religion in this ancient and enigmatic place. Distributed by National Geographic Studios, the original production from Cosmic Picture and Arcane Pictures premiered at the California Science Center's IMAX Theater in Exposition Park, Los Angeles, California. In the film, three young women, Jewish, Christian, and Muslim, describe some of their impressions living in Jerusalem. The 43-minute film was executive produced by the late Jake Eberts and produced by Taran Davies, George Duffield and Daniel Ferguson with Reed Smoot as Director of Photography. There are shots of the Western Wall, Dome of the Rock, Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Jordan River, Sea of Galilee, and the mountain fortress of Masada. The filmmakers received special access to many of these places as well as permission to shoot rare aerial footage over the Old City. The city has thousands of archaeological sites and is one of the most excavated cities on the planet. More information at www.jerusalemthemovie.com

DEAD SEA SCROLLS: THE EXHIBITION—Currently being shown at the California Science Center in Exposition Park, Los Angeles, California, is an exhibition where guests will discover the science and significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls. They will actually get to see some of the original manuscripts written and hidden in caves 2000 years ago. This is the largest exhibit of its type ever mounted outside of Israel. Featured are sections from 10 of the Dead Sea Scrolls, including parts of the oldest known copies of the Hebrew Bible/Torah, also known as the Old Testament. Other highlights include a 3-ton stone from Jerusalem's Western Wall and over 600 archeological artifacts. Through multimedia explanations, visitors can explore the technology used to date and decipher these ancient manuscripts and preserve them for future generations. While the main exhibits at the museum are free, tickets for purchase are required for this special program: californiasciencecenter.org.

FILM/VIDEO REVIEWS CONTINUED

A few years ago (from 2009-2012), many worthy environmental films were produced that are still worth watching. Here are some suggestions for viewing since DVDs are still available.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME WARDENS—This 66-minute documentary shines light on who game wardens are, the diverse work they do, and just how dangerous it is. Nowhere are game wardens plentiful but California has the worst ration in North America with one warden for every 198,000 Californians. One consequence is a \$100 million-plus a year black market in illegal wildlife trafficking, much of it involving organized crime. Another problem is the mushrooming explosion of marijuana cartel gardens on public lands. A third is the role of game wardens in homeland security (for example when they discover terrorist cell training on public lands). [James Swan with Snow Goose Productions, 66 Old Windmill Road, Madrid, NM 87010, or P. O. Box 2460, Mill Valley, CA 94942, (505) 933-2944]

SPRAWLING FROM GRACE: THE CONSEQUENCES OF SUBURBANIZATION—America has lost a lot due to suburban sprawl and the perils we face if we don't change the way in which we build our cities are serious. Thought-provoking interviews in this 82-minute documentary make us reconsider how we will design for the future. Americans can no longer depend on cheap gas prices and automobiles to get us around our living spaces. [Cinema Libre Studio, www.cinemalibrestudio.com, 8328 De Soto Ave., Canoga Park, CA 91304]

THE ELEPHANT IN THE LIVING ROOM—The filmmakers explore the subculture where dangerous wild animals a kept as common household pets. Director Michael Webber follows Tim Harrison who rescues and captures "domesticated" exotic animals. He deals with a ten-foot alligator walking through the streets of a mid-western town, a gaboon viper lurking in a garage, a leopard running through streets of a major city, and an African lion chasing cars on the freeway as well as countless sightings of cougars, tigers, lions, bears, and reptiles. [www.theelephantinthelivingroom.com, Edify Media, (310) 424-5688]

IF A TREE FALLS: A STORY OF THE EARTH LIBERATION FRONT—This film directed by Marshall Curry, aired on PBS' POV (Point of View). The show investigates the making and unraveling of a radical environmental group, the Earth Liberation Front or E.L.F. At one time the FBI considered the group the "No. 1 domestic terrorism threat" because many of its participants engaged in acts of arson against businesses it accused of destroying the environment, including timber companies, S.U.V. dealerships, wild horse slaughterhouses, and a Vail ski lodge. The activists claim that no one was ever hurt in any of the fires. The 86-minute film with its archival footage and new interviews focuses on Daniel McGowan who in 2005 was arrested and sentenced to life in prison for an arson fire. [Marshall Curry Productions and the Independent Television Service]

SAVING AMERICA'S HORSES: A NATION BETRAYED—America's horses are put front and center and the need to protect our wild horses is documented. [Humanion Films with Wild for Life Foundation, www.savingamericashorses.org]

CORRESPONDENCE GROUP.ACTION ALERTS

#2014, PALM OIL FOODS

The Sum of Us group wants people to let the biggest instant noodle producers in the world, Nissin Foods Holdings and Toyo Suisan Kaisha (Maruchan), that they should stop using palm oil that they have failed to adopt a truly responsible palm oil policy or cut ties with bad actors that clearcut rainforests and peatlands and also abuse the rights of communities and workers. There products include Instant Lunch, Top Ramen, and Cup Noodles. Up to 20 percent of their package contents have some of the cheapest and most environment-wrecking palm oil in the world.

TARGET: Nissin Foods, 2001 W. Rosecrans Avenue, Gardena, CA 90249 Toyo Suisan Kaisha, 2-13-40, Konan, Minatu-Ku, Tokyo, 108-8501, Japan

#2015, RENEWABLE ENERGY BIAS

Every year the United States Department of Energy releases the "Annual Energy Outlook," an important report about the future of energy in America. It forms the basis of energy policy and investment for both the government and businesses by providing projections and cost estimates for various sources of energy. The problem is that this report chronically overestimates the cost of renewable energy like wind and solar while underestimating the cost of dirty fossil fuels every single year. This bias should stop. TARGET: Secretary of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave., S. W., Washington, DC 20585

#2016, FRACKING IN CALIFORNIA

California state regulators have discovered oil wastewater being pumped into our dwindling water supply. They also found that the oil companies are selling oil wastewater laden with cancer-causing chemicals to farmers for irrigation. A new, independent report reveals how fracking and other extreme techniques has put our communities' health, air, water, and food in harm's way. In 2015, fracking and "Big Oil" have contaminated 24, 063,736,870 gallons of freshwater by injecting it for fracking and other extreme oil production. These activities need to stop.

TARGET: Governor Jerry Brown, State Capitol, Suite 1173, Sacramento, CA 95814

#2017, OVERPOPULATION

Catholic Pope Francis has acknowledged climate change in his recent encyclical. Now is the time for him to admit that the world is overpopulated and needs stabilization and that everyone should have the right to family planning and birth control to make our world sustainable. TARGET: Pope Francis, 00120, Vatican City

#2018, DUKE ENERGY AND BIRDS

The nation's largest electric utility company, Duke Energy, has attacked the Migratory Bird Treaty Act by killing 150 birds, including Golden Eagles on its Wyoming wind farms. Operations should change. TARGET: Duke Energy, P. O. Box 1771, Raleigh, NC 27602

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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: 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), EARTH CULTURES (2004), HUMANITY AND THE PLANET (2000), CAMPUS GREENING (1998), ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES LIBRARY (1970) and other projects. The group works on environmental, social, peace, and humanitarian issues from the local to the international level.