

The La Honda Voice



April 1, 2011

Town Architect Admits Cuesta Layout a Mistake

The architect who designed the general layout of Cuesta La Honda admitted what had long been suspected – the majority of his work occurred after a long evening at Apple Jack’s Inn.

In the 1920’s, Otis Campbell was a young man commissioned to layout Cuesta, but has now admitted on his deathbed that it was all a mistake. His startling confession came as no surprise to many of the town residents who always wondered how the unnaturally meandering and numerous dead-end streets had come about. Campbell recalled that after he had closed Apple Jack’s one evening, he realized that he had a deadline the next morning to provide the final layout of the Cuesta area. He said that he had originally planned to layout the town in a typical grid pattern that would allow clear directions and easy access among all locations in Cuesta, but he was unable to draw a straight line because of his intoxicated state. *(continued on page 2)*

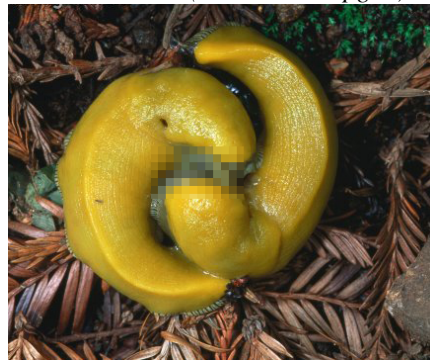


Canada Vista intersection – genius or inebriation?

Local Banana Slugs Detained in Iran

Two La Honda banana slugs have been indicted in an Iranian court on charges of indecent activities. In a rare display of cooperation with foreign press correspondents, the Iranian Department of Vice and Virtue released a partially censored photo of the two slugs engaged in what appears to be intimate activity. If convicted, they could be sentenced to 10 years of hard labor in the Iranian salt mines in

Chehrabad, which is essentially a death sentence for a slug with a lifespan of less than 7 years and salt intolerance. *(continued on pg. 2)*



Censored photo of La Honda residents released by the Iranian Department of Vice and Virtue

La Honda Fire Station 57 may Change Number

A property rights attorney representing the H.J. Heinz Company of Pittsburg has filed a lawsuit against the La Honda Fire Brigade for using the station designator 57. The attorney claims that although the number 57 itself is enough to justify the lawsuit, the fact that the color of the Brigade’s fire equipment is the same as its famous ketchup proves that the Fire Brigade is leveraging off the goodwill of the Heinz Company and infringing on its trademark number. *(continued on page 2)*



The Fire Brigade building displaying the controversial number 57

La Honda Fire Brigade Number *(continued from page 1)*

An attorney for the Fire Brigade argued that catsup and fire protection are very different – one is a product and the other a service, and no confusion could occur. Heinz attorney responded that confusion would certainly occur, especially between the Fire Brigade and Heinz's Hot & Spicy Ketchup.

Baskin-Robbins also warned the La Honda Fire Brigade not to change their designator to 31, saying that they have a trademark on that number and there could be confusion between the two entities, even if the temperature between fire and ice cream is over 700 degree F.



The color of this Brigade vehicle is suspiciously similar to Heinz' ketchup.

Detained Slug in Iran *(continued from page 1)*



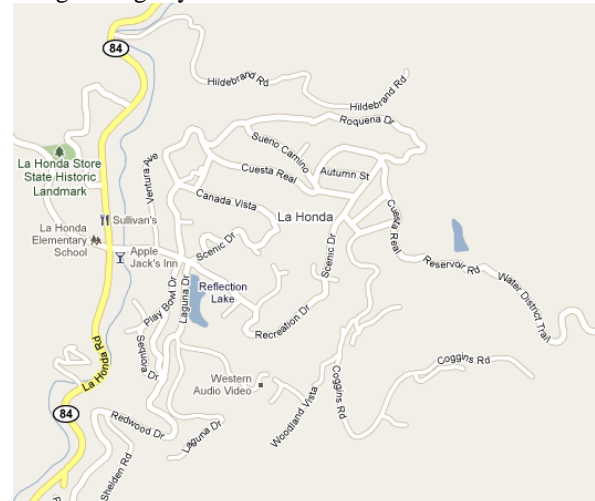
President Ahmadinejad contemplates whether to stone or salt the slugs to death.

President Ahmadinejad made a new accusation today, suggesting the slugs were also spying for the US government. The

United States said this accusation is unlikely since slugs only have a rudimentary light sensitive eye spot, are essentially deaf, and have a poor memory - so they wouldn't be good spies. But Ahmadinejad said that this is just another incident of arrogant US imperialism trying to meddle in internal Iranian affairs. If the fact that slugs are natural hermaphrodites is discovered, the slug's punishment could be even more severe than torture and death.

Cuesta Architect Admits Mistake *(continued from page 1)*

Campbell turned in his blueprints early the next morning. Still intoxicated from the previous night, he fully expected to be fired when he met with the Cuesta Board of Directors. But instead they embraced the seemingly random architecture of the town crudely drawn in crayons. They commented that the beer stained blueprints embodied the unstructured, relaxed mood that they wanted to portray to attract summertime urbanites to Cuesta. They concluded that only a genius or a drunk would have a road like Canada Vista intersect itself, which reflects how La Honda is a unique area that rejects blind conformity. Campbell says he feels better now that he has revealed his secret and suggests that it is not too late to straighten the roads and convert Cuesta into its intended design and glory.



The current town layout



Campbell's intended layout

Rare Fish Caught at Reflection Lake

An extremely rare fish was caught last Thursday at Reflection Lake in La Honda. A 130 pound Coelacanth was caught by a local fisherman who then sold the fish to Sullivan's Restaurant. The Coelacanth was thought to have been extinct since the end of the Cretaceous period 65 million years ago, but several specimens have been discovered since 1938. The fact that a deep sea fish was found in a shallow, artificial lake made the discovery even more startling.

Requests were received by several museums and private collectors to acquire the fish, but unfortunately they were too late. Restaurant proprietor Jane Sullivan included Coelacanth fish and chips as one of her \$10 Thursday specials and almost nothing remains of the mysterious creature. The lake has since been mapped with sonar by a Stanford research team in an attempt to find another Coelacanth, but the only large object in the lake was discovered to be an old car. When asked to comment about what she thought about this extremely rare fish, Jane Sullivan simply replied, "It was delicious."



The fish before being served with chips

Raymond the Redwood Arrested for Public Drunkenness

Raymond, the redwood located at the entrance to Cuesta La Honda, was arrested last Saturday for being drunk in public. Several people testified that they saw the tree suspiciously swaying in the wind, suspected he was intoxicated, and reported him to the sheriff parked at the fire station.

According to witnesses, the tree maintained his innocence to the officer, saying that it was only winds that caused the swaying movement. But further investigation revealed a BAC (bark alcohol content) of over 0.1 percent.

The tree continued to maintain his innocence, speculating that someone may have come out of Apple Jacks and spilled a beer on him. However, a cavity search revealed two acorns and a squirrel. The sheriff was heard to remark to Raymond that having a road sign turned into a cocktail on his trunk will not help his case. Since the tree has been a La Honda resident for over a hundred years, he was released on his own recognizance.



Raymond the Redwood in happier times

Highway 84 Stop Signs Approved

After a serious accident on Highway 84 last year, The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors approved an \$850,000 study to determine whether additional traffic signs and reduced speeds would decrease the number and severity of traffic accidents. The 925 page study concluded that stop signs placed on highway 84 at each driveway and a maximum speed of 15 mph on Highway 84 would reduce accidents by over 40%.

The Supervisors approved \$1.2 million for the new signage. They declared that the cost may seem high, but is really a bargain if you believe the Kantian view that the intrinsic value of a human life is infinite.



The model used for La Honda calculations – accidents decreased here by 43% (and merchant profits decreased by 74%) after signs were added

Cuesta becomes Gated Community

Shortly after the Cuesta La Honda Board of Directors used most of their \$1.1 million yearly budget for Cuesta to become a gated community, they encountered an unexpected issue. The entrance gate at Highway 84 and Entrada was installed backwards, so for two weeks the gate guards required proof that residents had a legitimate reason for leaving the Cuesta area. Many Cuesta residents have also complained about the high cost of the fulltime gate guards and whether they really needed to be armed with FIM-92 Stinger Missiles considering the low crime rate in the area.



The entrance to the recently gated Cuesta community

The Board defended their actions by claiming that non-residents were taking advantage of Cuesta amenities, including uncontrolled fishing and boating on Reflection Lake. A General Membership Meeting is scheduled for 2:00am on April 6th to air concerns and discuss future plans to build a 18 hole PGA golf course.

La Honda Voice Acquired by Time-Warner

The *La Honda Voice* has been bought for 20 million dollars by media giant Time-Warner of New York City, the second largest entertainment conglomerate in terms of revenue. Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Jeffery Bewkes said that, although he has never been to La Honda, acquiring the *La Honda Voice* fits in with their acquisition strategy. Bewkes has said that the *La Honda Voice* will immediately expand in both size and distribution, with at least 32 pages each day and nationwide distribution. Previous publisher Bob Dougherty responded from his new home in Monte Carlo that he hated selling the *La Honda Voice*, but believed that Bewkes would continue the quality journalism that earned the *La Honda Voice* Pulitzer Prizes in breaking news, investigative reporting, and explanatory reporting. Bewkes has promised that within a year, he will be able to locate the town of La Honda on a map. Time-Warner stock dropped 3% minutes after the acquisition was publically announced.



Time-Warner headquarters in NY and new home of the La Honda Voice

This area reserved for bottom of local bird cages

 A photograph of a man in a dark suit and tie, looking upwards with a slight smile. To the right of the photograph is a large, stylized blue arrow with a black outline, pointing from the bottom left towards the right.

The La Honda Voice

Interested in writing or helping in other ways to keep this paper going? This paper has been created and published entirely by volunteers of the Community.

Volunteer to help keep the Community informed:
 Contact Bob Dougherty at 747-0102 or
 The_Voice@lahonda.com

The American Humane Association monitored the animal action.
 No animal was harmed in the making of this.

 The logo for the American Humane Association, featuring a stylized animal head inside a diamond shape, with the text 'AMERICAN HUMANE ASSOCIATION' and 'Film & Television Unit' below it.

Deer Sue County and Cuesta for Protection

A group of La Honda deer have sued San Mateo County and the Cuesta La Honda Guild for failing to provide protection for them against local mountain lions. There has been a large number of reported attacks on deer lately, blamed primarily on an increased number of cougars in the area.

A group calling themselves Cougars of La Honda said that, although deer may be a favorite meal of mountain lions, any legal action condemning their diet would be at direct odds with nature. In addition, the Cougars stated that deer are so stupid that they often stand in the middle of a road oblivious to oncoming traffic. The judge has responded that this last claim has no relevance to the case. Attorneys for both San Mateo County and the Guild have only responded that the case is unprecedented and they have no legal obligation or authority to protect these deer.



The deer were initially reluctant to approach the courthouse

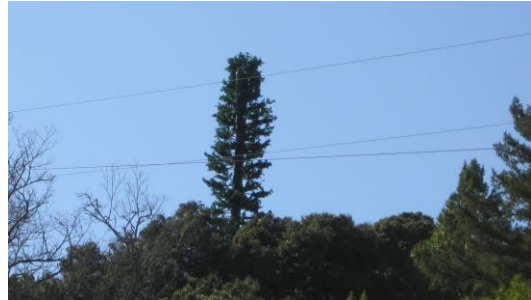
The judge made a decision to keep deer and cougars on opposite sides of the court room to prevent what might otherwise be a chaotic situation. The judge said that the arrangement is not unlike many weddings, where the bride and groom's families are separated in the church for the safety of all.



The cougars boldly make their way to the courthouse

Trees Now Engineered to Resemble Cell Towers

Some La Honda residents have complained that the Verizon cell tower on Sears Ranch Road, which has been made to resemble a tree, is still an eyesore. Verizon has responded that the ability to better disguise the cell tower is difficult, but has agreed to pay for several road signs with sayings like, "Don't look up to your left next quarter mile" to reduce eye contact with the towers.



The La Honda cell tower is designed to resemble a tree.

As a longer term solution, Verizon has joined forces with Sprint and AT&T to genetically engineer a tree to look like a cell tower. The trees grow quickly and can thrive in a wide variety of environments. This natural solution would make the identification of actual cell tower more difficult and is expected to quell aesthetic concerns over future cell tower placements in the area. 28,000 of these genetically engineered trees are scheduled to be planted in the Santa Cruz Mountains over the next 18 months.



Thousands of these genetically engineered trees made to resemble cell towers will be planted in the area.

New Mosquito Abatement District to Begin in 2012

A new San Mateo County parcel assessment tax that was approved by voters last November is now drawing scrutiny. The Mosquito Abatement District was formed because of the overwhelming success of the Mosquito Abatement District over the last several years. Several environmental organizations expressed a concern over the dwindling number of mosquitoes left in the area. Mosquitoes are an important element of the ecosystem and food for endangered species like the red-legged frog. Reflection Lake in La Honda will be used as an important location for reintroducing several endangered species of mosquitoes, including *Anopheles*, *Aedes aegypti*, and *Ae. albopictus*.

The Northern California Sierror Club's "Adopt a Diptera" campaign recommends leaving containers with standing water to increase the mosquito population in the area. Children especially seem to enjoy watching mosquito larva twitching in the stagnant water. Citronella scented candles and other mosquito repelling products and devices have now been banned in San Mateo County.

Some San Mateo County residents have complained that they thought that the district was an extension of the former mosquito abatement district. They argue that mosquitoes can carry diseases and leave bites that "itch like crazy." But an attorney for several anonymous environmental organizations responded in a prepared statement to the press that, "If you don't know the difference between abatement and abetment, they you need to buy a dictionary." The attorney would not respond to allegations that the environmental organizations were sponsored by the three largest pest control corporations in California.

The confusion is reminiscent of when San Mateo County residents approved the Skoal Assessment District to help the faltering tobacco industry, although some residents claimed that they thought that the assessment was for helping local schools.



The La Honda-Pescadero School District has encouraged raising mosquitoes as pets.

"One Person Can" now "One Can Person"



Gratuitous photo of can

In a unique act of recycling, the "One Person Can" establishment in downtown La Honda will be changing its name to "One Can Person" by cutting and rearranged the sign.

The new establishment is dedicated to small scale recycling. You will be able to stop by with a single aluminum can and get paid for the value of the metal (minus a \$2.00 convenience fee per can). So you now have a choice to either throw your can in the recycling bin at the School or engage in a profitable transaction.



The sign will be recycled for the new "One Can Person" Center

La Honda Power Outage Pranks

Have you ever experienced flickering lights or a momentary loss of power, just to see power restored almost immediately? Chances are that someone at the nearest PG&E power plant is just playing a prank. In a real power outage, the power is usually out for at least an hour or two until someone can actually identify, isolate and correct the problem.

Two PG&E employees were caught in a YouTube video to be flipping power switches to different areas of the grid and timing how long it took for irate customers to call. The La Honda area was reportedly one of their favorites for the prank. Once their actions were revealed, their manager punished them by flipping their office lights on and off several times so they understood the seriousness of their actions.

This crime is reminiscent of an event in 2009, where pilots were discovered making sudden aircraft maneuvers to simulate turbulence just after announcing the possibility of turbulence over the PA system. They were caught when crew members and customers became suspicious after hearing laughter from the cockpit during each episode of turbulence.

So next time your lights flicker, tell PG&E Customer Service that you're on to their games...and then it will probably be time again to reset the clocks in your house.



Location where pranksters were flipping the La Honda power.

Blue Tarps in La Honda

Ask Bob Column

Bob,

I'm looking for a good roofer around town. Do you have any suggestions?

Leaking in La Honda

Dear Leaking in La Honda,

You provided me with a solution, not a question - you assume you need a roofer. Your real question is probably something like, "How can I get a good night's sleep when water is dripping on my face?" or "How can I cook a hot meal when all my cookware are strategically placed under ceiling leaks?"



A La Honda resident who understands the importance of tarps

Sure you can hire a roofer or climb up on the roof yourself with a bucket of tar. But patching this way is messy and often ineffective, and the source of leaks can be elusive. Perhaps you will eventually find a tree branch breaching the roof, and you will erroneously conclude that you found the location of the leak. You can tar around where the limb passes through the roof, but some other leak invariably appears.

You may have noticed that many La Honda homes have blue tarps covering some portion of their roofs. You probably thought they were just decorative, but they can also be used for practical purposes, such as controlling water leaks.

When selecting a tarp, the most important quality is that it is blue. Don't worry how many mils thick it is, whether it is reinforced industrial polyethylene, whether it is mildew or UV
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resistant, or it has a bunch of grommets around the edges. I forget why blue is so important, but trust me on this fact. Of course blue also blends in with the greens and browns of nature, so it is also the obvious aesthetic choice. (In case you are not convinced about the importance of tarp color, there was an unfortunate incident several years ago where a color blind couple on Cuesta Real unknowingly used a brown tarp. The next day they lost their home to a nearby volcanic eruption, their cat was struck by lightning, their dog was knocked unconscious by a meteorite, and a sinkhole swallowed their car as they were fleeing a swarm of locusts. Their situation got even worse in the following days.)



An aerial view of Cuesta showing the popularity of the blue tarps

After you buy the tarp, you need to determine where to place it on the roof. Go onto the roof just above the leak and then walk at least 6 feet away in a random direction. Everyone knows that the actual leaks are rarely where the water drips, so don't put the tarp directly above the leak. If you happen to fall off the roof during the random walk, repeat the procedure after you are released from the hospital. If the whole roof is already covered in blue, and it is still leaking, it is probably time to move.

Do not attach the blue tarp to your roof with nails. They not only leave unsightly rust stains on your ceiling, but personal experience has suggested that the number of new leaks are directly proportional to the number of nails used to secure the tarp to the roof. Instead, find several large flat rocks and place them on the corners of the tarp and every four feet on the edges. Rocks too small will allow your precious tarp to become the property of your neighbor and rocks too big will crush your home. If in doubt, hire a structural engineer to perform a stress

analysis of your roof to determine the correct size and placement of the rocks with an adequate margin of safety. If you don't take my advice, then at least write your name, address and phone number in very large letters on both sides of the tarp in case a storm sends it into an adjacent county. If it isn't returned within a couple months, you can use Google Earth to locate it.

I personally made the mistake of using quite large, though obviously not large enough, rocks on one of my tarps a couple years ago during a bad storm. When the wind got under the tarp and rolled the rocks around my roof, it sounded like a redwood was making an unannounced entrance into my bedroom. In my panic, I made several unrealistic promises to God if he would spare me. I now hire a structural engineer to size my tarp rocks – it is a lot less trouble.

You are invited to ask Bob anything, and he will do his best to provide you with the most accurate and current information to solve your problem. If he is not sure, he will make up an answer that sounds reasonable. Send all inquiries to AskBob@lahonda.com

Relative of Younger Brothers Requests Pardon

A descendent of Jim and Cole Younger has petitioned the Minnesota Governor for post-mortem pardons of the Younger brothers for their multiple murder and bank robbery convictions. These two Younger Brothers were former La Honda residents, but were better known as members of the notorious Jesse James Gang. Edith Younger's justification for the pardon is based on the fact that life was hard in the 1850s, and the brothers were probably spanked as children.

Edith Younger is also petitioning the Governor of Wisconsin to pardon another relative convicted of murdering his parents in 1883, claiming that the courts should have had mercy on him because he was an orphan.



Jim and Cole Younger - spanked as children?