

The La Honda Voice



April 1, 2019 - **Always Free!**

La Honda Fire Brigade Surprises Guests with Ohlone Cioppino



The **La Honda** Fire Brigade decided to surprise their guests on March 16th by hosting an indigenous Ohlone cioppino, instead of the expected crab cioppino. The International Society of Crustaceans

convinced the Fire Brigade that crabs are sentient beings and proposed an alternative to the traditional cioppino. No Ohlones were willing to approve the event, but a non-denominational blessing for it was eventually obtained from squaw Elizabeth “Pocahontas” Warren.

Instead of crabs, the cioppino was based on grasshoppers and yellow jacket grubs with bay laurel and curry to flavor the dish. Flat bread was made from ground acorns. Unfortunately, because this was a relatively new dish for Chief Chef Boiardi, the cioppino was undercooked and some grubs were still “active” when served. *(continued on page 3)*

La Honda Forest to be Restored to Pre-Settler Glory



The redwoods will be trucked about 260 miles to La Honda.

The State of California has approved \$450 million to transplant about a thousand 500-year-old redwoods from Humboldt Redwoods State Park to La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve. The newly acquired redwoods should greatly boost the number of visitors to the **La Honda** preserve. The redwoods were already slated to be removed from the Humboldt Redwoods State Park to expand the parking lot for their visitor center. Transportation of the trees will require some highway closures and re-routed power lines. *(continued on page 3)*

Trump Seizes Oil-Rich Land Near La Honda to Stop Global Cooling



An artist conception of La Honda Oil Fields

Trump declared another National State of Emergency Friday to seize all lands in the United States that are known to contain extractable oil, including an area west of **La Honda**. The declaration was made to ensure sufficient oil and natural gas is burned to counter the effects of global cooling, which the President said was evident in much of the United States this past winter. Although it has been an extremely cold winter over much of the U.S., many experts, even some of the President’s own advisors, believe that encouraging oil burning may not be the best solution. *(continued on page 2)*

Family Mistakenly Drives 3000 Miles to See Alice’s Restaurant



Adam Alamy relayed this story as part of therapy after this incident

The Alamy family – parents Adam and Alice, daughter Amy, and son Andy – live in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. Two years ago they started saving up to visit the site of Adam’s favorite song – Arlo Guthrie’s Alice’s Restaurant. The song was a 1967 satirical protest against the Vietnam War draft, and Adam liked to fancy himself as a bit of a rebel.

Adam searched for “Alice’s Restaurant” using Google, and there it was right at the top of the page - “Alice’s Restaurant | You can Get Anything You Want at Alice’s.” It was located in beautiful Woodside, California, so it was certainly not a short drive – in fact, it was almost exactly 3000 miles from Stockbridge. *(continued on page 2)*

Family Mistakenly Drives 3000 Miles to See Alice's Restaurant (continued from page 1)

But the Alamy family decided the long drive would be worth it, and if they had any extra time, then they could even see a few other sites along the way.



Alice's Restaurant in Woodside, Ca.

Sometimes the Alamy family would even try to sing "Alice's Restaurant" along the way, but if you know the song, then you also know it's an almost 20 minute rambling monologue that is nearly impossible to remember or sing.

After a week of constant driving, just as the family was stuck in usual traffic on the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, the 14-year-old daughter, Amy, asked her father for a clarification about the song. "Daddy, the song lyrics say, 'It's about Alice and the Restaurant, but 'Alice's Restaurant' is not the name of the restaurant'." Adam was silent for almost a minute when Amy assumed her father hadn't heard the question and she repeated it. Adam replied, "Don't worry about that, honey, it's called poetic license, so the words aren't always taken literally." But Adam was now sweating and realized he never really listened to the lyrics closely...was there really no Alice's Restaurant?!

About an hour later, the car was driving up the winding road of the last few miles to Alice's. It was a 12-hour day of driving and Adam was exhausted and worried – what was he going to tell his family about the restaurant after this drive from hell? What if they ask a waitress about the song? Where can I take a bathroom break?

The car pulled into the mostly empty parking lot just after 7pm. It was a Sunday, and the restaurant seemed quiet. With trepidation Adam slowly walked up the stairs. There were a few customers inside, but he found the door wouldn't open, and finally a man behind the counter called out "sorry, closed for the night" through the glass door.

Adam suddenly felt a huge weight lift off his shoulders, and he yelled back to his family, "Looks like it just closed, we'll have to come back another time."

Adam didn't hear the protests of his wife and children as he attempted to create as much distance from Alice's Restaurant before they all ate a late dinner and found a place to stay for the night. Adam got the family up early Monday morning quickly headed east.

Although the Alamy family were able to see the world's largest ball of twine in Cawker City, Kansas,

on the way home, Adam still decided he would never plan another family vacation.

Trump Seizes Oil-Rich Land Near La Honda (continued from page 1)



The Darvaza gas crater known as the "Door to Hell", has burned for over 40 years

However, Trump today tweeted, "The problem of global cooling of the Earth is Yuge!"

Other solutions to global cooling are being pursued by the Trump administration, including moving the Earth into an orbit slightly closer to the sun, painting the ice caps a darker color, and setting gas fields on fire to help warm up the environment. Secretary of Energy Rick Perry proposed igniting some U.S. gas fields, much like the uncontrollable Darvaza gas crater in Turkmenistan, which has been burning for over 40 years. The President described this novel idea of igniting natural gas fields to stop global cooling as "Yuge!"



Trump said that the problem of Global Cooling is "Yuge!"

Current maps show about 600,000 square miles of U.S. land containing oil and gas, which will be seized by the Federal government using the power of eminent domain. Secretary of Energy Rick Perry said that all options are on the table because of this emergency, including nationalizing the whole oil industry. Perry added, "Oil naturalization worked in Venezuela, so there is no reason it shouldn't work here...and if we run out of fricking oil, then we will start fracking oil."

An approximately 30 square mile area between La Honda and San Gregorio was identified in the President's plan to drill approximately 100 wells, construct a refinery with 40 storage tanks, and build an 18-hole golf course. The President specifically called out the **La Honda** refinery as a model for other oil field facilities, and said, "The people there love me - my popularity there is Yuge!"

Contact Bob Dougherty at Yuge@lahonda.com for any questions about The La Honda Voice.

La Honda Forests to be Restored to Pre-Settler Glory *(continued from page 1)*



This project is one of the largest tree transplant projects ever attempted

Some of the taller redwoods may need to be topped before transporting, if their lengths exceed the maximum distance allowed to negotiate the road turns.



If the transplants aren't successful, the trees will be converted into gift shop souvenirs

MROSD is excited about the new additions to the La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve and is installing drip irrigation and misters to help the trees thrive in their new location. However, the MROSD Board agreed to turn the trees into souvenirs or have them chipped if the transplants aren't successful.

A gift shop at the Preserve entrance on Sears Ranch road in **La Honda** will be opening in October 2019. All visitors will pass through the gift shop in and out of the La Honda preserve. Money from the gift shop will help defer any additional tree transportation costs and build the new \$50 million MROSD offices in Los Altos.

La Honda Fire Brigade Surprises Guests with Ohlone Cioppino *(continued from page 1)*



An interpretive dance troupe performance of "Death of a Squirrel"

The acorns also weren't leached properly to remove the bitter tannins. Chef Boiardi admitted that even when cooked properly, these recipes may be an acquired taste.

The Fire Brigade had also contacted Ohlone College in Fremont to provide traditional Ohlone music for the event. In response, the famous Ohlone College Tuba Ensemble provided mood music during dinner and supporting music for an interpretive dance performance, "Death of a Squirrel," after dinner.

Cioppino leftovers and a high definition DVD of the "Death of a Squirrel" performance are still available for sale at the La Honda Fire Station.

La Honda School Year Begins with Trip to "Great Futures Start Here" Sign



La Honda Elementary School (LHES) has

already planned a field trip to Half Moon Bay (HMB) for all students on August 16, 2019 - the first day of school. The destination is a sign declaring "Great Futures Start Here" located on a fence on Highway 1 in Half Moon Bay. Although nobody now is entirely sure who put up the sign or why great futures would start at this location, this trip has turned into an annual event for all LHES students.

The principal of LHES, Rita Book, says she has always been open to new ideas to ensure her students will have great futures. The teacher who began these annual trips four years ago, Joe King, is no longer at LHES, but he believed that there is a powerful energy focusing knowledge and wisdom at this location. He frequently compared it to the Santa Cruz Mystery Spot – except, he would add, "the HMB location attracts those seeking wisdom instead of seeking tourists...and also marbles don't roll uphill in HMB."



Behind the sign is the infamous plastic wrapped school

Behind the "Great Futures" sign is Cunha Intermediate School, seemingly covered in white plastic wrap. One of the La Honda teachers said she had heard that the building wrap increases the amount of carbon dioxide inside the building, which induces relaxation - akin to the idea of breathing into a paper bag to relieve anxiety and allow better concentration. Recent school reports admit that they are still adjusting the amount of recirculated air to find the optimum level between relaxation and unconsciousness. Undoubtedly, this novel idea originated near the "Great Futures Start Here" sign.

LHES Principal Book also commented on the recent national college admissions cheating scandal, "Our school has reviewed the records of all La Honda students and confirmed that no students gained admission through fake athletic scholarships, tests taken by proxies, or bribing our staff. The greatness of our students is due solely to the efforts of the teachers, parents and students...and perhaps the annual visit to the 'Great Futures Start Here' Sign."

Younger Brother Descendant Makes Claim to La Honda Store



Cheerful brothers Bob, Jim and Cole with sister Henrietta standing behind

Many La Hondans know the story of brothers Bob and Jim Younger who helped build the original store in **La Honda**. These brothers were part of the infamous James-Younger Gang, which centered

around Jesse James and his brother Frank. The group of outlaws robbed and murdered until their final failed attempt to rob the Northfield First National Bank in Minnesota in 1876. Several of the outlaws died there, but brothers Jim, Cole and Bob Younger, although all shot multiple times, survived and went to prison.

Bung Younger, the only surviving descendant of Jim Younger, claims that he has evidence that his great-great-great grandfather was never properly compensated for his roofing work on the Old “Bandit Built” store in **La Honda**. After hitting his thumb with a hammer while working there early in 1876, Jim Younger claimed he was never paid for his work and therefore filed a mechanics lien against the owner of the store, William Sears.

The mechanics lien that Jim Younger filed is a security interest in the title to the property, since Younger had supplied labor to improve the property but wasn’t compensated. Bung Younger recently produced a copy of the mechanics lien, which had requested \$17.50 at that time for his labor - but with compounding interest over the past over 140 years, it is now worth \$446,000. However, Bung Younger added another \$2 million claim for mental pain and suffering for the wrongs against his ancestor and punitive damages to deter others from considering similar egregious misconduct.



The La Honda Country Market may be deeded to Bung Younger

The courts in California are now examining the document to determine if, and how much, Bung Younger should be awarded. If authentic, then no previous sales transactions of the Bandit Built Store or property should have occurred without first compensation to the Younger family. Lawyers believe that the La Honda Country Market and much of the adjacent

property may eventually be deeded to Bung Younger, although the loss will likely be covered by First American Title Insurance Company, which claimed that Jim Younger’s lien never appeared in any past title search.

Bung Younger told the La Honda Community that, like his great-great-great grandfather Jim, he is an honest man and has already agreed to continue to operate the store as the “Younger Brothers General Store and Saloon.”

Bung Younger then added, “If my great-great-great grandfather Jim Younger wasn’t so damn clumsy with that hammer and hurt his thumb, the Northfield First National Bank robbery may have turned out very different, and I could have inherited a fortune – I guess luck was never in our family.”

The La Honda “Flood Use Only” Art Company Uses Sandbags as Chic Décor



The sandbags are not only stylish, but can also fulfill a practical role in Winter

The **La Honda** “Flood Use Only” Art and Décor Company has started a new worldwide phenomenon using only common sandbags as chic décor in and around homes. The same Company started the “blue tarp roof” fad in 2015, the “knee-deep in water” movement in 2017, and now the “sandbag décor” project in 2019.



Sandbags can also be aesthetically beautiful, as shown here.

Although the blue tarp roof fad is still popular in much of the world, the “knee-deep in water” movement lost popularity in 2018 when the number of malaria, yellow fever, and dengue fever cases spiked in several countries because of the standing water. However, the new “sandbag décor” project has expanded worldwide, especially in Holland and other countries at low elevations and with poor soil drainage.



The “Flood Use Only” Art and Décor Company also noted that sandbags at the La Honda County Maintenance yard are free and, according to the sign, reserved just for them, although the County says they are still researching the reason why.

Bent Arrows Mark Local Ha-Hondan Tribe Places of Significance

The California State Assembly directed the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) to mark places of significance for over 40 indigenous tribes of California, including the local Ramaytush Ohlone tribes, which inhabited the coastal area from San Francisco to south of Monterey Bay.



The curved arrow signs, as shown, represent Ha-Hondan places of significance

In total, over 10,000 arrow signs have been placed, including many around **La Honda** and the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Unfortunately, no money was allocated in the 2019 budget to describe why any particular location was designated as a place of significance.

Some places of significance near La Honda are deliberately marked by curved arrows. These particular signs represent a lesser known Ramaytush Ohlone sub-tribe, the Ha-Hondans. The curved arrow signs reflect the difficulties the tribesmen had constructing a straight arrow. These curved arrows explain why they were primarily vegetarians and also the large number of tribal hunting accidents. In their native language of Ramaytush, “Ha-Hondan” loosely translate as “poor hunter – good prankster.” The Ha-Hondans are still petitioning the Federal government for tribal recognition.



The word “Casino” means “good karma” in the native Ramaytush language

A related bill currently being discussed in the California Congress is to fund traditional stories about and by the indigenous people of our State. As part of the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act), these stories will be told both by motion-activated speakers in the trees and by converting road bumps between lanes into braille. Caltrans did a cost and safety study and determined that the required changes could be a part of the 2020 budget.

International Banana Slugfest and Peace Conference 2019 to be Held in La Honda

The 2019 International Banana Slugfest and Peace Conference will be held in **La Honda**, California on April 1st. Although these conferences have always occurred in the three Pacific Coast states and have been well-attended, the event last summer was held

in Palm Springs and attendance was low. The Conference always begins with a moment of silence for the disaster at Badwater Salt Flats Basin, where the conference was held in 1954 during a severe windstorm.



A championship Slugfest wrestling match from 2018 showing a Double Grapevine move being performed

The Slugfest features a variety of athletic competitions, including foot racing, wrestling and weightlifting. This will be the first year where the slugfest will include a MMA competition. This competition will also, for the first time, be covered by ESPN in an attempt to increase the number of subscribers after losing about 2 million domestic subscribers in 2018.



Slimo, a 6 year old elder, recalls in a past keynote address how he crossed Highway 280 in his youth

After the keynote address presented by elder Slimo, breakout discussion topics this year will include: How to safely cross uncontrolled intersections, is too much salt in your diet bad for you, should we use the ‘ze’ pronoun (considering we’re all hermaphrodites), preventing our children from embracing the slug-thug lifestyle, what color goes with yellow – a banana slug fashion guide, is being the UCSC mascot disrespectful?, the horrors of metaldehyde and road salt, and why humans think apophallation is strange.



Although beer at the conference has been banned since 1997 when two slugs drowned in a dish of beer, it was back in

2018, and the crowd was enthusiastic after the Santa Cruz Mountain Brewing Company provided free samples of its seasonal ales.

La Honda Windmill Sold to Costco



The CEO of Costco Wholesale Corporation, Walter Craig Jelinek, conceded that they may have made a mistake

purchasing the windmill building in **La Honda**, but will still try to make the best of it. The Windmill building is only about 100 square feet of space, whereas Costco had mistakenly believed that it was 100k (100,000 square feet).

Costco efficiency experts have worked for four months trying to determine if there is a way to fit all the merchandise inside the windmill building without modifications, but were unsuccessful. Efficiency expert, Seymour Spase, said, "Even using state of the art shelving and storage techniques, we just couldn't find a place inside the windmill building for the optical department and tire center."

Costco has now applied for a permit to use the windmill building as an entrance to a 200,000 square foot underground store. An adjacent parking garage and service station would also be underground. Costco did their own impact assessment of the proposal, and they say that it would have an insignificant impact on both the La Honda community and the environment. San Mateo County agreed with Costco's assessment and said the nearly million dollars a year the store would generate in tax revenue has nothing to do with their agreement. The County added that any increase in traffic and congestion could be corrected with a few traffic lights and an expansion of Highway 84.

Costco acknowledged that they didn't adequately notify the nearby residents of their plans, but promised them a free Kirkland Signature all beef hot dog and 20 oz soda on opening day.

Cancelation of Caltrans' Vision Plan Causes Construction Errors and Delays in La Honda Area

The high overall cost of health care caused Caltrans to cancel their employee vision plan for 2019. Unfortunately, this decision may have cost more than it saved because of the many recent vision-related errors in the La Honda area over the past few months. Although there have been dozens of documented construction errors and delays, a few stand out to illustrate the problem:

#1 - Road Levels on Skyline Blvd.



The northbound and southbound road levels here are far from even

A Caltrans foreman with presbyopia wasn't able to correctly read the elevation levels in a road blueprint, causing the southbound lane on Skyline Blvd. just north of the 84-35 intersection to be approximately 3 feet lower than the northbound lane. A traffic signal has been installed until the issue is corrected.

#2 - Bent Fence on Highway 84



The fence just East of La Honda

Another visually-impaired Caltrans foreman mistook a fold in the blueprint as requiring a bend in a metal fence on Highway 84 just east of **La Honda**. Fabricating the erroneous bend was difficult, requiring special tooling and experts from Botswana to form and install that portion of fence, according to Caltrans.

#3 - Blueprints Mistaken for Fine Art



A Caltrans blueprint (left) was mistaken for Monet's Blue Water Lilies (right)

Another far-sighted Caltrans employee with a stigmatism mistook three blueprints as prints of famous artwork. He framed them and hung them in his apartment. He thought that the three blueprints were Monet's Blue Water Lilies, Van Gogh's Starry Night, and Picasso's Woman with Folded Arms. The missing blueprints caused delays in construction and meeting planned milestones.

Caltrans is now reviewing its health insurance for 2020, but has agreed to pay for seeing eye service dogs and white canes, at least until next year's Caltrans employee vision plan policies are determined.

Increased Cougar Sightings Around La Honda (Is Social Media Responsible?)



Cougars are often elusive and shy, but they tend to lose their fear of humans over time.

Several recent studies determined that social media (specifically Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram) actually increases loneliness. One such study by University of Pennsylvania psychologist Melissa G. Hunt showed this relationship by limiting social media access to college undergraduates and then noticing an improvement in their mood and well-being.

In a related observation, the number of cougar sightings, especially in and around Apple Jacks Inn in **La Honda**, has been increasing over the past few years. There is no direct evidence yet that this change has been caused by loneliness due to an increased usage of social media or just an abundance of vulnerable prey, but Psychologist Hunt suspects that a combination of these factors may be playing a role



in the increased number of sightings.

Some cougars are attracted to young, vulnerable prey,

Several alternative theories have also been proposed about the increase in cougar sightings, including the ban on cougar hunting and reduced habitat, but the trend in social media usage suggests the sightings may reflect a more complicated issue. “Cougars are definitely getting more aggressive,” said Scott Shawn DeRocks, a bartender at Apple Jacks. He added that last Saturday he heard one cougar only say “dear” before pouncing on her victim. The cougar was quickly chased away by other bar patrons.

Cougars are typically shy, elusive and solitary creatures, but are also opportunistic hunters who approach their prey slowly until close enough to pounce. Although many residents of La Honda don’t want to completely drive away the native cougars, some still fear for their boyfriends and young husbands, especially after dusk near Applejacks. Perhaps the cougars may reduce their aggressive behavior if their social media time usage is restricted, but there may be a more primal instinct responsible for the attacks.

La Honda Teen Collects Mindego Basalt ...as Basis for New Cryptocurrency



A brilliant entrepreneurial teen from Pescadero High School, Robin Banks, has the largest collection of Mindego Basalt in

Northern California. The teen is working with IDG Ventures, a global venture capital company managing about \$3.6 Billion, to acquire all land containing this beautiful and rare rock. After completing an Economics 102 course at the College of San Mateo, Ms. Banks now hopes to create a Mindego Basalt cartel - much like the diamond cartel – and then profit from an artificially high price of the basalt.

Mindego Basalt is primarily gray to brown colored Miocene-age volcanic rock found between the San Andreas Fault and the San Gregorio Fault with an estimated age of 20.2 million years. Whereas diamonds and gold are often used for jewelry and decorative purposes, Mindego Basalt can also be used for construction building blocks, aggregate, cobblestones, statues, and stone wool (a thermal insulator). Robin Banks added, “Mindego basalt truly is a wonder material, and assuming a steady demand, its value will soar once I control its supply.”



The basalt will be stored in an underground vault, akin to Fort Knox

Robin Banks eventually plans to use this basalt as backing for a new cryptocurrency called Bankcoin. Ms. Banks said, “One of the problems with cryptocurrencies is that most of them are not backed by any tangible assets. Admittedly, the dollar is no longer backed by gold or silver, but because its value has been relative stability, we have grown accustomed to accepting it for transactions. Once the majority of the Mindego Basalt deposits have been acquired by me, I plan on establishing a new cryptocurrency, Bankcoin, backed by this valuable rock.” Ms. Banks said that she plans to store the valuable Mindego Basalt in a giant underground vault akin to Fort Knox.

Ms. Banks said that the road to her dream hasn’t always been easy – she admitted that all the basalt she has been collecting has caused structural damage to the floor joists in her house and she adds, “I heard somewhere that money can’t buy happiness, but I know I’d cheer up a lot faster sipping a margarita on the beach outside my oceanfront mansion.”

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