

POINT REYES LIGHT

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POINT REYES LIGHT

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inBRIEF

Oak branch injures hiker in park

A woman hiking on the South Creek Trail in Samuel P. Taylor State Park was severely injured on Wednesday when a 20-foot-long oak branch fell on her. The Woodacre Fire Department responded to a call at around 2 p.m., and the patient was air-lifted to Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital. Authorities did not confirm that the falling branch was the result of sudden oak death, but did not eliminate the possibility.

Fatal crash on Highway One

A 52-year-old man from Sacramento died after driving his car 40 feet off Highway One near Point Reyes Station last Tuesday. Francis James Nolan was alone when his vehicle left the road near the Giacomini dairy and fell to the shore of Tomales Bay at around 5:30 p.m. Emergency personnel responded shortly after, and by 8 p.m. firefighters had recovered the body from the upside-down vehicle. Marin County Coroner Kenneth Holmes said Nolan suffered blunt force injuries and that a toxicology report is pending.

Funds for Bolinas Lagoon project

Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey secured more than \$21 million in funding for a variety of water projects in Marin and



A man died after driving off Highway One on Tuesday. Photo by L.M. Gates.

Sonoma counties, including \$200,000 to fund a feasibility study for the Bolinas Lagoon restoration project conducted by Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. "I am pleased that funding has been provided for these projects that preserve and restore our precious wetlands and protect our homes from flooding," Woolsey said. Other projects include flood control on the Petaluma River.

MMWD seeks board director

The Marin Municipal Water District is

seeking a new board director to fill the vacant seat left by the death of Alex Forman earlier this month. The four-year term of office began January 1, 2009 and concludes December 31, 2012. The application deadline is 4:30 p.m. on August 14. For more information, call the district secretary at 945.1448.

Pierce Point renovation permits

Permits to rebuild a historic boat house, dock, hoist, piles and floating dock on the west shore of Tomales Bay are under review by the Marin County Community Development Agency. The owners, Tim and Melissa Draper, have applied for a tidelands permit and design review clearance for their property at 560 Pierce Point Road. The existing facilities have deteriorated and the floating dock was washed away during a storm in 2006. The agency has prepared a mitigated draft negative declaration of environmental impact, finding that the project could result in impacts to land use, water, biological resources, hazards and cultural resources. The draft is available online at www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/CD/main/comdev/eir.cfm. A 30-day public comment period will end on August 24 at 4 p.m. Anyone with concerns about the project can call Kristina Tierney at 473.4333.

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Events at Toby's

Point Reyes Farmers Market • Saturday, August 1

10 am Guest Chef Michael Orlandi of Ci Ci Gelateria, Mill Valley.

9 am-1 pm Music Bill and Stephanie perform Brazilian jazz.

New Vendors: Marin Roots Farm, The Hummus Guy, Delicias de Marin, Gaia Teas.



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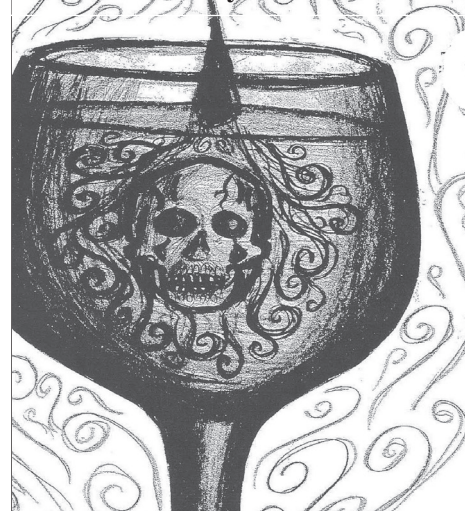
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JAMES JOSEPH CONNELL

James Joseph Connell, for 20 years a dedicated Inverness "weekender", died in San Francisco on Monday, July 13. Connell first discovered West Marin in the 1950s through a friend who was an immigrant from Prague and aware of fellow countrywoman Manka. Together on weekends the families brought their young children to enjoy the local beaches. Occasionally, later, Jim and his wife Elaine would spend a few days at Manka's Lodge and, not infrequently, they would contact Cecil Asman and ask to be shown homes currently for sale. Finally, on such an occasion, Jim's earnest query of "Should we make an offer" stunned his wife who had always assumed these outings to be more of a weekend sport than a serious endeavor. After purchasing their home in 1988, the Connells made every effort to arrange their lives so that they might spend weekends there. At the recommendation of their home's seller they joined the local Yacht Club. While they had been drawn to Inverness by its scenic beauty, they'd no way of foreseeing that friendships made there would be every bit as special.

James was retired as a partner in the export firm of Global Merchandising and as a Commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve. He had traveled extensively in Asia for 50 years on business. His artist's eye for beauty not only inspired his collecting there but prompted his involvement in the Asian Art Museum, where he twice served as President of the Society for Asian Art. Invited by its founder, he also served on the San Francisco Museum of Craft and Folk Art's first Board of Directors.

Jim is survived by his wife of 59 years, their three children and their mates: Kate (Oscar Melara), James (Tien Bui) and Beth; two grandchildren Audrey and Erik Connell; his sister Carol Thurston (Peter), niece Katherine Newell (Dave), grandnephew Teo and nephews Jonathan Thurston (Kristi) and Gregory Thurston.

Memorial contributions may be made to the James J. Connell Fund for Southeast Asian Art, Asian Art Museum (415) 581-3781/200 Larkin Street, S.F. Ca. 94102.

A commemoration of Jim's life is being planned for the fall.

Petty Theft

LIVE MUSIC by Leighton Cosseboom

If you want to hear the world's greatest Tom Petty and the Heartbreaker's band live, go see Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers. If you can't do that, go see Petty Theft! Or at least that's what the Petty tribute band says. "This is kind of a reincarnation of the band," says lead vocalist, Dan Durkin.

Petty Theft is comprised of five Bay Area musicians. Along with Durkin, bassist Django Bayless, guitarist Monroe Grisman, drummer Adam Berkowitz and keyboard player Chris Collins came together to pay homage to their main rock and roll influence, Tom Petty.

Durkin explains how he originally joined Bayless' group as a keyboard player. "They weren't a tribute to begin with," he says. "So I said, 'If we're going to call the band Petty Theft, let's do it full blast!'" At that moment, Bayless and Durkin decided that the band would be dedicated solely to Petty and the Heartbreakers. Grisman, who was recruited by Bayless to play in Petty Theft a little more than a year ago, says that he has a passion for rock music of all kinds, ranging from Led Zeppelin

to Wilco. Durkin, who claims The Rolling Stones and The Beatles as his main influences, says Petty Theft tries to remain faithful to its artistic aim.

"We pretty much just play Tom Petty songs, but we do sometimes inject some other artists that we have heard Tom Petty cover," Grisman says. Petty Theft will sometimes play a song or two from the Traveling Wilburys, a band that Petty was a part of during the late 1980s, along with George Harrison, Jeff Lynne, Roy Orbison and Bob Dylan.

Petty Theft faces a perpetual challenge of trying to fit the best of Petty's songs into one set. "We try to play all the hits," Durkin says. "I really like to play 'Into the Great Wide Open.' It's very Beatlesque." Grisman adds, "For me personally, 'Running down the Dream' is always fun."

The band has completed 12 shows, including appearances at San Rafael, Petaluma and Alameda art and wine festivals. Durkin expressed Petty Theft's excitement to play more gigs, including the upcoming one at Rancho Nicasio. "It's a great place to play, and it's getting better all the time," he says.

Petty Theft will play at Rancho Nicasio on Friday, July 31, at 8 p.m.

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WEATHER

Date	High	Low	Rainfall	
			Wood.	Inv.
July 23	80	50	0.00	0.00
July 24	66	51	0.00	0.00
July 25	82	50	0.00	0.00
July 26	90	50	0.00	0.00
July 27	87	49	0.00	0.00
July 28	73	54	0.00	0.00
July 29	67	56	0.00	0.00

Temperature measurements from Woodacre
Inverness rainfall since July 1: 21.26 inches
Inverness average since 1925: 37.83 inches

TIDES

Date	HIGH		LOW	
	A.M. Time Ft.	P.M. Time Ft.	A.M. Time Ft.	P.M. Time Ft.
July 30	9:28 3.3	7:56 5.3	2:56 0.4	2:08 2.9
July 31	10:42 3.5	8:50 5.3	3:58 0.2	3:17 3.1
Aug 1	11:36 3.8	9:41 5.4	4:51 0.0	4:18 3.1
Aug 2	12:18 4.0	10:28 5.4	5:36 -0.2	5:10 3.1
Aug 3	12:52 4.1	11:11 5.5	6:14 -0.3	5:54 2.9
Aug 4	1:21 4.2	11:51 5.5	6:48 -0.3	6:33 2.8
Aug 5	1:47 4.3	---	1:47 0.7	1:00 2.4

These tide heights and times are accurate for the town of Marshall.

Acme Blues

LIVE MUSIC by Leighton Cosseboom

When Wile E. Coyote is looking for a blues band in a hurry, he gets Acme Blues. "We're the first blues name in the phone book!" says 49-year-old harmonica player and vocalist John Goldfield, a former Acme Band member. The band, whose upbeat 1980s blues rock thrills anyone who has ever owned a motorcycle or worn a leather vest, is a local legend in West Marin. Next week, Goldfield will rejoin the band for a reunion show at the Old Western Saloon, in Point Reyes Station.

"The band had been around for a long time when I moved out to North Carolina about nine years ago," says Goldfield, also known as Johnny Two Lips. "Now every time I come out to California, we find some excuse to get together and jam." With a track record of shenanigans similar to that of Dan Aykroyd and John Belushi in "The Blues Brothers," Acme is the epitome of rock and roll. Since Goldfield's departure east, the band's newest member,

singer Terry Sanders, or T-Bone Terry, has assumed the position of front man. But the members of Acme are thrilled to have Goldfield back in town.

Goldfield remembers the formation of the band, which he and his former brother-in-law, Joe Mloganoski, founded. Mloganoski met Chris and Steve Dinardo 30 years ago in college. He brought them in with Goldfield, and Acme Blues was complete. Goldfield's name, Johnny Two Lips, was given to him because two lips are all he needs to play his harmonica. "Then there's T-Bone Terry on guitar and vocals, Joey guitar Logan, and the flying Dinardo brothers on bass and drums," Goldfield explains.

Although Acme is a blues band, their songs aren't depressing. "We cover tunes by Stevie Ray Vaughn, The Allman Brothers, ZZ Top, and we have about ten originals," Mloganoski says. "It's kind of blues, R & B, and funk on the rocky side." The band has played through more bar fights than most world-renowned rock and roll acts, Goldfield says.

For this particular visit, Goldfield suggested Acme

book a show, and he thought of no place closer to the heart of the band than the Western Saloon. "Once, at the Western, a woman fell onto the stage striking the headstock of Steve's bass, and we continued to play whilst she wallowed there drunkenly," Goldfield recalls. "Another time, at a wedding gig, I had to start an IV on a guest who was too hung-over and dehydrated. He laid behind our drummer while we played. We had a few real great shows there, so we are really excited about this reunion!"

Mloganoski agrees. "We're not going to be biting off rat heads, but you can expect some really good music!"

Acme Blues will play at the Old Western Saloon in Point Reyes Station at 9 p.m. on August 8.



>> Post

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about what it means to be anti-Semitic and how to respond to offensive material. As Deane struggles to continue publishing, he has solicited the help of the non-profit Project Censored to study whether the *Coastal Post* belongs to a larger group of publications threatened for their Israeli-Palestinian coverage.

Expanding coverage

In 2006, Deane decided to combat what he perceived to be a pro-Israeli bias in media coverage of the Middle East crisis.

"There's no question that the paper has covered the issue pretty consistently for two to three years," said 66-year-old Deane, a former child probation officer who owns Smiley's Saloon in Bolinas. "And if there were to be a slant contributed to the tone of the articles it would be one of sympathy for the civil and human rights abuses that were being perpetrated by the Israeli authorities."

The shift prompted some readers to complain that the paper's articles were radically pro-Palestinian and even anti-Semitic. Issues of the *Coastal Post* were stolen from newsstands and letters were sent to advertisers urging them to stop doing business with the publication.

Though Deane states that only ten percent of the *Coastal Post's* news and columns relate to Middle Eastern politics, some readers find the coverage excessive.

"It's an ongoing burr in the side," said Suzan Berns, North Bay regional director of the Jewish Community Relations Council. "It seems like there is an overemphasis on Israel for a local newspaper."

Carter and the Swarm

In May 2008, Deane published *Carter and the Swarm*. The article, written by Siberian-born Israel Shamir, condemned Jewish criticism of Jimmy Carter's 2006 book, which argued that Israeli control of Palestine hindered a peace agreement.

Some readers were offended by the writing, which at one point compared Jews to bloodsucking gnats attacking Carter. Jonathan Bernstein, regional director of the Anti-Defamation League, believes Shamir discredited himself by referencing Jewish stereotypes, including an obsession with money, selfishness and excessive governmental control.

"Superficially, one could argue that Shamir is trying to claim that 'formidable' Jews are trying to silence anyone who disagrees with them regarding Israel," Bernstein wrote in a letter to Deane. "Even if this were his point, we do not understand why he resorts to toxic images and lies about Jewish people. Consequently, we are left to wonder whether promoting such stereotypes and encouraging bigotry against Jews is indeed his aim."

The fallout

After the May issue, newspaper thefts intensified. Craig Slater, the *Coastal Post's* distributor, said issues were stolen from approximately 20 locations. At a food store in Fairfax alone, thousands of papers went missing.

In July 2008, Dr. Michael Franzblau, a West Marin resident, went before the city council in San Rafael and unsuccessfully lobbied to have the *Coastal Post* removed from City Hall. In his testimony, Franzblau called the newspaper's editorial policy anti-Zionist and Anti-Semitic.

In the *Coastal Post's* November 2008 issue, Dr. Edward W. Miller, a columnist who

writes regularly on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, told of the newspaper's woes. The *Coastal Post* had lost a third of its advertisers and 10 to 12 distribution locations as a result of individuals calling and writing advertisers to stop placing ads.

Whole Foods in Mill Valley pulled the May issue after customers complained. One of the company's spokespersons said the location presently did not offer the *Coastal Post*.

The mounting advertising losses caused a financial crisis in late 2008. In a typical year, the paper's expenses amounted to approximately \$20,000. Deane estimated the paper had lost at least \$14,000 in ad revenue.

"Losing the advertising really put us in the hole," he said.

In response to the *Coastal Post's* fiscal straits, local residents organized a letter campaign to "Save the Coastal Post." The group included members from the Marin Peace and Justice Coalition, 14 Friends of Palestine and the American Civil Liberties Union. The letter included a subscription form and urged people to advertise in the paper and find new distribution locations.

Although the campaign helped subscription rates swell, Deane has been forced to cut back on his costs. He no longer sends issues to post office boxes in Bolinas, Stinson Beach or Point Reyes Station. Librarians in Bolinas and Stinson Beach say their branches no longer receive the newspaper. Deane has tried to adapt to the newspaper's financial uncertainty and accepts that he will only print when he has sufficient funds. So far, the paper has continued to go out every month.

Anti-Semitism

Both Deane and the *Coastal Post* have been labeled both anti-Zionist and anti-Semitic, raising questions about the dif-

ference between the terms and whether the paper and its publisher deserve either label.

"I think what's challenging for people is knowing when someone has crossed the line from legitimate criticism of Israel to promoting anti-Semitism," Bernstein said.

Bernstein noted that progressives are often hesitant to separate Anti-Zionism from anti-Semitism. "In the Bay Area, unfortunately there are a lot of progressive leaders who aren't quick enough to speak out against anti-Semitism when they see it," he said. "They are afraid that they will be seen as supporting Israel. It's silenced them from being responsible progressive leaders."

"Anti-Semitism has absolutely nothing to do with criticism of Israel, even the most virulent criticism of Israel," said Joel Beinin, the Donald J. McLachlan Professor of History and Professor of Middle East History at Stanford University. "Anti-Semitism is disparaging the Jews as a people. It is a blanket condemnation."

In February 2009, Deane wrote an apology for the Israel Shamir piece, acknowledging that the article did not distinguish between Zionists and Jews.

"The politics and his terminology were muddled, confusing and at times, offending to readers," he wrote. "Those folks did not see a defense of Carter—like him or not—they became angry by the overtones which they considered prejudiced and ill considered. For this I sincerely apologize."

But Bernstein thought the apology was off the mark. "It sounds like a bit of a cop out," he said. "He's apologizing to people who were offended; he's not apologizing for the offensiveness of the piece."