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MONTECITO MISCELLANY

by *Richard Mineards*



Richard covered the Royal Family for Britain's Daily Mirror and Daily Mail, and was an editor on New York Magazine. He was also a national anchor on CBS, a commentator on ABC Network News, host on E! TV, a correspondent on the syndicated show Extra, and a commentator on the KTLA Morning News. He moved to Montecito nine years ago.

Price is Right for Rancho?

One of the most expensive properties to come on to the market in Montecito, the 237-acre Rancho San Carlos, which is priced at a not-inconsiderable \$125 million, may have found a buyer, I'm told.

The 1929 property in the foothills of our tony enclave, which consists of a 30-room, 25,000-sq.-ft. house, is also known as the Jackson Ranch. It was built by Ann Gavit Jackson and her husband, Charles H. Jackson, and has been in the family for three generations. It is currently owned by a grandson, **Jim Jackson**, who says: "It's hard for us to let it go, but it's too hard for us to keep."

"Hopefully, a buyer will keep it together rather than dividing it up."

The estate also had 10 additional residential structures scattered throughout the property and 100 acres of



Rancho San Carlos may have found a buyer orchards – 60 acres for lemons, 30 for avocados, and five each for oranges and limes. There is also a 11,250-sq.-ft. covered riding area built in 1930.

Uber agent **Harry Kolb**, who is sharing the listing with real estate ace **Suzanne Perkins**, asked about the ritzy listing being in escrow, doesn't deny it.

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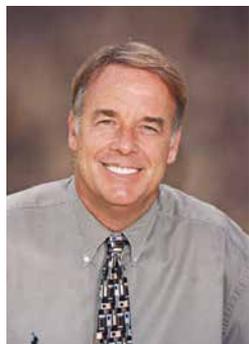
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MISCELLANY (Continued from page 6)

"I can't say anything right now," he says.

Stay tuned.

It's a Fared Country

Tim and Monica Babich opened the doors of their charming Montecito estate to host a reception and dinner

for CNN host **Fareed Zakaria**.

Zakaria, who studied at Yale and Harvard, was speaking at a sold-out UCSB Arts & Lectures event at the Granada.

He writes a weekly column for *The Washington Post* and has been a columnist for both *Newsweek* and editor-



Rich and Luci Janssen with Fareed Zakaria (photo by Grace Kathryn)

Suzi and Glen Serbin and Fareed Zakaria (photo by Grace Kathryn)



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at-large for *Time*, as well as writing five books, three of them international best sellers.

His lecture, *A View From Home and Abroad*, coming just 12 hours after the first presidential debate between **Donald Trump** and **Hillary Clinton** – which garnered a record audience for more than 83 million viewers – made particularly interesting listening.

Among the supporters turning out for the bash were executive director **Celesta Billeci**, **Hugh** and **Kelly Boss**, **Rich** and **Luci Janssen**, **William** and **Kristin Loomis**, **Charles** and **Betsy Newman**, **Jim** and **Stephanie Sokolove**, and **Heather Silva**.

Richest of the Rich

It's one of the world's most exclusive and expensive clubs, with the price of entry exceeding \$1.5 billion.

But, needless to say, many residents of our rarefied enclave meet the criteria to be in the heady ranks of the *Forbes* world rich list, with Oracle computer tycoon **Larry Ellison**, 72, who has three homes in our Eden by the Beach, ranked at number seven with \$43.6 billion, which is a drop from the \$47.5 billion he was estimated to be worth last year.

Microsoft magnate **Bill Gates**, 60, remains on top for the 23rd consecutive year, with \$75 billion, while Spanish tycoon **Amacio Ortega**, 80, owner of

the Zara fashion brand, is ranked number two with \$67 billion, and Berkshire Hathaway's **Warren Buffet**, 86, comes in third with \$60.8 billion.

Amazon magnate **Jeff Bezos**, 52, who booked every room at the Biltmore last week for his annual Camp Fire conference for celebrities, authors, and innovators, is number five with \$45.2 billion, followed closely by Facebook tsar **Mark Zuckerberg**, 32, with \$44.6 billion.

Google's **Sergey Brin**, 43, is lucky number 13 with \$34.4 billion and sports giant Nike's **Phil Knight**, 78, is at number 24 with \$24.4 billion.

Tesla's **Elon Musk**, 45, who hit the headlines last week with his futuristic plans to colonize Mars, is valued at \$10.7 billion at number 94, with Montecito resident and Google honcho **Eric Schmidt**, 61, who lives on TV talk-show host **Ellen DeGeneres**'s former estate, is at number 100 with \$10.2 billion.

Further down the rich list are Russian oligarch **Roman Abramovich**, 49, owner of England's Chelsea soccer club, with \$7.6 billion at 151, entertainment tycoon **David Geffen**, 73, at number 176 with \$6.5 billion, and two fashionistas **Giorgio Armani**, 82, with \$6.4 billion and Polo potentate **Ralph Lauren**, 76, with \$5.5 billion, ranked

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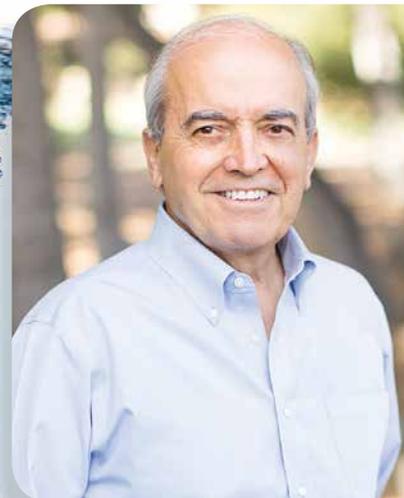
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“The residents of Montecito have a right to know what is going on with the desalination negotiations; what the potential deal points are, what cost to the customers and the details of any lower-cost alternatives that were previously presented to the Board.

Other communities around the State, like the City of Santa Barbara, have been snapping up low interest loans for desalination plants and water recycling, yet in the last eleven years the Montecito Water Board has not even filed the state required management plans to be in business as a municipal water district. It's hard to comprehend how they could have two board members who are lawyers and who are negotiating with Santa Barbara for desalinated water but ignore State-mandated, legal filings.”

Floyd E. Wicks

Meet the Candidates
Thursday, October 13th, 7:00 pm at Hahn Hall
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Montecito Water District

Paid for by Wicks for Montecito Water Board 2016: ID #1390210: Treasurer Ken Coates



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MISCELLANY (Continued from page 19)



Tiffany Rose Ortega, Alex Launspach, Nuh Kimbwal, Darlene Velasquez, Roger Durling, Dan Launspach, Carl Reyes, and Caroline Durling (photo by Priscilla)

196 and 233, respectively.

Frequent visitor **Jerry Jones**, 75, while his top NFL team, the Dallas Cowboys, is in summer training camp in Oxnard, is at 270 with \$5 billion, while Virgin tycoon **Richard Branson**, 66, an old acquaintance, is at 286 with \$4.9 billion.

Star Wars filmmaker **George Lucas**, 72, who has a sprawling beach house in Carpinteria, has \$4.5 billion, earning him joint 324 with presidential candidate **Donald Trump**, 70.

Miramar developer **Rick Caruso**, 57, is joint 453 with film mogul **Steven Spielberg**, 69, with \$3.5 billion, while Montecito's most famous resident, TV titan **Oprah Winfrey**, 62, is ranked at 569 with \$3 billion, followed by mall magnate **Herb Simon**, 81, at 612 with \$2.8 billion. Beanie Baby hotelier **Ty Warner**, 72, is at 722 with \$2.5 billion, and telecommunications tycoon **Craig McCaw**, 67, at 1,067 with \$1.7 billion.

A stellar cast.

Roger That

Santa Barbara International Film Festival director **Roger Durling** was fêted at a Black and White Ball, the 40th annual dinner hosted by the Anti-Defamation League at Fess Parker's,



Julianna Friedman and Tom Dain (photo by Priscilla)

which attracted a record 327 guests and raised \$220,000.

The monochromatic soirée, co-chaired by **Judy Egenolf** and **Cindy Lyons**, was emceed by *Cheers* producer **Cherie Steinkellner**, with an in-depth interview by entrepreneur **Lynda Weinman**, founder of Lynda.com.

Jeff Barbakow presented Roger, decked out in a **Tom Ford** tux, with the organization's inaugural Stand Up Community Leader Award.

Among the torrent of tony types attending the bustling boffo bash

MISCELLANY Page 38 ▶

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Lynda Weinman, Roger Durling, Tammy Hughes, Margo and Jeff Barbakow, Melody and Joe Deishad, Marla and Lee Phillips, and Kim Hughes (photo by Priscilla)



Dan Meisel, Cherie Steinkellner, Cyndi Silverman, Roger Durling, Lynda Weinman, and Judy Egenolf (photo by Priscilla)

MISCELLANY (Continued from page 34)

were senator **Hannah-Beth Jackson**, **Judy Foreman**, **Dan Meisel**, **Steve and Cindy Lyons**, **John and Susi Lamoutte**, **Bob and Joan Rothenberg**, City College president **Anthony Beebe**, Antioch president **Bill Flores**, **David and Anne Gersh**, **Roger and Robin Himovitz**, **Kim and Tammy Hughes**, **Larry Koppelman**, **Doug and Marni Margerum**, **Lee and Marla Philips**, **Rick and Nora Scheinberg**.

Healthy Hart

Comedian **Kevin Hart**, who tied the knot with fiancée, **Eniko Parrish**, in a lavish Montecito wedding just a tiara's toss from Oprah Winfrey's estate in August and spent his honeymoon night at the San Ysidro Ranch, has a lot to laugh about.

The funnyman, who has hosted *Saturday Night Live*, the MTV Video Music and BET awards, has topped the *Forbes* list of the highest-paid comedians with earnings of \$87.5 million.

The 37-year-old has dethroned long-time earnings leader **Jerry Seinfeld**, who made \$43.5 million.

This year, Hart has appeared in the movies *Central Intelligence*, *Ride Along 2*, and *The Secret Life of Pets*. He has also been taking part in his lucrative *What Now?* comedy tour.

Currently he is filming the *Jumanji* sequel alongside **Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson**, **Karen Gillan**, **Nick Jonas**, and **Jack Black**.

The movie comes more than 20 years after the release of the 1995 original, which starred the late Robin Williams. It is scheduled for release next July.

Fun with the Force

Hotel magnate **Pat Nesbitt's** expansive Summerland estate, Bella Vista, was a sea of blue when the Santa Barbara Police Foundation threw its third annual Fun With The Force fundraiser.

The popular event, chaired by **Eric Phillips**, attracted a record crowd of 700, raising around \$300,000 for



Billy Baldwin and Eric Phillips (photo by YTS Films)

Fun with the Force drew a record crowd of more than 700 people, raising around \$300,000 for the Santa Barbara Police Foundation (photo by YTS Films)



much-needed equipment, which is not included in normal budgets, and the At Ease program which supports first responders. The sizzling bash honored Montecito philanthropist and avid car collector **Michael Hammer**, the Wood-Claeysens Foundation, **Jimmy Nigro**, and officers **Mike McGrew** and **Greg Hons**.

Actor **Billy Baldwin** and ubiquitous KEYT-TV reporter **John Palminteri** conducted the auction with a Sun Valley, Idaho, getaway, a private dinner for 24 catered by culinary wizard **Michael Hutchings**, and a private jet weekend to a Russian River estate among the lots.

Among those checking out the SWAT drills and K-9 dog team demonstrations were new Santa Barbara police chief **Lori Luhn**, **Barry and Jelinda DeVorzon**, **Andrew and Ivana Firestone**, **Jeff and Hollye**



K-9 team demonstration (photo by YTS Films)

Jacobs, **Craig Case**, **Diana Starr Langley**, **Arlene Montesano**, **Peter Hilf**, **Bill and Sandi Nicholson**, **Mike and Anne Towbes**, **Nina Phillips**, **Mara Abboud**, **Joanne Funari**, **Bob and Patty Bryant**, **Dolly Granatelli**, **Peter and Gerd Jordano**, **Milt and Arlene Larsen**, **Bilo Zarif**, **Allen and Anne Sides**, **Joi Stephens**, **James**



Nina Phillips and Chef Michael Hutchings (photo by YTS Films)

Stretchberry, **Tom Parker**, **Peter and Mireille Noone**, and **Mario and Judy Borgatello**.

Blue Star Parking donated their services.

Gwyneth Goop

Montecito's newest celebrity resident **Gwyneth Paltrow** is blaming sexism for the "vitriolic" public response to her Goop website.

When the Oscar winner first launched her lifestyle newsletter back in 2008, she was positively ripped apart by the public, who wondered aloud just what qualified her, as an actress, to tell people how to live their lives.

Eight years later, the mockery hasn't stopped.

Goop seemed out of touch, aimed at a minority with unattainable wealth and the whole enterprise came off, to some people, as a vanity project for the peripatetic thespian to show others just how fabulous her life is and plug her favorite brands.

But in a conversation with **Lena Dunham** and *Girls* co-writer **Jenni Konner** for *Lenny Letter*, the 43-year-old ex-wife of Coldplay rocker **Chris Martin** opined that the mere fact she is a woman also got in the way of the public accepting her new venture, since many famous men in her position have followed similar paths but were treated more sympathetically.

The interview was published in Dunham's own newsletter, which has received similar backlash and has

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Dancers
Emma
Nelson,
Thomas
Fant, and
Cecily Stewart
(photo by Ron
Dexter)

been labeled as a celebrity vanity project. She points out that in Hollywood, and elsewhere, "men are encouraged to expand beyond their careers."

She specifically cites **Ashton Kutcher**, who moved on from playing a dumb-but-sexy goofball on *That '70s Show* and a string of mildly successful movies to having a successful career spanning several arenas, launching his own restaurants, investing in tech – Skype, Foursquare, Airbnb – and creating a website, A Plus.

Yet when Gwyneth did something similar, she was basically told – in her words – to "stay in her lane."

"Everybody wants you in the caricature of you if you're a woman. You're supposed to be this, and I'm supposed to be that. If you start to cast that off, it makes people very uncomfortable, especially if they're projecting a lot on to you and they identify with you."

"I was genuinely surprised at the vitriol," says Gwyneth of the initial reaction after her first mailing. "The response was totally bananas."

Still, she has stuck to her guns.

"At first, it only made sense to create one place for all of my best ideas and advice, since my friends came to me for it, anyway.

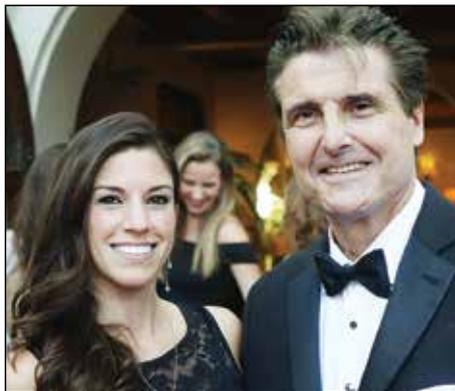
"I've always been that person to my friends, where they ask me, 'I have a guy coming over for dinner. How do I roast a chicken?' Or, 'Where do I get a cool poster?'"

But now, she says, she has gotten over caring what everyone else thinks.

"It's strange to also make the transition from 'Oh no,' to 'I don't f---ing care.' I'm very unapologetic about it. I really believe in what I'm doing, and I really love what we're doing, and I love the product we sell," she adds.

On Their Toes

It was all tu-tu much when the State Street Ballet hosted its annual gala at



SSB dancer Leila Drake with Guy Veloz, author of *An American Tango* (photo by Ron Dexter)

the Biltmore on the hottest day of the year, as temperatures soared past 105 degrees.

English computer entrepreneur **Christopher Lancashire**, a longtime friend, was honored for his many philanthropic endeavors at the elegant 164-guest event, co-chaired by **Seth Geiger** and **Teri Jory**, which raised around \$120,000 for the tony troupe, which is celebrating its 22nd anniversary after being founded by **Rodney Gustafson**.

The can-can from Offenbach, suitably enough, kicked off the tony troupe's party, with **Leila Drake** and **Jack Stewart** doing dazzling duets.

The ubiquitous **Geoff Green** conducted the auction, with a seven-night cruise along the Seine and a stay in Paris, and a trip to the Big Apple up for grabs.

Among the bevy of balletomanes attending were **Ron and Jill Dexter**, **Bob and Alex Nourse**, **Jonatha King** and **Lance Jones**, **Henry and Dilling Yang**, **Arlyn Goldsby**, **Catherine Gee**, **Robert and Margo Feinberg**, **Robert and Marlene Veloz**, **Peter Clark**, **Stan and Betty Hatch**, **Barbara Burger** and **Paul Munch**, **Craig and Kirsten Springer**, **Mort and Judy Weisman**,

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Congratulations to our September winner - Dawn Dunn

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SSB professional track dancers in their can-can outfits (photo by Ron Dexter)

Dancers Mauricio Vera and Deise Mendonca with founder and artistic director Rodney Gustafson (photo by Kathie Miller)



Tim Mikel, Ryan and Angela Siemens, Stefan and Christine Riesenfeld, William Soleau, and Gary McKenzie.

The talented company kicks off its latest season with *An American Tango* at the Granada on October 22, which I last saw in the more intimate space of the Lobero three years ago.

Starting Over New Beginnings Counseling Center, which provides support to low-income families and individuals, hosted its fourth annual Changing Lives gala at the El Encanto, honoring longtime supporters **Gary and Mary Becker.**

The bash, raised \$50,000 for the 56-year-old organization's efforts,

which has a budget of \$1.4 million annually, including its Safe Parking program that allows homeless families and individuals to sleep in their vehicles safely overnight in 20 parking locales in our tony town.

Kristin Schwarz, executive director, says the nonprofit serves 2,100 people annually.

Among those showing their support were **John and Hazel Blankenship, Marybeth Carty, Allan Ghitterman, Geoff Green, Carlos and Angela Sanchez, Bill and Sue Wagner, Harry and Judi Weisbart, Maria Long, and Jean Schuyler.**

Avon Calling!

Ensemble Theatre Company (ETC) opened its fourth season at the New Vic with *Macbeth*, the popular company's first production of William Shakespeare in nearly 30 years.

The play, directed by ETC's veteran artistic director **Jonathan Fox**, has all the right ingredients of supernatural forces, blind ambition and, of course, murder, while the actors wear contemporary attire rather than traditional Scottish costumes.

Jamison Jones in the title role is superb and Tony Award-nominated **Kathryn Meisle**, making her ETC debut as the conniving Lady Macbeth, is a wonderful match.

Glorious special effects, with the



Jamison Jones (left) and Kathryn Meisle in *Macbeth* (photo by David Bazemore)

apparitions created by advanced video projection technology, add to the entertaining show's luster, as well as a capable supporting cast, with regulars **Joseph Fuqua, Rudolph Willrich, and Leslie Gangl Howe.**

This is a cracking show that only goes from bard to better!

It run through October 16.

Seeing Green

A sell-out crowd of 260 guests descended on The Lark in the Funk Zone for the 46-year-old Community Environmental Council's seventh annual Green Gala, raising \$150,000

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CEC host John Palminteri, Nina Johnson, Santa Barbara assistant manager; Neil Dipaola, sponsor and honorary chair; Leanne Schlinger, CEC host Spencer Fischer; and Robert Forouzandeh (photo by Priscilla)



Supporters Ross McGlothlin, CEC board; Kate Schwab, SBDO; Sigrid Wright, Community Environment Council CEO/executive director; Nadra Ehrman, Towbes Group; and Geoff Green, SBCC CEO (photo by Priscilla)



CEC's Partnership Council and friends Tim Taylor, Steve Schaffer, Jordan Ben Shea, Derek Carlson, Perrin Pellegrin, managing partner; Tim Taylor and Haley Carrere (photo by Priscilla)



Environment leaders Laura Capps, CEC president; Neil Dipaola, CEC honorary chair; Clive Parry, Sage Publications, Sara Miller McCune, Laura McGlothlin, Partnership Council; and green goddess Haley Carrere (photo by Priscilla)

for the cause.

The bash, lavishly decorated in green hues by Montecito design whiz **Merryl Brown**, was co-chaired by **Laura McGlothlin** and **Neil Dipaola**, while ubiquitous twosome, KEYT-TV reporter **John Palminteri** and City College Foundation honcho **Geoff Green**, and radio host **Spencer Fischer**, auctioned off a vacation package to Taos, New Mexico, a VIP night out at the Santa Barbara Bowl, a pet portrait by local artist **Lanny Sherwin**, and a children's playhouse made by eco-builder **Allen Construction**.

Among the environmentally friendly guests, noshing on the food from executive chef **Jason Paluska** and patissier **Jeff Haines**, were Sara Miller McCune, Tim and Monica Babich, **Laura Capps**, **Das Williams**, **Judi Weisbart**, **Hal Conklin**, **Salud Carbajal**, **Sigrid Wright**, **Karl Hutterer**, and **Gretchen Lieff**.

Signature Parking donated its services.

Blue Bayou

The 51-year-old Rescue Mission hosted its 14th annual "Blues on the Bayou" bash at Rancho Dos Pueblos honoring 91-year-old **Silvio Di Loreto** with the Leni Fe Bland award, named after the Montecito philanthropist, who died two years ago.

The sun-soaked party, co-chaired by **Susan Hughes** and **Suzi Ryan** of the women's auxiliary, was emceed by radio host **Catherine Remak** and, with more than 320 guests, raised more than \$400,000.

"It is a large part of our annual \$2 million-plus budget," says president **Rolf Geyling**. "We have an open-door policy 365 days a year, serving nearly 145,000 meals and providing in excess of 56,000 safe overnight accommodations."

Silvio, who I've known for many

years, is known as the "Godfather of Real Estate" and developed the first multiple-listing service book for the industry in the late 1960s.

He ran Sunset Company Realtors for more than four decades and has served on the boards of more than 20 nonprofits, receiving numerous community awards.

Silvio was instrumental in helping secure the location on Yanonali Street where the Rescue Mission now resides.

Among those turning out to fete the affable character, who is an emeritus member of the City College Foundation and Hillside House, were ranch owners **Henry and Dundie Schulte**, **Hal Conklin**, **Gerd Jordano**, **Karl Willig**, **Andrea Preiser**, **Dianne Davis**, **Rebecca Weber**, **Lois Capps**, **Rose Hodge**, **Mary Collier**, **Terry Foil**, **Bill and Barbara Cirone**, **Dana Hansen**, **Penny Jenkins**, **Dana Newquist**, and **Antonio Di Loreto**.

Saxophonist **Ron McCarley** and his jazz quartet from San Luis Obispo entertained.

Sightings: Actress **Julia Roberts** and husband **Danny Moder** noshing at Opal...Oscar winner **Kevin Costner** and his wife, **Christine**, celebrating their wedding anniversary at the El Encanto...Music Academy of the West president **Scott Reed** at the Santa Barbara Polo Club

Pip! Pip!

Readers with tips, sightings and other amusing items for Richard's column should email him at richardmin eards@verizon.net or send invitations or other correspondence to the *Journal*.

To reach Priscilla, email her at priscilla@santabarbaraseen.com or call 969-3301

•M