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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 eight years ago.



Montecito Women Stake Their Claim

Three of our rarefied enclave's top female movers and shakers have appeared on *Forbes* magazine's first-ever ranking of America's top 50 most successful women as measured by their net worths.

Supermodel-turned-mogul **Kathy Ireland**, 52, and computer tycoon **Lynda Weinman**, 60, who sold her online software training website to LinkedIn in April for \$1.5 billion, join TV talk-show titan **Oprah Winfrey**, 61, in the tony triumvirate in the ultra-exclusive freshman class, which includes entrepreneurs, CEOs, entertainers, and designers.

Oprah, arguably Montecito's most famous resident, is at Number Three having amassed a \$3 billion fortune from her various enterprises, including her iconic long-running Chicago talk show and now OWN, her epon-



Kathy Ireland

ymous Los Angeles-based channel TV company, which has finally gained traction after losing monies heavily in its formative years.

At Number 17 is fashion tsarina **Tory Burch**, 48, with \$1 billion, with ageless



Lynda Weinman



Oprah Winfrey

rocker **Madonna**, 56, at Number 28 with \$520 million, followed at joint 31 by designers **Donna Karan**, 66, and **Diane von Furstenberg**, 68, with \$450 million.

Kathy, who turned her fame as a *Sports Illustrated* cover model into a licensing empire representing an astounding 17,000 products, is at Number 33 with \$420 million, with wedding dress designer **Vera Wang** at Number 34 with \$400 million, and Lynda, whose company sponsors UCSB's popular Arts & Lectures series, at 42 with \$320 million.

Judy Sheindlin, 72, who presides over the country's most popular TV court show, wraps up the rankings with singer **Beyoncé**, 33, at \$250 million.

Leading the list are **Elizabeth Holmes**, 31, founder of Thearanos, a blood testing company, with \$4.5 billion; **Diane Hendricks**, 68, co-founder of ABC, a building supplies company, at \$3.7 billion; and **Doris Fisher**, 83, co-founder of the Gap, with \$3.1 billion.

A Wild and Crazy Gala

Montecito funnyman **Steve Martin** was in the spotlight and feted by his peers at a private ceremony for the American Film Institute's Life Achievement Award at Hollywood's Dolby Theater, with almost a dozen actors appearing on stage to toast his many talents.

After being lauded by the likes of **Tina Fey**, **Sarah Silverman**, and **Carl Reiner**, along with **Dan Aykroyd**, **Lily Tomlin**, **Amy Poehler**, **Steve Carell**,



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MISCELLANY (Continued from page 6)



Steve Martin lauded by his peers as he received lifetime achievement award (photo by Joella Marano)

and others, Steve asked: "How do I top this parade of stars who've been, so, so funny?"

"Easy," he joked.

AFI honored Steve, 69, for making it look easy, with successful careers as a comedian, actor, writer, and now ukulele musician. A few of his colleagues even paid tribute in song.

Jack Black opened the evening, which is set to air in a special on TBS on Saturday, June 13, with an earnest rendition of "I'm Picking Out a Thermos For You," from Steve's 1979 breakthrough film, *The Jerk*.

Queen Latifah also sang another song from the movie.

Martin Short made the non-PC joke. "Steve Martin told me that one of

his fondest memories was strolling through Disneyland with Uncle Walt. And playing Walt's favorite game of 'Jew or not a Jew?'"

In addition to calling him a genius, Fey also related some "advice" the comedian has given her years before.

"To be early is to be on time. And to be on time is a sign of weakness. Never shake hands when an open-mouthed kiss would suffice... You can fix your nose or your teeth. But to do both is more money than I'm willing to lend you."

Carell compared Steve to Charlie Chaplin. Poehler called him "the best of comedy."

Aykroyd credited him as a founder of the Blues Brothers. "I owe you a living, man," he said.

Clips were shown from his many films, including *Father of the Bride*, *Planes, Trains and Automobiles*, *All of Me*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, and *Three Amigos!*

Diane Keaton and **Short** almost brought the guest of honor to tears when they each sweetly sang a song with **Edie Brickell** called "Friend of Mine".

As he accepted the award from **Mel Brooks**, who was at the Montecito Country Club for a UCSB Arts & Lectures benefit last month, Steve commented: "When you called my name, it was a total surprise!"

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He said he loved sharing such an evening with his friends, even “darkly evil Martin Short” and was “humbled, honored, and thrilled” by the recognition.

He thanked his many friends, including **Lorne Michaels**, who put him on NBC’s *Saturday Night Live* in the 1970s.

“Lorne is really responsible for bringing me here tonight,” said Steve. “Lorne, thanks for driving.”

All for Bun



Heidi Klum, Carl’s Jr. TV commercial model

Andy Puzder, the head honcho of the Carpinteria-based hamburger chain, Carl’s Jr., has been opening up about his brand’s famous TV commercials.

He says the key to the success of the fast-food brand spots is the ability of the company to pick hot up-and-coming models and stars to be featured in the oh-so sensual ads, and the anticipation that builds as people get excited to learn who will be featured next.

He also revealed what models work for the brand and the few that were decidedly underwhelming.

Puzder, talking to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, said that it all began in 2005 with **Jordin Mendelsohn**, an executive at their advertising agency.

“He came up with the idea to use **Paris Hilton** in an ad and make it a very cutting-edge ad, where she was washing a Bentley,” explained Puzder.

From there, countless other reality stars and models followed.

“We have a history of picking these young women before they hit their peak,” said Puzder of the brand’s casting eye.

“We put **Kate Upton** in an ad a month before she got the cover of *Sports Illustrated*. At the time we picked her, we just said, “This is a beautiful woman.””

It is not about young up-and-coming models either, as even **Heidi Klum** appeared in one spot, despite the fact, according to Puzder, the model “is no spring chicken.”

Almost all the ads feature the women eating the latest burgers being offered by the national chain, with recent commercials starring *Sports Illustrated* stars **Hannah Ferguson** and **Sara Sampaio**.

Even some famous foodies have got in on the fun too, like Top Chef **Padma Lakshmi**.

“Padma actually put in one of her cookbooks how when she was modeling as a teenager, her parents moved

to Los Angeles,” said Puzder.

“They couldn’t eat meat, right? But she would sneak out to Carl’s Jr. and get a Western Bacon Cheeseburger, and then lick the barbecue sauce off her fingers when she got home, so her parents couldn’t tell.”

He also said numerous actresses have contacted him asking to be in the commercials, but they aren’t right for the brand.

The company recently released their latest ad with yet another *Sports Illustrated* alum, **Samantha Hoopes**.

Hoopes will have her work cut out for her too, as she digs into the latest Carl’s Jr. creation – the Most American

Thickburger, a hamburger patty that is topped with cheese, a hot dog, and potato chips.

Silent Treatment

Since the end of their 14-month marriage, Santa Barbara warbler **Katy Perry** has not spoken to her ex-husband, British comedian **Russell Brand**.

The former Dos Pueblos High student, who is now dating rocker **John Mayer** – they were recently spotted together noshing at La Super-Rica, as I exclusively revealed here – says that she and Brand did not leave on speaking terms.

“He hasn’t spoken to me since he texted saying he was filing for divorce,” says Katy, 30.

She has previously given an interview to *Vogue* saying Brand had asked for a legal separation via text message in December 2011.

But this is the first time she has opened up about her current state – or lack thereof – with Brand.

“I don’t want to end up bittersweet. I have to evolve. I have to continue to push people’s perceptions of me.”

But Katy says she certainly hasn’t given up on love.

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"I'm excited by whatever it brings. I'm excited by my own evolution," she added optimistically.

The former married couple had shared a life together for less than two years, co-parenting a cat named Rusty – a combination of both their names – and even getting matching Sanskrit tattoos on their inner arms.

Katy first met Brand in mid-2009 when she filmed a cameo, in which the two kiss, for his comedy *Get Him to the Greek*, though the snippet was cut from the film.

The pair shortly began dating after meeting again at the 2009 MTV Video Music Awards in September when the songbird threw a water bottle at his head from across the room during a dress rehearsal.

That same year, they became engaged on New Year's Eve in India. They married in October 2010, in a Hindu ceremony in Rajasthan.

On December 2011, Brand filed for divorce citing irreconcilable differences.

Their divorce was finalized in July 2012.

That same month, she tearfully talked about the split in her autobiographical documentary *Katy Perry: Part of Me*.

She revealed that conflicting career schedules and not feeling ready to have children with him led to the demise of their marriage.

Brand reportedly married Katy without a prenuptial agreement and was eligible to claim half of the estimated \$44 million she earned during their marriage, but declined.

The Reign Event

Philanthropist **Leslie Ridley-Tree** is back in our Eden by the Beach after a tour of historic stately piles in England with Condor Express owner **Hiroko Benko**.

The tony twosome, who were also accompanied by clinical psychologist **Paul Guido** and former film fest managing director **Steve Blain**, kicked off their two week trip with the Royal Horticultural Society's century-old annual flower show in the sprawl-



(From left) Leslie Ridley-Tree, the Marchioness of Lansdowne, and Hiroko Benko at Bowood House, her ladyship's stately pile

ing grounds of architect Christopher Wren's Royal Hospital in London's Chelsea, just a tiara's toss or two from my old home off Sloane Square.

"We went on the first day when the blooms are at their best," Leslie, a keen gardener, tells me. "**Queen Elizabeth** and other members of the Royal Family attend. Even **Prince Harry** was involved in one exhibit in connection with his African charity, Sentebale."

True to tradition, it rained the whole time during the "royal progress." "Much like the Queen!" I quipped.

One of the highlights was a stop at Highclere Castle, the imposing manse of the **Earl and Countess of Carnarvon**, the main locale for filming the hit PBS show *Downton Abbey*, which wraps its sixth and final season in due course.

"The rooms were instantly recognizable from the TV show, which is really quite delightful," says Leslie.

Soon it was on to Longleat, the Elizabethan home of the **Marquess of Bath** and his family, who are longtime friends, and then nearby Bowood House, an 18th-century pile on 2,000 acres designed by Capability Brown with interiors by Robert Adam, owned by the **Marquess and Marchioness of Lansdowne**.

"I got a lot of good ideas for my gar-

dens from the trip," says Leslie. "I particularly liked the rhododendrons, lilies, and wisteria at the Chelsea Flower Show and am busy doing some planting in the garden now."

Clearly, a blooming good time was had by all.

Heroic Act

It was definitely an early-morning call when the Teddy Bear Cancer Foundation hosted its first Little Heroes breakfast for 180 guests at the Montecito Country Club.

The a.m. event, which was co-chaired by **Wells Hughes** and **Rich Schuette**, replaces the charity's Grizzly Club, founded in 2004 by the likes of **Keith Berry**, **Larry Crandell**, **Steve Cushman**, **David Edelman**, **Bill Macfadyen**, **Tony**



Lynn Jones, vice president and sponsor; Tom McCool, 2015 Hillside House Person of Purpose and sponsor; Craig Olson, executive director of Hillside House; Allison White of Bragg Products with Hillside parents Susan and David Oliver, Terry and Phil Salzwedel (photo by Priscilla)



Enjoying the catered dinner from Omni Fresco and winning select wines are Bill Davis, Marcia and Jim Wolfe, president of the board; Montecito Bank sponsors Susi Schomer, Kathy Kalp, Angela Biancone; Hillside House executive assistant; Michael Biancone; (seated) Trish Davis, Tita Lanning, estate sponsor; and Mitch Lanning (photo by Priscilla)



Hillside House board members, staff, and sponsors include Gail Metzger, director of operations; Jon Valois, Michael Williams, Silvio DiLoreto, Laurie Tilson, Norris Goss, Curt Lauber, director of development; and Keith Berry (photo by Priscilla)

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Papa, and Randy Weiss.

Former board director **Gary Caesar** emceed the bash, which also premiered a new video "Gratitude" featuring parents and children helped by the charity, and had Pepperdine University student and cancer survivor, **Melinda Marchinao**, as keynote speaker, along with police sergeant **Mike McGrew**, whose son, T.T., died at 18 from bone cancer after a six-year battle.

The first Little Heroes Award was presented to **Isa Mireles**, a La Patera Elementary School student, who was diagnosed with leukemia at the age of two.

Among those turning out for the dawn repast were **Lindsey Guerrero**, executive director, **Silvio DiLoreto**, **Michael Taylor**, **Earl Armstrong**, **Dan Meisel**, **Jim Bechtel**, **Emilee Garfield**, **Becca Solodon**, and **Eloy Ortega**.

It was hoped to raise \$25,000 for the foundation's funds.

Eggs-ellent.

Steady Eddie

It was a more memorable evening than usual when cross-dressing British comedian **Eddie Izzard** performed at a sold-out Granada.

The erudite funnyman, who I last saw three years ago at UCSB's Campbell Hall, gave one of his "hot-test" performances yet as a fire alarm went off during the 15-minute inter-

mission, many thinking it was part of the show, meaning that 1,500 members of the audience had to be evacuated on to State Street.

Fortunately, it was a false alarm, and most of Izzard's fans traipsed back in to see the rest of his dazzling work "Force Majeure", featuring his warp-speed surreal wit and considerable linguistic skills, with one particular skit in Indian and Welsh a major laugh inducer.

The next night, Izzard was at the Hollywood Bowl, which, thankfully, was fire-alarm free.

Toast of the Town

Tita Lanning opened the gates of her historic 25-acre Montecito estate, *El Mirador*, for the 12th annual Sunset Soirée for Hillside House, the 70-year-



Gary Caesar, Little Heroes breakfast emcee; Emilee Garfield, and Melinda Marchiano, keynote speaker (photo by Priscilla)



SBPD sergeant Mike McGrew, Donna Barranco Fisher, TBCF president; with the celebrated Eliana Georges and Isa Mireles (photo by Priscilla)

old non-profit residential facility for 59 patients with moderate to severe disabilities.

Nearly 180 guests turned out for the corker of a beano when wine expert **John Tilson**, former investment banker and founder of the Underground Wine Letter, provided samplings of white, red, and rose wine comparing the products of California and France.

Executive director **Craig Olson** presented the People of Purpose Award to **Thomas McCool**, an advocate for the welfare of people with special



Two women attendees who survived cancer are Erin Kozaki and Emilee Garfield (photo by Priscilla)

needs, while board president **Jim Wolfe** made the introductions.

Checking out the rustic bash, co-chaired by Wolfe and **Norris Goss**, were **Bill and Trish Davis**, **Keith Berry**, **Cas Stimson**, **Willard** and **Jo Thompson**, **Salud Carbajal**, **Nancy Read**, **Jim Stretchberry**, **Curt Lauber**, and **Silvio DiLoreto**.

The fun fete raised around \$75,000. I'll drink to that!.

Between the Lines

Friends and fans turned out when longtime Montecito resident **Dana Kent** threw a bijoux bash at Tecolote, the lively literary lair in the upper village for her first book, *Brussels to Beirut to Bali*, a narrative of her real-life adventure experiencing Europe,

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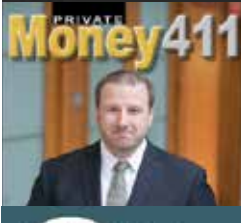


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MISCELLANY (Continued from page 33)



Author Dana Kent signing her new book for Amanda McIntyre (photo by Erin Graffy)

the Middle East, and Asia in the late 50s.

Dana started her journalism career in Newark, New Jersey, and served as a guide at the American Pavilion at the World's Fair in Belgium in 1958, before joining three single young girls for a whirlwind global jaunt in a second-hand '53 Chevy, eventually selling the car and continuing the trek on cargo planes, camels, trucks, and trains through the Khyber Pass into Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and on to India and Indonesia.

A fascinating travelogue of a time gone by.

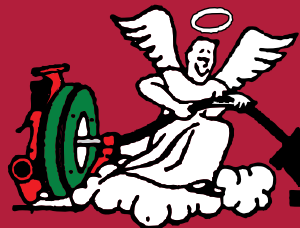
In Style, in the Zone

Fashionistas were out in force when the Dream Foundation partnered



Among the Summer Dream attendees are sponsors Ken Rife, Blue Star Parking GM; Diana Starr Langley, Nina and Eric Phillips, Tanya Thicke, Eloy Ortega, Shelby Sims, Kyle Kemp, Kelly Donahue, and Nebil "Bilo" Zarif (photo by Priscilla)

Shirin Rajae, Summer Dream emcee; Tanya Thicke, Caroline Thompson, Cabana Home co-owner; and Arlene Montesano, Dream Foundation's Summer Dream chair (photo by Priscilla)



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Kisa Heyer, executive director SBDF; Ken Slaught, chairperson, National Board of Directors; Justine Roddick, board member; Tristan Layton, director of Corporate partnerships; and Elizabeth Slaught, figurative artist (photo by Priscilla)



Models with clothing by Chapala and Parker gathered before their fashion walk are Jaron Williams, Jonathan Czerny, Stephen Harper Megan Alston, Danielle Rocha (swimwear designer) Jennie Michel, Alora Phillips, Savannah Genet, Fernando Santini, Jordanne Purnell, Jade Bell, Ashley Azevedo, Emily Dentzel, Taylor Roner, Julifer Day, Sabrina Nossen, and Sarah Walker (photo by Priscilla)



Swimwear designer Danielle Rocha of Rocha Swim with her models on the runway in eye-catching youthful designs (photo by Priscilla)

with Santa Barbara swimwear designer, **Danielle Rocha**, 21, for a bustling Summer Dream bash to attract a younger demographic at Cabana Home and Aperture Collection, a tiara's toss across the street, in the Funk Zone.

More than 200 guests, most of them under 40, attended the show, chaired by **Arlene Montesano** and sponsored by **Eric and Nina Phillips**, **Jim Nigro**, and **Don and Susan Kang**, with a Carl's Jr. food truck providing an eclectic selection of hamburgers and Elevated Dreams, aerial dancers, and rapper **Danny Winters** as entertainment.

"It is exciting to be working with a talented young designer like Danielle, who has channeled her creativity and entrepreneurial spirit into giving back to the community," says Arlene. "It has been a great success."

Among those at the fashion fest, emceed by KEYT-TV anchor Shirin Rajae were **Bilo Zarif**, **Mara Abboud**, **Diana Starr Langley**, **Tristan Layton**, **Justine Roddick**, and **Tanya Thicke**.

Like A Walk in the Park

Supporters of Elings Park, the wonderful 230-acre recreational area built on the site of a former city trash dump, celebrated its 30th anniversary with a chairman's council party in Godric Grove.

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MISCELLANY (Continued from page 35)



Daniel Prykhitko (tenor); Carolyn Tereoka-Brady, director; Rebekah Mann (soprano) of the San Marcos HS award-winning Madrigal Singers with John Britton, president of Elings Park Foundation; Joe and Marty Blum, former SB mayor; Fred Allen and chairman's council members Fred Clough and Danna McGrew Britton (photo by Priscilla)

Arriving at the Chairman's Council Party ready to celebrate Elings Park's 30th Anniversary are Joel Harwin, Paul Uyesaka, Solveig and Bill Bertka, Leslie Wiscomb, Marcia Constance, and Scott Wiscomb (photo by Priscilla)



Dr. Virgil Elings, philanthropist; Nancy Rapp, SB Parks and Recreation director; Caleb Johnson, Elings Park Sports events director; and Mike Warren, park manager and host (photo by Priscilla)

San Marcos High School madrigal singers entertained under conductor Carolyn Tereoka-Brady as guests quaffed the Piper Heidsieck champagne and snaffled the culinary treats prepared by Pure Joy catering.

Mike Warren hosted the boffo bash, which attracted 130 guests and raised around \$100,000 for Elings, the largest privately funded park in the U.S.

"It is a big dream that came true," says executive director Michael Nelson. "Though we celebrate the park's opening in 1985, we should also reflect on the obstacles our honorees overcame during the twenty years the project progressed from the improbable to the inevitable."

Turning out to mark the start of the fourth decade were Janet Wolf, Timothy and Virginia Bliss, former mayor Marty Blum and husband Joe, Bob and Patty



Patrons and chairman's council members Bob and Patty Bryant, Janet Wolf, SBC supervisor; Michael Nelson, executive director; Marinella Baker, director of operations; and MB&T sponsor Janet Garufis, president/CEO (photo by Priscilla)

Bryant, Terry and Winnie Yamada, Fred and Vicky Clough, Jamie and Marcia Constance, Virgil Elings, Janet Garufis Brian Rogers, Bruce and Kelly Giffin, Michael and Anne Towbes, Steve and Lauren Katz, Dick and Bonnie Jensen Scott and Leslie Wiscomb, and Bill and Barbara Bertka.

Sightings: Rocker Peter Frampton walking on State Street... Actor Alan Thicke in his new Maserati at the Santa Barbara Polo Club... Christopher Lloyd noshing with friends at Lucky's 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

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