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## FRACKING

# Brown, environmentalists at odds

By Juliet Williams

*The Associated Press*

**SACRAMENTO »** In the 1970s, the environmental movement had no bigger political hero than California Gov. Jerry Brown. He cracked down on polluters, ended tax breaks for oil companies and promoted solar energy.

Forty years later, in his second go-around as governor, conservationists are among his harshest critics.

Climate change is one of Brown's key issues, and he said in his inaugural address last

month that his goal is to have California get half its energy from renewable sources within 15 years.

But because he has refused to ban hydraulic fracturing for oil, protesters, or "fracktivists," have dogged Brown for more than a year, even interrupting his speech at the Democratic Party convention last spring.

"Climate leaders don't frack," said Kassie Siegal of the Center for Biological Diversity, a group that praises Brown's programs to boost renewable energy. "The oil and gas boom threatens to un-

dercut all the other progress that our state may make on climate."

Fracking opponents have planned their largest protest so far, a rally Saturday in Brown's hometown of Oakland that they hope will attract thousands. More than 100 environmental and community groups have signed on, and protesters are being bused in from around the state.

These days, Brown rarely engages with his critics. He barely campaigned for re-election last year and holds few public events.

FRACKING » PAGE 3



Protesters prepare to take down a makeshift oil derrick that was set up in front of the California State Office Building to protest fracking in San Francisco on Friday.

JEFF CHIU — THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## WATSONVILLE

## Developer proposes townhouse complex

Construction increases in city as economy improves

By Donna Jones

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**WATSONVILLE »** A developer has submitted plans for the largest subdivision to be built in Watsonville since the housing market crash in 2007.

Surjit Tut proposes to build 48 townhouses on a hill overlooking Watsonville Slough and Ramsay Park. The three- and four-bedroom units could be under construction by summer.

"The city is working with us, and we're trying to push it as fast as we can," said Tut, who is developing the 4.5-acre property on Harkins Slough Road with sons Jadjit and Hajit. "It's the right time. The economy is coming back, and we need housing."

Tut couldn't say yet what the selling price would be of the homes, which are being designed by Thatcher & Thompson Architects of Santa Cruz. Most would be

TOWNHOUSE » PAGE 3

## SANTA CRUZ

## Man arrested in death of San Bruno pedestrian

Witness ensures suspect remained at crash scene

By Jessica A. York

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**SANTA CRUZ »** A 74-year-old San Bruno man was hit and killed while walking with his wife on West Cliff Drive Thursday night.

The man, whose identity has not been released by police, was crossing the road near Bay Street in a crosswalk at 7 p.m. when he was struck, said Santa Cruz police Lt. Bernie Escalante. The victim and his wife were in town at a hotel on a vacation and were just out for a walk, Escalante said.

Robert Wright, 24, of Santa Cruz, was arrested shortly after the accident on suspicion of felony driving while under the influence of alcohol and vehicular manslaughter. Initial tests showed Wright was at least double the legal blood alcohol limit for driving, Escalante said.

After the crash, Wright continued to drive a short distance away and pulled off West Cliff

WRIGHT » PAGE 3

## OCEAN OIL

## BIRDS COVERED IN OIL LIKELY CAUSED BY NATURAL SEEPAGE

Nearly 200M gallons of oil pour into marine ecosystems worldwide



INTERNATIONAL BIRD RESCUE — CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Julie Skoglund, of the Southern California Center of International Bird Rescue, examines a brown pelican covered in oil, which most likely came from natural seeps off the coast of Santa Barbara.

By Leigh Cooper

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**SANTA CRUZ »** The television images after a catastrophic oil spill, such as the one caused by the container ship Cosco Busan's 2007 collision with the Bay Bridge, are often stark and heartbreaking — thousands of birds covered in oily tar struggling for their lives.

But marine birds smeared with oil continuously wash up on California beaches, and not just after large accidents. The culprit: nature.

Oil from natural seeps accounts for 9 of 10 oiled birds found along California's coast in the average year, according to researchers at Santa Cruz's Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center. Research-

ers counted oiled birds washing up on California's coasts and sent their greased feathers for "oil fingerprinting" to identify the origination of the oil.

Before working on the recent study, "I didn't know much about these natural oil seeps in California," acknowledged Laird Henkel, the center's director. "We are guessing that more than 1,000 seabirds are

oiled each year by this natural source of oil."

Similar to the La Brea tar pits in Los Angeles, natural seeps are cracks in the ground where oil oozes out. Worldwide, nearly 200 million gallons of oil pour into marine ecosystems annually from natural seeps, according to the National Research Council.

BIRDS » PAGE 5

## PRIEST SLAYING

## Santa Cruz man denied parole for 1985 murder

Edward Bowman stabbed John Karastamatis inside a Santa Cruz church during a burglary

By Calvin Men

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**STOCKTON »** A Santa Cruz man convicted of killing a Greek Orthodox priest at a downtown Santa Cruz church in 1985 was denied parole for the fourth time Thursday.

Edward Lee Bowman was sentenced to 25 years to life in prison after he pleaded no contest to first-degree murder in

1988. During the hearing at the California Health Care Facility in Stockton, the board denied Bowman parole for five years because he continued to deny responsibility.

In previous parole hearings, Bowman had several explanations about why he killed the Rev. John Karastamatis during a 1985 burglary, including Karastamatis attacking his wife Anna Bowman, Karastama-

tis accidentally falling onto the knife and Karastamatis tearing Anna Bowman's blouse. But at Thursday's hearing, Bowman shocked the board and others when he confessed the explanations were all lies.

The confession carried an extra punch because, a month earlier during a psychological evaluation, Bowman staunchly defended his explanations, said Santa Cruz County District Attorney Jeff Rosell, who argued against Bowman's release.

"If you're just for the first time admitting it in front of the family the day of the hearing, you

haven't really demonstrated that you've worked through these things and gained insight," Rosell said.

Karastamatis, 47, was a traveling priest who was fundamental in establishing the Prophet Elias Greek Orthodox Church in downtown Santa Cruz. To this day, his family has strong ties to the church, with his wife, Anastasia, still working as the driving force behind the annual Santa Cruz Greek Festival.

On May 19, 1985, Karastamatis found Anna Bowman, the church's volunteer secretary,

BOWMAN » PAGE 4

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## Birds

FROM PAGE 2

That amount is half the crude oil released into the ocean each year. Humans are responsible for the other half through discharge from ships, oil operations, pipelines, spills and extraction.

Once the oil rises to the surface, the birds come in contact with it.

“Most of the oiling occurs around the belly, called the bathtub ring,” said Hannah Nevins, a seabird biologist with the American Bird Conservancy. The birds then rub it onto their wings and, if they try to clean themselves, smear it onto their faces and beaks.

Covered in oil, the birds risk hypothermia when they dive for food; they can die from starvation or the cold.

“It’s like if you were skiing and had a hole in your down jacket,” Nevins said. “If their feathers get all gummed up, it messes up their waterproofing.”

### A decade of work

The recently published study by the Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center took about a decade to complete.

First, researchers asked two long-term bird monitoring groups for data on the number of birds found oiled on beaches each year.

Volunteers from Beach COMBERS, a “citizen scientist” group based in Moss Landing, scoured Central Coast beaches monthly for dead birds. At the same time, the Oiled Wildlife Care Network at UC Davis, which tracks the number of oiled birds found by the public along California’s coast, offered their bird counts to the team. The data, collected



INTERNATIONAL BIRD RESCUE — CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A common murre is washed at the Southern California Center of International Bird Rescue. The bird was most likely oiled from natural seeps off the coast of Santa Barbara. Oiled birds go through multiple washes after they are healthy enough for a bath.

from 2005 to 2010, helped the scientists look for patterns to the oiling of marine birds. International Bird Rescue in Fairfield cared for and cleaned oiled birds found alive.

Although the number of oiled birds tallied was relatively small, diving birds such as grebes (41 percent) and murrelets (28 percent) were the most likely victims. For species with large, healthy populations, the deaths from oiling will not have a large impact, but for endangered species such as the marbled murrelet, a loss of 100 birds every year could be significant, Nevins said.

The number of oiled birds peaked near the largest California seeps, located in the Santa Barbara Channel. The seeps come from the Monterey Formation — the sedimentary geological formation under much of California’s coastline.

The study also showed that more oiled birds landed on beaches during the winter. The scientists theorized that big winter storms scrape tar away from otherwise blocked seeps.

During their bird counts, the researchers

gathered oiled feathers from the bedraggled birds. They sent the gooey feathers to chemistry labs for oil fingerprinting to track the oil back to its origin.

Oil is constructed of complex, Tinkertoy-style rings of carbons and hydrogens. And these patterns differ slightly, depending on the oil’s source, explained Thomas Lorenson, a U.S. Geological Survey geologist in Santa Cruz who was not involved in the study. Just like crime scene investigators match the ridges of a fingerprint at a crime scene to a suspect’s fingerprint, petroleum chemists can match oil from a feather to oil from a source.

### Naturally occurring oil

All natural oil found on the feathers came from the Monterey Formation, and most started in the Santa Barbara Channel. Researchers also recently matched a set of samples taken from feathers, tar balls and sea otter fur to a recently discovered seep off the San Luis Obispo coast.

Oil degrades in water; bacteria nibble on the digestible bits. Seep oil, exposed to water for an ex-

tended period of time, is highly degraded compared to oil discharged directly from oil production. “You use the fingerprinting to tell if the oil is from the Monterey Formation, and you use degradation to say there is a great likelihood that it is seep oil,” Lorenson said.

Of the 11 percent of “oiling events” linked to human-caused oil sources, Henkel said he thinks bilge cleaning — the dumping of oily ship water at sea — accounts for about half. Research shows human-caused oil pollution has declined markedly in California, most likely a result of increased regulations limiting bilge cleaning.

The study also showed that cleanup efforts on previously leaky shipwrecks were successful. Oil from the S.S. Jacob Luckenbach, 17 miles southwest of San Francisco, and the S.S. Palo Alto at Seacliff State Beach, were cleaned up in 2002 and 2006, respectively.

The study found that oil from the two ships accounted for 6 percent of oiled birds collected along the Central Coast. Oil from both sources has since disappeared.

“We are not aware of any other leaking shipwrecks, but that’s one of the advantages of doing the oil fingerprinting,” Henkel said. “If we find a bunch of samples that don’t fit the Monterey Formation oil, then we could potentially look for the source of that oiling.”

By identifying both seasonal and geographic patterns of different sources of oil, the scientists can be on the lookout for anomalies, specifically human-caused oil sources that need their immediate attention.

“If we see something abnormal,” he said, “we can be more suspicious.”

### TIPS FOR DRIVING IN THE RAIN

**Avoid hydroplaning:** Apply brakes slowly and watch for other vehicles hydroplaning.

**Windshield wipers:** Check to see that windshield wipers are in good condition. State law requires headlights to be on when using windshield wipers.

**Watch for winds:** While driving in high winds, slow down to maintain better control.

**Spacing:** Drivers should stay an ample distance behind the car in front.

**Slow down:** Many collisions are a result of unsafe speed.

**Leave early:** Drivers should allow extra time during travel.

Source: California Highway Patrol

is expecting weather-related collisions, it’s not likely more officers will be called in, CHP Sgt. Grant Boles said.

“This (storm) didn’t seem to pack quite the punch and we haven’t had the influx of weather-related calls,” Boles said.

*San Jose Mercury News reporters Doug Oakley and Mark Gomez contributed to this article.*

## Storm

FROM PAGE 1

havoc with floods, fallen trees and downed power lines, the latest storm is weaker because it is spread over three days, according to the Weather Service.

But the storm still rattled area residents with strong winds Friday afternoon.

Near Sigrid Serrano’s Bonny Doon home, the wind picked up Thursday night and howled for most of Friday. During particularly strong gusts, Serrano’s Toyota 4Runner rocked back and forth in her driveway, she said.

Before the storm arrived, Serrano cleared large trees near her home as a precaution, she said.

About 8 a.m. Friday, a Ben Lomond woman and her two children on their way to school received a shock when a tall, 20-inch thick redwood tree crashed onto the hood of their vehicle near Highway 9 and Glen Arbor Lower Road, Ben Lomond Fire Chief Stacie Brownlee said.

A tree branch shot through the car’s windshield, narrowly missing a girl in the front seat.

“They were extremely lucky,” Brownlee said. “If they were probably 12 inches more forward, the roof of the car would’ve been crushed.”

The weather service also issued a wind advisory that was to expire at 4 a.m. Saturday, warning residents of sustained winds of 35 mph with gusts of up to 45 mph.

Though the three were uninjured, the traffic along Highway 9 was shut down for several hours while county crews worked to clear the debris and PG&E crews cleared power lines.

About 2,500 customers in Ben Lomond were initially without power as a result, said Jeff Smith, spokesman for PG&E.

At its peak Friday, PG&E said 36,980 customers were without power throughout the region, though the number was cut to 10,000 by 6 p.m. Friday.

The rainy conditions also resulted in 30- to 60-minute delays and 155 flight cancellations at San Francisco International Airport by midmorning. Larry Mares, an airport duty manager, said 77 departing flights and 78 arriving flights were canceled.

### FORECAST

**Saturday:** Showers expected with possible thunderstorms after 11 a.m. Winds expected to blow at 9-15 mph with gusts as high as 18 mph. Between a 0.25-0.5 inches of rain expected. High 67, low 51.

**Sunday:** An 80 percent chance of rain with wind gusts of up to 18 mph. Up to 1 inch of rain is possible. High 68, low 48.

**Monday:** A mostly cloudy day with a 40 percent chance of rain. High 67, low 42.

**Tuesday:** Sunny skies forecast. High 68, low 41. Source National Weather Service Station Monterey

Santa Cruz County fire departments and public works departments were warned to prepare for the storm, said Paul Horvat, the county’s emergency services manager.

“Everybody’s been put on alert that we’ve got potential for heavy rain and wind,” Horvat said. “But it just hasn’t shown up.”

At 6 p.m. Friday, California Highway Patrol reported about five weather-related crashes and collisions, mostly on Highway 17. Though the agency

other revenue for housing, or it could be voters willing to create a new revenue stream.”

### A final term

Lane, a Southern California native who graduated from UC Santa Cruz and administers a private foundation, was first elected in 1988, a year before the Loma Prieta earthquake. He was part of the council that oversaw initial rebuilding efforts and served as mayor in 1991-92, but he did not seek re-election and left politics behind until running successfully in 2008 and again in 2012. Lane will be termed off the council in December 2016 and said he will not run again.

Lane is known as the compromiser-in-chief, one who tries to build bridges between moderates and more conservative- or progressive-leaning members of the council by crafting alternative solutions that attract broader support. He has been a strong advocate for economic development — he helped

fast-track the Santa Cruz Warriors’ arrival and championed the most recent La Bahia Hotel proposal — and has sought a measured response to anti-social behavior downtown and in parks often associated with homelessness.

He supports a downtown program that offers wrap-around services as an alternative to recidivism, as well as warming centers on private and public property and the concept of a “sanctuary village” that combines accountability with shelter. What he hopes to achieve in the next nine months is getting disparate factions to work together on housing, homelessness and other issues.

“If we are just kind of making rules that move people around and telling them where they can and can’t be, we shouldn’t pretend that is doing anything about homelessness,” he said. “I’m not saying we don’t need those rules, but anytime we try to manage the homeless we ought to put an equal amount

into solving it. That is the whole paradigm shift.”

Habitat for Humanity director David Foster said a commitment from Lane and other city and county leaders is key to spurring development of lower-cost housing.

“It’s got to be 10 different kinds of housing at once that needs to happen — figuring out ways to allow for an increase in density in urbanized areas and near public transit is critical,” Foster said. “The home ownership support that Habitat offers is important, but so is affordable rental housing.”

Councilmember Richelle Noroyan said housing is key to boosting the local economy because companies that might consider opening in Santa Cruz need assurances there will be places for their workers to rent or buy.

“There just isn’t housing for people; that is one of their barriers for economic success,” Noroyan said of businesses. “It’s really good Don is working on this.”

### TODAY IN HISTORY

## 1795

The 11th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, dealing with states’ sovereign immunity, was ratified.

## 1914

Keystone Film Co. released the silent short comedy “Kid Auto Races at Venice,” Charles Chaplin’s second film, and the first in which he plays the Little Tramp.

## 1940

Walt Disney’s second animated feature, “Pinocchio,” premiered in New York.

## 1948

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower resigned as Army chief of staff; he was succeeded by Gen. Omar Bradley.

## 1962

President John F. Kennedy imposed a full trade embargo on Cuba.

## 1965

During the Vietnam War, Viet Cong forces attacked Camp Holloway, a U.S. Army helicopter base near Pleiku, killing eight Americans and wounding more than 100 others; the United States retaliated with airstrikes against the North Vietnamese.

### Birthdays

Author Gay Talese is 83. Former Sen. Herb Kohl, D-Wis., is 80. Movie director Hector Babenco (Film: “Kiss of the Spider Woman”) is 69. Actor Miguel Ferrer is 60. Reggae musician Brian Trav-ers (UB40) is 56.

### Star report

## ‘Fifty Shades of Grey’ gets 2 sequels

Despite reports saying the lead actors have no chemistry, “Fifty Shades of Grey” has already spawned two sequels, according to the Huffington Post.

Great. I guess three years worth of best picture Oscars are now locked up.

The next two movies will be called “Fifty Shades Darker” and “Fifty Shades Freed,” both based on the E.L. James novels of the same names.

“Fifty Shades” director Sam Taylor-Johnson announced the news on Friday — Tony Hicks, Bay Area News Group

### LOTTERY

#### WINNING NUMBERS

**Daily 3 Afternoon:**

7, 7, 8

**Daily 3 Evening:**

8, 0, 2

**Daily 4:** 0, 0, 4, 8

**Fantasy 5:**

8, 10, 28, 32, 34

#### DAILY DERBY

**1st:** 8, Gorgeous George

**2nd:** 2, Lucky Star

**3rd:** 3, Hot Shot

**Race time:** 1:48.87

#### SUPER LOTTO PLUS

**Wednesday’s drawing:**

1, 2, 12, 19, 45

**Mega number:** 8

**Saturday’s estimated jackpot:** \$14 million

#### MEGA MILLIONS

**Friday’s drawing:**

5, 6, 17, 33, 68

**Mega Number:** 13

**Friday’s jackpot:**

\$49 million

#### POWERBALL

**Wednesday’s drawing:**

24, 36, 51, 52, 56

**Powerball:** 22

**Saturday’s estimated jackpot:** \$380 million

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## Lane

FROM PAGE 1

a complete community?” Lane said. “Or will we just have people living further away and working here but not able to live here because they can’t afford it?”

In the near term, he said the city is committed to considering changes in maximum building heights downtown to accommodate high-density plans. Lane said having small unit sizes will be important particularly for single- or double-occupancy.

“That is the kind of market breaking we need to do,” Lane said.

Without redevelopment funding, which was the city’s key mechanism for subsidizing affordable housing until the state eliminated it in 2011, Lane said there is a need for creative solutions.

“We just need to look for every possible source that exists,” he said. “There are ways the council could decide to carve out some

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