

# THE MYERS FLAT NEWS

With occasional news also from Miranda, Weott, Phillipsville, and Redcrest  
The motto of Myers Flat (Humboldt Co, CA) is: "Myers Flat Is Where It's At"

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## EDITORIAL:

# THE WAR IN IRAQ: BRING OUR SOLDIERS HOME VICTORIOUS

There are thousands of well meaning people loudly opposing the war which the US and Britain are waging in Iraq. Millions of others, a solid 72% or more of Americans, quietly support it, according to CBS and other polls. Neither support nor opposition can afford to be quiet in this public debate.

Many very clever

critiques of the war are circulating, but there are some basic, objectively true facts which cannot be avoided: (1) that Saddam Hussein did, in fact, use poison gas to kill his own citizens, Kurds in Northern Iraq; and (2) that Saddam Hussein therefore did, in fact, have poison gas, a weapon of mass destruction, which neither his regime nor the inspectors of the UN have been able to show he no longer has; and (3) that Saddam has had other weapons of mass destruction, particularly biological weapons, and came very close to obtaining nuclear capability; and (4) that Saddam has twice invaded his neighbors when he was without the weaponry that we fear he is about to obtain; and (5) that neither he nor his terrorist friends on suicide missions have any compunction about killing not only themselves, their families and their fellow citizens, but the rest of us too.

Bush and the US Government may have made stupid statements such as the "I'm losing patience" comment, but that does not change the question of whether or not Saddam is a clear and present danger to the US, and to the rest of the world, and should be stopped. And yes, Saddam should have been stopped by the UN. But he was not, and it is clear that he will not be.

The US is the primary target of terrorists, just because we are the biggest and the most powerful nation around at this time. Does that therefore mean in the world court of public opinion that we are always wrong? Does that require us not to protect ourselves when we can, and before Saddam gets nukes?

This is not a war like Vietnam, where the US mistakenly followed up on the dirty war of the French colonials, nor is it like the Gulf War where the US went in to save the bacon of the feudal kingdom of Kuwait. This is a war like the 2nd World War would have been in 1939, had the US and the UK taken on Hitler when he was still weak, and stopped him before he gobbled up Europe, including the push-over French, most of whom were just fine with his racist, anti-Semitic sentiments.

We cannot be blind to the fact that much of the consensus on international relations, which existed prior to this war, is fast being destroyed. The UN will be the second casualty, NATO the first. But the arrangements drawn up in 1945, the UN as we know it and NATO as it has become, are no longer functional, and there is no mechanism for reforming them, particularly the UN. It is time to start thinking about what comes

after the UN, as the UN came after the League of Nations.<>

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•(See story on page 2.) •722-4291



## WATER BOARD URGED TO ACCEPT SETTLEMENT

In an impassioned plea to the Myers Flat Mutual Water Association, its largest customer, the Myers Flat Laundry, urged that the Water Board settle the litigation which is now tearing apart the Water Board.

The recent letter said in part: "I have reviewed the settlement proposal and I have run it informally by an attorney. The Board should accept the proposal settlement without delay. The offered settlement is fair to the Water Board and should be accepted quickly, lest it be withdrawn. Sincerely, Terry Goddard."<>

Obituary:

## JACK THOMAS

Of all the people around Myers Flat who seemed as eternal as the towering Redwoods and the meandering Eel River, Jack Thomas was the solid rock. With his childhood sweetheart and bride of a lifetime, his beautiful girls and the devotion he lavished on one of his grandchildren who succumbed to leukemia, Jack Thomas was a man among men, a family man recognized as totally righteous. His reputation for generosity was well deserved -- when Pat the Postman was so ill he could not care for himself, Jack and Loretta moved him to the couch in their living room to have a comfortable place for his last days. On the afternoon of Jack's funeral in Fortuna, his longtime fishing partner Wade Brown threw a wake at the Saloon in Myers Flat which lasted until after midnight. Bill Meagher chose the meats and Mel Berti roasted them at Hobie's Market in Scotia. Many local ladies brought food also, and it was the kind of party that Jack would have fully enjoyed. Goodbye, Jack. Myers Flat will not be the same. We miss you.<>

## FEISTY LETTERS FLY

Never one to be quiet when she was mad about something, Loreen Eliason wrote a letter to the Humboldt Board of Supervisors, then circulated it via e-mail and copies to the real intended audience, her neighbors along the Avenue of the Giants. Abandoned cars, methamphetamine drug labs and drugged out people, dirty and sloppy trailers with ill-cared for children, are, she says, scaring away the tourists. The RV parks in Phillipsville and Miranda were the primary targets of her ire, as she demanded that the Sheriff focus on this problem rather than waste his time on chasing local pot sellers.

Wait a minute, though, responded Earl Roberts, son of Richard Head, who owns one of the RV Parks in question. Clean-up and investment in water tanks

and other amenities are alleged, as well as managerial attention.

So who is right? Everyone. It is without doubt that there are abandoned cars along the Avenue of the Giants, and it is without doubt that the Sheriff's efforts on chasing marijuana, however great or small, are wasted.

Perhaps the solution is to get a community committee together to seek solutions, including a "clean-up" weekend along the Avenue with a few tow trucks. Just a thought.<>

### Agriculture Report:

## Marijuana guru talks

At the beautiful Mateel Community Center in Redway last weekend, lots of people got to "Ask Ed" in person. Ed Rosenthal, the author of the long-running High Times column of that name, was the featured speaker in a day-long conference on police-community interactions under Prop. 215 and the new crackdown on medical marijuana by the Federal Government.

Ed Rosenthal was convicted last month of 3 felony marijuana charges (mandatory minimum sentence 5 years in prison) by a San Francisco Federal Court jury. But a majority of the jury the day after the trial repudiated their own verdict because they were not allowed to know that Rosenthal had been appointed by the City of Oakland as an Officer of the City for the very purpose of supplying medical marijuana to sick people with City of Oakland licenses to obtain it.

**Ed's legal defense and appeals are raising money through the tax-deductible Green Aid: Medical Marijuana Legal Defense & Education Fund. He needs your help! Send checks to GA/Rosenthal Fund, 484 Lake Park Ave., PMB #172, Oakland, CA 94610.<>**

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### MYERS FLAT NEWS

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## New folks, new look at Redcrest Grocery

by Albert Miller

Looking for a laid-back place to live, George, Audrey and son Hunter have bought the old Redcrest Grocery store, established 1908

They added a coffee bar and deli, a full dairy section, fresh meat and produce, frozen foods, bulk ice cream and a lot more.

"Our aim is to serve," said new manager Larry. "We have video and DVD rentals, camping supplies and sporting goods, even payroll check cashing and gas pump service."

Their new "Rocky Raccoon Saloon" [Raccoon? Or Raccoon?] serves beer and wine and fresh deli sandwiches, with inside and outside seating, TV sports and music, and an arcade for kids. A good place to kick back and stock up in Redcrest -- Population 210.<>

### The Myers Flat News

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