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# MONTECITO MISCELLANY

by Richard Mineards



Richard covered the Royal Family for Britain's Daily Mirror and Daily Mail before moving to New York to write for Rupert Murdoch's newly launched Star magazine in 1978; Richard later wrote for New York magazine's "Intelligencer". He continues to make regular appearances on CBS, ABC, and CNN, and moved to Montecito six years ago.

## Oslie Ogles Auras

**S**anta Barbara psychic and aura expert **Pamala Oslie** is about to make Whoopi in New York!

Pamala, who has a popular weekly radio show on KZSB, is being interviewed by actress-comedienne **Whoopi Goldberg** on ABC's multi Emmy-winning show *The View* on Thursday, January 9, in a segment titled "Out of This World," which can be seen in our Eden by the Beach on KEYT.

She was in Manhattan last November for Hallmark TV's daily talker *The Better Show*, where a producer from veteran broadcaster **Barbara Walters'** program was in the audience.

"I went to their Upper Westside studio and did back to back readings for four hours with various staffers and



Pamala Oslie shows her skills on *The View*

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## MISCELLANY (Continued from page 6)

producers, including executive producer **Bill Geddie**, and they booked me right away," says Pamala, who is also a prolific author and lecturer.

"They liked the accurate readings of people's aura colors and the detailed information they provide about one's life path, personality, relationships, career potential and much more.

"I will be on for six to seven minutes, which will include reading the auras of two audience members.

"It is obviously great exposure, but it will also be a challenge given I've only got sixty seconds or so with each of the audience members. Sometimes my readings take an hour or longer."

It would seem appropriate that former Oscar presenter Whoopi is hosting the segment, given she starred as a psychic in the 1990 hit **Jerry Zucker** directed film *Ghost* with **Demi Moore** and the late Patrick Swayze, which landed her an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress.

Pamala's latest book, *Infinite You*, which explores the electromagnetic field that surrounds us all, is slated for publication later this year. She also founded the website [www.LifeColorsCity.com](http://www.LifeColorsCity.com) with business partner **Rod Lathim**...

### *Coffey Versus Clark*

A nurse who cared for reclusive heiress Huguette Clark for 20 years before she died leaving \$300 million is suing her estate for a slice of the fortune.

**Geraldine Coffey** earned \$130,000 a year looking after the copper heiress and received more than \$1.5 million in gifts over her lifetime.

But the night nurse, who claims Clark promised to "provide for her," is now reportedly suing her late boss's estate after receiving nothing in Clark's will.

Coffey, who looked after her until she died aged 104 in 2011, says she was left out of the wrangling last fall over two wills written by the wealthy woman in 2005 when she was 99.

Her legacy left millions to former members of staff and philanthropic organizations, rather than her distant family members, many of whom she had never met, but are battling for a share of the cash.

Clark's former employees say they were given gifts by their employer, and last September a deal was agreed between many of them and the heiress' estate and relatives.

In the deal, Clark's lawyer, **Wallace Bock**, and accountant, **Irving Kamsler**, were cut out of \$1 million gifts in exchange for a promise they would not be involved in any future litigation.

But Irish immigrant Coffey says she was left out of negotiations and thus received nothing.

Meanwhile lawyers for the estate are



Reclusive heiress Huguette Clark's estate is being sued by nurse Geraldine Coffey

accusing her of causing Clark "anxiety and distress" by nagging her to give her a \$7.5 million apartment, it was reported, and putting her own needs before her elderly patient's.

In court papers attorney **John Morken** alleges: "While purportedly caring for Clark, Geraldine repeatedly pressured her patient to make "gifts" to and for the benefit of her family.

"At that time Mrs. Clark was reported in nurse's notes to be "confused during the night" and "delusional."

But Coffey, who is being sued to return gifts said to include \$385,000 to buy real estate in New York and \$85,000 for school fees for her children, is reportedly refusing to sign off on the deal.

She denies the allegations, claiming Bock and Kamsler were heavily involved in the allegations that she pressured Clark to hand over some of her fortune.

Coffey worked 12-hour days for Clark, the childless daughter of senator and industrialist William Clark, who made a fortune in mining and railroads.

Clark lived alone in a 42-room Manhattan apartment overlooking Central Park with only her extensive collection of dolls and a nurse for company.

The case is being heard in New York later this week...

### *A Particular Pair*

They are both celebrity rock stars in their own right.

So it seems that dynamic duo **Katy Perry** and **John Mayer** come with their own individual list of diva demands too.

They might not be such a down to earth couple after all, according to the entertainment glossy *Life & Style*.

The magazine claims Mayer always requests a bottle of Lagavulin 16 scotch, water, soda and a full fruit platter in his dressing room at all times.

Meanwhile, former Dos Pueblos High student Katy is said to have a penchant for ranch dressing, six types of drinks, a director's chair and a cof-

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## MISCELLANY (Continued from page 17)

fee maker in her hotel room.

"They obviously get VIP treatment wherever they go," says one insider. "It's usually all the same items for TV shows, backstage and hotels."

Katy, 29, recently joined forces with Mayer on the song "Who You Love," which appears on his latest album *Paradise Valley*.

"Yeah, we have a lot of fun," she told Montecito comedienne **Ellen DeGeneres** on her popular eponymous TV talk show. "We have music as an understanding and love between each other and we connect. And you know he understands what I do because he does the same thing..."

*From Montecito to Sutton Place*



Montecito author Louise Gaylord launches latest in a long line of novels

Award-winning Montecito author **Louise Gaylord** has just launched her eighth novel *Sutton Place*, about a wealthy New York family and the secrets they'd rather keep to themselves, described by reviewers as "a mile a minute drama."

Two more books based on the dynasty are to come, Louise, who also has homes in Houston, Texas, and the Adirondacks, told me at a bijou book bash at Tecolote, the tony tome



Conductor Bob Bernhardt works musical magic at the Granada

temple in the Upper Village. "It takes me about three years to write a book."

Texas-born Louise also has another popular series with the Allie Armington mysteries...

### *Pop the Bubbly*

Music Academy of the West board member **Robert Weinman** got to show off his conducting skills at the Santa Barbara Symphony's sold-out New Year's Eve Pops concert at the Granada.

Former rocket scientist Robert, dashingy attired in candy stripe colors of red and white with matching red footwear, paid for the privilege of using the baton for the second consecutive year at a charity event in the fall and did a most commendable job with Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever."

As the talented musicians vied with the sounds of popping champagne corks, noise makers and the rustle of party hats, jaunty guest conductor **Bob Bernhardt**, making his third consecutive appearance, took them through their paces with an eclectic program that went from George M. Cohan to Leonard Bernstein, Verdi, Glenn Miller, Morricone and **John Williams**, whose "Olympic Fanfare



Mehrdad and Sepi Mashhoon with Lisa Sands and Howard Lamar at the Kass winter party (photo by Priscilla)

and Theme" wrapped the two-hour-long concert.

Five members of the State Street Ballet – **Ryan Camou, Anna Carnes, Lilit Hogtanian, Kate Kadow** and **John Christopher Piel** – added to the energized event dancing the tango and waltz.

As usual, Bernhardt, music director emeritus and conductor of pops with the Chattanooga Symphony and Opera, delivered up a glorious musical feast to welcome in 2014...

### *Winter Wonderland*

**Dan and Debbie Kass** opened the doors of their magnificent Montecito aerie, Chateau Sur la Mer, for the first Winter Wonderland gala benefitting TV Santa Barbara.

More than 100 guests were welcomed by **Matt Schuster** and **Katie Laris** of TVSB with glasses of champagne, while 19 students from the Outburst Show Choir from La Colina Junior High School, under the direction of **Shannon Saleh**, sang a selection of carols from the soaring winding staircase at the home's entrance, along with **Patrick Maiani** on the piano.

The boffo bash also included interviews for the new weekly TVSB show *Social Conscience*, which will have a



Mimi Doll, Dan Kass, Sarah Gore and Matt Schuster get in the festive spirit (photo by Priscilla)



Debbie Kass, Richard and Nora Scheinberg, and Rachel and Jim Nigro at the Winter Wonderland bash (photo by Priscilla)

16-week run.

Among the guests checking out the fun were **Sarah Lee Gore, Jimmy and Rachel Nigro, Rick and Nora Scheinberg, Nina Terzian, Ali Ahlstrand, Eddie Sutti, Jordan and Heather Kear, Tad and Donna Buchanan, Richard Nagy, Howard Lamar, and Mehrdad and Sepi Mashhoon...**

### *The Lowe Down*

Actor **Rob Lowe** has opened up about his marriage to wife, **Sheryl,**

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revealing the Montecito twosome are still very much in the honeymoon phase of their relationship 22 years and two children later.

"Long marriages always go through phases and right now I am in a phase where I am rediscovering my relationship with Sheryl," says the former Brat Packer. "We are like giddy teenagers."

With their oldest son, 20-year-old **Matthew**, already out of home, studying at North Carolina's Duke University, and their 18-year-old **John Owen** not far behind, the couple is rediscovering their lives as soon-to-be empty nesters.

"I think it is because we're realizing we are going to have a lot of alone time coming up when both boys are out of the house," Rob, 49, tells *People* magazine.

"John Owen is in the middle of applying to colleges. He's looking at schools I can only play graduates of. If it is anything like when Matthew went away to Duke, I am going to

worked on the notorious Thai-Burma railroad, contains an acknowledgment to her.

She is credited as the movie's "consultant psychiatrist."

Eichelberger, 69, is a Harvard-educated psychotherapist.

### Let's Do Lunch

Tout le monde was at the New Year's Day lunch thrown by gardening guru **George Schoellkopf** and artist **Gerald Incandela** at their immaculately groomed Summerland aerie.

The dynamic duo, who fly between their estates here and in Washington, Connecticut, kicked off 2014 in splendiferous style, with free flowing Bordeaux and Piper-Heidsieck champagne, beef brisket that took three days to prepare in the baronial kitchen and traditional English trifle soaked in sherry and tiramisu.

It was quite a turnout, with guests including **Leslie Ridley-Tree**, **Tab Hunter** and **Allan Glaser**, **Robert** and



Richard Mineards, Cat Pollon, and Gretchen and Robert Lief welcome the New Year at Summerland bash

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have to check myself into a padded cell. It is still unbelievably painful to walk past that empty bedroom."

With his 50th birthday looming on March 17, Rob is busier than ever with a new sitcom in development and a role in the upcoming comedy *Sex Tape* with **Cameron Diaz** and **Jason Segel**. He also starred as former President John F. Kennedy in National Geographic's telemovie *Killing Kennedy*, based on the novel by Fox News Channel anchor **Bill O'Reilly**.

"A few years ago, I got to a point where I realized that the only way you can tell someone's age is how they live their life," he adds. "The candles on the cake mean absolutely nothing..."

### A New Career Credit

Little has been heard of **Alyce Faye Eichelberger** in our rarefied enclave since she divorced her husband, funnyman **John Cleese**, three years ago.

But I see **Colin Firth**'s forthcoming film, *The Railway Man*, about a traumatized British prisoner of war who

**Gretchen Lief**, **Beverly Jackson**, **Degen Pener**, **Cat Pollon**, **Trish Reynales**, **Christopher Pilafian**, **Chapin** and **Cynthia Nolan**, **Gwen Stauffer**, **John** and **Sandy Knox-Johnston**, **Guy** and **Patty de Gramont**, **Jean-Claude** and **Susie Benarrosh**, and **Ceil Pulitzer**.

An added pleasure was a sitar concert by **Montino Bourbon**.

A delightful launch to the New Year...

### Heyer's Hired

Santa Barbara's popular non-profit, the Dream Foundation, now has a woman at the helm.

After a long nationwide search, the 20-year-old organization, founded by **Thomas Rollerson**, has appointed **Kisa Heyer**, who formerly worked in London for several investment banks, as executive director.

"We are thrilled to have secured a candidate who brings exceptional leadership skills and tremendous passion for our mission," says Thomas. "She will be a wonderful addition to





Nathan Kreitzer's Quire of Voices impresses



Thomas Rollerson and his board choose new executive director Kisa Heyer

### Remembering Harold

It was aviation gridlock when dozens of Montecito residents revved up their private jets to head to Dallas, Texas, for the funeral of billionaire businessman and philanthropist **Harold Simmons**, who died last month at the age of 82.



Harold Simmons passed away last month at the age of 82

Financial magnate T. Boone Pickens also helped by sending out his personal \$55 million Gulfstream 5 jet to ferry in guests. Harold, who was ranked 40th on the Forbes rich list with a fortune of \$10 billion, died on the same day as another Dallas denizen, colorful entrepreneur **Andy Granatelli**, who broke records at the Indy 500 in 1969 and 1973, and made STP oil treatment into a national institution.

Andy, 90, who lived in our rarefied enclave for decades, declined to have either a funeral or memorial service.

But Harold, who owned actor **Gene Hackman's** former 27-acre Montecito estate, Piranhurst, marked his departure with a memorial service attended by 3,000 at the Sanctuary of Park Cities Baptist Church, which featured a full symphony orchestra and a 50-strong choir, followed by a reception at the Dallas Country Club

where his wife of 33 years, **Annette**, spent three hours in a receiving line shaking the hands of guests offering their condolences, including Texas governor **Rick Perry**, Dallas mayor **Mike Rawlings**, and **Karl Rove**, deputy chief of staff to president **George W. Bush**.

"She really is to be commended for the flawless and inspiring event of Harold's lifetime," says one guest.

Among the Montecito mourners were former Amway head **Bill** and **Sandi Nicholson**, Oscar nominee **Barry** and **Jelinda DeVorzon**, **Fritz Ingram**, **Sally Jordan**, **Bob** and **Marlene Veloz**, film director **Ivan** and **Genevieve Reitman**, entertainment tycoon **Ed Snider** and Santa Barbara Polo Club promoter **Charles Ward**...

Sightings: Canadian Prime

Minister **Stephen Harper** and his wife, **Laureen**, spotted on a whale watching expedition aboard the Condor Express with rockers **Gene Simmons** of KISS and **Don Felder** of The Eagles, Canadian songwriter **Stephan Moccio** and **Thomas Rollerson**... Actress-fashion designer **Nicole Richie** with hubby, **Joel Madden**, at a vintage clothes store on State Street... Songstress **Katy Perry** and rocker beau **John Mayer** noshing at Olio e Limone

Pip! Pip! - and Happy New Year!

Readers with tips, sightings and amusing items for Richard's column should e-mail him at richardmin eards@verizon.net or send invitations or other correspondence to the Journal •1/7

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