

# M a k i n g A D i f f e r e n c e

## Pawsitive Pet Care Please Do Not Feed the Bears...

By Rose Navarro, RVT

.....Or the deer, the squirrels, the turkeys and other wildlife in the area. For most of us that live here in the foothills, seeing wildlife is a daily occurrence. Our local artists draw and paint them; photographers capture their images in their native habitat, and are on display in our art galleries. We love our wildlife.

We enjoy watching deer peacefully grazing, or catching a glimpse of a fox. Overhead, the mystical cry of a hawk reminds us of where we live, and how lucky we are to be here. The sight of an occasional bear or lion is thrilling, yet we are cautious to keep our distance.

This is the season when animals are migrating, and storing food. This season also tends to make some humans want to feed our wildlife. But providing artificial food sources can have serious consequences for our wild animals.

**Reasons Not to Feed Wildlife**  
*It is Illegal* – Check the laws in your area; wildlife are protected. *Providing Food Causes Over-*

*population and Disease* – Which can lead to starvation as a species may reproduce in great numbers, attracted to large amounts of food. Disease comes to humans, as animals become more numerous.

*Artificial Diets Cause Damage and Death* - As a form of entertainment; many people feed human snack foods, or lure them to areas near the home, where animals can find their way into garbage cans, eating plastics, and other indigestible items that can result in gastrointestinal obstruction. Cans and glass can cause mouth injuries, and feeding foods with little or no nutritional value for that animal is harmful to their growth and development.

*Feeding Wildlife Alters the Animal's Foraging and Migrating Patterns* – Causing animals to stop migrating, and therefore stop eating foods that protect their immune system and promote health. This has a detrimental effect on their instinctual behavior, and also a negative effect on our environment, due to the overpopulation and overeating in one area.

*Humans and Animals Risk Injury* - By engaging animals with food, they may become more "friendly" and lose the ability to judge natural human boundaries. Animals may become victims of poaching, come

to harm by abuse, or attack by domestic animals such as dogs. Wild animals may attack humans or small children, bringing the risk of bite injuries, infection and viruses such as rabies more likely. The best way to respect and keep wildlife safe is to learn about them. Contact your local wildlife group in your area; read up on local wildlife behaviors, learn what you can do to preserve them. Keep distance between you and your wildlife neighbors. Fence your property or areas that contain domestic animals, gardens, out buildings, barns, garbage cans, and other possible artificial or dangerous food sources.

Keep children safe from parasites and viruses caused from animals like raccoons. Ponds, fountains and containers of water such as children's small pools can be sources of contamination. If you see an injured wild animal, call your local wildlife group for info on how to handle the situation. Never feed, pick up or move an injured wild animal. Enjoy our wildlife safely, at a respectful distance. Keep them wild!

*Rose Navarro is a CA State Registered Veterinary Tech with a Veterinary medical background in Internal Medicine, Emergency, and Critical Care. She owns a local pet sitting service. [www.pawsitivepetcareservice.com](http://www.pawsitivepetcareservice.com).*

## Concurrent Resolutions

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Co-sponsored by Representatives Elton Gallegly, Tom McClintock, Ken Calvert, and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon, House Concurrent Resolution No. 59 passed by a vote of 387-0 on September 14, 2009. The resolution has now been introduced in the U.S. Senate. "With the senior population expected to grow to nearly 49 million in less than two years, we are grateful to Congress for taking this necessary first step to address the critical issue of caring for older adults," said Paul Hogan, Co-Founder and CEO of Home Instead Senior Care. Among other things, the resolution recognizes caregiving as a profession as well as supports the efforts of family caregivers by encouraging individuals to provide care for their senior loved ones.

In addition, the measure calls for fostering a private home care industry that bolsters enterprise to provide accessible and affordable caregiving. "Seniors are one of our most precious resources," said Rep. Lee Terry of Nebraska, who introduced the resolution. "In order to take care of our seniors, we need a nation of caregivers," he said. The time is right for this important focus on seniors, the family members who care for them as well as the profession of caregiving, a practical solution for our economy and our seniors. *Julie Swartz, On behalf of Home Instead Senior Care.*

## Plymouth School Gardens

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...piece of its right forewing was broken off. Some butterflies have excellent taste, even though they do taste with their feet.

*Thanks*

To the anonymous family who dropped off a donation to Amber and me - it went to buy some gardening tools for the school. And thanks to Rosalie, the principal, for taking over the job of having volunteers weed the gardens – just give me a call to supervise!

In the past, this job was handled by the 4th - 6th graders as a means of instilling school spirit, and there is no way the school nor faculty can afford to pay someone to do this job right now... so...give her a call!

Donations for the garden are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Write checks to "Amador Community Foundation", note in the lower left, "Plymouth Elementary School Gardens Fund", and send to ACF at P.O. Box 1154, Jackson, CA 95642. E-mail [michaelspinetta@yahoo.com](mailto:michaelspinetta@yahoo.com)

## Crosby, Stills, and Nash

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...with their own songs and for many fans, the concert actually started at that point. Unfortunately for performers, fans long to encase their icons in amber like petrified relics of the past. Remembrances are lovingly enshrined in the brain's neural paths and change is an anathema. The more we, the audience, change, the more we want them, the performers, to stay the same.

Saturday night's performance was good but we were hoping for great. Previously from "Love the One You're With" to "Marrakesh Express" and all the tunes between, CSN performed vigorously and precisely, but not on this night.

Positively, many of the second-half songs were instrumentals featuring Stephen Stills on electric guitar. His skillful finger picking and bending of chords have been overlooked, but Stephen is a fine guitarist rivaling Jimmy Page and Eric Clapton. David Crosby is also no slouch on acoustic guitar. Combined with the vocals of Graham Nash, organ by Todd Caldwell, keyboard by James Raymond, drums by Joe Vitale, and bass by Murphy's own Bob Clark, CSN got the crowd hopping and cares dropping.

The lines in "Wooden Ships" saying everybody smiles in the same language were never truer. Crosby Stills, and Nash's final number, "Teach Your Children", encourages parents to feed the children on your dreams. This is a fitting synopsis for a band that has been and remains a positive agent of change.

Photographs and written accounts record the history of an era but its music explains its soul. The music of Crosby, Stills, and Nash asks vital questions about life, love, and kinship and reassures us with hope for the future. For upcoming tour dates, [www.crosbystillsnash.com](http://www.crosbystillsnash.com).

## Jesse Cook

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Jesse Cook's website, <http://www.jessecook.com>, has biographical information, and samples of some of his latest songs. Part of his bio says that as a small child he neglected his scales and arpeggios during practice, opting to play songs that he had fun playing. He told me that as a teenager, though, he practiced ten hours a day. It shows. He is astonishingly good.

While radio station KSSJ labels itself as "Smooth Jazz," it would be a disservice to both the station and the music to limit it so. Playing everything from Barry White to Dave Brubeck, KSSJ is the place to listen. See [www.myspace.com/jessecook](http://www.myspace.com/jessecook)

### Clip & Save Calendar Reminder!

Don't Miss the  
Fall Fun at  
the Flower Farm!



Amador  
Flower Farm

Come see our farm animals  
and take a Free tram ride  
every weekend in October!

### The foothills' Best Pumpkin Patch!

Pumpkin Patch, Hay Bale Tunnel and  
Corn Maze will be open Oct 1st-31st 9am-4pm  
Bring the kids and a camera

### Daylily Sale

50% off hundreds of varieties, 1 gal. Sale runs Oct 1st-31st

Join our monthly email newsletter list so you'll know what's happening at the farm  
through all the seasons - just go to our website.  
You can now follow the farm on Facebook too!

[amadorflowerfarm.com](http://amadorflowerfarm.com)

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