

IN AND AROUND HEAL THE OCEAN...

Heal the Ocean operations have changed dramatically with the COVID-19 pandemic, and we, like many organizations, have set up home work spaces to work remotely. HTO Operations Coordinator Alison Thompson continues to run the HTO office, and all of its business, every day, regularly communicating with Executive Director Hillary Hauser (who is working from her home). Alison is also filling an all-important role as HTO Policy Assistant, covering political meetings and producing memos that help not only HTO, but also other political participants.

As you will read in the following pages, HTO's work has grown, because technology allows us to be in many places at once, enabling us to do more and contribute much more than before.

WENDY GRADUATES AND JOINS HTO FULL TIME

In June, 2020, former HTO intern Wendy Pelayo, a first-generation college student, graduated from UCSB with a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies. During her internship at HTO, Wendy managed our Facebook and Instagram pages, she helped with outreach for our Styrofoam program, and she has kept track of pertinent news important to us. Wendy, now as an employee, continues her work with HTO as our Outreach Associate.





Wendy Pelayo

MAIRE RADIS JOINS HTO ADVISORY BOARD

Many might think "Trash Queen" is not such a wonderful title, but to HTO it is a most honorable crown, and we bestow it to Maire Radis,



Maire Radis

our newest Advisory Board member. Since COVID-19, there has been an inordinate amount of trash left on beaches, spilling out of designated trash cans, where birds and the wind pick all of it up and dispense it further. Despite Heal the Ocean enlisting MarBorg Industries for additional pickup, the mess continues. To combat this unabated problem, almost every weekend, Maire Radis, her husband Pat Radis, and the entire Radis family is on the beach at Santa Claus Lane, as well as the beaches

of Padaro and Sandyland, picking up trash - sometimes to the tune of 200 to 300 pounds on any given day. Her daughter Corey Radis Boyce was Heal the Ocean's Operations Coordinator for 2.5 years, from 2015 to 2018, so Maire joining our Advisory Board keeps it all in the family. Thank you, Maire for your dedication, your hands-on help to the environment, and welcome aboard!

HEATHER PRODUCES ANOTHER BIG-WAVE HIT

HTO Board Member/Event Manager Heather Hudson's latest surf documentary, "93 - Letters from Marge" shines a light on surf pioneer and 1958 Makaha International Champion Marge Calhoun, an adventurous woman and big wave surfer. When Marge passed away in 2017 at the age of 93, Heather was inspired to tell Marge's story from Marge's handwritten letters. Heather's film has been an official



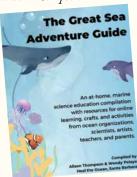
Heather Hudson

selection at the San Diego Surf Film Festival, San Luis Obispo International Film Festival, and the Honolulu Surf Film Festival, where it received the "Audience Choice Award." When we can gather again, we'll all congregate for a Santa Barbara Premier Film Screening of "93 - Letters from Marge" to benefit Heal the Ocean! Learn more at: www.TheWomenAndTheWaves.com





Alison Thompson



ALISON THOMPSON COMPILES "THE GREAT SEA ADVENTURE GUIDE"

"The Great Sea Adventure Guide", a compilation of marine science resources from ocean educators, was conceived by HTO **Operations Coordinator Alison Thompson** in the early weeks of COVID-19 lock-down, when schoolchildren were forced to stay home and learn/play online. Alison researched oceanoriented education materials created by other organizations and individuals, and compiled the interesting projects and information into "The Great Sea Adventure Guide". HTO's Outreach Associate, Wendy Pelayo, assisted with graphics. The guide, now posted on HTO's website, contains lots of fun information and facts about the ocean. We are very proud that the "Great Sea Adventure Guide" was submitted to the California First Partner office - that's

Jennifer Newsom, California Governor Gavin Newsom's wife, who plays a significant role in education projects for the State.

COVER PAINTING BY THOMAS VAN STEIN

"Sailing West" is an oil painting with many connotations: the end of the world? Going over the edge? A new era of discovery? The special light in this painting is a Thomas Van Stein trademark. A celebrated fine artist living in Santa Barbara, his works are singular for their Old-World ambience (and belie his youthful biological age). He is well known for his moonlit "Nocturne" paintings, which identify him almost immediately.



HEAL THE OCEAN® NEWSLETTER 2020

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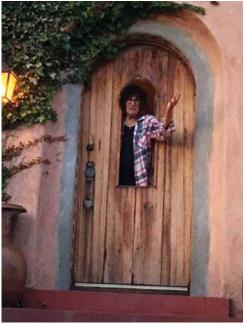
Heather Hudson

HEAL THE OCEAN®

1430 Chapala Street
Santa Barbara CA 93101
P.O. Box 90106
Santa Barbara CA 93190
Phone (805) 965-7570
Fax (805) 962-0651
info@HealtheOcean.org
www.HealtheOcean.org

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WRITING/EDITING:
Hillary Hauser
Alison Thompson
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DESIGN: Debbie Bellman
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Hillary in Quarantine

A MESSAGE FROM HEAL THE OCEAN

At Heal the Ocean, we picked out the cover of this Annual Newsletter at the end of 2019. At the time, there were thoughts that the image perhaps was too ominous, like we were sailing off into the sunset – or going over the edge of Earth.

As the year 2020 began to unfold, the cover painting by the celebrated artist Thomas van Stein suddenly appeared to us as prophetic. 2020 will go down in history as the year of the Virus – first, the COVID-19 virus that set off a deadly pandemic within a matter of months and which reached every corner of Earth.

Then came the virus of systemic racism. The tragic murder of George Floyd at the hands of law enforcement in Minneapolis unleashed public protests

that reached the far corners of Earth. Throughout America, Europe and Canada, New Zealand and South America – and even in an aboriginal community in Australia – thousands upon thousands of people joined to protest the unjust death of George Floyd. With glaring light, the George Floyd tragedy brought to attention, through marches, protests and speeches, that systemic racism has not yet been erased from society in every corner of the world. We all have work to do on this.

All of this has forcefully brought home a fact we've been long talking about philosophically, but now have to face for real: we are all on this planet together. All of us, in sickness and in health, are connected and we can't get away from each other. The problems of one people belong to all people. We all live on an Earth that is spinning through time and space, and we can't jump off because we don't like the ride. THIS IS IT.

Hopefully, there will come a vaccine that will save us from illness and death. Hopefully we get the message, finally, that all people are created equal.

Hopefully, we'll see with absolute clarity that we will all be in the same boat should Earth decide to reject us. Fires are raging, burning down entire towns, while coastal areas are flooded by ferocious hurricanes. For Climate Change, there is no vaccine. The challenge seems overwhelming, but we have to start in our own back yards.

At Heal the Ocean that is where we have always worked, in our own back yards, and we continue to work even harder to make change, to heal the mess we've made. The pages of this newsletter describe what we're doing, immediately and every day.

Thank you everyone, for your help.

Hillary Hauser

Hillary Hauser Executive Director

Thank you, Poehler-Stremel Charitable Trust

HTO once again extends its deep thanks to the Phyllis
S. Poehler/Walter E. Stremel Charitable Trust, St. Paul,
Minnesota, for the funds to publish this newsletter and to
continue our other avenues of outreach. We thank Bill, Pam &
Lily Poehler of Santa Barbara (long-time HTO supporters)
for their enthusiasm — it means much to us.



Back Cover Art

Launched by NASA in 2009, the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter normally stares down at the cratered surface of the moon — but took a moment to snap this modern-day "Earthrise" composite photo on October 12, 2015.

NASA/Goddard/Arizona State University

THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD S

WITH DEATH & DESTRUCTION, THE VIRUS BROUGHT WITH IT



New Delhi

EMISSIONS STOPPED, AND WE COULD SUDDENLY SEE BLUE SKY, ALL OVER THE WORLD

In early March, 2020, the news of a highly infectious, lethal virus hit the U.S. Over the course of a few weeks, the virus quickly spread across the globe, from country to country. Before long, the entire world was involved in a Pandemic. A respiratory illness, it became COVID-19, which is short for coronavirus disease 2019.

The World Stopped. Travel stopped. Commuting stopped. Group gatherings stopped. Everyone around the world quarantined, stayed home, worked from home – and in the case of schools, studied at home. World activity went on hold. The effects of this were immediate. For one thing, we achieved an instant reduction to the relentless climb of Greenhouse Gases, a major cause of deadly Climate Change. For another thing, we could suddenly see blue sky and green trees all over the world.

The World United. The Virus was in every country, every city, every town (except for a high-altitude enclave in a mountainous region in Spain). This phenomenon has **united the entire world against one, common enemy.** It is all of us versus the Virus. We are all in this together.

A Rehearsal for Climate Change. A world hit with extreme weather, melting icecaps and rising seas, fire and wind and disappearing water, is a sign of an increasing inability for humans to live on earth. Climate change is the Real Deal that could wipe out humanity. Grappling with



Milan

COVID-19 worldwide has been called a prelude to what it could be like if we don't seriously start working on the problem, because there really is nowhere to run if the Earth rejects us. This is It; There is No Planet B.

Environmental & Social Justice for All: To solve our global problems we need a global perspective, which we can only gain if we invite everyone to the table, all countries and all peoples of all backgrounds. In May and June 2020, the world united again in the cause of Social Justice, when George Floyd was killed at the hands of a policeman, in Minnesota. Although the incident happened in the U.S., protests against police brutality and other racial injustices took place all over the world, unifying global citizens about yet another common illness.

The COVID-19 Pandemic may be a rehearsal for Climate Change, when there really is no place to run if the earth decides to reject us.

Los Angeles



TILL...COVID-19 MADE US STOP

A RESET BUTTON & KNOWLEDGE WE DIDN'T HAVE BEFORE

COVID-19 IN WASTEWATER – THE CANARY IN THE COAL MINE

Almost instantly after the COVID-19 pandemic hit, scientists got to work on the implications of the virus in wastewater. In San Diego, a highly regarded atmospheric chemist at UC San Diego, Kim Prather, is studying the aerosolization of COVID-19, and how it can spread through the air much farther than previously stated by the World Health Organization (WHO). Prather has recently received funding to determine if raw, untreated waste released into the ocean in Tijuana, Mexico, carries viral infections north to San Diego County beaches. Using viral DNA tracing, Prather will analyze air samples in coastal San Diego to determine if viral RNA from the raw sewage is released into the air when waves break on the beach in San Diego, potentially creating a "viral sneeze."

At the same time, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) scientists working in the Biobot laboratories are perfecting the discovery of COVID-19 in wastewater, its RNA signaling the presence of disease in a community. Now, all over the world, detection of viral RNA in wastewater can provide up to a week of warning for a COVID-19 spike in a community – a canary in the coal mine. In fact, wastewater correlates with and can even precede clinical disease incidence, helping to fill the clinical testing gap for hard hit communities. Heal the Ocean was privileged to audit the Zoom conference of Biobot scientists in April 2020, discussing this discovery, just as Dr. Trish Holden, UCSB Bren School professor and environmental microbiologist, began lab work of wastewater samples collected from El Estero and the Montecito Sanitary District.



The Netherlands WTTP – one of the world's first to test wastewater for the presence of COVID-19 as a way of signaling a community that there is infection present

Wastewater has become the canary in the coal mine, to help us fight the pandemic.

BIOBOT AND OTHER LAB TEST RESULTS FOR EVIDENCE OF COVID-19 IN CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WASTEWATER

	SOURCE MOLECULAR (RNA COPIES/L)		PACE ANALYTICAL (RNA COPIES/L)		BIOBOT (RNA	BIOBOT ESTIMATE	
WEEK	N1	N2	N1	N2	COPIES/L)	OF CASES	
3/24/2020					NON DETECT		
4/13/2020					39,440	1300	
4/20/2020					13,444	630	
5/11/2020	-				NON DETECT		
5/18/2020	1	-			NON DETECT		
5/25/2020	-				15,448	380	
5/25/2020*	-				23,172	560	Phase 1 lifted 5/22
6/1/2020*					42,728	1,000	
6/8/2020*	-				702,337	17,400	Phase 2 lifted 6/5
6/15/2020*	DNQ (995)	DNQ (216)			171,849	4,100	Phase3 lifted 6/12
6/23/2020	2,983	985					
6/30/2020	19,700	9,450					
7/7/2020	DNQ (1,890)	DNQ (397)			179,009	4,300	
7/14/2020	4,870	1,180					
7/21/2020	4,810	1,570	40,400**	7,850**			
7/28/2020	DNQ (1,170)	DNQ (392)	9,530	4.460			
8/4/2020			31,600	10,500			

*Biobot revised detection limit from 1,500 to 6,000 concentration **7/21/20 result from Pace is an average of three aliquots

In Santa Barbara, the City Water Commission is

experimenting with wastewater testing for COVID-19 as a way of warning the community that infections may be increasing. Heal the Ocean observed in early summer that within days of phased reopening, viral load per liter of sewage and estimated COVID-19 cases had increased. These resources, testing wastewater for viral RNA with Biobot, Source Molecular, and Pace Analytical Laboratories, are an important asset for managing viral infection and reopening community activities moving forward.

ART IMITATING LIFE: CLIMATE CHANGE.



Pekka Niittyvirta and Timo Aho are two Finnish artists who in 2019 installed an electrifying art project in a small coastal town in the Hebrides, Scotland. They installed sensors that activate light-lines on buildings throughout the town during high tide, the light-lines revealing how high the ocean will soon be due to Sea Level Rise (SLR). Their work, published by the World Ocean Forum, is a testament to how the ocean is claiming the world's shorelines. Artists are tackling the subject to give visuals because some people still argue that there's no such thing as Climate Change.

Santa Barbara has had its day with artists depicting Sea Level Rise (see Inset "SLR Catch 22" page 7). The best illustrative art depicting Sea Level Rise in Santa Barbara are the dead-serious SLR projection maps of the East Beach/harbor waterfront prepared by U.S. Geological Survey/Ecological



Photo by Harry Rabin/On the Wave Productions

Society of America (USGS)/(ESA) for 2030, 2060 and 2100. Included in the City of Santa Barbara Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment, the map for 2030 shows storm waves up to the edge of Cabrillo Blvd. and inundating East Beach and, on the other side of the Harbor, Leadbetter Beach. This storm inundation will be a regular occurrence only 10 years from now. Storm waves already inundate Leadbetter during annual King Tide events.

Miramar Beach on the 2020 King (high) Tide

..ARE WE REALLY PAYING ATTENTION?



Sneak Preview of Leadbetter Beach in a storm surge. This photo was taken during the King Tide at 9:30 a.m. March 8, 2020, and shows what is expected with regularity by the year 2030, 10 years from now. Photo by Harry Rabin/On the Wave Productions

HTO's chief concern about Sea Level Rise is the immediate need to protect coastal wastewater infrastructure. In 2012, Hurricane Sandy inundated wastewater treatment plants on the East Coast, releasing billions of gallons of raw sewage into towns and beaches, and into the ocean. The Goleta Sanitary District (GSD), on the Santa Barbara County shoreline, has already sustained significant stormwater assault. In January 2019, the GSD Vault, the critical infrastructure located on Goleta Beach that houses the connnection of the outfall pipe to the treatment plant, was undermined during a high tide event and had to be shored up by emergency placement of boulders.



The USGS map above shows the effects of a 6.6ft. tidal rise: the ocean will push water up into the City through the El Estero slough. For perspective, the year 2100 is just 80 years from now.

SLR CATCH 22: THE PROBLEM OF "TAKING"

any Santa Barbara citizens remember the "Light Blue Line," a proposal in 2007 by lightblueline.org to paint a blue line 1,000 feet long through downtown Santa Barbara, to show where the sea would be if Greenland melted due to climate change.

The concept went through the approval process just fine – until it hit City Council, where all gloves came off. The fight became fierce because the light blue line would damage coastal property values.

Sea Level Rise was – and is – a real estate issue.

We have advocated for action at the Planning & Development level: don't approve plans for a big hotel on Cabrillo Blvd. that will be flooding regularly within 30 years.

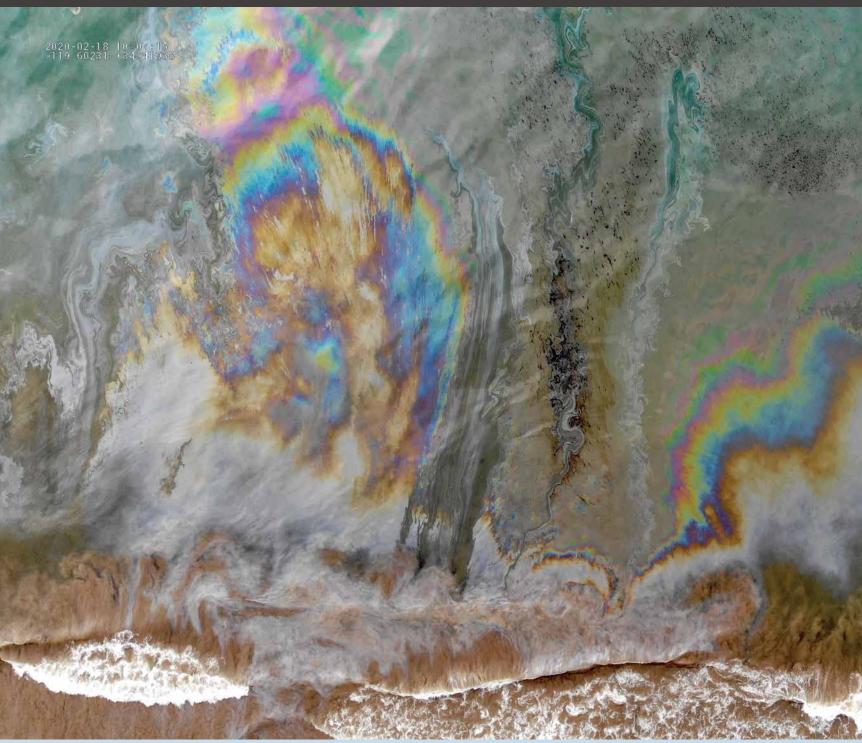
But, we recently discovered that the City Planning Department had turned down two projects with flooding or slippage issues. The property owners then sued the City, and they won. The reason? It's called "Taking" – rendering a property unbuildable is tantamount to reducing it to no value and taking the land from the owner.

So, what's the solution? Perhaps, Sea Level Rise-inundated properties will follow suit of other hazardous areas and be insurable through the CA Fair Plan. This is typically less insurance at a higher cost, but perhaps this measure could inspire effort and action.

Until then, talking in circles about a problem we know is coming (NOAA doesn't lie) is wasteful. Perhaps time would be better spent on modifying critical infrastructure (roads, railroad tracks, airports, and wastewater plants) and also revising real estate disclosure regulations.

And most of all, we must admit that the Sea is coming in, Blue Line or not.

ONE EARTH, AND HOW WE HAVE PLUNDERED IT...



NorthStar contributes oil daily to Summerland Beach (Harry Rabin/On the Wave Productions)

When it was discovered that Earth had oil among a myriad of other riches, humankind changed forever. Searching for easy profits, men rushed to dig, scrape, sluice, and extract oil from the Earth any way they could. In Southern California, wildcatters discovered oil, literally on the beach.

In Summerland, California, they built piers and pumps, and started churning the sea and digging the sand, thereby turning Summerland into an oily mess. Thinking the Earth was infinite, the wildcatters picked up their gear and moved on. Because of this disrespect for Earth, we now are cleaning up the mess they left behind. The good news is that we're getting it done.

HTO THANKS THE STATE LANDS COMMISSION

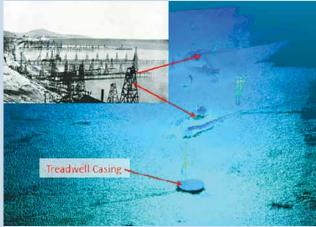
Heal the Ocean gives heartfelt thanks to the great people at the **State Lands Commission** for their one-on-one communication with us on the Summerland oil issue. Always there on the phone, always ready to work things out, it's a great public-private partnership. In particular, we thank **SLC Petroleum Drilling Engineer Steve Curran** for being there for us (the great meetings at the Nugget, Summerland!), and **Sheri Pemberton**, **SLC Chief of External Affairs and Legislative Liaison**, thank you for always answering the phone, calling us back, updating us on progress. We love it that SLC officials tell us that of all the work they do, the joy and gladness they receive from all of us in Summerland is something they don't get every day in their bureaucratic lives.

A SMALL PAYBACK? TO CLEAN UP LEAKING OIL WELLS

COMING IN OCTOBER! WATCH FOR THE OIL BOAT TO ARRIVE AGAIN IN SUMMERLAND!

A t least \$3-4 million of Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson's SB 44 money is being used to cap two, maybe three more wells on/off Summerland Beach.

Since the successful capping of Becker Well in February 2018, HTO Advisory Board member Harry Rabin has been relentless in pushing forward the next round of cleanups. Working with InterAct engineers Mike Giuliani & Eric Kroh the team mapped out the exact wells now being capped - The Big Bad Boys: Treadwell Offshore, and NorthStar ("The Ramp"). Harry's topside and underwater pictures helped locate the well infrastructure beneath the Summerland Sand.

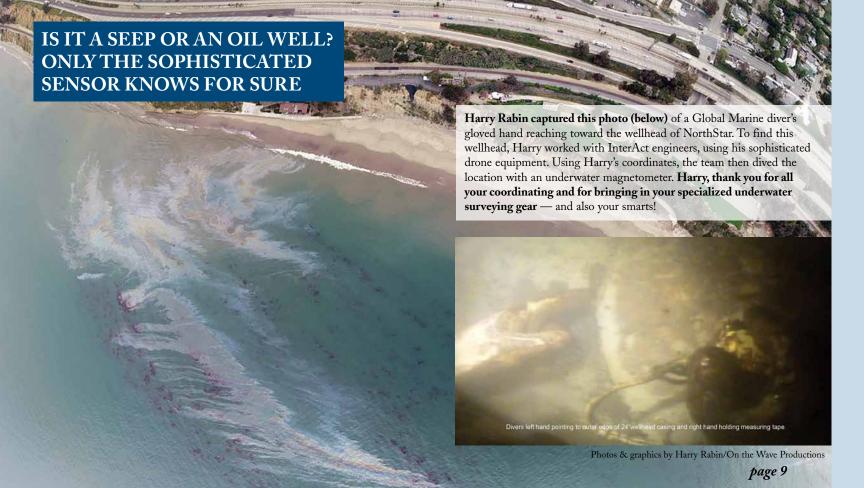


Summerland 1930s/Treadwell underwater



The Danny C arrives off Summerland Beach to bring investigative divers (photo by Nora McNeely Hurley)

Heal the Ocean remains eternally grateful to CA Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson for writing the legislation for SB 44, Coastal Hazards and Legacy Oil and Gas Well Removal and Remediation Program, and we are proud to have had a big hand in pushing this legislation through the maze of congressional approval. Last, and definitely not least, the support of Nora McNeely Hurley and her family's Manitou Fund has provided endless help with funds to add sophisticated technology to locate oil wells, to get the oil problem solved in Summerland.



CLEAN, SAFE WATER FOR ALL . . . FOR

THREATS TO THE WATERSHED FROM THE UNSHELTERED



Interactive GIS mapping and Trend Graph (below) by Harry Rabin, On the Wave Productions

Heal the Ocean began focusing on the unsheltered issue because not only is it unsafe for people to be unsheltered, but uncontained human and material waste pose a threat to the health of the creek watersheds and ocean. In April 2019 we established contact with Union Pacific Railroad to clean out a camp on Summerland Beach.

This successful cleanout seemed a big step in the right direction, but since COVID-19 hit, the unsheltered population multiplied again, exponentially. Harry Rabin, a member of the HTO Advisory Board, began to survey the camps, from Summerland to Goleta, using drones. Harry visited the camps, photographing and talking to the unsheltered about their situations while also asking them to

GROWTH-90 DAY PERIOD Trend PER/SITE OCCUPANTS and FOOTPRINT INCREASING 4/12/20 5/12/20 # of sites Population Size 1st survey 2/9/2020 3/15/2020 34 SITES 3/15/20 4/12/2020 ≈ 74 37 SITES 8.1%* 5/12/2020 2/9/2020

In May 2020 Harry Rabin presented his findings to a large sector of these public officials, and during this meeting we learned the following:

• Of the 1,800 (then) unsheltered in Santa Barbara county, approximately 70 had housing in Santa Maria High School in the north county, and it was appreciated by the guests. (That program is now suspended).

- In the south county, there were approximately 40 housed in motels.
- Many inmates within Lompoc Penitentiary with comparatively minor infractions were set free, with no halfway house provided, which has added to the unsheltered problem.

With State and County programs funding housing for the unhoused things are improving, but the first served are those who over the age of 65

with underlying health conditions. This is the metric, as a way to protect those who are currently most vulnerable to COVID-19. Heal the Ocean hopes the metric is expanded upon, and that all unhoused people receive shelter to protect both the unhoused community and the environment.

put out their fires. Both City and County fire departments, together with Public Health workers, are interested in Harry's work. His on-going surveys help the fire officials keep an eye on potential conflagrations. It also provides useful metrics for the housing and health authorities to justify ongoing efforts to house the unhoused.

Heal the Ocean thanks Nora McNeely Hurley & Manitou Fund for the funding of Harry Rabin's work on this issue.

OVER 20 YEARS HTO HAS FOUGHT FOR IT

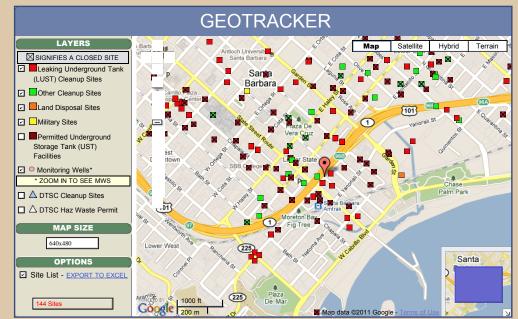
FIGHTING FOR CLEAN GROUNDWATER - BOTH SHALLOW & DEEP

SHALLOW GROUNDWATER

Before HTO, many buildings, apartments and/or low-income housing projects were built on top of polluted groundwater. In the old days, people thought the ground was solid earth, so they dumped paint, solvents and other chemicals onto the ground. These chemicals seeped through the ground and into shallow groundwater.

HTO has been working on shallow groundwater for years. After years of research on the City and County's groundwater wells and boring reports, and with approval from SB County Board of Supervisors, HTO coordinated with SB County Fire, to combine their Hazmat records with our paper records – and all of this went over to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

HTO hired intern **Sarah Treadwell** to work at RWQCB offices, digitizing the paper information,



and this work has resulted in Geotracker, a database containing all the information on contaminated properties in California. HTO extends BIG thanks to hazardous materials specialists **Paul McCaw** (now retired) and **Thomas Rejzek**, for their manning of the Regional Board's Site Mitigation department, and for their diligent work in enforcement.

DEEP GROUNDWATER

In the current days of drought, our groundwater basins are sacred sources of water – vital to sustaining all life. Some groundwater basins still have ancient water that has not been drawn upon, but others are tragically over-drafted.

Similarly, a groundwater basin that becomes polluted can never be cleaned up in its entirety. The water drawn from the basin must go through a treatment process to become potable. Among the pollution sources are agriculture (nitrates from fertilizers) and livestock. But the most insidious threat to a groundwater basin is the septic tank.

The biggest "septic cluster" and septic pollution threat in Santa

Barbara County exists among the 2,000+ septic systems in the Santa Ynez, Solvang, Los Olivos and

Ballard areas. In recent years, these communities have greatly expanded in size, putting a strain on septic

Map made in 2001 by John Robinson (1938-2011) for Heal the Ocean. Septic "clusters" in Santa Barbara County. The heaviest use is over the Santa Ynez Valley watershed; the septic systems on the south coast have been identified as polluting surface water and the ocean (Rincon, the tiny point in the bottom right corner, and its neighbors to the west, have since been converted to sewer.)

systems originally intended to support small populations. Working with the Santa **Ynez Community** Services District since 2001 on converting the Valley from septic to sewer, Heal the Ocean had made some progress getting financial help and engineering plans for the Santa Ynez Valley. Unfortunately, the area has resisted upgrading from septic to sewer, as they are fearful sewer pipes will encourage development.

CLEANUP ORDERS FOR 2019-2020

The following locations are among current orders for remediation:

10/8/2019 – 301 E. Yanonali (101 & Garden St.)/Former Agrichip Facility; Groundwater cleanup, disposal of contaminated soil, VOC remediation

2/18/2020 – 3323 State St/Loreto Plaza/Dutch Maid Dry Cleaners; VOC Vapor Intrusion, PCE groundwater pollution

3/4/2020 – 1015 De La Vina Street/ Carrillo Plaza (Former Norvell-Bass Dry Cleaners); Vapor extraction, groundwater cleanup

4/17/2020 – 201 E. Haley St./Former Ambassador Laundry; VOC intrusion

6/12/2020 – 201 E. Figueroa St./ Former Fenn Dry Cleaners; VOC intrusion

6/17/2020 – 312 & 320 No. Nopal St./ Former Tecknit & Tube Holding; Contaminated soil & Groundwater

7/6/2020 – 424 State St/Pep Boys; 1, 2, 3 TCP in groundwater

9/2/2020 - 526 Laguna St./ Printing Impressions; Soil & Vapor Intrusion

CLEANING UP THE MESS

TODAY'S COVID-19 SORROW: TRASH EVERYWHERE

HAPPIER DAYS OF BEACH CLEANUPS

The days of cheerful beach cleanups: HTO provided free t-shirts, gloves and horse-feed bags for everybody. Many groups signed up to help, and it felt good to do something for Mother Nature.









1) SBCC Group; 2) IAMC Industrial; 3) UCSB; 4) EF International

Before COVID-19 hit, Susanne
Heireling, Volunteer Coordinator of
EF International Language School,
Santa Barbara campus, established an
"Every Day is Earth Day" beach cleanup
by EF International students on US
West Coast campuses, including Hawaii,
with future global roll-out participation.



Maire Radis, HTO Advisory Board "Trash Queen" after her usual Sunday clean-up 100-200 lbs. of trash on Santa Claus Lane

uring COVID-19 lockdown/quarantine, grocery stores could not handle our reusable bags due to contamination concerns. The plastic bag ban was temporarily suspended and suddenly, plastic bags were everywhere again. This was heartbreaking!

Then, when restaurants could safely initiate takeout service, new food boxes, plastic utensils, paper and plastic cups came booming back.

Many people have gone out of their way to uphold good environmental practice despite the Pandemic, but something else seems to be happening: an overall despair that inspires a what-the-hell attitude about trash. It's piling up everywhere, at parks, along roads and trails, spilling out of trash bins at the beach, spread by seagulls and the wind.

We are battling a Pandemic, people are out of work, there are issues on their minds other than refusing a plastic bag at the store, or packing out their trash.

People seem not to care and do not want to take the time. Who has time, when things are so rough?

It's more important than ever to take time to do the right thing. What we spill, throw away, toss out the window – hurts others. Animals. Nature. People. Such carelessness is the basis of Environmental Injustice, as the opposite page of this newsletter reveals.





(LET'S NOT MAKE MORE OF IT)

WE MUST STOP WHAT WE'RE DOING

PLASTIC IS THE WORST

COVID-19 or no, there is no reason to buy plastic bottles of water. A reverse osmosis system on your kitchen sink is less expensive.



Mayo, ketchup, mustard, olive oil, and other items – are available in glass, and are often not more expensive. DITCH PLASTIC!

THE ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL INJUSTICE OF PLASTIC
For our ease in use and disposal, it all goes to developing countries to wade through



THE 3 R'S ARE NOW MANY R'S...



USE AND REUSE EVERYTHING, UNTIL THERE'S NO CHOICE BUT TO RECYCLE IT!

Photo by Brian Hodges/BrianHodgesPhoto.com





"...We've got the three R's we're going to talk about today

We've got to learn to

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle..."

©Jack Johnson, from the album Sing-A-Longs and Lullabies for the Film Curious George (Brushfire/Universal)

So begins the classic, beloved childrens' song by Jack Johnson, immortalized in his album Sing-A-Longs and Lullabies for the Film Curious George, (Brushfire/Universal). The "3 R's" became the theme song of the Recycling movement – to get with it, quit throwing things away — and now, those 3 R's have been joined by additional R's to show how we can do our part to eliminate producing waste in the first place.

With landfills reaching capacity and our natural environment being inundated by trash, it is time to make a change. Everyone can play a significant role in eliminating garbage from ever reaching the landfill or the ocean by adopting the Five R's:

- REFUSE to buy new goods, and try to use what you already have.
- **REDUCE** your waste footprint by cutting down on single-use goods like paper towels, plastic cutlery, and plastic sandwich bags. Use cloth dish towels, glass Tupperware, and reusable cutlery.
- **REUSE** materials. "Single-use" items should be reused as much as possible, whether for the same purpose or something new!
- **REPURPOSE** goods when their original use or lifespan has come to an end. Repair worn-out clothes, use an old glass jar for a drinking glass, be creative!
- RECYCLE what you can't refuse, reduce, reuse, and repurpose. When you no longer need an item, donate it to a local secondhand store so it can be used again. Recycling is so important and, in this day and age, find the recyclers who make new, usable products out of material that's been thrown into the recycle bin. Some recyclers accept textiles old clothes, bedding, rags, even shoes. Find out if your items can be recycled before tossing them into the trash bin.



Thank you, Jack, for giving us the lyrics and the inspiration, plus all the help and your deep love of the ocean

Photo credit Branden Aroyan



RESIST BUYING NEW STUFF (REFUSE!)

... & REDUCE, REUSE, REPURPOSE, RECYCLE

STYROFOAM IS NOW REPURPOSED!

HTO/MarBorg Industries Have Established a One-of-a-Kind Program Keeping Mountains of Styrofoam out of Landfills (& the Ocean)



Styrofoam baling operations at MarBorg Industries, David Love Place, Goleta

7ith giant volumes of plastic being more difficult to reuse, even when baled for recycling, we are forced to focus on materials that can be REPURPOSED made into other products.

Styrofoam is particularly nasty when it escapes into nature – and into the ocean, where sea creatures confuse it for food. In 2019 Heal the Ocean began collecting Styrofoam, to ship to a foam fabricators company in the Los Angeles area, which repurposed it into reusable products.

Then we contacted Brian Borgatello, recycling guru at MarBorg Industries, and asked him if we could buy MarBorg a foam densifying machine to bring the operation

closer to home. He said, "No, MarBorg can handle this," sent a truck to pick up all the Styrofoam we had in a rented garage, and set up a baling operation in the MarBorg recycling center at David Love Place, Goleta. Result: mountains upon mountains of foam will be kept out of the waste stream - and nature.

MarBorg has two recycling sites, where the public can drop off clean and dry Styrofoam: 20 DAVID LOVE PLACE, GOLETA and 132 NOPALITOS WAY, SANTA BARBARA

THANK YOU, BRIAN BORGATELLO, **YOU ARE OUR HERO!**

Recycled Styrofoam Becomes...











Crown Molding Post & Ceiling Beams, Floor Moldings, Mirror Frames, Door Decor, Picture Frames

WE LOVE OUR HTO DOGS!



THE PROBLEM OF ABANDONED BAGS

A few years ago, Heal the Ocean produced "There is no poop fairy" posters, to encourage people to dispose of their used doggy bags properly. Along with COVID-19 trash overload, the issue of dog bags being left on the beaches, in rocks, along trails, etc., seems to be multiplying. HERE'S THE DEAL: Improper discarding of used poop bags not only shows disrespect for the environment and other people – but your dog. Please properly dispose of your dog's poop bags in the trash can to help keep our parks, beaches, and trails clean and poop free!

DR. DAVID DAWSON – BAG PIONEER

Passon for being the first citizen-provider of free doggy bags to the community. In 2008, during the recession, Dr. Dawson pioneered a program with the City of Santa Barbara to provide doggy bags at Arroyo Burro Beach. Then, when HTO started up our dog bag program two years later, in 2010, Dawson continued on with us.



Dr. David Dawson

Today, he sponsors 10 dispensers through his two veterinary hospitals – San Roque Pet Hospital & Montecito Pet Hospital. Dawson has been honored by the Santa Barbara Independent as a "Local Hero" for working with Pets of the Homeless and for taking on Emergency Services for pets in time of need. He's a hero to Heal the Ocean, because he was the backbone upon which we started, and he stays with us to this day.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

Piease ciean up after your dog.

Dog waste doesn't biodegrade like wild animal

it contains harmful bacteria, pollutes groundwater, and smells disgusting on the bottom of a shoe.

Please help keep parks, trails and neighborhoods

free of poop piles by packing out your dog's waste

It sticks around for a long time. Meanwhile,

urrently, there are 18 County dog bag dispensers and 12 City dog bag dispensers available for sponsorship. HTO will work with you to design and print custom stickers for your dispenser, and everything else is taken care of – printing, maintenance, and stocking of bags. Your business is advertised for a full year for a reasonable cost, and you are helping to keep the environment clean!

If you are interested in sponsoring a County or City dispenser, or donating to our Dog Bag Program, please contact alison@healtheocean.org. You can also sign up for recurring monthly donations (\$5, \$10, or \$20) if you would like to be a regular contributor!

BAG HISTORY

In 2010, HTO learned that Santa Barbara County was considering dropping the annual \$23,000 price tag of stocking dog bag dispensers in the South County, so we jumped into action with our Dog Bag Program. This successful public-private partnership has grown to raise over \$30,000 annually, which keeps County and City beaches, trails, and parks clean.

HTO – A CITIZENS' ACTION GROUP BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE

From 1998 to Now: Board Members, Advisory, Staff & Worker Bees



EVENTS & OTHER HELPERS...

HTO THANKS OUR 2019 BENEFIT SPONSORS!

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Marie Morrisroe

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Francoise Park
Patsy Tisch

Alan & Kathryn Van Vliet Susan Venable & Charles Vinick Zog Industries/Fred Herzog

HTO'S 2019 BENEFIT - BEFORE THE VIRUS



Our star, Julia!

Those were the days... The great joys of being able to get together in one room to share friendship, and to celebrate as we did with Heal the Ocean's Annual Benefit on October 19, 2019 at the El Paseo Restaurant. Honorary Chair Julia Louis-Dreyfus led the show, which featured a big assortment of supporters, local politicos and wonderful friends dancing, bidding at auction, partying it up in a scene arranged by HTO Event Manager Heather Hudson and her committee – HTO Operations Coordinator Alison Thompson, Shannon Trotta and of course there was Debbie Kline who did her magic with greenery from Por la Mar Nursery. Thanks, one and all!



The scene at 2019 HTO Event

All Photos by Priscilla



COME FLY WITH US! WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF AN IMAGINARY GALA FOR 2020!

Our Fantasy Chair, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, stepped up to the Chair-plate as she always does, to participate in our Imaginary Gala 2020, which requires No Computer, No Zoom, No Virtual anything. Please join us on the Flying Whale!

Because we're having a Fantastical year, you can join in until the end of 2020!

WE LOVE THE LOVE WE GET!

OUT OF THE BLUE...GREAT GROUPS WHO SUPPORT US

TOPA TOPA BREWING COMPANY

Topa Topa Brewing Company selected Heal the Ocean as its 1% for the Planet partner from July through December 2019. For six months, HTO joined Topa Topa to host events at Topa Topa taprooms around town, and these get-togethers included film screenings, raffles, and livemusic happy hours. Big thanks to Jack Dyer, owner of Topa Topa and the whole Topa Topa team for their love and support, and for raising over \$4,000 the last six months of 2019.



Heather Hudson (wo)mans the HTO table at Topa Topa

CARBON2COBALT TEES & TRUNKS PAY TRIBUTE TO HTO

Local business Carbon2Cobalt not only makes great clothing, but they do so with the environment in mind. They reached out to HTO to ask if we'd partner on a special line of Ocean Warrior tees & trunks, all made of 100% sustainable cotton with art paying tribute to those dedicated to keeping our waters clean. Carbon2Cobalt donates a portion of net proceeds to HTO, and all in all they have raised over \$3,500 from the sale of these awesome ocean clothes.





MARCIE'S MERMAIDS SWIM

In 2019 the Santa Barbara community lost Marcie Kjoller, an accomplished water woman who supported Heal the Ocean for many years. In memory of her life and love for the ocean, friend and local marathon swimmer Rachel Horn created a relay team, "Marcie's Mermaids" (Rachel Horn, Liz Boscacci, Hilary McAvoy, Chelsea Jones, Heather Royer, & Emily Case), to swim 19 miles across the Santa Barbara Channel to raise funds for Heal the Ocean.



Marcie's Mermaids (L to R): Hilary McAvoy, Liz Boscacci, Heather Royer, Chelsea Jones, & Rachel Horn and junior mermaid!

Unexpected rough weather on swim day didn't deter them - the Mermaids switched course, and swam 19 miles along the shore at East Beach on Sunday, September 22, 2019 to raise over \$10,000 for Heal the Ocean in memory of Marcie.

SANTA BARBARA TRIATHLON

Another 2019 event in memory of Marcie Kjoller was held by the Santa Barbara Triathlon and Heal the Ocean was selected as one of four beneficiaries. On Saturday, August 24, 2019, Heal the Ocean set up a water station at the 4-mile mark, where hundreds of athletes passed by to grab water on the final leg of their 10-mile run to complete the Santa Barbara Triathlon. As the athletes came across the intersection, they were greeted by our banners, cheers,

and lots of Heal the Ocean rallying spirit. A big thank you to the Santa Barbara Triathlon for selecting Heal the Ocean as a beneficiary, and to the athletes who competed and raised money for our organization.



Alison Thompson & Heather Hudson of HTO join Heal the Ocean volunteers at the water station

1% FOR THE PLANET



We love our 1% for the Planet donors! Hoyt Tarola of Tarola Properties, Ojai, has been a consistent donor to HTO through the 1% for the Planet program, and this year was joined by Topa Topa Brewing Company, Chipper & Kelly Bell/Surfclass.com, and Patrick Marr, in selecting HTO as their 1% for the Planet partner. 1% for the Planet was founded by Yvon Chouinard (Patagonia) and Craig Mathews (Blue Ribbon Flies) in 2002 to encourage more businesses to donate 1% of sales to environmental groups. Thank you, Hoyt Tarola, Jack Dyer of Topa Topa Brewing Company, Chipper & Kelly Bell, and Patrick Marr, for supporting us through this great program!



ABOUT Heal the Ocean is a 501(c)3 non-profit focused on upgrading wastewater infrastructure as a way of cleaning up ocean pollution. НТО We are focused on Santa Barbara County, but our methods are now serving as a model for other coastal communities across the country.

With Deep Appreciation

Heal the Ocean sends its sincere thanks to these contributors who have helped assure the success of our campaign for a clean and healthy ocean. This roster records donations from 6/15/2019 - 9/8/2020, which, for some contributors, includes multiple contributions. If your name has been omitted, we sincerely apologize and ask that you please call (805) 965-7570 so that we can correct our records.

\$250,000

Nora McNeely Hurley and the Manitou Fund

\$225,000

Georgia Funsten Revocable Trust

Mystery Amount Marie Morrisroe

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in memory of Sherilyn Scranton

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Matt McGinn Francoise Park Ron & Stacy Pulice Nini & Peter Seaman Patsy Tisch in memory of Hilary Tisch Susan Venable & Charles Vinick Jonathan & Elise Wygant

MSM Construction/

In Memory of...

Kristiann Wightman

Susan Wren

Yellow Belly*

* In-Kind

Theresa Yandell

Lauren Zirbel**

in memory of Clark Alexander

Heal the Ocean cherishes each and every one of our members, and we are sad when we lose those who are dear to us. We thank those who have sent donations in memory of loved ones who have left us. We are honored to memorialize the following people in the donation pages of this newsletter.

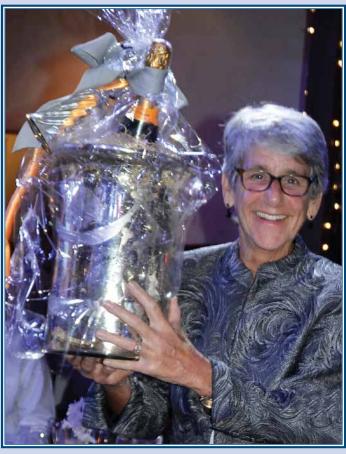
Cynthia Mobraaten & Jesse Eric Sutherland Clark Alexander Patricia Canning Rick Jorgensen Brandon Yates Ingrid O. & Chris & Tim Cutler Marcie Kjoller Carolyn Roche Hilary Tisch Doug & Yvonne Wilcox Earl (Bud) Armstrong Georgia Funsten Carson Ryan Trauntvein Frank Louda Sherilyn Scranton Rory Willett Craig Barilotti Mike deGruv Lanny Wright & Dennis Shanelec Paul H. Turpin Karin Young Shelley Merrick Eric Brown Carter Hines Tyler Skaggs Stan & Barbara Tysell The memory of these wonderful people lives on in our hearts as we work for the ocean they loved.

Iim Isaac**

Danielle Iversen**

SENATOR HANNAH-BETH JACKSON

CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE, 19TH DISTRICT, 2012-2020 CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY, 35TH DISTRICT, 1998-2004



Hannah-Beth at HTO event 2019

Photo by Priscilla

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE FOR THE CITIZENS OF CALIFORNIA. HEAL THE OCEAN THANKS YOU PARTICULARLY FOR LOVING THE OCEAN AS YOU DO.

- We thank you for bringing in \$2 million to Santa Barbara County to help homeowners get off septic systems;
- We thank you for Authoring AB 885 Septic System Regulations for California;
- We thank you for Authoring Senate Bill 44 which is bringing \$2 million per year to clean up leaking ("legacy") oil wells, including the Summerland oil mess;
- We thank you for always being there at the other end of the phone ("HBJ, this is HRH");

Your great husband, "King George," was asked how he could stand you being gone from home so much – you worked so hard! His answer: I don't want anyone else representing me in Sacramento.

Amen.

As you leave public office, we are sad, but we will be thanking you forever. We love you, HBJ.

~ From HRH and All of Us at Heal the Ocean ~

Heal the Ocean

P.O. Box 90106 Santa Barbara, CA 93190

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