

Counter-Earth, whose ically opposed orbit keeps r beyond our detection.



in certain ways:

by RUBEN BOLLING

COUNTER-EARTH, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PROVIDES NO AIDS FOR THE OIL INDUSTRY!

WOULD WE HAND PUBLIC MONEY TO RELY PROFITABLE COMPANIES WHOSE PRODUCTION CAUSES ENVIRONMENTAL CATASTROPHE?

AND CAUSES US TO BE DEPENDENT ON FOREIGN ENEMIES!

HOWEVER, COUNTER-EARTH'S U.S. GOVERNMENT IS TOTALLY IN THE POCKET OF THE RENEWABLE ENERGY INDUSTRIES!

SENATOR! I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND I SAT AT YOUR DESK!

NO! SOLAR ENERGY EXECUTIVES ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!



VERY WELL. GET A PEN. I'VE GOT AN IDEA FOR LEGISLATION.

U.S. LAVISHES HANDOUTS SUCH INDUSTRIES EVEN IF THEY HAVE PROVEN UNFITABLE ON THEIR OWN.

PEAKER, AMERICA SUFFER IF THE INDUSTRY DOESN'T TAX BREAKS, DIRECT SUBSIDIES, BIRTHDAY CHECKS...

WAIT. LET ME GET A WHEELBARROW!

AND NO SACRIFICE IN BLOOD OR TREASURE IS TOO GREAT TO ENSURE THE FLOW OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES!

SIR, WE'VE HAD FIVE CLOUDY DAYS IN A ROW!

ALERT THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF! IT'S WAR!! WE'RE INVADING MEXICO!

TO LIBERATE ITS PEOPLE!



DIST BY UNIVERSAL UCLICK SYNDICATE - 105H - 02011 R. BOLLING

www.tomthedancingpug.com

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Originally sung with feeling by Billie Holiday in 1943, accompanied by the immortal Louis Armstrong, it has been covered a thousand times and more by countless other artists. The tune "Do You Know What It Means To Miss New Orleans" is a song that most elegantly describes the pain of one who is not at home.

The lyric, credited to the songwriters Louis Alter and Harry Delange, cries: "Do you know what it means to miss New Orleans/And miss her each night and day/I know I'm wrong because the feeling's getting stronger the longer I stay away."

As I heard the tune this week on a late New York radio broadcast (performed by Harry Connick Jr.), I suddenly found myself strong longing to be back in my hometown. Not New Orleans, but Aspen, Colo.

September is the time of year when many of us local folks are far afield looking for new tastes, new experiences and new things. It is almost a ritual for us to be headed someplace to get a dose of sun or culture or just a change of scenery when the long winter sets in. After all, we just finished the long summer so we feel like if we don't get out amongst it, then we're missing out on something. It is a trait of the mountain dweller who feels like a drop in altitude and a change in climate are among life's necessities.

In fact, wanderlust is like a virus that spreads through Aspen at this time of year. Assuming the planes are flying on their usual assumption right about now!), the seats are filled with familiar faces that are getting out town — off to Hawaii, Bermuda, or some place else that is just...just...someplace else.

But I wager that many feel like me when they are on the road. No matter how special or exotic the locale may be, there's something, smell something, or in my case, hear something that reminds them of home and, if only for a minute, they want to be long to be back in the Rockies.

And that is only natural. After all, home for us who are here is enough to live here is one of the best places on earth. The smells, the sounds of living up here where the air is clean and the pace, if we allow it to be, is slow, are all things that make this a perfect place to be and while I am on the road this week, I will continue to hum the tune with apologies to Louis Armstrong and Harry, all natives of the Big Easy.

"Do You Know what it means to miss the Aspen Treasures/Do you miss them more each night and day/I know I'm not at home because the feeling's getting stronger the longer I stay away."

of horses. Takes place Sept. 16-18. Call 970-925-0561.

LY

Print Class 9 a.m. - noon, CCAH Arts, Third Street Center, Carbondale. Class Taught by: Ruth Hollowell (15 & up). Max: 12. Cost: \$75. In class, students will explore several techniques for creating original blocks for printing. Blocks will be used to print samplers with textile paints, and conclude with each student designing an original block. For more information or to register for a class, visit: www.carbondale.org. Call 970-963-1680.

Community Dance 6:30 - 10 p.m., Rio Grande Community Center, next to library plaza. 6:30-7:30 p.m. intermediate blues musicality for \$15; at 7:30 p.m. beginner blues for \$15, or take both for \$25. Open dance and social after lessons. Call 925-8536.

History Tour 1:30 - 3 p.m., 58 Redstone Ave. Visit the 1900s baronial mansion of the founder, John Cleveland, on a guided tour, offered daily, features the history and a step back into the time of the development, railroads and robber. Call 970-963-9656.

Community BBQ 4 - 7 p.m., Crown Point Park, El Jebel. Featuring live music, games and adults, and a barbecue. Bring lawn chairs. Call 970-963-

Creek Fest tickets available the day of the event for \$7.50 (adults) and \$5 (kids). A \$2.50 discount will be offered for members of the Woody Creek Community Center and trash pick-up participants. Volunteers are needed and will receive a reduced ticket price. For more information, contact Sarah Kuhn at 970-922-2342, or visit www.woodyc3.org.

Skateboard Instruction 9 a.m. - noon, Rio Grande Park, Aspen. Learn all the basic skateboarding moves in a fun and safe environment. All levels welcome. Fee for pre-registration is \$35; drop-in fee is \$45. Helmets, boards and pads required. Call 970-920-5140 for more information.

Bosom Buddies 10:30 am - noon, Aspen Birth Center, Aspen Valley Hospital, 0401 Castle Creek Road. A free support group for breastfeeding mothers. Meets weekly on Saturdays. Call 544-1130.

Spirit of Place 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., ACES at Hallam Lake, 100 Puppy Smith St. Spend a weekend at Toklat with sketchbook, pen and color, gathering images from the natural world, and writing words that illuminate the moment, reveal the natural history, and capture the timelessness of this special place. Visit www.aspensnature.org to register. Call 970-925-5756.

SUNDAY

DVT Pig Roast 4:30 - 8 p.m., Downvalley Tavern, 68 El Jebel Road, El Jebel. Featuring food, live music, beer, fun kid's stuff and more. Call 970-963-4388.

Listen Here! 3 - 4 p.m., Pitkin County Library, 120 N. Mill St. Aspen. Relay and listen to stories read

