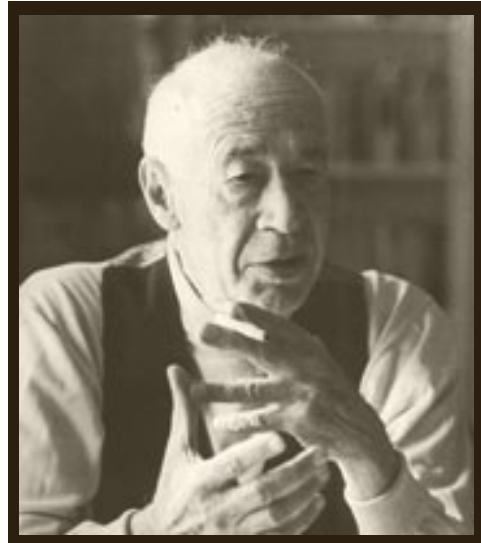


Retro profile : Henry V. Miller

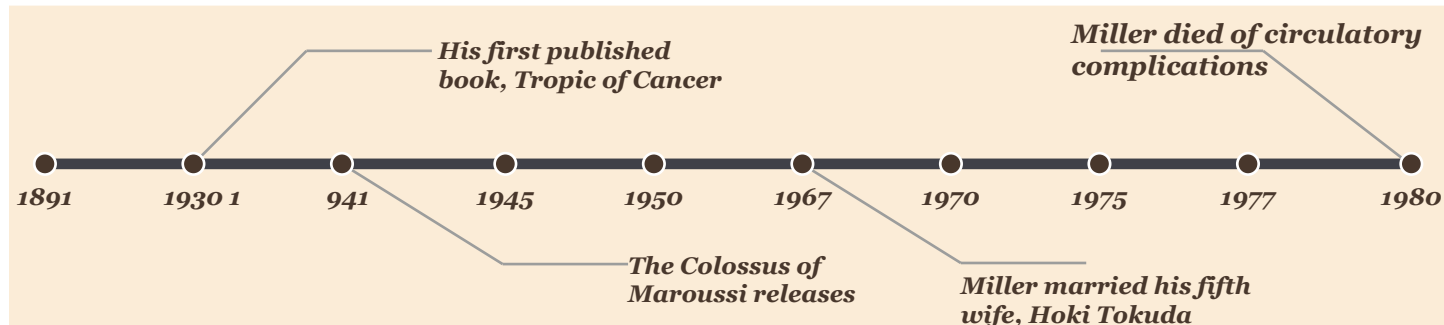
Henry V. Miller was born December 26, 1891 in Yorkville, NYC. His parents were from Germany, his mother from the north, his father from Bavaria. He lived in Brooklyn during his school years. Tried working in his father's tailor shop, here he developed his love of fine clothes. He was always a dapper dresser. His life is chronicled both by himself through his books & by his fellow authors. I think his life was remarkable in so many ways. He had to fight mediocrity and poverty, working at many mundane jobs. He started to write in his 30's, late for a writer. When he discovered Europe, particularly Paris, he became friends with writers like Anais Nin, Alfred Perles, Lawrence Durrell. In the 1930's he



wrote & published "Tropic of Cancer", "Black Spring", "Aller Retour New York", & "Tropic of Capricorn". The floodgates were open, he was a WRITER... A young Henry Miller with his parents and his sister

Lauretta. Dad lived in France, Greece, NYC, Beverly Glen, Big Sur & Pacific Palisades. He was a prolific writer, disciplined & driven to create. Painting watercolors was his way to relax, he didn't consider himself an 'artist' but loved to paint. He made thousands of paintings, gave most of them away. He also learned how to etch & make silk screens. Nuns from The Immaculate Heart School came to the house in LA & taught him how to make the silk screens.

Henry balanced the cerebral with the physical. He loved riding bicycles, he would ride out to Coney Island and he raced in the Velodrome. He was still riding in his 70's in the Palisades. He was a great



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SIERRA CLUB, HARRIS COUNTY CHAPTER
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The Peak

Location may stymie wind and solar power benefits

“Develop an interest in life as you see it; the people, things, literature, music - the world is so rich, simply throbbing with rich treasures, beautiful souls and interesting people. Forget yourself.”
Henry Miller

Wind farms and solar installations are often located in places where they will have the least impact on climate and health, a report finds. These renewable energies emit less carbon dioxide and air pollution than burning fossil fuels for electricity. But the windiest and sunniest places in the United States — such as the southwestern plains and deserts — are not always the most socially and environmentally beneficial sites for wind turbines and solar panels. The benefits, according to a study published today in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences¹, vary depending on what energy sources are being replaced. New wind and solar installations displace the most carbon dioxide and air pollutants where they replace the coal-fired plants found predominantly in eastern and Midwestern states such as Indiana and Pennsylvania. The benefits are much smaller in California and the US southwest, where cleaner gas-fired plants are more common.



Solar farm located in the valley.

“One would think it makes most sense to install the next solar panel in sunny California, because the solar resource is better there,” says Inês Lima Azevedo, an environmental engineer at Carnegie

Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and a co-author of the study. “But if we start thinking about the emissions that are displaced by adding that solar panel, the story is different: in Pennsylvania, one will be displacing old and dirty coal power plants and thus avoiding more health and environmental damages associated with the emissions from those plants.” The team calculated the power-generation capacity of thousands of wind turbines and hundreds of solar panels across the United States and evaluated the corresponding health and environmental benefits. Assuming a social cost to the environment and human health of US\$20 per tonne of carbon dioxide emitted, and \$6 million per air-pollution-caused death, the combined climate and health benefits per megawatt hour used from electricity produced by solar power range from about \$10 in Arizona, to \$100, in some northeastern

Credits

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Local Events

- June 7 & 8, 2013 - Fourth Annual John Muir Festival in Coulterville, California.
- Saturday, June 8, 2013, 10am- 5pm - Fourth Annual John Muir Festival, Coulterville Park On Highway 132 & 49, Coulterville, CA.
- SAVE THE DATE - John Muir Symposium June 21-22, 2014.

Wheat Farmer, Files Lawsuit Against Monsanto Over GMO Crop

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — Another lawsuit has been filed against seed giant Monsanto over last month's discovery of an isolated field of genetically engineered wheat in Oregon. Kansas wheat farmer Dan Brown sued Monsanto on Tuesday on behalf of himself and potentially thousands of other growers. The Seward County resident's lawsuit is seeking class-action status. It's at least the third lawsuit filed against St. Louis-based Monsanto this month over the release of the experimental wheat. Kansas farmer Ernest Brown individually sued the company, and another lawsuit seeking class-action status was filed in Washington on behalf of growers of soft white wheat. Monsanto reiterated Wednesday that none of the genetically modified wheat entered the commercial market. The company says no legal liability exists given the care undertaken, and it vowed to present a vigorous defense.



Joe's Wheat Farm

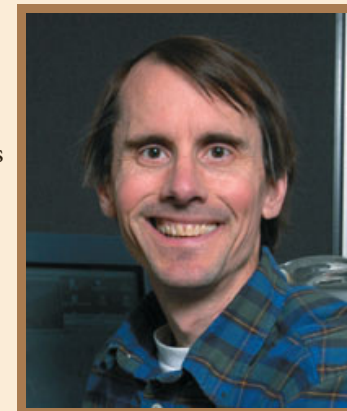
There's an app for that: can technology connect us to nature?

When we venture outdoors, many of us try to unplug from electronic devices. I don't appreciate a ringing cell phone while floating down a peaceful river, or the jarring sound of an ATV, drowning out bird calls. My recent outdoor adventures, however, have shown me that nature and technology need not be kept at a distance. This summer, right now, you and your family can take advantage of apps on mobile devices to more fully explore the great outdoors. I'll illustrate what I mean. On a recent birding trip, organized by the Birmingham Audubon Society, to seek out the elusive cerulean warbler, we drove up to Graham Farm, Paint Rock River, and the Walls of Jericho near the Alabama, Tennessee border. This elusive creature—a favorite among bird watchers and the fastest-declining warbler species in the United States—has lost three percent of its total population each year since 1966. Let me pause here to say that you do not need to travel so far afield. In the Birmingham metro area Ruffner Mountain Nature

Preserve, Moss Rock Preserve, and Oak Mountain State Park as well as local parks offer miles of trails to explore. Software developers have been successful in creating an app. for almost everything we bring along on field trips. This means important items such as an atlas, maps, flashlights, nature guides, binoculars, and survival guides— all now available as applications on mobile phones. Best of all, we no longer have to bring along these Oh, don't let me forget to mention that we used the app to play the cerulean warbler's song. We did hear the birds call from high in the woods twice, but only one accomplished birder in the group caught a glimpse of the elusive Cerulean warbler. A word of caution—use these apps discretely. Repeatedly playing a recording of birdsong or calls can divert a territorial bird from important duties, such as feeding its young. In retrospect, I shouldn't have been surprised by the use of apps for nature exploration. I make my books available as traditional print books, ebooks, and enhanced books with embedded video clips and high definition photographs. When I first started writing, I did not visualize how my print books would become an integral part of the new digital world media. Yet when

Profile: Mark Mattson

Mark Mattson's vigor as a researcher matches his strict physical regime. Here he talks about how limiting calories might protect the aging brain—and help create a healthy researcher. "But if we start thinking about the emissions that are displaced by adding that solar panel, the story is different: in Pennsylvania, one will be displacing old and dirty coal power plants and thus avoiding more health and environmental damages associated with the emissions from those plants." The team calculated the power-generation capacity of thousands of wind turbines and hundreds of solar panels across the United States and evaluated the corresponding health and environmental benefits. Assuming a social cost to the environment and human health of US\$20 per tonne of carbon dioxide emitted, and \$6



million per air-pollution-caused death, the combined climate and health benefits per megawatt hour used from electricity produced by solar power range from about \$10 in Arizona, to \$100, in some northeastern states, the researchers estimate. If there's one thing everyone agrees on about Mark Mattson, it's that he's thin. At 5 feet 9 inches and 125 pounds, Mattson is so scrawny that some colleagues say they fear for his health. "We're worried as hell," says Caleb Finch, an expert in aging research at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. "This guy has no reserves." Mattson, who religiously exercises and monitors his diet, has no such qualms about his wellbeing. Indeed, his own research at the US National Institute on Aging backs up the benefits of his lifestyle. As chief of the institute's Laboratory of Neurosciences, he has most recently carved out a niche exploring why animals placed on a drastic diet defy aging and the brain's

