$250,000 check targets lands official

ELECTION 2004
Seattle environmentalist funds campaign drive to unseat Sutherland

BY DAVID PORTIER
Seattle Times newsfront political reporter

A wealthy Seattle environmental activist is giving $250,000 to fund a campaign to oust state Lands Commissioner Doug Sutherland from office. Sutherland, a Republican, has battled Sutherlands in Washington state and a major environmental-law firm.

On Wednesday, Peter Goldman, one of the largest check writers this year to help a single candidate, going to an independent group he helped form called Citizens Protecting our Environment — a building industry and administration Friday to the state Public Disclosure Commission.

Goldman, one of the top Democratic donors in Washington state and a major environmental philanthropist, has battled Sutherland in court and before state boards as a supporter of major transportation projects on state-owned forests and tighter regulations on private timberland.

The series and slideshow online: seattletimes.com/Environment

Shifting fortunes | Pain and gain in the global economy

Cup by cup, coffee fuels world market

FOR BARNES

SEATTLE TIMES SPECIAL REPORT | America’s dependence on foreign workers is as basic as our morning cup of coffee. And nowhere is coffee more a part of daily life than in Starbucks’ hometown of Seattle. With every latte, consumers become players in the global economy and influence livelihoods and government policies around the world.

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Guard unit to deploy from lockdown to war zone

DONELLY

Capt. Glen Westfall, a Marine from Lynnwood, Wash., was killed in action in Iraq on July 20. The 635 soldiers of 1st Battalion, 178th Field Artillery, are returning from their tour of duty.

BEEN THERE, DONE THAT

During their tour, soldiers of 1st Battalion, 178th Field Artillery, faced challenges facing other Guard and Reserve units co-led together and headed into danger.

BY TIMOTHY RIDGES
The Washington Post

PORT FORD, N.J. — The 635 soldiers of 1st Battalion, 178th Field Artillery were deployed to Iraq in November, but now they are returning from their deployment.

THEN THERE was a quick confrontation between members of the battalion’s Alpha- and Charlie platoons that threatened to turn into a brawl involving three dozen soldiers and required the base police to intervene.

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THEN THERE was a quick confrontation between members of the battalion’s Alpha- and Charlie platoons that threatened to turn into a brawl involving three dozen soldiers and required the base police to intervene.
A coffee bean goes through a complex sequence of harvesting, processing and roasting before it reaches your cup.

### From field to cup

#### Picking

Coffee beans on the tree are called cherries, and they are stripped from trees and dried on the plant before being collected. The green, unripe beans, unfermented, are picked from the tree by hand. Once picked, the cherries are left to ferment in the field for several days. The cherries are then washed to remove pulp, leaving the beans semi-dried and ready for processing.

#### Sorting

For gourmet coffee, the cherries are sorted to ensure only the highest-quality beans are selected. The cherries are sorted based on size, color, and cleanliness. Any beans that are damaged, sun-burned, or diseased are removed. The beans are then dried further to reach the desired moisture content.

#### De-pulping

The beans are further dried until the moisture content is low enough to turn the beans red and remove the outer skin. The beans are then de-pulped by running them through machines that separate the beans from the outer skin.

#### Fermenting

After de-pulping, the beans are fermented in tanks where enzymes break down the natural sugars and starches in the beans. The fermentation process helps to develop the flavor of the coffee.

#### Roasting

The beans are then roasted in large rotating cylinders. The temperature and time of roasting are critical to developing the desired flavor and aroma. Roasting changes the beans from green to brown and gives them the characteristic flavor and aroma of coffee.

### The coffee crisis

Coffee is the world's No. 2 commodity, after oil. The most recent annual harvest produced 6.7 billion pounds.

In Central America, the higher-quality arabica beans that are used to make gourmet coffee have been affected by a crisis that has forced scores of farmers to switch to lower-quality beans. The crisis has been driven by a glut in the global coffee market, which has led to a decrease in demand for arabica beans.

The coffee market is dominated by blends and instant coffees. Roasters are shifting away from arabica beans to lower-grade unwashed arabica beans, which are grown in hotter, wetter, lower-altitude regions and yield lower-quality coffee.

### Rising demand has been catalyst

to Tree-Rio farm make their way through an elaborate interna-
tional supply chain to reach your cup.

Three pickers from Panama traveled four days by foot, ferry and bus to reach Santa Elena farm in Costa Rica. The workers told the farm's owner, Luz Marina Trujillo, that they want to return for next year's harvest despite the arduous journey.

### Pain and gain in the global economy

Around the world, coffee beans provide a living for about 25 million farmers, many of whom have never tasted espresso. Their daily earnings amount to the cost of a few lattes.
For generations of Costa Ricans, picking coffee has been something of a rite of passage, regardless of their social standing.

As payment for the day’s harvest at Bella Vista Tres Rios, Costa Rican Marlia Alcina Acuña and her husband, operative of the pickers buckets by supervisor Edén Villalobos. Workers earn $5 to $15 a day.

The hands shift and blurred from the rain (honey) of the coffee honey. Andrea Gustavo Solano, UTP, spent a Saturday working at Bella Vista Tres Rios with her family.

Aracea Alejandra Romo-U. 67, uploads coffee beans from one pile to another on a pants at Bella Vista. They are an extra dry. His take-home pay is about $80 a week.

COSTA RICA AT A GLANCE

Profile: Costa Rica, considered a developing nation, is the political and economic center of Central America. It has a century-old democracy and the region’s highest per capita gross domestic product, $1.10. By comparison, the U.S.GDP is $57,000.

Geography: Costa Rica, whose coastal plains are divided by mountains and volcanoes, is slightly smaller than West Virginia. Its population density is 2.9 per square mile. Corners: Although its area is only 18,100 square miles, Costa Rica, 96 percent, almost as high as the U.S. rate of 96 percent. Once fully dried, beans are left in the sun to dry evenly. His take-home pay is about $80 a week.

Temperatures average 65 to 85 degrees year-round. The country’s Pacific coast. The next month, the coffee is washed, sorted, dried and cooled. The beans are then ready for shipment.

Good picking.

At Santa Elena, the Panamanian border of Costa Rica, a man stands. The beans are loaded from the truck into a wash station, then into a bagging station. The beans are then sorted by quality and roasted by a roaster’s ware. Various grades of coffee are produced in Costa Rica. The coffee is sold to wholesalers and retailers and is roasted by the buyers.

Alvaro Azofeifa Fonseca, 67, shovels coffee beans from one pile to another on a pants at Bella Vista. They are an extra dry. His take-home pay is about $80 a week.

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