

Newsletter

NGO Sustainability, Inc.



In Consultant Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council

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Board Member

Jesse Pichel



Jesse Pichel joined ROTH Capital Partners in June 2013 as Managing Director in Investment Banking. Prior to joining ROTH, Mr. Pichel was a Managing Director, Global Head of Clean Technology Research for Jefferies Group Inc. Jesse has 19+ years of capital markets experience and is recognized as one of the first research analysts to focus on Solar and New Energy Technologies. He co-founded Piper Jaffray's CleanTech practice in 2004, and previously worked at Needham and Company and Unterberg Towbin as a Research Analyst in the Semiconductor, Electronic Manufacturing, and Emerging Technology sectors. Mr. Pichel has received numerous stock picking and earnings accuracy awards including those given by Institutional Investor (II), Forbes, FT/StarMine, and has been ranked as a top analyst and "Top Gun" by the The Wall Street Journal Best on the Street Analyst Survey. He was ranked as a top analyst in the 2012 II All American Team for Alternative Energy, and was runner up two times previously. Mr. Pichel is on the board of other non-profits promoting Sustainability and the Environment. Mr. Pichel earned his B.S. from Cornell University, and his MBA from Fordham University.

Earth Day Announcement: There is no planet b for us.

Congressman Jim Himes



As we celebrated Earth Day, let's remember this day is not only about preserving our environment but it is also about remembering we all live on this planet together. There is no planet b for us. With warming temperatures, rising ocean levels and extreme and dangerous weather patterns, we are reminded daily of the crisis before us and that we must face it head on. **Climate change is real** and it is one of the biggest global threats to all of us. **Our divisions and differences are meaningless in the face of this.** That's why I'm thankful to see newer and younger voices rising up to address our global problems as we work to fight climate change together. We need every voice speaking up and taking action now. For my part, I'm advocating for sound environmental policies and meaningful action to combat climate change, and I'm asking you to continue to speak out, loudly, on just how big and important this issue is. I'm confident we can turn things around and preserve our beautiful planet for future generations by working together to protect our environment and move toward clean energy solutions.

We have to act now for a healthy and sustainable future.

“Costa Rica Has a Green New Deal, Too. It Matters for the Whole Planet.”

Somini Sengupta



Photo Credit: Celia Talbot Tobin

President Alarado of Costa Rica admits that climate change is “the greatest task of our generation” and sees no point in waiting for more powerful countries to act first. The country’s climate action agenda includes revamping the transportation and implementing new waste treatment plants as well as recycling and composting systems. Costa Rica as “the green pioneer” does face fiscal challenges as the plan’s initial estimate has a \$6.5 billion price tag in the next 11 years alone. Currently, tax collection is poor, powerful industries are tax exempt, and government debts have escalated. Fixing the country’s fiscal health will be a prerequisite to the ambitious green projects.

Link to Article:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/12/climate/costa-rica-climate-change.html>

“A Green Real Deal, for Real Results Soon.”

Thomas L. Friedman

The President is urging Republicans not to kill the Green New Deal, not because he wants to implement it but

because he wants to run against it in 2020. The GND, co-sponsored by Senator Ed Markey of Massachusetts and Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez calls for an urgent deep-decarbonization of the electric grid, transportation sector, industries and buildings in the U.S. AOC rejoinder: “For everyone who wants to make a joke about that, you may laugh, but your grandkids will not.”



Photo Credit: David McNew/ Getty Images

Thomas L. Friedman points to another solution that many believe is more plausible- the **Green Real Deal** proposed by Ernie Moniz, Obama’s energy secretary and Andy Karsner, George W. Bush’s assistant energy secretary for renewable energy. It involves every state adopting its own version of the S.B. 100 approved in California last year. S.B 100. Was spearheaded by Senator Kevin de León and mandated that power companies steadily increase their carbon-free electricity to reach 100% by 2045. The deal offered a direct plan and gained broad support.

Link to Article:

https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/09/opinion/trump-2020-green-deal.html?rref=collection%2Fbyline%2Fthomas-l.-friedman&action=click&contentCollection=undefined®ion=stream&module=stream_unit&version=search&contentPlacement=1&pgtype=collection

“We Can’t Wait for Washington. It’s time for a Connecticut Green Economy.”

Lori Brown



Photo Credit: Hartford Courant

Connecticut’s Green Economy Act (formerly known as Connecticut’s Green New Deal) could be a game-changer if it holds true to a simple purpose: to promote an equitable transition to 100 percent clean, renewable energy by 2050 or sooner. A truly green economy would also promote equity, lower emissions, invest in energy infrastructure, support resiliency efforts and be accountable to the public. GEA should include a guiding body to ensure these proposals are working as intended, that no community is left behind, and that we are making the necessary progress to fight climate change.

Link to Article:

<https://www.courant.com/opinion/op-ed/hc-op-brown-green-economy-20190411-2zuqghy5vngcjbssobq3x6nya-story.html>

“Norwalk Man Launched Nation’s First Hybrid Cargo Vessel.”

Pat Tomlinson

On April 12, 2019, the nation’s first hybrid cargo vessel was unveiled to the public in Mamaroneck, N.Y., and the moment could mark a turning point in efforts to curb

carbon emissions and reduce congestion. The ship, named Harbor Harvest, is an emission-free, lithium-battery-powered catamaran that will serve as the backbone of an eco-friendly farm-to-table distribution network between New York and Connecticut. The vessel can hold the equivalent of three to five full trucks, reducing a potential nine-hour truck trip between Huntington, N.Y., on Long Island to Norwalk to about 45 minutes by water, according to owner Bon Kunkel.



Photo Credit: Erik Trautmann / Hearst Connecticut Media

Link to Article:

<https://www.thehour.com/news/article/Norwalk-man-launches-nation-s-first-hybrid-13765479.php>

“With Models on the Floor, Mainstream Automakers Debut Their Electric Slide”

Jack Ewing

2019 will be a decisive year for electric mobility. At the Geneva International Motor Show, dozens of electric cars took over the display, parading that range is the new horsepower and sustainability as the new status symbol.



Photo Credit: Samuel Zeller

From vegan leather interiors to relief of oil changes, the battery-powered vehicles on show offer an attractive alternative gas guzzlers. Electric motors make very little noise and the battery packs provide low center of gravity, helping glue the car to the road. All the more, electric vehicles already on the road are have proven to hold their value very well, allowing carmakers to offer attractive leasing terms because they know the cars will command a good resale price.

Link to Article:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/10/business/electric-cars-geneva-auto-show.html>

“In Denmark, Teaching Chefs a New Way to Lead.”

Julia Moskin

The influential Danish nonprofit, MAD, announced its latest project to teach chefs from around the world to be more sustainable, humane, and responsible. Since its creation in 2011, MAD has gathered chefs, farmers, academics, and activists to Copenhagen every two years to address the industry’s endemic problems from climate change and food waste to its history of sexism, racism, and violence. Funding for the educational pursuit is backed by the Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark who believe that sustainability should be at the forefront of any business or organization.



Photo Credit: Jason Idris

Link to Article:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/12/dining/denmark-mad-culinary-academy.html>

“New York Will Reduce Its Fleet by 1,000.”

Katie Honan



Photo Credit: New York City

New York City plans to reduce its fleet of official vehicles by 1,000, by June, 2021, to decrease emissions and ease congestion, and save the city \$21 million over two years, according to the Department of Citywide Administrative Services.

Link to Article:

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/new-york-city-will-cut-its-fleet-of-vehicles-by-1-000-11553817725>

“FP&L to Build Largest Solar Battery”

Russell Gold

Florida Power & Light said it plans to build the world’s largest battery, collecting electricity from solar panels during the day and discharging it as needed during periods of high power demand. It is expected to be operational in Manatee County on Florida’s Gulf Coast by 2021, and would, when fully charged, be able to provide 409 megawatts of electricity for two hours,

enough by FPLs estimates to power about 329,000 average Florida homes. The falling cost of lithium-ion batteries has made these projects increasingly competitive.



Photo Credit: Florida Power & Light

Link to Article:
<https://www.wsj.com/articles/florida-power-light-to-build-worlds-largest-solar-powered-battery-system-11553783071>

“ASES 2019 Solar Conference ”

ASES Solar

The 2019 ASES SOLAR conference is set to the theme of “Race to Renewables,” or the race against time to take urgent climate action through the use of renewable energy.



Photo Credit: Rudy Balasko

“The actions we take today are critical in ensuring a safe and sustainable world for everyone, both now and in the future.” Join the conference between August 5-9 at the 48th Annual National Solar Conference in Minneapolis, MN to learn about how we can apply these strategies in the real world.

Link to Article:
<https://www.ases.org/conference/>

“88 Pounds of Plastic Found Inside Dead Whale in Philippines.”

Daniel Victor



Photo Credit:AFP/Getty Images

The largest collection of plastic inside an animal was found in a beached whale in the Philippines. The 88 pounds of plastic found inside the whale gave it a false sensation of fullness without providing any of the nutrients needed, resulting in reduced weight, energy, swimming speed, and death.

Link to Article:
<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/18/world/asia/whale-plastics-philippines.html>

“Stamford Plastic Bag ban Starts May 3.”

Angela Carella



Photo Credit: RJ Scofield

The ban on plastic bags begins May 3rd. According to National Geographic, four out of five bags are non-biodegradable plastic, and 500 billion, perhaps as many as 1 trillion, are used each year worldwide. The U.S. government has never regulated plastic bags, so cities, counties, and stores are taking it upon themselves. The Sierra Club has reported that fewer than 5 percent of the 100 billion plastic bags used in the United States each year are recycled. “It will take a while to get used to,” Cingari said, “and then it will become second nature.”

Link to Article:

<https://www.stamfordadvocate.com/local/article/Stamford-s-plastic-bag-ban-starts-May-3-13781662.ph>

“Lose the Plastic in Your Life.”

Steven Kurutz

Plastic-free goes far beyond ditching the straws. Once you realize the plastic problem, you see it everywhere: jars of nut butter, bags of grapes, bottles of soap, tubes of toothpaste, the list goes on. A great way to start losing the plastic in your life is to look for food that is either free of packaging or is contained in paper or glass. Taking the time to research where you can grind your own peanut butter and refill your glass jars with products will help you get on track with your green goals.

Link to Article:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/16/style/plastic-free-living.html>

“One Thing You Can Do: Weatherize Your Home.”

Eduardo Garcia

Research firm Rhodium Group noted that increased demand for residential heating contributed to a 3.4 percent rise in United States carbon dioxide emissions in 2018. Instead of raising the heat in your household, experts recommend hiring an energy auditor who can access your home's insulation. Some utility companies will send auditors free of charge or offer rebates. In the end, fixing the insulation in your home can be quite cost-effective and help reduce your carbon footprint.

Link to Article:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/23/climate/climate-fwd-weatherize-your-home.html>

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