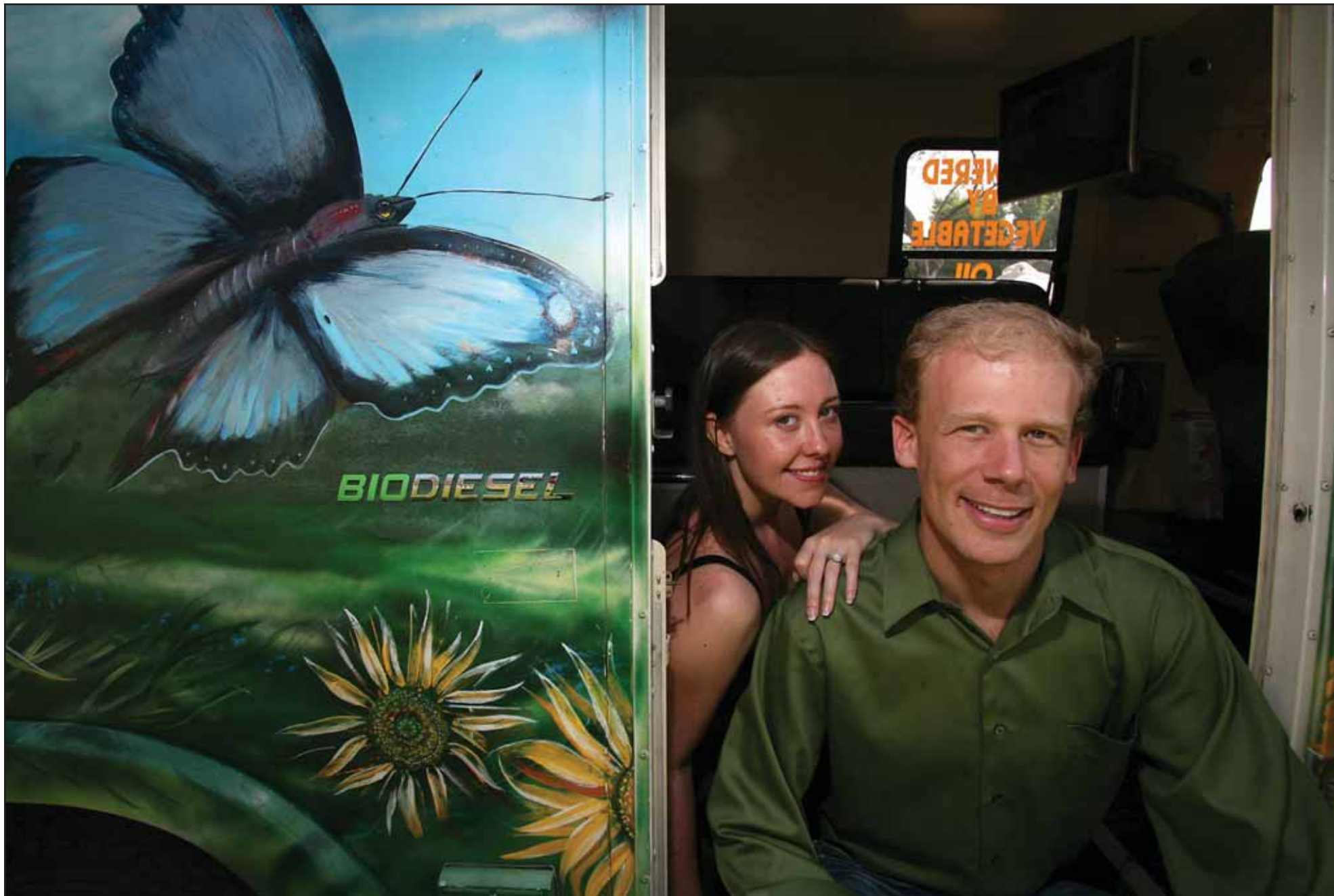


# HOW GREEN IT IS

Documentarians explore the green life through film and travel

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COURIER photo/Steven Felschundneff

Josh Tickell and his wife Rebecca Harrell Tickell combined their talents to create the film Fuel a documentary about America's oil dependence and some of the emerging alternative fuels. They were at Pitzer College talking about the the many green options available in the world today.

## On the road again



COURIER photo/Steven Felschundneff

Claremont resident Mary Karr takes her dog Baby for a ride on her wheel chair Friday near Claremont Boulevard. Ms. Karr takes her dog on walks around the industrial park, although she admits both ride most of the way.

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Jude Kieda soon realized her interest in the Chinese language would get her far in this world  
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AYSO girls select soccer team has plans to hold fundraiser for national competition  
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A biodiesel van and an algae-fuel Toyota Prius are on display Saturday during a screening party for the film *Fuel* at Pitzer College  
 COURIER photos/Steven Felschundneff

## Green bandwagon makes stop at Pitzer College



Michael McOmber cleans the floor of the Big Green Energy Bus on Saturday just before the screening party for the film *Fuel* at Pitzer College.

**P**itzer College was the latest stop on a long journey for Josh Tickell. For many years, the environmental activist has traveled around the world searching for solutions to the world's dependence on oil and has shared his findings with anyone willing to hear his message along the way.

On Saturday, Mr. Tickell and his wife Rebecca Harrell Tickell displayed their 3 green vehicles on the center of campus and screened their film *Fuel* at Pitzer's new George C.S. Benson Auditorium.

The vehicles included "the Algaeus," a Toyota Prius that runs on fuel mixed with algae gasoline and gets about 150 miles to the gallon. Extra electrical batteries allow the vehicle to run for the first 25 to 30 miles of any journey before requiring any gasoline.

"On a recent trip from San Diego to Los Angeles, we used a grand total of one gallon of gasoline," Ms. Tickell said.

Another vehicle on display was a colorfully painted Winnebago Lesharo, also known as the "Veggie Van." With a traditional diesel fuel engine, the van runs on biodiesel fuel that Mr. Tickell said outperforms gasoline and conventional diesel in reducing



Rupert Grant shows his son Isaiah Grant the bank of batteries in the trunk of a special algae fuel Toyota Prius on Saturday at Pitzer College. The vehicle was part of a screening party for the film *Fuel* which included a question and answer session with the filmmakers.

carbon dioxide emissions.

In the late 1990s, Mr. Tickell drove his "Veggie Van" across the country over a 2-year period to educate America about the use of biodiesel. Along the way, he re-fueled at fast food restaurants rather than gas stations, taking used cooking oil to power his van.

The third vehicle was their educational "Big Green Energy Bus" with 19 solar panels on the roof and displays inside showing how alternative energy works.

After learning about the vehicles, the crowd at Pitzer College watched a screening of the film *Fuel*, winner of the audience choice award for best documentary at the Sundance Film Festival.

*Fuel* touches on the growing disparity between oil consumption and availability, and U.S. energy policy-making and looks at how experts are searching for alternative energy sources. To coincide with the film's release in 2008, the Tickells drove the Algaeus

from California to New York, stopping in Washington DC to meet with legislators about their project.

The couple and their "green team" of volunteers regularly tour schools, college campuses and anywhere else where they can inspire and educate others.

"It's time to move away from negative conversations on sustainability and focus on the underlying message to remind people about the need to focus on solutions," Ms. Tickell said. "There isn't one silver bullet solution. What we need to do is take the best of all of these alternative fuels and unite them for a better way of using energy and a better way of living."

— Tony Krickl