



stanislaus CONNECTIONS

Working for peace, justice and a sustainable future

A MODESTO
PEACE/LIFE
CENTER
PUBLICATION

NOVEMBER, 2021
VOLUME XXX, NO. 3

9/11 at 20: Our Moral Obligation After Two Decades of War

First, Washington needs to stop killing people. Next, we have to challenge our nation's assumptions and priorities.

**By REV. DR. WILLIAM J. BARBER II
& TOPE FOLARIN**

From Common Dreams

The day after President Biden's speech defending the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, a new poll indicated a significant majority of people in the U.S.

supported the move. More than two-thirds agreed the U.S. had failed to achieve its goals in Afghanistan. That's a far cry from the 88 percent who supported the war when it was launched in October 2001.

In part, this is a movement victory.

Movements against the war on terror emerged within days of the 9/11 attacks, even before the first U.S. bombers assaulted Kabul. This rising anti-war drumbeat played a major part in pulling public opinion away from support for Washington's "forever wars." It

wasn't a given that Biden would pull out of Afghanistan—other presidents have promised to do so and then failed. This time, there is no question that public opposition to the war was critical to Biden's decision.

That shift also shows that people across the U.S. have learned some harsh realities that anti-war activists mobilized around for years.

Americans now agree there is no military solution to terrorism. They recognize that governments and military forces that are created and imposed by occupying armies will never be, and never be seen as, fighting for the people or the country, but only as fighting for an unwelcome foreign government. They've come to accept that women's rights and democracy can't be won, and that terrorism can't be defeated, by acts of war.

And most of all we've all learned that the costs of war—human, moral, and economic—are simply too high.

President Biden was right to focus the country's attention on the staggering economic cost of the war he was ending—more than \$2 trillion, just for the war in Afghanistan, he reminded us. That translates to \$300 million every day for two decades.

And that's just a small part of our government's staggering spending on the militarization of our society during these 20 years of the war on terror. The National Priorities Project at the Institute for Policy Studies has calculated that cost at \$21 trillion. Beyond the trillions spent on the military around the world, it includes spending on militarizing police and U.S. borders, as well as domestic surveillance and repression.

For a fraction of that cost, we could create millions of well-paying jobs, guarantee every child access to pre-school, transform our electrical grid to clean energy, and pay for vaccines for entire populations of low-income countries—all of which would have made us far safer than going to war.

Most of all we've all learned that the costs of war — human, moral, and economic — are simply too high.

And then there's the human cost. According to the Costs of War Project at Brown University, the war in Afghanistan killed 170,000 Afghans. All told, 900,000 people have been killed in the post-9/11 wars overall, with the largest share in Iraq. And those are conservative estimates. Millions more have been injured and tens of millions more displaced, forced from their homes and too often from their country.

Finally, there is the moral and political cost. Neither the war of choice in Afghanistan nor the other wars that followed should have happened. Afghanistan was about vengeance, not justice, Iraq was fought for oil and power and bases, not for non-existent weapons of mass destruction... Yet our presidents waged these wars, and our Congress funded them, year after year. Countless lives have been lost or destroyed, and our democracy has been weakened in the process.

continued page 11

KCBP Radio Receives the MAMA 2021 Lifeline Award

By JAMES COSTELLO

On Tuesday, October 19, 2021, KCBP 95.5 FM, your community, all-volunteer, radio station received the Modesto Area Music Association's 2021 MAMA Lifeline Award for its contribution to the local music.

KCBP's General Manager, James Costello, and Jocelyn Cooper, Development Director, gratefully thank Chris Murphy, Middagh Goodwin and the Modesto Area Music Association for this prestigious award! And a shout-out goes to all KCBP's dedicated volunteers who make this community, non-profit station possible. THANK YOU!

As many of our listeners know, KCBP plays mostly music from many of our very talented artists and musicians. But KCBP needs much more local music. So, all music makers out there; send KCBP your music! Contact Jim Costello, jimcostello@mac.com for details.

See a list of some of KCBP's unique programming on p. 10.



INSIDE CONNECTIONS

LOCAL	2
THE ORWELL TRAP	3
PEACE ESSAY CONTEST	4
THE MODESTO BEE	5

SAVE THE VOTE!	6-7
GOOD INTENTIONS	8
GATHERING OF VOICES	9
KCBP RADIO	10
COST OF WAR	11

READERS! Sign-up for our e-edition!

Get the latest e-edition of Stanislaus Connections delivered right into your email box!

Can enlarge text to read more easily! Print out if desired!

To sign-up, send your email address to Jim Costello, jcostello@igc.org

If you do not have Adobe Reader, download it free from <http://www.adobe.com/downloads/>

Modesto needs a Police Review Commission with an Independent Police Auditor

A Civilian Review Committee composed of representatives from various community organizations, including the Modesto Peace/Life Center, has prepared specific proposal documents, modeled upon the City of Davis' successful police review process, which have been sent to each member of the Modesto City Council. Please contact your councilmember and urge support for a Civilian Police Review Board with an Independent Police Auditor To receive a copy of these documents, email Jim Costello, jcostello@igc.org

A Community Forum on Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement for Modesto, with recognized experts on this issue, was held on February 27, 2021. Watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=39G3jn10uHU>

Supported by the following groups: Modesto/Stanslaus NAACP, ACLU Stanislaus, Latino Community Roundtable, North Valley Labor Federation, Modesto Peace/Life Center,



Faith in the Valley, Democratic Women's Club of Stanislaus, Valley Improvement Projects, Indivisible Stanislaus, Turlock Black Lives Matter Movement, Stanislaus & Tuolumne Central Labor Council, United Domestic Workers of America UDW/AFSCME 3930, Advocates for Justice, DSA Stanislaus, Modesto Church of the Brethren.

ACTION: Get your local organization to sign on to this effort. How? Email Jim Costello at jcostello@igc.org for information.

Follow closely "Forward Together"— An initiative focused on police-community relations started by the City of Modesto at <https://www.modestogov.com/forwardtogether>. And watch for news about Sheriff Dirkse's "Project Resolve."

Annie Needs Your Help

By JOSEPH HOMER and FAMILY

Our dear sister Annie was involved in a serious car accident recently. It's a miracle that she's alive. Annie suffered severe traumatic brain injury, other bodily injuries, and is in a coma.

She was rushed to UC Davis Medical and is receiving great care in the ICU. Although she is stable for the time being, her condition remains unpredictable.

She will be in the ICU for at least three weeks, and after that, she will be in the hospital for at least six months. We don't know what sort of longer-term rehabilitation she will need.

We ask that you please pray for Annie and keep her in your thoughts. We have set up a gofundme page at <https://gofund.me/07878b7d>

If you can donate towards medical expenses, other costs of care, or mom and dad's living expenses while they take care of Annie, we will be eternally grateful. We are unsure of the total financial burden.

Annie is a beautiful bright light in the lives of her family, friends, her work and everywhere she's lived and been. We love and miss her very much. She loves taking care of her animals, gardening, adventuring, and she brightens up every room. She's vibrant, caring, and beautiful. Annie was born and raised in Oakdale but has been living in the Sacramento area the last few years on a farm. She loves her family members, her mom and dad, her brothers Joe, Mike and Jimmy, her sisters Emily and Katie, and her boyfriend, Hunter.

Please support us in helping her on the road to recovery.



The Youth Navigation Center of Stanislaus is OPEN!

The YNC will provide shelter, housing and comprehensive drop-in services to any youth or young adults in Stanislaus County between the ages of 13-25, experiencing crisis, housing instability and/or homelessness.

Programs and Services

Hutton House: Emergency shelter and drop-in center for teens 13-17. Services include: overnight stay, showers, meals, laundry, resources, referrals, and individual or family meetings.

Pathways: Transitional living program for young adults 18-24. Residents live in a dorm-like setting while working on financial, job, and life skills with the goal of permanent housing.

Low Barrier Emergency Shelter: First of its kind, youth-centered shelter in Stanislaus County for young adults 18-24. The shelter has 24 beds that individuals can reserve for up to 90 days at a time.

Telecare Drop-In Center: Drop-in center for young adults 18-25. Includes access to facilitated support groups, one-on-one emotional support, referrals and resources, computers, and recreational activities.

Outreach and Navigation: Services for youth and young adults 13-25. Includes referral linkage, helping youth obtain vital documents, support in meeting immediate needs, and entry into the Coordinated Entry System.

Housing Services: Services include landlord engagement, housing location, and case management services to keep youth housed.

Telecare Behavioral Health: Provides mental health services to youth ages 18-25. Members will be provided mental health services, case management, medication support and crisis intervention.

Need help? Call 209-527-1441, 24/7 Helpline. <https://www.yncstanislaus.org/>



"The Great Valley We've Never Known: A Geological Journey Through Time"

WHO: Presenter - Garry Hayes

WHEN: Friday, November 19, 2021

WHERE: College Ave. United Church of Christ, 1341 College Ave., Modesto 95350

Snacks and socializing, 6:45 PM, Program begins at 7:00 PM

95% of the Great Valley has been developed, but many of us have a pretty good idea of the nature of the ecosystem that existed just prior to European colonization. The indigenous people of the Valley knew a much different place. But what about the times before humans? The sediments of the Valley reveal ecosystems that existed in the past as far back as the times of the dinosaurs 140 million years ago. And you may be surprised at what used to live here!

Garry Hayes has taught geology at Modesto Junior College for 33 years and has taken students on field study excursions across California and the American West, as well as Canada, Hawaii, Italy, Australia, and Scotland. He attended Chaffey College, a community college in Southern California, and earned his BA degree in Geology at Pomona College in 1980, literally on the day that Mt. St. Helens erupted. He holds an MS in Geology from the University of Nevada, Reno, and taught at Santa Barbara City College before coming to Modesto.

Note: Masks are required inside the Fellowship Hall.

MAPS offers free community science programs

7:30 pm. Participate by logging on to an Internet Link: <https://www.mjc.edu/instruction/sme/maps.php> to sign up for notification of the link.

For archived MAPS talks: <https://share.yosemite.edu/view.aspx?i=1E7L10/22> might be live in Sierra Hall 132

Fall 2021 MAPS Schedule

Friday, Nov. 19, 2021. Dr. Steve Farmer. Zoom, with group meeting and free candy. *The Chemistry of Candy.* <http://www.acs-sacramento.org/strange-chemistry-with-steve-farmer/>

Friday, Dec. 10, 2021. Zoom/YouTube. Dr. Margaret Turnbull (Ph.D. Univ. of Arizona, SETI Inst., NASA Ames), discusses planetary systems capable of supporting life as we know it. She developed a Catalog of Nearby Habitable Systems for use in the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI). Dr. Turnbull will briefly address the recent abundance of UFO news appearing on the popular media.

MAPS is grateful to the MJC Foundation, SCOE, MJC, the MTA (Modesto Teachers Assn.) and the GVM for generous support.



Homeless by Any Other Name

By ERIC CAINE, The Valley Citizen

"I returned and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favor to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all."

After a woman died from an apparent suicide in Modesto, a report in the local newspaper said that "The Coroner's Office identified the woman as a transient from Modesto."

"Transient," like "vagrant," is among the words commonly used to describe homeless people. For that reason, it's likely only a few readers thought very long about the cognitive dissonance produced when a person who dies in her resident city is described as a "transient."

Not long ago, a transient was someone who moved from place to place without establishing long-term residence. It may once have been the appropriate term for the "hobos" or "tramps" who used to hop trains and ride the rails from city to city.

Today, such usages bring to mind George Orwell's admonitions about the decline of language in works like "Politics and the English Language" and the appendix to "1984." We've not yet descended into "doubleplusgood" duck quacking, but the popularity of media like Twitter and Instagram are hastening an already notable diminution of the average vocabulary.

Orwell's insights into the correlations between politics and language are especially pertinent to how we talk about poverty. As long as people experiencing homelessness are classified as vagrants or transients — or the even more popular "addicts" — we don't have to think about them as human beings. It makes a significant difference when people are described as disabled, elderly, mentally ill, or veterans as opposed to vagrant, transient, or addict.

When we classify people as abstractions, moral derelicts or criminals, we don't have to deal with concrete issues like health care, living wages and affordable housing. Tagging the



poorest among us with pejoratives reinforces a catalogue of false assumptions, beginning with the notion that poverty is a moral failing, moving on to the cause of poverty is a matter of family values, and concluding that success in life is a simple case of making good choices.

As homeless numbers continue to rise throughout the Valley, it will be more and more difficult to keep using terms like "transient" to describe people displaced by escalating rents, housing shortages, job losses and rising costs of health care. At what point does a person who can't pay rent because of job loss during a pandemic morph into a "transient"? Is there a due date when misfortune becomes depravity?

At some point, our failures with language become failures of humanity. Replacing compassion and charity with condemnation and contempt requires clouding clarity of thought with the fog of obfuscation. It displaces humane sympathy in favor of callous disregard.

It is true, however, that in the ultimate sense of the word, we are all transients, sharing the common bonds and obligations of mortality. Human suffering is universal. Cruel indifference is not.

Two Prose Poems

By TOM PORTWOOD

One Sunday Afternoon

A woman of about forty is walking along the sidewalk, three kids in tow when she stops at the garbage bin in the apartment buildings across the street from where I live, the bin for the bleak, aging buildings straddling the property line next to the coffee shop, the kids — a girl and two boys — are playing, lightly slapping at each other, squealing and shouting, and the woman looks back and tells them to shut up and stop being so noisy, and then she starts rummaging through the mouth of the metal bin, flipping four or five plastic bottles out onto the sidewalk, and the girl circles around to pick them up and gives them to her older brother, who slides them into a large black plastic bag, which is frayed and ripped along the edges of its mouth like an old flag. The woman says something under her breath, flinging one last plastic water bottle into the bag, almost tossing it like a basketball, and says C'mon, let's go, and she turns and walks eastward on the street but she walks slowly, maybe because she doesn't want to miss seeing the odd bottle or aluminum can hiding in a clump of grass browning at the base of a tree, but more like she looks worn down and defeated, the three kids trudging behind, quiet now, heads slightly bowed, mirroring their mother on this Sunday afternoon. I'm waiting for the bus across the street, watching them slowly melt into the shimmering waves of the summer heat in search of other throwaways, other bits of lives strewn across the landscape.

A Silent Cry

Inspired by a photograph taken by Eric Caine

Despair etched across her weather-hardened face, Anita looks as if she is in the midst of crying out — cry out to whom she does not know nor care, but cry out against the hunger knifing through her belly, for the privilege of drawing a bath and soaking her aching body in balmy water for as long as she desires, cry out for warmth and a soft bed and the faces of her mother and father and her Aunt Louise and the one man, John, who had loved her with all his heart a long time ago, years, more than half a lifetime ago, but still his love sustains her, the memory of it, on days like this when the wind howls and rain drenches your threadbare denim dress as you lie down and close your eyes because you're too tired to take another step, sustains you when you wake up after the rain, sitting against a brick wall in downtown Modesto, sunlight pouring across your half-opened eyelids, two of your buddies still sleeping on either side of you, lost in their own despair, their own forgotten dreams, cry out, silently, to all the people in all the cars passing by the three of you — oblivious to you. Cry out, for crying out is all that's left to you.

KCBP Community Radio Seeks Volunteers

The Modesto Peace/Life Center's Community Radio Station the "Voice of the Valley" KCBP 95.5 FM needs volunteers to help develop the following programs:

Children • Art • Poetry • News/Journalism
• Education • Health • Science • Social
Justice • Multicultural • Music/All Genres

Other Opportunities: Underwriting •
Fundraising/Event Committee • Community
Outreach.

Contact Jocelyn Cooper,
KCBP Development
Director, (209) 422-0119
kcbpvola@gmail.com



stanislaus
CONNECTIONS

is published monthly except in August
by the Modesto Peace/Life Center
829 13th St., Modesto, CA 95354
Open by appointment.
Mailing address: P.O. Box 134,
Modesto, CA 95353
209-529-5750

Be informed!

Read the Valley Citizen at
<http://thevalleycitizen.com>



2022 Peace Essay Contest

"I have learned you are never too small to make a difference. You must take action. You must do the impossible. Because giving up is never an option."

Greta Thunberg

Winner of the 2019 International Children's Peace Prize



Division I (Grades 11-12) & Division II (Grades 9-10): 500-1000 words
Division III (Grades 7-8) & Division IV (Grades 5-6): 250-500 words

The August 2021 report from the United Nations says that the changes in climate to date have little parallel in human history. The impact of these changes on our planet is causing significant damage to its habitats and ecosystems. Ocean levels have risen 8 inches on average over the past century. Heat waves have become hotter and last much longer around the world. Wildfire weather has worsened across large areas of the globe. Bursts of extreme heat in the ocean – which can kill fish, seabirds and coral reefs – have doubled in frequency since the 1980's. (<https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/08/1097362>)

While people and ecosystems around the globe are experiencing the results of these changes in our past climate patterns, certain populations will be especially vulnerable as the consequences of these changes impact their very existence. Due to the impact on food supplies, livelihoods, lands and health, peace among peoples around the world could be severely threatened as people struggle to survive.

When each of us embraces a deep reverence and gratitude for the earth that sustains us, we must also encourage others to do the same. "Inclusive and green economies, prosperity, cleaner air and better health are possible for all, if we respond to this crisis with solidarity and courage" says the UN Secretary-General António Guterres. (<https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/08/1097362>)

The 2022 Peace Essay Contest invites you to study and learn about some of the environmental extremes we are experiencing around the world due to the changes in our climate. Especially take note of those whose lives are (or will be) negatively impacted by these changes.

In your essay*

- Identify and describe one of the negative environmental changes you studied.
- Explain who bears the consequences of the change and the effect it could have on their lives. For example, how does, or could, it affect their food supply, land, livelihoods or health?
- Tell what scientists believe has caused the negative change and what needs to happen to make it better or keep it from getting worse.
- Close by sharing your view about the importance of caring for our world and helping all people to live in a safe and sustainable way, there by promoting peace and well-being around the world.

*Please, write in your own words. Do not cut and paste or copy directly from source material.
 A very limited amount of directly quoted words may be used if cited properly.

See 2022 Peace Essay Rules and Submission Directions for complete information.

Deadline for Entries: November 15, 2021 Notification of Winners: Late February, 2022

AWARDS	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	Honorable Mention
Division I and II	\$300	\$200	\$100	\$50
Division III and IV	\$150	\$100	\$50	\$25

Download the flyers/instructions at <http://peaceessaycontest.weebly.com/>
 Email questions to peaceessay20@gmail.com

Laura Stokes Online Art Sales and Gallery

Laura Stokes, Owner of Laura Stokes Online Art Sales and Gallery, joined the Modesto Chamber of Commerce and the Green Team earlier this year. She co-presented with Suzanne Reed of the Collaboration Connection at the September 16, 2021 Green Team meeting, discussing support available to assist organizations of all types and sizes to Go Green. Laura started her online gallery in 2015 to benefit emerging artists and show her own work. Currently, the gallery carries the work of Jim Abuan, Post-Modern/Contemporary Artist; Juan Rodriguez, Classical Artist; and Laura Stokes, Neo-Abstract Artist. Her gallery periodically hosts in-person events for artists she represents such as the upcoming Pop-Up Art Exhibit on Friday, December 3, 2021, from Noon to 2:00 PM in the main conference room of the Modesto Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited to view the art of Jim Abuan and Laura Stokes, displayed in a stack room style - multiple paintings stacked against the wall allowing for browsing. Art represented by Laura Stokes Online Art Sales and Gallery may also be viewed by appointment at Laura's Modesto studio. From July 11 to August 18, 2017, the three artists created a well-attended art installation in downtown Modesto at the Mistlin Gallery, titled "We Are Not the Last". This installation explored the issues surrounding immigration in the United States. Jim Abuan is a Master of Fine Arts graduate of Otis Art Institute of LA County ('76). Juan Rodriguez holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts, University of Washington (1994). Laura Stokes is a retired (2009), professional engineer who practiced for thirty years in the states of Washington, Maine, Florida, and Virginia.

www.LauraStokesArtSales.com, (206)-371-4853.



The Way We Were
 Acrylic on Canvas
 Laura Stokes



Teddy and Emo
 Acrylic Latex on Canvas
 Jim Abuan

Pop-Up Art Exhibit Jim Abuan & Laura Stokes

Friday, December 3, 2021, Noon to 2:00 PM

Modesto Chamber of Commerce
 1114 J Street, Modesto, CA 209 577 5757

Laura Stokes Online Art Sales and Gallery
www.LauraStokesArtSales.com 206 371 4853

News About The News, The Modesto Bee – Where We Were

By FELTON DANIELS

Ed. Note: This history of The Modesto Bee aired on KCBP 95.5 FM, Community Radio.

This is Felton Daniels for KCBP 95.5 FM, Community Radio, and you are listening to “Where We Were” a series of programs about the history of our community in and around Stanislaus County. This episode is entitled, NEWS ABOUT THE NEWS, *THE MODESTO BEE*.

Modesto was founded in 1870 and was without a newspaper. It wasn't until December 2nd of that year that the first newspaper in the area hit the stands. John D. Spencer, the father of the Modesto Bee or as one source called him the father of journalism in Stanislaus County, came to town. His name is sprinkled throughout the early years of newspaper news. It was quite an undertaking on his part to bring the paper here. He had had a paper in Tuolumne City and moved all of his equipment including his type trays and printing press from Tuolumne City to Modesto. The Central Pacific Railroad deeded him a lot at the corner of 11th and I Streets because railroad officials knew a newspaper would promote the town and that would be beneficial to them. Spencer built his house and shop on the southwest corner of the lot. His buildings reportedly stood by themselves for a while but, eventually the location worked out to his advantage as the Stanislaus County Court House was built directly across the street.

He called his paper the *STANISLAUS COUNTY NEWS*. It consisted of 4 pages, and it strongly supported the Democratic Party. However, it prided itself on reporting the news on all sides including news that was not always beneficial to the democrats.

The *Stanislaus County News* was a weekly for fourteen years before becoming a daily. Its circulation at that time was over 800 and its rate for an annual subscription was \$5.

Was his paper the only one in Modesto during those fourteen years? No way! The list of competitors is long. They include *The Modesto Mirror*, *The Modesto Strawbuck* that changed its name to *The Daily Republic*, *The Farmers Journal*, *The Modesto Sun*, and *The Modesto Daily Press*. Some of them lasted a few years, some just a few months. Spencer started a second paper, *The Daily Evening News*. It lasted just 6 years as well. One competitor did last. It was *The Modesto Herald*, a Republican mouthpiece started in 1875 and it was distributed in the afternoon.

Spencer died in 1895 and his wife and son continued publishing the paper until 1912 when the family sold it. In 1924 the *News* and the *Herald* merged and from that point on the area had one daily newspaper. Three years later in 1927 *The Modesto News-Herald* reported the sale of the paper to McClatchy Newspapers, publishers of the *Sacramento* and *Fresno Bees*.

We should pause here to include a brief history of the McClatchy family and their contribution to the newspaper industry in our valley as well as the United States. Three family members owned all the stock in the company. They were Charles K. McClatchy, editor of *The Sacramento Bee*, his wife, Ella K McClatchy and their son Carlos K. McClatchy, editor of *The Fresno Bee*.

Carlos was being groomed by his father to take over the company but, at the age of 41 Carlos died of pneumonia.



The Modesto Bee

Three years later Charles died leaving the company in the hands of the youngest daughter, Eleanor McClatchy. She took over the 3 McClatchy papers, and radio stations in Sacramento, Fresno, Stockton, Reno, and Bakersfield. She served the company for more than 40 years adding radio stations including KBEE in Modesto, and developed television stations in Stockton, Fresno, and Reno.

Carlos had two sons who were deeply involved in the company as well. One son, James B. McClatchy, served as general manager for *The Modesto Bee* in the 1960s and became the publisher of the McClatchy Company which owned, at that time, get this, 30 newspapers in six states.

Returning to our local paper. In 1933 with circulation over 10,000 the name of our paper was changed to *The Modesto Bee and News-Herald*. That change tied it in with other McClatchy papers in the valley such as the *Sacramento Bee* and the *Fresno Bee*. *The Modesto Bee and News-Herald* was the papers' name for 42 years when it was finally changed in 1975 to *The Modesto Bee*.

The following year the *Bee* dropped the afternoon paper and went to 7 days a week. This change was necessitated due to increased circulation, production problems and increased traffic in the streets which interfered with getting the paper out to the community in the afternoon in a timely manner. The *Bee* did not know it at the time but, it turned out that it was the first paper in the nation to convert to morning only. Many newspapers followed a short time later and many more have done so over the years.

By 1985 *The Bee's* circulation on Sunday was 80,000. The paper had 600 full time employees, many part time positions and over 1,000 carriers and distributors. It was almost entirely managed locally although it was a part of the McClatchy chain.

Many things affect the production of a newspaper. An invention probably created the biggest changes of all. Are you thinking computer? You are right. The computer changed almost everything. Early computers eliminated the typewriter. But, with the coming of the large main frame computer whole systems changed, jobs changed, and the relationship with

departments become drastically different if not nonexistent. One example of the changes was in the newsroom where typewriters once clacked, telephones rang; communication between reporters was close and personal to a reportedly almost dead silence of efficient but less personal production. The newsroom excitement was gone. Getting the printed copy out was easier but, the human hubbub that had been so rich and invigorating was gone and gone forever.

And then talk about changes due to technology. The newspaper lands on your lawn with day-old news. TV and internet news provides news within minutes. Who needs a newspaper? I contend we all do or at the very least a comparable substitute.

True to its intent to be open and honest the *Bee* has let the public know that it is having financial difficulties. Some messages are straightforward; others are a bit more subtle. Probably the biggest message is the move from the building on H Street. It is gone. The huge press is gone. The paper is printed in Sacramento. But there are other messages. The most obvious is the recent request for donations that was printed in the paper to keep the paper from becoming extinct as is true in over 2,000 small towns and cities in the United States. But, there are other clues. Of course the size of the paper has been shrinking for years. Then the Saturday paper was dropped. Recently did you notice that large competitive grocery ads are no longer in the Wednesday paper? The comics and the puzzle page have changed. The *Bee* still lists itself as a McClatchy paper even though it reported in September of last year that McClatchy Newspaper Company had been sold to Chatham Asset Management, a hedge fund owner. One wonders if this sale will make a difference in the life of the *Bee*.

Losing a paper is a very serious loss to a community. Yes, the internet provides all kinds of information at the touch of a button. But, does the internet have a coordinated system for tracking what is going on at City Hall or in County government offices? Is its information always reliable? I suppose a weekly paper can report obituary news and police blotter news but, the long gaps in between its editions greatly reduce the continuity. Maybe all we will end up with is the E-Edition the *Bee* advertises on a regular basis. If the muck rake reporting continues that would be better than nothing. Even then if *The Modesto Bee* stops printing a daily newspaper, it will be a devastating loss to our community and unfortunately it feels to me that that dreadful event may happen in the not-too-distant future. If you agree and you and your friends are not subscribing to *The Bee* get going and subscribe before it is too late. I think you will be glad you did.

P. S. I want to thank Janet Lancaster, volunteer historian at the McHenry Museum, for providing me with definitive information about the history of *The Modesto Bee* including a book, *Read All About It, A Historical View of Stanislaus County Newspapers* written by Ray Nish.

You have been listening to, NEWS ABOUT THE NEWS, *THE MODESTO BEE*, a presentation of “Where We Were”, a series about our community's past. This is Felton Daniels for KCBP 95.5 FM Community Radio.

“We Are at a Hinge of History”

Senator Angus King Delivers Impassioned Speech on the Senate Floor Urging Action to Defend Voting Rights

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Mr. President, the United States of America is an anomaly in world history. We are a two-hundred-and-forty-five-year-old experiment in self-government which is based upon an idea which was radical in 1776, was tested at Gettysburg, Antietam, Shiloh, and The Wilderness, was defended at Anzio, Iwo Jima, and Normandy, and was codified in 1965—an idea that the people—all the people—are the ultimate source of power and can govern themselves through their elected representatives.

The historical norm is just the opposite—kings, pharaohs, dictators, czars, warlords, emperors, and, more recently, presidents-for-life. Throughout most of human history—and right up to the present in many countries around the world—the people have little or no say in the decisions that determine their fate.

And these rulers are rarely, if ever, beneficent; in fact, again, the historical norm is just the opposite—pervasive corruption, the pursuit of power for its own sake, the crushing of dissent, sham elections, and the abuse or even elimination of anyone not sufficiently loyal, or useful, to the leader. There’s nothing surprising about this for it reflects human nature; history fairly shouts at us that power corrupts and, more ominously, that absolute power corrupts absolutely.

Given the consistent history of this experience, it’s clear that our experiment is fragile, that what we have and take for granted is in no way guaranteed. As has been the case with democratic experiments throughout history, it can fail—rarely from external attack, almost always from erosion from within.

On the surface, our democratic system protects us by resting upon our ingenious Constitution, the primary purpose of which is to establish an effective government while at the same time dividing and dispersing power to “oblige that government to control itself,” in Madison’s evocative phrase. And of all the safeguards built into the Constitution—two Houses of Congress, vetoes, division of the war power, advise and consent, enumerated powers, federalism, the Bill of Rights—the most fundamental and essential is regular elections, the clearest expression of the people’s will.

For most of my life, I’ve not thought much about how elections actually work. You go to the town office or a school gym, check in at the desk where your name is crossed off a list, are handed a ballot, and go into a booth to make your choices. You then put the marked ballot into a box or hand it to a clerk (usually a volunteer doing their civic duty) who runs it through a counter.

Or, you get a mail-ballot from the town clerk, mark it at home and send it in, or, in my town, drop it in a drop box in front of the town office. And that’s it, until later that night, when the results— either from the automatic counters or

from hand counting the ballots themselves—are announced, precinct by precinct, town by town, county by county, and state by state.

And then you go to bed, happy or unhappy, energized or discouraged, either reveling in the victory of your preferred candidates or determined to work harder next time to get a better result (and thanks to the Framers, there always is a next time, usually in a couple of years). The next day, you go about your business, trusting that the system was operating according to the rules and that the announced vote counts accurately reflect the preferences of you and your fellow citizens.

The miraculous result of this entire process is something we completely take for granted but is exceedingly rare in human history—the peaceful transfer of power, whether on the town council, in the Congress, or in the presidency itself.

But two interrelated things are happening right now with regard to this system that are unprecedented in my lifetime and that are profoundly dangerous to our fragile republic; one is the breakdown of trust in the system itself, and the other is an overtly partisan attempt to use this loss of trust as a pretext to change the results of future elections by limiting the participation of voters deemed unworthy (although this is rarely said out loud) or unlikely to vote for your particular political party.

The miraculous result of this entire process is something we completely take for granted but is exceedingly rare in human history—the peaceful transfer of power, whether on the town council, in the Congress, or in the presidency itself.

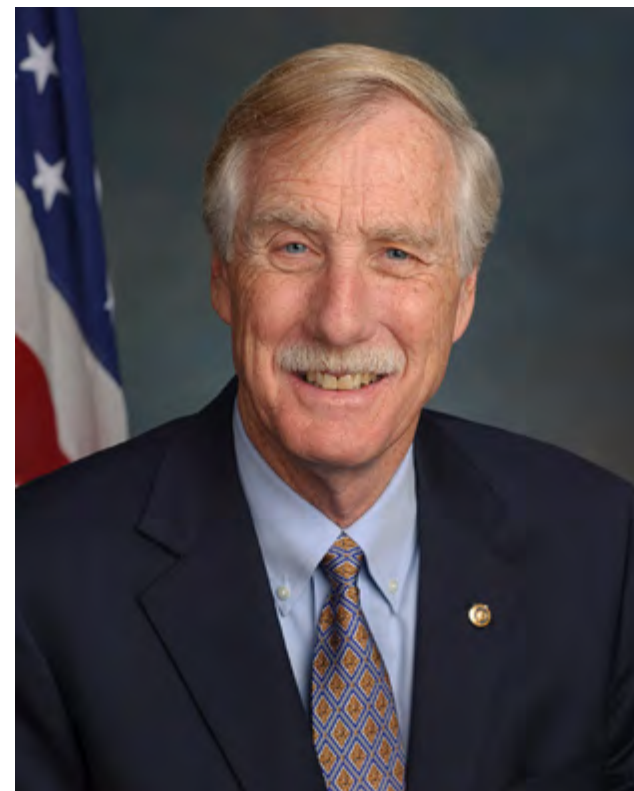
This discussion is usually framed in terms of “election integrity”—the prevention of widespread voter fraud which, it is argued, is tainting the outcome of our elections.

Unfortunately, these so-called “election integrity” measures almost invariably end up limiting the participation of a substantial number of voters—many of whom have historically been denied the right to vote by one device or another for over a hundred years—either as inadvertent collateral damage or (more likely) as stone cold partisan voter suppression.

When I used to interact with the Maine Legislature, either as a private citizen or as Governor, the inevitable first question from the committee chair about any proposed bill was, “What’s the problem we’re trying to solve?” In this case, is the problem really voter fraud, or is it election results the party in power in a particular state don’t like?

The implicit burden this question puts on those who would change a law is to demonstrate by reliable evidence that there is a problem in the first place. And simply saying—or endlessly repeating—that there is a problem doesn’t make it so.

To put it another way, repeating a lie doesn’t make it true. Every objective study done to try to detect widespread



voter fraud has failed to produce credible evidence of anything but scattered and vanishingly rare cases. Even the overtly partisan so-called “audit” of the votes in Maricopa County in Arizona failed to find what they were so desperately looking for.

The key question is not whether such fraud exists at all, but whether it is so widespread as to change the results of an election involving a substantial number of voters. In the wake of the 2016 Presidential election, President Trump convened a commission to address this very question, but the commission was disbanded eight months after its formation with no published finding of significant election fraud whatsoever. Further, as I mentioned, I know of no objective study of this issue that has concluded that such widespread fraud exists anywhere in our country.

Even more compelling is that in spite of herculean efforts by the former president and his supporters over the course of the months following the 2020 election, no credible evidence has yet been produced to support his allegations, and all such allegations have been rejected by every court (more than 60) that have considered them.

The only fraud here, Mr. President, is the allegations themselves.

In other words, not only is there no evidence of substantial fraud, what evidence there is reaches the opposite conclusion. But chillingly, fully one-third of Americans (and two thirds of Republicans) now believe that the 2020 presidential election was not legitimate, that there was widespread fraud, and that the election was somehow “stolen”—not based upon evidence (because there isn’t any) but based upon the repeated assertions of the former President and his supporters.

The problem with this goes well beyond the wave of voter suppression legislation sweeping the country; the deeper problem is the massive and unprecedented erosion of trust in the electoral system itself, the beating heart of our democracy.

Of all the depredations of the former President, this is by far the worst. In relentlessly pursuing his narrow self-interest, he has grievously wounded democracy itself. And by the way, I mean “narrow self-interest” quite literally; he doesn’t give the slightest damn about any of us—any of you—and will cast any or all of us aside whenever it suits his needs of the moment.

Everyone in this room knows this to be true.

The reason this is so destructive is if you can’t trust elections, what are your options? One is to change the rules to discourage your perceived enemies from voting; check—that’s in the works. Another is to change the rules to give partisan legislatures the power to override election results they don’t like; check—also in the works.

Another is to contrive pseudo-legal arguments to justify the corruption of the counting of electoral votes and pressure the vice president to carry out the scheme. Check—we now know that was very much in the works in the days leading up to January 6. Or finally, try to change the results through violence or threats of violence; check—January 6, and death threats to election officials of both parties across the country.

January 6 was not a random day on the calendar; it was the day appointed to finalize the results of the November election. Many of those who came to Washington that day were not there to protest, but were there with the explicit purpose of disrupting and stopping this crucial final step in our democratic process.

The rallying cry that day wasn’t “protest the steal”; it was “stop the steal.”

It’s important to remember that most failures of democracy started with legitimate elections, but once in office, the leader manipulated the electoral process to consolidate their hold on power, just as was attempted here last winter. And once power is seized, the control and reach of the modern surveillance state is truly terrifying. Ask the Uighurs in China, or members of the opposition in Russia, if you can find any alive.

Russia, Turkey, Venezuela, and Hungary are examples of the slide into authoritarianism just in our lifetimes; those countries still have elections, but they don’t mean much.

And what if the current wave of voter suppression legislation succeeds and keeps tens of thousands of people from voting, or what if in 2024 a partisan legislature in a swing state votes to override the election results and send its own set of electors to Congress? Then it won’t just be Republicans who distrust elections, and we will be left with a downward spiral toward a hollow shell of democracy, where only raw power prevails and its peaceful transfer becomes a distant memory.

There has been a great deal of talk in recent months of a possible Constitutional crisis in 2022 or 2024; Mr. President,

In other words, not only is there no evidence of substantial fraud, what evidence there is reaches the opposite conclusion.

we don’t have to wait that long; we are in the midst of such a crisis right now. One of our great political parties has embraced the idea that our last election was fraudulent, that our president is illegitimate, and that they must move legislatures across the country to “fix” the results of future elections.

A substantial proportion of our population has lost faith in our democratic system and seems prepared to accept authoritarianism; all but the most extreme sources of information have been devalued; and violence bubbles just below the surface.

But it doesn’t have to be this way. We in this body, perhaps more than anyone else in the country, have the power to change direction, to pull our country back from the brink, and to begin the work of restoring our democracy, as we did in the Revolution, the Civil War, and the civil rights struggles of sixty years ago, first, by simply telling the truth, and then by enacting a set of basic protections of the sacred right to vote.

It won’t be easy and will involve risk, particularly when we are asked to speak hard truths that many of our more ardent supporters don’t want to hear. But the alternative is worse, worse even than losing our job. The alternative is the loss of our identity as a people, the loss of the miracle of self-government, and the loss of the idea of America.

I don’t think it’s an exaggeration to say that we are at a hinge of history, that circumstances have thrust us—those of us in this body—into a moment when the fate of the American experiment hangs in the balance.

We are the heirs—and trustees—of a tradition that goes back to Jefferson and Lincoln, to Webster, Madison, Margaret Chase Smith, and, yes, our friend John McCain. All were partisans in one way or the other, but all shared an overriding commitment to the idea that animates the American experiment, the idea that our government is of, by, and for the people, all the people. Now is the moment to reach beyond region, beyond party, beyond self, to save and reinvigorate the sputtering flame of that idea.

Yes, democracy is an anomaly in world history and what we have is fragile; it rests upon the Constitution and laws to be sure, but it rests even more so on the trust our people place in our democratic system—and in us.

Deliberately undermining that trust for short-term political advantage—which is exactly what is happening right now—is

a tragic and dangerous game. No election, no endorsement, no Senate seat, no presidency is worth it. Nothing is worth destroying what our forebears fought and died for. Nothing.

Several weeks ago, a bipartisan group of us went to Gettysburg and walked the battlefield with two leaders from the Army War College. I have been there many times before, but have never been so moved by the experience as I was on this trip.

The stories of valor and supreme sacrifice—the 20th Maine at Little Round Top, the 1st Minnesota at the exposed center of the Union line, the Iron Brigade on the first day, the colossal losses on both sides—were a sobering reminder of what it took to preserve this country. But we learned something else that day—that it was a near thing.

If a Union officer named Strong Vincent had hesitated in moving those three regiments to Little Round Top or if William Colville had hesitated in leading the 1st Minnesota on a suicidal charge into the teeth of the Confederate advance, our country would have been lost.

And so it is today, only the test is not on the battlefield and no one here is being asked to give up their lives. We are simply being asked to tell the truth, to recommit to the ideal of democracy, to keep faith with our history and inheritance. And if we hesitate, all could be lost. As we now know from the events of January 6th and the relentless attempts to subvert the results of the 2020 election in the last days of the prior Administration, it was—and still is—a near thing.

As it is in the old Protestant hymn, so it is today,

“Once to every man and nation

Comes the moment to decide,

I believe this is that moment for each of us.

We are simply being asked to tell the truth, to recommit to the ideal of democracy, to keep faith with our history and inheritance.

The concluding words of Lincoln in his message to Congress in the dark winter of 1862 have never been more apt, and are eerily applicable to us today:

“Fellow citizens, we cannot escape history. We of this Congress and this Administration will be remembered in spite of ourselves. No personal significance or insignificance can spare one or another of us. The fiery trial through which we pass will light us down in honor or dishonor to the latest generation.”

“... will light us down in honor or dishonor to the latest generation.”

Indeed, destiny has placed us here at one of history’s fateful moments; our response to it will be our most important legacy. I believe that we all know our responsibility—and whether we like it or not, history will record whether we, each one of us, meets it.

Mr. President, may God, working through each of us, save the United States of America.

https://www.king.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/we-are-at-a-hinge-of-history_senator-king-delivers-impassioned-speech-on-the-senate-floor-urging-action-to-defend-voting-rights

MRB MICHAEL R. BAUDLER

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

mb@modestocpas.com

Michael R. Baudler, CPA

TELEPHONE
(209) 575-2653 ext 303

FACSIMILE
(209) 575-0629

1120 14TH STREET, SUITE 2
MODESTO, CALIFORNIA 95354

KD **LAW OFFICES OF**
UR **KELLY, DUARTE, URSTOEGER & RUBLE, LLP**

Sharon E. Kelly
Jeffrey R. Duarte
Markus R. Urstoeger
Megan E. Ruble

1600 G St
Suite 203
P.O. Box 0142
Modesto, CA

Workers' Compensation and Social Security Disability Attorneys

Know your rights
Call today (209) 521-2552

Reggae Dance Party Features Honey B and A La Lune

Saturday, November 6, 7:00 –10:30 PM

Congregation Beth Shalom, 1705 Sherwood Ave.,
Modesto, CA 95350

Opening will be local favorites A La Lune

<https://www.reverbnation.com/alalune>

Headlining the event will be international superstar,
Honey B.

Honey B is a California artist with a positive approach and a Caribbean twist. She spent over a decade in the West Indies where “country life” and island culture made a deep impression on her ideals and musicality. Her reggae flavored vocals, delivered in what’s known as a “singjay” style, offer a fresh and futuristic sound with a respectful nod to Jamaica’s musical pioneers.

<https://therealhoneyb.com/>

There will also be a no-host bar and vegan food available for purchase from @comidadejen

KCBP RADIO-95.5 FM - THE VOICE OF THE VALLEY SEEKS VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH UNDERWRITING

The right person(s) should
Be personable

Have good communication skills

Have experience with selling

Be passionate for promoting community radio

Businesses: Support a program and have your
services mentioned on the air.

Contact KCBP Development Director, Jocelyn
Cooper, jocelyncooper2012@gmail.com

Other volunteers needed!

Buddha's Four Noble Truths for a 4 Year Old

1. Sometimes people feel sad.
2. Sometimes the thing that makes people sad is not getting something they want or getting something they don't want.
3. There is a way not to be so sad about not getting what you want or getting something you don't want.
4. The way is to not think so much about what you want at all, but instead think about how you can be kind and helpful to your family, your teachers, your friends, other people, animals, bugs, and everything that lives.

AMERICA'S GOOD INTENTIONS

The Preamble to the Constitution
is our mission statement.

It states our common values and
our intentions to implement them
in practical, logical, moral ways
for the greater good of all of us.

This is our clear intent.

The Body of the Constitution explains
the skillful means with which we will
organize our efforts, maximize success.
make it work to everyone's satisfaction
It explains how we will establish Justice and
secure the Blessings of Liberty for all.

But how could they know, those Antique
Idealists, how badly their posterity would
run astray, misconstrue, twist the path?
They suspected there'd be trouble, so they
added a Bill of Rights, the option to amend.
Without that mechanism for change, today
only rich white men could vote, could lead.
Those who weren't rich or white or men
had to fight for every right that should have
been “unalienable” before the first day of
American Independence, but was not.

Look around the Twenty-first century.
Injustices pile up like dirty laundry.
Does everyone have equal rights,
equal access to health and education,
equal entry to the marathon towards happiness?
Who gets to vote? Who tries to stop them?

New generations of Ourselves and an ascending
Posterity will see with renewed perspective,
with fresh eyes of deeper understanding,
and as intended by the writers long ago,
will work to perfect this less than perfect Union
we call these
United States of America.

– Sheila D. Landre, September 2, 2021

EQUAL FREEDOM

I just want Equality! It has a nice ring to it.
Equal pay for equal work. Equal justice under law.
Equal opportunity to get an equal education,
an equal chance to buy a house of equal value.
Would you like equal height, equal pigmentation,
equal air time on cable news?
Equal chance to waste your energy and time?
Equal consequences for your actions?
What does equal even mean? It's not “the same”.

Perhaps Freedom is your preference,
so I must ask: What would you be free to do
that you are not free to do right now?
Would you like freedom from fear, neglect, disease,
or dangerous human beings relishing
their freedom to frighten, threaten, make you ill,
steal your belongings, let their dogs off leash?
Do you have a great desire to drive while drunk,
take off your shirt at IHOP, smoke in theaters,
carry children in the back of your pickup?

There will be consequences for misused freedoms,
justice for abusers. That seems fair.
Equal justice, judiciously applied, according to
our equal worth in the eyes of our Creator.
That should satisfy us all.

– Sheila D. Landre September 3, 2021



StArt
Stanislaus Art Magazine

**a bilingual Arts Magazine
for Kids and Families**

New Autumn issue available now!
Subscribe at lindaknollart.com/start-magazine



Look for
CONNECTIONS
online at:
<http://stanislausconnections.org/>

facilitator

in a dimly lit room full of discarded chairs and aging plants, the woman's share ends without warning. rushed and uncertain, it is not the subject matter that fills the space. not the overdose in the bathroom (for the third time) while her baby slept outside the door. not the fact that the baby was number four in a line of CPS involved cases. it is the silence that settles into the space, palpable and wet. into the faces of those who have committed these same offenses. they too have lists, years of ambivalence fed by need greater than any want. their looks are empathetic, refusing judgement by way of self-preservation. for lack of a better option, they sit slowly turning their attention to their facilitator. wanting for me to say something, anything to steer the subject away from this cyclical malady residing in their bones. from that bathroom floor again, and again.

i breathe into the silence, knowing there is nothing i can say no words to make it better. i learned the hard way that there are few answers that lead to satisfaction. the knowing itself is the invitation to the breaking point. together we are the fuck ups, the unforgivables, the frustrating and heartbreaking cases, the disgraces in our families the people we never meant to be. acceptance is the seedling of resolve. we start to be glad for the reprieves, the breaks in the spells. the best we can do now is see each other, share space and hopes, and look for lightness in the dark. a lone defector quickly leaves the room, shutting the door on their camaraderie of fear. she is not ready for the silence. none of us blame her.

Tina Curiel-Allen – An Inspiring Community Advocate & Poet

Tina Curiel-Allen is a Xicana and Boricua almost native Central Valley poet currently living in Modesto, California with her four cats and as many books and records as possible. Tina's poetry explores her family history, dealings with incarceration and the criminal legal system, activism, addiction, and hope.

As an activist and organizer Tina has helped several organize events for the Xicanx & Latinx community in the Central Valley and is a proud founding member of Viva la Chicana: A New Vision for the Central Valley and exist(ir): a zine documenting the Xicanx and Latinx experience in the Central Valley. A fierce love of community and understanding the need for representation on all fronts drives Tina's activism and organizing. As part of that commitment, Tina also co-founded Beyond the Stats, a collective for formerly incarcerated and system-impacted students while a student at UC Davis. Beyond the Stats successfully co-wrote and taught classes at UCD and eventually became the inspiration for a UC Davis initiative for formerly incarcerated and system-impacted students and faculty called Beyond the Barriers.

Tina graduated in 2019 from UCD with a bachelor's



Housekeeping

1. Things that are ubiquitous: bobby pins, hair ties, writing utensils, these get lost first. Stop looking in the middle of your drawer they collect in the edges—condensing space taunting you with their “everywhere but nowhere” tendencies. Pull the drawer out, check its wheels, scour its cracks.
2. Always take out the trash (no exceptions). Also take and clean both the inside and outside of trash receptacles periodically. Carriers leak.
3. Water: meant to be cherished, honored, and appreciated. Keep it in specific rooms for good communication. Change frequently.
4. Cats make everything better. Reminding you there is a time to be curious, and a time to rest (and that strangers are not meant to be trusted blindly).
5. Things you can grow such as plants, hair, and ideas must be cleansed and tended to. Take them outside if possible, try singing to them.
6. Wear a watch.
7. Your mind my love, contradictory as it may seem, is not your friend. Act accordingly.

degree in Ethnic Studies with a focus on Social Policy. Tina is currently a program manager for a re-entry program for returning citizens at a non-profit in Stockton, California. This is sacred and necessary work as we work collectively towards ending mass incarceration and supporting those on the ground as they get out. Tina believes in street scholarship and documentation and continues to channel her energy towards both. Through her work with various non-profits Tina has also created educational programs for young women of color exploring radical feminists of color and organizers, as well as various community publications chronicling barrio knowledge, history, culture, and art.

It is one of Tina's upmost goals to continue to build in her community's image and live her politics fully in everything she does, honoring her relationships along the way as best as she can. In this way, her poems are an offering in the interest of community, representation, shared pain, and collective hope; of fire, air, earth and water. Tlazocamatli, Ometeotl. Noxin Nomecayotzin (All My Relations).



Origin Stories

My mother taught me how to be thrifty i owe my organized grocery lists and guilt of throwing away food to her, my pragmatism in the face of disaster, and at least 40% of my boldness.

My father taught me the weight of absence and that silence costs more than i am willing to pay.

From both i learned how to love through crying and waiting, i hate this about myself.

Books showed me how to think, and that i was thinking already. i owe them more than can ever be paid in the forms received. so it goes with lifelong loves.

Fear sharpened me. Taught me to anticipate, and when to hide.

Addiction taught me to swim, like a shark. To prioritize and focus.

Heroin taught me duty. And the magnitude of my potential. It has also gifted me humility, and the weight of judgements both inside and out. This lesson continues to soften and strengthen me.

And pain, pain taught me to breathe. How to be still—for fear of drowning. It is these same fears that taught me the precious gift that is breaking, in order to grow.

These are my origin stories, those with which I greet all else. Sometimes leading, others whispered omnipresent nonetheless.

in all directions

for Assata

periodically i let myself sit,
open my heart, and cry
i cry for the women before me
who never had the time or space
for the men taught that tears
were toxins not safe
to be released
for the young girl i was
who learned too early that
tears could hurt
more than weapons
i cry to heal myself
this generation, the next
and those i follow
my tears crack the soil
from which love can grow
in all directions



Listen to The Voice of the Valley, 95.5FM

Selected Programs on KCBP 95.5 FM, The Voice of the Valley

or streaming on www.kcbpradio.org

PSAs in English and Spanish broadcast multiple times a day about Covid-19 vaccination, produced by the West Modesto Community Collaborative.

NEW PROGRAMS:

I'll Take You There - A musical journey with Modesto's El Comandante - Fridays, 5:00pm; Sundays, 9:00pm. October program focused on Hispanic Heritage Month

Down on the Farm - topics important for our San Joaquin agriculture with Madera organic farmer, Tom Willey - Saturdays, 6am & 8pm.

LOCALLY PRODUCED PROGRAMS: *AREA 5150 UFO RADIO* - Saturday night at Midnight.

KeeHive - LaKiesha McDonald talks with men and women who have overcome great odds. Mondays

& Wednesdays, 7:00am

I-On-Modesto - John Griffin interviews local people who reveal their inspiring stories. Mondays & Fridays, 10 am and Wednesdays at 9 pm.

Arts of the San Joaquin Valley with Linda Scheller - Mondays, 8:00pm; Tuesdays 9:00 am & Wednesdays 8:00 pm. Listen here: <https://anchor.fm/kcbp> and on Spotify

Women of the Valley with Linda Scheller and Leah Hassett - 8:00pm Tuesdays & Thursdays & Wednesdays, 9:00am.

Listen here: <https://anchor.fm/kcbpwotv> and on Spotify.

The Peril and the Promise with Pegasus - Wednesdays, 9:30 pm; Saturdays, 2:30 pm; Listen here also: <https://anchor.fm/kcbp-peril>. Recent show: interview with Modesto Dr. Juan Solorza focused on Covid-19. In English and Spanish.

Modesto Sound - California Audio Roots Project (CARP) - Wednesdays 11:30am, & Sundays 11:00am & 5:30pm.

Where We Were - Fascinating local history with Felton Daniels. Monday & Thursdays 9am. Friday 8:30pm; Sunday at 11:00am & 4:30 pm.

Local Music Programs

Modesto Area Music Awards (MAMA) with Middagh Goodwin - Mondays 5:00pm; Fridays 9:00pm & Saturdays 6:00pm.

Freak Radio with Christian E. Boyett, 6pm Thursdays. Replays Saturdays, 9pm & Tuesdays 11pm.

This is SKA with Middagh Goodwin - Tuesdays, 9 pm; Fridays, 11pm; Sundays, 6 am.

I'll Take You There - A musical journey with Modesto's El Comandante - Fridays, 5:00pm; Sundays, 9:00pm.



Weekdays (Monday - Friday)

Various musical programs during the noon hour: *Oldies, Jazz, Old Piano*.

Sounds Irish Music from County Wicklow - Saturdays, 7:00 p.m.

Dead Air - Hear the Grateful Dead with Corey Daniels. Fridays, 6pm; Saturdays, 3 pm

Attitude with Arne Arnesen - 3:00pm. Political issues.

Sojourner Truth - 4:00pm. Interviews, panels focusing on issues that affect people of color.

Democracy Now! - 7:00pm. Reporting by veteran journalist Amy Goodman.

Flashpoint Magazine - 10:00pm. Politics, social issues, from KQED's Dennis Bernstein.

Children's Programming

Confetti Park - Saturdays 8:00am; & Sunday's 12:30pm.

The Children's Hour - Sundays 3:00pm.

Science

Explorations - Science with Dr. Michio Kaku - 9:00am Sundays.

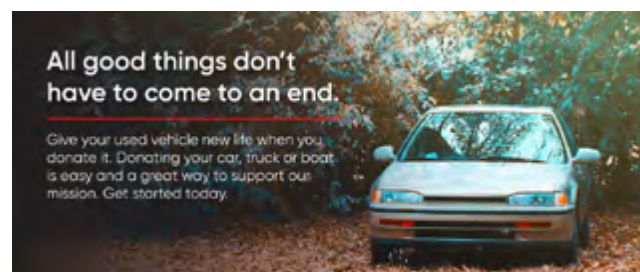
Big Picture Science - 1:00pm Sundays

Planetary Radio - 2:30pm Sundays

Got Science - 4:00 pm Sundays

Find a complete programming schedule on our website, www.kcbpradio.org

Donate Your Vehicle to KCBP Radio: It's a Win-Win Solution



Have you considered donating a vehicle to KCBP Radio? **Not only will you cruise past the hassles altogether, but you'll make a lasting impact.**

1. It's easy and the pick-up is free!
2. The proceeds from the sale of your vehicle will help us continue to provide community programs to you!
3. Donating saves time and money on repairs and maintenance.
4. Donating beats the hassles and worries of selling.
5. Our Vehicle Donation Support Team is here to guide you every step of the way.
6. We help you take care of the paperwork and provide you with any necessary tax documents. Vehicle donations are tax-deductible.

To donate, call (855) 500-7433, or submit the secure online form at <https://careasy.org/KCBP>. We accept all types of vehicles that meet the following basic requirements: Vehicle has a clear title, is in one piece, is accessible for safe towing, does not need to be running.

By ERIC CAINE, The Valley Citizen

Sunday, October 17, at Modesto's Graceada Park during a Celebration of Life for Carol Whiteside, Modesto Mayor Sue Zwahlen and Stanislaus County Supervisor Mani Grewal brought proclamations citing Whiteside's impact and lasting contributions to the region, especially with regard to her terms as Mayor of Modesto and Director of the Great Valley Center.

A moderate Republican before the species went extinct, Whiteside was elected Mayor of Modesto in 1987, after a term on the Modesto City Council. She went on to serve in Governor Pete Wilson's administration for six years, from 1991-97.

A strong advocate for smart growth and farmland preservation, Whiteside may have achieved her greatest impact as the founder and driving force of the Great Valley Center, a think tank that helped shape regional planning and growth throughout the entire Valley. Whiteside led the Center for over thirteen years after leaving the Wilson administration.

It would have been enough that Carol Whiteside was one of Modesto's finest mayors during a time that now seems like an idyllic interlude between the turmoil of the Civil Rights Era and the tempest of Trump. Her service as mayor, however, was only a milestone along a lifetime of dedication to the Valley and its people.

Renowned as a gourmet chef, Whiteside's dinners at her home across the street from the park where she was honored last Sunday were almost as noteworthy for the diverse gatherings of people as for the exquisite cuisine.



"She was a master at bringing people together," said Grayson's John Mataka. "She didn't care whether you were a Democrat or Republican. She helped a lot of people, including my children."


Mataka's children became part of Whiteside's quest to develop leadership roles for the Valley's young people, especially ethnic minorities. She believed local participation was the key to smart regional growth and political influence in the state's social and economic futures. To that end, she promoted programs that helped develop local leaders throughout the Valley.

Like a great many successful people in any realm, Whiteside's passion was for getting things done. She realized consensus should be a precondition to accomplishment and worked hard to achieve both. Her unflinching optimism may have been her greatest gift. It was rooted in her belief that everyone has something to offer and should be part of a dialogue that leads to action.


Today's polarized politics cast a dark pall over the quest for bipartisan progress that drove Carol Whiteside to a lifetime of positive achievement and influence but coming generations of leaders she mentored will carry her legacy forward.

Whiteside's genius for compromise may be in partial eclipse for now, but the sun that warmed her optimism still animates the vision of those she cultivated as friends and partners in her venture towards making the Valley a better place for everyone. With typical attention to detail, she ensured she would not be the last of her kind.

20 YEARS OF WAR
A COST OF WAR RESEARCH SERIES



WATSON INSTITUTE
OF INTERNATIONAL & PUBLIC AFFAIRS
BROWN UNIVERSITY



The Frederick S. Pardee Center
for the Study of the Longer-Range Future

Human Cost of Post-9/11 Wars:
Direct War Deaths in Major War Zones,
Afghanistan & Pakistan (Oct. 2001 – Aug. 2021); Iraq (March 2003 – Aug. 2021); Syria (Sept. 2014 – May 2021); Yemen (Oct. 2002-Aug. 2021) and Other Post-9/11 War Zones¹

Neta C. Crawford and Catherine Lutz²
September 1, 2021

	Afghanistan ³	Pakistan	Iraq	Syria/ISIS ⁴	Yemen ⁵	Other ⁶	Total
U.S. Military ⁷	2,324 ⁸	- ⁹	4,598 ¹⁰	- ¹¹	-	130	7,052
U.S. DOD Civilian ¹²	6	-	15		-	-	21
U.S. Contractors ¹³	3,917	90	3,650	19 ¹⁴	2 ¹⁵	511 ¹⁶	8,189
National Military and Police ¹⁷	69,095 ¹⁸	9,431 ¹⁹	45,519- 48,719 ²⁰	80,600 ²¹	- ²²	N/A	204,645- 207,845
Other Allied Troops ²³	1,144	-	323	13,407 ²⁴		-	14,874
Civilians	46,319 ²⁵	24,099 ²⁶	185,831- 208,964 ²⁷	95,000 ²⁸	12,690 ²⁹	N/A ³⁰	363,939- 387,072
Opposition Fighters	52,893 ³¹	32,838 ³²	34,806- 39,881 ³³	77,000 ³⁴	99,321 ³⁵	N/A ³⁶	296,858- 301,933
Journalists/ Media Workers ³⁷	74	87	282	75	33	129 ³⁸	680
Humanitarian/NGO Workers ³⁹	446	105	63	224	46	8 ⁴⁰	892
TOTAL	176,206	66,650	275,087- 306,495	266,325	112,092	778	897,150- 928,558
TOTAL (Rounded to Nearest 1,000)	176,000	67,000	275,000- 306,000	266,000	112,000	1,000 ⁴¹	897,000- 929,000

9/11 at 20: Our Moral Obligation

from page 1

So, what is our moral obligation now?

First, Washington needs to stop killing people. Not only in Afghanistan but in Iraq, Somalia, Libya, Syria, Yemen, and in all the places where U.S. troops, CIA operatives, and U.S. mercenaries work in the shadows and kill people. It needs to stop. We all also have a moral obligation to help the refugees and displaced peoples from these conflicts, and we owe debts of compensation and reparations to the people who remain in their war-torn countries.

Certainly, we must challenge the regressive and misogynist acts of the Taliban and hope that the transformations of the last 20 years—in the people of Afghanistan and their relationship with the rest of the world—will lead to major

We have to broaden the understanding that spending more on the U.S. military budget than the next 10 countries combined represents a huge part of the reason we have to struggle so hard to fund crucial social needs.



MistlinGallery
Central California Art Association

Home for the Holidays
November 16 - Decmber 22

OPEN Tues - Fri 11:30-5, Sat. 12-4 • ccaagallery.org
1015 J Street, Modesto • (209) 529-3369

VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR OUR BOARD
Modesto Sound offers Recording for Bands
Music Technology Camps for ages 8-17
Audio Technology Classes for Teens & Adults



Modesto Sound
LIVE

Recording | Live Sound | Education | Fun!
209-573-0533 Visit on-line at ModestoSound.org

changes. But that does not diminish our own obligations, rooted in recognition of the harm that U.S. actions have brought to so many innocent Afghans.

Next, we have a moral obligation to challenge our nation’s assumptions and priorities.

We have to reverse the popular assumption that having the most powerful military and the biggest nuclear arsenal in the world somehow makes us a better, “exceptional” country. We have to challenge the notion that maintaining more than

Washington needs to stop killing people.

800 environmentally and socially destructive military bases across the globe somehow wins us friends and allies among the world’s peoples.

And finally, we have to broaden the understanding that spending more on the U.S. military budget than the next 10 countries combined represents a huge part of the reason we have to struggle so hard to fund crucial social needs—from healthcare to climate to education and more.

Many Afghans, though of course not all, agree with Mahbooba Seraj, founder of the Afghan Women’s Network, when she said the end of Washington’s long war in Afghanistan brought her “an absolute sense of relief.” For Afghans, the end of the U.S. war doesn’t mean an end of conflict and struggle. But it does mean the end of bombing of their hospitals, the end of missile strikes on wedding parties and funerals, the end of Special Forces operatives kicking down doors and killing people in their own homes. It means starting to reclaim their country.

And maybe, just maybe, this might mean the beginning of reclaiming our country, too—for people, for the planet, for jobs, for healthcare, for education, and more. For our democracy.

Ending the war in Afghanistan is a start, but our movements still have a lot of work left to do.

Licensed under Creative Commons (CC BY-NC-ND 3.0)

REV. DR. WILLIAM J. BARBER II is president and senior lecturer of Repairers of the Breach, and co-chair of the Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival. His books include: “*The Third Reconstruction: How A Moral Movement is Overcoming the Politics of Division and Fear*” (2016), “*Revive Us Again: Vision and Action in Moral Organizing*” (2018) and “*We Are Called to Be a Movement*” (2020). Follow him on Twitter @RevDrBarber.

TOPE FOLARIN is the Executive Director of the Institute for Policy Studies, and author of *A Particular Kind of Black Man*.



Help keep our readers informed. We urge people participating in an event to write about it and send their story to Connections.

NOVEMBER 2021

CHECK WITH MEETING HOSTS. ONLINE MEETINGS MAY BE PLANNED.

Science Colloquium, Wednesdays, 3:15-4:15 p.m., MJC via Zoom. To access the program, click <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmaymqgHqzxsAa0RJmYwVg/>. **Nov.10:** Colleen Naughton, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, School of Engineering, UC Merced. Using Wastewater to Track Covid-19. Your poop can be valuable for public health. Scientists and engineers are detecting viral fragments of SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater as an early warning system of the spread of COVID-19 in communities globally. Learn about COVID-19 wastewater monitoring and how UC Merced is tracking it worldwide on a public dashboard.

MAPS (Modesto Area Partners in Science: free MJC science programs. Watch past presentations at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2pMYnCos9w0xwd_5lcw3Pg. Participate by logging on to an Internet Link: <https://www.mjc.edu/instruction/sme/maps.php> to sign up for notification of the link. **Friday, Nov. 19:** Dr. Steve Farmer. Zoom, with group meeting and free candy. The Chemistry of Candy. <http://www.acs-sacramento.org/strange-chemistry-with-steve-farmer/>

VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON FILMS are available at the State Theatre! Visit <https://thestate.org/virtual-screenings/>. NOTE: The State is open with limited seating.

The Prospect Theatre has continuing offerings: Visit <https://prospecttheaterproject.org/2020-2021-season/>

3 WED: NO VIGIL in November.

4 THURS: In Solidarity: A Public Conversation on Racism in Stanislaus County. 7-8:30 p.m., Redeemer Church, Downtown Modesto, at the corner of H and 9th St. RSVP: to join, register at <http://bit.ly/stan-county> (the event is FREE)!

4 THURS: Peace/Life Center ZOOM Monthly Board Meeting, 6:30 pm. Email Jim Costello for login information, jcostello@igc.org

19 FRI: “The Great Valley We’ve Never Known: A Geological Journey Through Time.” Presenter - Garry Hayes. Yokuts Sierra Club, College Ave. United Church of Christ, 1341 College Ave., Modesto. Snacks and socializing, 6:45 PM, Program at 7:00 PM. See article, p.2.

LOOKING AHEAD

Jan. 11: John McCutcheon returns to Modesto for Modesto Peace/Life Center Concert Benefit. More info: TBA

REGULAR MEETINGS

SUNDAYS

Village Dancers are not dancing in person but have a Zoom class, every Sunday 3:00-5:00 PM (PST). Lessons and reviews every week are given in international folk dances and are led by different teachers from around the

Valley. People from England to Taiwan, New Hampshire to Oregon, Arizona to Denair join us each week to exercise in their own homes to interesting music. Email Judy at JudyKropp40@gmail.com to receive the Zoom number and password.

Modesto Vineyard Christian Fellowship, 10:00 am at the MODSPOT, 1220 J St. Call or text 209-232-1932, email modestovineyard@gmail.com; All Welcome.

IMCV weekly Insight Meditation and dharma talk, 8:45 am - 10:15 am, 2172 Kiernan Ave., Modesto (rear bldg. at the end of the UUFSC east parking lot). Offered freely, donations welcome. Info: Contact Lori, 209-343-2748 or see <https://imcv.org/> Email: info@imcv.org

Food Addicts Anonymous in Recovery. Sundays 6:30 pm, 2467 Veneman Ave. Modesto. Info: Emily M., 209 480-8247.

MONDAYS

The Compassionate Friends, Modesto/Riverbank Chapter is meeting by Zoom on the 2nd Mondy at 7p.m. Bereaved parents, grandparents, and adult siblings are invited to participate in their support group for families whose children have died at any age, from any cause. Call 209-622-6786 or email for details: tcfmmodestoriverbank@gmail.com; <http://www.tcfmodesto-riverbankarea.org>

Suicide Loss Support Group: Friends for Survival meets every third Monday at 7 pm. Details: Norm Andrews 209-345-0601, nandrews6863@charter.net.

Monday Morning Funstrummers Beginner Ukulele Lessons. Modesto Senior Center. 10:45am to Noon. Free Scenic and Bodem.

Walk with Me, a women’s primary infertility support group and Bible study. 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm the first and third Mondays of each month (September only meeting 9/15/14 due to Labor Day). Big Valley Grace Community Church. Interested? Email WalkWithMeGroup@gmail.com or call 209.577.1604.

Silver & Gold Support group for our senior LGBT communities’ unique concerns and experiences. A group that will understand and accept you where you are. For LGBT folks over 50 yrs. old. Every Monday at 3 pm to 4 pm at various locations in Modesto. Info: Steven Cullen/Facilitator. Cell/text - (559) 799-0464. Email: stevencullen@sbcglobal.net

TUESDAYS

Teen Tuesdays every week from June-August, 2-5 pm., Central Valley Pride Center, 400 12th St. Peer Support, Games & movies. Safe space for teens to socialize, work together on projects, and learn about LGBTQ history. Each week will be a little different as we want YOU (youths) to guide the direction this group will go!” Info: Maggie Strong, Political Activist Director/ GSA Liaison, mstrong@mopride.org, 209-284-0999.

Attention Veterans: Join us for Free Coffee & Donuts Meet & Greet at the Stanislaus Veterans Center, 3500 Coffee Rd., Modesto, Suite 15, 7 am – 11 am

NAACP Meeting. King-Kennedy Center, 601 S. Martin Luther King Dr., Modesto, 3rd Tuesday @ 6:30 pm. 209-645-1909; email: naacp.branch1048@gmail.com

Exploring Whiteness & Showing Up for Racial Justice Meetings, Fourth Tuesday, monthly 7:00 p.m., Central Grace Hmong Alliance Church, 918 Sierra Dr., Modesto. Info: <https://www.facebook.com/events/247655549018387/>

Pagan Family Social, third Tuesdays, Golden Corral, 3737 McHenry Ave, Modesto, 6:00 pm. Info: 569-0816. All newcomers, pagan-curious and pagan-friendly welcome.

Tuesday Evening Funstrummers Ukulele Jam. Songbooks provided. 6pm to 8pm, 1600 Carver Rd., Donation. 209-505-3216, www.funstrummers.com.

IMCV weekly Insight Meditation and dharma talk, 6:30

MODESTO PEACE LIFE CENTER ACTIVITIES

Modesto Peace/Life Center VIGILS: SUSPENDED, held THE FIRST WEDNESDAY of the month at McHenry Ave. and J. St. (Five points), 4:00-5:00 pm. Call the Center for info: 529-5750.

MEDIA: Listen to **KCBP 95.5 FM** Community Radio, the “Voice of the Valley” also streaming at <http://www.KCBPradio.org>

PEACE LIFE CENTER BOARD MEETING, FIRST Thursdays, 829 13th St., Modesto, 6:30 pm, 529-5750. Meetings on Zoom.

PEACE/LIFE CENTER MODESTO, 829 13th St. Call 529-5750. We’ll get back to you with current info on activities. NOTE THE CENTER’S NEW ADDRESS.

pm - 8:30 pm, 2172 Kiernan Ave., Modesto (rear bldg. at the end of the UUFSC east parking lot). Offered freely, donations welcome. Info: Contact Lori, 209-343-2748 or see <https://imcv.org/> Email: info@imcv.org

Adult Children Of Alcoholics, Every Tuesday, 7 pm at 1320 L St., (Christ Unity Baptist Church). Info: Jeff, 527-2469.

WEDNESDAYS

Ongoing meditation class based on Qi Gong Principals. Practice a 3 Step Guided Meditation Process I have been doing for over a decade. Fun and Easy. JOIN ME! Donations accepted but optional. Call 209.495.6608 or email Orlando Arreygue, CMT RYT, orlando@arreygue.com

Merced LGBT Community Center offers a variety of monthly meetings and written materials. Volunteers, on site Wed-Fri, offer support. Ph: 209-626-5551. Email: mercedboard@gaycentralvalley.org – 1744 G St. Suite H, Merced, CA. www.mercedlgbtcenter.org

Merced Full Spectrum meets the second Wednesday of every month, 6 p.m. 1744 G St., Suite H, Merced <http://www.lgbtmerced.org/> Merced Full Spectrum is a division of Gay Central Valley, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. <http://www.gaycentralvalley.org/>

GLBT Questioning Teen Support Group (14-19 years old). 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, College Ave. Congregational Church, 1341 College Ave., Modesto. 7 – 9 pm. Safe, friendly, confidential. This is a secular, non-religious group. Info: call 524-0983.

Transgender Support Group, 2nd & 4th Wed., 7:30 to 9 pm. Info: (209) 338-0855. Email info@stanpride.org, or tgssupport@stanpride.org

Mindful Meditation: Modesto Almond Blossom Sangha, 7 - 9 pm. Info: Anne, 521-6977.

Compassionate Friends Groups, 2nd Wed., 252 Magnolia, Manteca.

THURSDAYS

CA10 Progressive Coalition Monthly Meeting, third Thursdays. Inclusive group of progressive activists to share resources, ideas, and information in order to support all the great organizing work happening in the Valley! Feel free to invite trusted allies. Meet-up and social hour: 5:30 pm-6:30 pm. Meeting: 6:30 pm-8:00 pm. Follow group on Facebook. Info: Tim Robertson, tim@nvlf.org

Laughter Yoga, Every other Thursday at The Bird’s Nest, 422 15th St., Modesto. The dates are February & March 7th & 21st, April 4th & 18th, May 2nd & 16th. 5:30pm-6:30pm. \$15.00 per class. To register, call or text Nicole, 209-765-8006 or visit www.nicoleottman.com

Attention Veterans: Join us for Free Coffee & Donuts Meet & Greet at the Stanislaus Veterans Center, 3500 Coffee Rd., Modesto, Suite 15, 7 am – 11 am

IMCV Grupo de Meditación en Español, cada semana 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm, 2172 Kiernan Ave., Modesto (edificio trasero al final del estacionamiento este de UUFSC). Ofrecido libremente, las donaciones son bienvenidas. Info: Contacto Vanessa, 209-408-6172.

LGBTQ+ Collaborative Meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of the month, unless noted. Evening meeting, 1pm to 2 pm, Central Valley Pride Center, 400 12th St., Suite 2, Modesto, CA. Information: John Aguirre at cell/text - (559) 280-3864/ e-mail: jpamodesto@gmail.com

Green Team educational meetings the 3rd Thursday of each month, 10 to 11 am, Kirk Lindsey Center, 1020 10th St. Plaza, Suite 102, Modesto. www.StanislausGreenTeam.com

Third Thursday Art Walk, downtown galleries open 5:00 - 8:00 p.m Follow the yellow balloons. <http://www.modestoartwalk.com>

The Book Group, First & third Thursdays. College Ave UCC Youth Bldg., Orangeburg & College Ave., 3:30 – 5:00 pm. Info: mzjurkovic@gmail.com

Valley Heartland Zen Group: every Thurs 6:30 to 8:30 pm, Modesto Church of the Brethren, 2310 Woodland Ave. Meditation. Newcomers welcome. Info: 535-6750 or <http://emptynestzendo.org>

Pagan Community Meeting, 1st Thursdays, Cafe Amore, 3025 McHenry Ave, Suite S., Modesto, 8 pm. Info: 569-0816. All newcomers, pagan-curious and pagan-friendly welcome.

FRIDAYS

Overcoming Depression: Small group for men & women. Every Friday, 7:15 p.m. Cornerstone Community Church, 17900 Comconex Rd., Manteca (209) 825-1220. **Game Night and Potluck**, third Friday of each month. For 21+ only. Central Valley Pride Center, 400 12th St., Suite 2, Modesto. 7 pm to 10 pm. Info: John Aguirre, (559) 280-3864; jpamodesto@gmail.com

Friday Morning Funstrummers Band Rehearsal. Donation 9:15am to Noon. College Avenue United Church of Christ, 1341 College Ave., Modesto. 209-505-3216, www.funstrummers.com.

Latino Emergency Council (LEC) 3rd Fridays, 8:15 am, El Concilio, 1314 H St. Modesto. Info: Dale Butler, 522-8537.

Sierra Club: Yokuts group. Regular meetings, third Friday, College Ave. Congregational Church, 7 pm. Info: 300-4253. Visit <http://www.sierraclub.org/mother-lode/> yokuts for info on hikes and events.

Mujeres Latinas, last Friday, lunch meetings, Info: Cristina Villego, 549-1831.

Hispanic Leadership Council, 3rd Fridays at noon, 1314 H St., Modesto 95354. Questions? Yamilet Valladolid, yamiletv@hotmail.com

SATURDAY

12-Step/Buddhist Meeting starts with a 30-minute meditation and then open discussion. Held monthly every second Saturday, 4:30 to 6:00 pm, 2172 Kiernan Ave., Modesto at the UUFC in Sarana (small building, rear of the east parking lot). Freely-offered donations welcome. Information: 209 606 7214.

Free Community Drum Circle every third Saturday, 3 pm, Deva Café, 1202 J. St., Modesto. No experience or drums necessary to participate. All levels welcome. <https://drum-love.com/>

Refuge Recovery: A Buddhist Approach to Recovery from Addiction. @Friends Coming of Age., 1203 Tully Rd., Ste. B., Modesto. Saturdays 8-9 am. FREE (donations accepted). Info: RefugeRecoveryModesto@gmail.com

Divine Feminine Gathering. Join us for a time of ritual, song and conversation as women come together to celebrate one another and the Divine among us and within us. 3rd Saturday of the month, 3:30-5:00 p.m. Stockton, CA. Contact Rev. Erin King, 209-815-0763, orkingenne@gmail.com

So Easy – So Good: Vegetarian/Vegan/Wannabe Group. Potlucks, guest speakers, field trips, activist activities, movie nights, etc. Third Saturday of every month. Info: Kathy Haynes (209) 250-9961 or email kathyhaynesSESG@gmail.com

DEADLINE to submit articles to CONNECTIONS: Tenth of each month.

Submit peace, justice, environmental event notices to Jim Costello, jcostello@igc.org
Free Calendar listings subject to space and editing.