



# stanislaus CONNECTIONS

Working for peace, justice and a sustainable environment

A MODESTO  
PEACE/LIFE  
CENTER  
PUBLICATION

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VOLUME XXVII, NO. 2

## Building Your Community Radio Station!

By **JAMES COSTELLO**,  
KCBP General Manager

Great news! Construction on our permanent radio tower site has begun on a hill west of Patterson

KCBP, your local community radio station is now on the air from 2:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. at 95.5 FM, and web streaming at [www.kcbpradio.org](http://www.kcbpradio.org) 24 hours a day.

To truly serve the community, we need volunteers with and without radio experience to help program local shows, music, poetry, plays and discuss current issues and events.



**ACTION:** to volunteer, contact outreach coordinator Jocelyn Cooper at the Peace/Life Center (209) 529-5750,

or email [jocelyncooper2012@gmail.com](mailto:jocelyncooper2012@gmail.com). To donate, send your check to Dave Tucker, memo: "Radio KCBP" at Modesto Peace/Life Center, P.O. Box 134, Modesto, CA 95353. Or go the KCBP Radio website at <http://kcbpradio.org/> and click on the Donate button



**Contractor Ray Gada and Radio Engineer Michael Brown stake out the tower site.**

## Promises to keep: One agency's commitment to children and families

By **TOM PORTWOOD**

One of the crucial community resources addressing homelessness in our area is Family Promise of Greater Modesto, a 501(c)(3) non-profit agency specifically dedicated to helping children and families in need get back on the path to housing stability and a brighter future.

Family Promise is part of a national organization that started in New Jersey when its founder, Karen Olson, discovered the plight of families living in cars and often sleeping at night behind stores, churches, and hospitals. Through her leadership, families needing a place to stay were matched with community resources that could provide them with shelter, meals, and housing. By building community support through a network of collaborating churches and other institutions, the organization very quickly began to make a difference. Now celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Family Promise has 207 affiliates nationwide and serves more than 67,000 people annually.

Locally, Family Promise has been addressing the needs of homeless families and children since 2005.

"I joined Family Promise almost five years ago," Executive Director Tamra Losinski recently remarked. "The network was already up and running and very quietly doing some wonderful work by bringing communities and congregations from many different faiths together to work on this very important social issue – namely, child and family homelessness. We currently have about twenty congregations that work with us, Ms. Losinski

added. "Some of them host and some of them participate in a supporting role. But what it looks like is that each week a congregation commits to hosting four families at their facility. We have roll away beds, each family is given a separate sleeping space, and they provide an evening meal to the families. Almost all of that is done by volunteers."

Child Trends, a national nonprofit research group focusing on children, youth, and families reports that "children without stable homes are more than twice as likely as others to repeat a grade, be expelled or suspended, or drop out of high school." Additionally, "a quarter or more of homeless children have witnessed violence, and more than half have problems with anxiety or depression." Other studies indicate that homeless children are four times more likely to be sick, and twice as likely to go hungry. Family Promise is there to help put an end to this vicious cycle.

While families spend evenings at the congregation to which they have been assigned, they spend the day at the Family Promise Center at 2301 Woodland Avenue, Modesto, where they have access to a kitchen, a washer and dryer, showers, and personal lockers. While at the Center, parents work with Family Promise staff in developing a Housing Stabilization Plan while their children attend local schools.

"Day One at Family Promise is spent making sure they have a meal, a shower, and a place to sleep," Ms. Losinski explained.

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The Modesto Peace/Life Center Invites You To  
**A Harvest Gathering**  
Fundraiser For The Peace Essay Contest

**Friday, October 26, 2018**

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the home of John Frailing & Maria Arevalo  
1125 Edgebrook Dr., Modesto

Enjoy Delicious Hors D'oeuvres, Good Wines, Special Coffees and Teas  
Suggested Donation: \$20 Per Person  
Casual Attire



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To sign-up, send your email address to [Jim Costello, jcostello@igc.org](mailto:jcostello@igc.org)

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



## 22<sup>nd</sup> Stanislaus County Interfaith Council Thanksgiving Celebration

The annual Stanislaus County Interfaith Council Thanksgiving Celebration will be held this year at the Modesto Centre Plaza on Monday, November 19, beginning at 6:45 PM with gathering music.

Presenters representing several faith communities throughout Stanislaus County will bring messages of thanksgiving with song and spoken word. Those who attend the event are asked to bring non-perishable food items, which will be donated to Interfaith Ministries' food pantry. A free-will offering will also benefit Interfaith Ministries.



## Sierra Club Yokuts Annual Yard Sale and Fundraiser

**When:** Saturday, October 6, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

**Where:** 201 Virginia St., Modesto (corner of Virginia and Alice Sts.)

This important Yokuts event is our main fundraiser, allowing us to continue to bring our wonderful programs and informative newsletter to the members of the Sierra Club, Audubon Society and the community.

Best sellers are: Camping and outdoor items, and tools, small furniture items such as chairs, rocking chairs, book cases and tables. Decorative items are also a draw.



## Peace/Life Center looking for volunteers

The Modesto Peace/Life Center needs volunteers to assist with projects, events, our radio project (radio knowledge, skills needed), fundraising, and administrative activities. No experience necessary. Experience in social media, Word, Excel, or other special skills are desired for some volunteer positions. We need volunteers for a few hours per week, or an ongoing commitment.

For more information, contact our volunteer/outreach coordinators: Susan Bower or Jocelyn Cooper at the Peace Life Center (209) 529-5750.

## Film: Reinventing Power: America's Renewable Energy Boom

**When:** Friday November 9, 7 PM

**Who:** Yokuts group Sierra Club

**Where:** College Ave. United Church of Christ, 1341 College Ave., Modesto

Please join Sierra Club members and friends at our monthly program meeting to view and discuss this important film. *Reinventing Power: America's Renewable Energy Boom* takes us across the country to hear directly from the people making our clean energy future achievable. These individuals are working to rebuild what's broken, rethink what's possible, and revitalize communities. Their stories are proof that America does not need to choose between keeping our lights on and protecting our communities.

Over the film's 50 minutes, we will meet people in eight states whose lives were changed by the renewable energy industry while exploring various aspects of the clean energy industry from innovation to installation. Critically, *Reinventing Power* underscores the notion that we don't have to sacrifice jobs for a clean environment. Supporting a clean energy future means building a better, more prosperous future for everyone.

All community members are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served.

<https://www.sierraclub.org/mother-lode/yokuts>

View the trailer here

## Promises to keep

from page 1

"Day Two is getting the children connected to schools. That's a big part of what we do here is to connect families to the resources that are already there, to help them in navigating through all the processes.

"We look at providing basic needs so that they can work on the plans we set up for them to help them overcome homelessness and regain their independence," Ms. Losinski further explained. "If people have the ability to work, then we're going to help them find work. If they have had previous barriers to housing, maybe an eviction in the past, or have bad credit, then we work with them on those issues. A big part of what we do is financial education. - teaching people how to manage the resources they have so that they can maintain their housing independence."



Ms. Losinski was justifiably pleased to report that the network has already stepped up to cover 42 weeks in 2019. "That's 14 people a day for seven days for 42 weeks," she notes. "That adds up to 4,000 nights of shelter, 4,000 meals and all of that as a gift from this community and its congregations of faith!"

Additionally, Family Promise offers families experiencing homelessness two other critically-needed programs

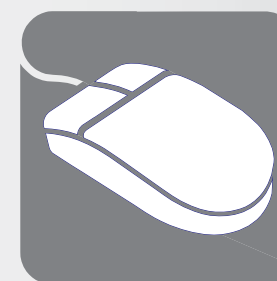
**Rapid Rehousing** – Families receive rent, security deposits, utility deposits, to help them get started in stabilizing their housing. As times goes by, the families take on more of those financial responsibilities as they gradually rebuild their independence.

**Homeless Prevention Program** – With funding from private and government sources, this program provides small grants to families who are on the edge of losing their existing homes. Combined with financial and tenant education, a small amount of assistance can often help families avoid

homelessness altogether.

In conclusion, Ms. Losinski remarked that "Family Promise is not a religious organization and we welcome all people regardless of their beliefs, to come on board and work toward a common goal to end homelessness. Everybody deserves to have a place to live," she stressed. "What we do is very simple, very grassroots. While these problems seem daunting and overwhelming at times, because we see homelessness far more than we did in the past, everyone can do something. Over 80% of the families who have gone through our program have moved on to some sort of more stabilized housing. By working together we can make a big impact."

*To find out more about Family Promise of Greater Modesto, their mailing address is 2301 Woodland Avenue, Suite 8, Modesto, CA 95358, and their web address is [www.modestofamilypromise.org](http://www.modestofamilypromise.org). The organization has many opportunities for volunteers, and additional congregations are always encouraged to join their network. Family Promise is hosting an Open House on Thursday, October 25th, from 3 pm to 7pm. Phone: (209) 549-9454*



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



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209-529-5750

## Fall 2018 Civic Engagement Series

Thursdays in Forum 110, MJC East Campus, 7:00 p.m.

The Civic Engagement Project's Film and Lecture Series promotes engagement in topics of social interest and relevance through the screening of thoughtful movies and by bringing speakers to the campus who have demonstrated knowledge on topics of social significance. A discussion with guest speakers or panelists follows each film.

**Human Flow -- October 18:** *Human Flow* is a visually stunning documentary depicting the desperation that drives millions of people out of their countries in search of safety, security, and justice. The personal impact and the massive scale of world-wide human migration are brought to light in this film which features over twenty countries in its examination of the current refugee crisis, raising important questions about how countries should respond.

**Temple Grandin -- November 1:** This film (starring Claire Danes) presents the life story of Temple Grandin, an autistic woman who faced prejudices and overcame challenges along the path to earning her Ph.D. and becoming an expert in the field of animal husbandry, where she created more humane and efficient ways of handling cattle.

In the week following this film showing, Temple Grandin will visit MJC to speak on the topics of animal behavior (Nov. 6 at 7:00 pm in the AG Pavilion on West Campus. SEATING LIMITED) and autism (Nov. 7 at 7:30 pm in the Main Auditorium of the Performing Arts Center on East Campus SOLD OUT).

**Questions?** Contact Jason Wohlstadter, English Professor, 209.575.6180, wohlstadterj@mjc.edu or Elizabeth McInnes, Biology, 209.575.6299, mcinnese@mjc.edu

## Film Night at the Center: FRONTLINE: Separated: Children at the Border

**When:** Wednesday October 17, 2018 7:00 PM

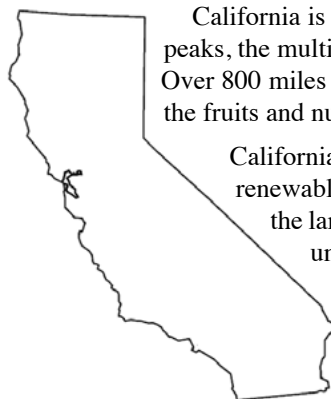
**Where:** Modesto Peace/Life Center, 720 13<sup>th</sup> St., Modesto

The Modesto Peace/Life Center will be screening a timely documentary from Frontline which follows the lives of children tragically separated from their families and parents at the Mexico-US border and looks at immigration policies under the Obama and Trump administrations in order to understand why 3,000 children were eventually separated from their families.

Discussion to follow the screening of the documentary!

View the trailer here

## 2019 Peace Essay Contest



California is a diverse and incredible place to live. From the lowest desert to the towering mountain peaks, the multitude of eco-regions are home to a vast variety of plants and animals as well as humans. Over 800 miles of coastline grace our state and a large agricultural economy produces two thirds of all the fruits and nuts and half of the vegetables grown in the U.S.

California has big cities as well as a landscape dotted by small towns. It is a testing ground for renewable energy and is well known for being on the cutting edge of technology. California has the largest public university system in the nation as well as world-renowned public and private universities.

California has a history that includes people from many ethnic groups around the world, who each bring unique experiences & perspectives to our state. A wide range of languages, traditions, stories, arts and music can be found among Californians.

Numerous categories make up the whole experience of a state. Political, environmental, wildlife and land conservation, ethnic diversity, job opportunities, health and social services, education, and housing are just a few. Within each of these categories are the day-to-day experiences of the people who call this state their home.

Wildfires, mudslides, drought and earthquakes are all hazards of living in California. In addition to dealing with these occurrences, we must successfully meet the challenges of creating a community that allows people to live and thrive safely together.

The 2019 Peace Essay Contest invites you to reflect on the many positive things living in California offers and to also think about what might need to be improved. Write your essay of 500-1000 words following the prompt below:

### Divisions I (grades 11-12) and Division II (grades 9-10):

**Begin** your essay by briefly describing what makes you glad to live in California. Considering the general categories listed in the introduction, or adding one of your own, choose a specific area that you think could be improved to provide a better quality of life for those who live in California. Do some research about your choice. Then, continuing your essay,

- **Identify and describe** the specific area that concerns or worries you.
- **Share** some ideas from your research that might help improve it.
- **Explain** why this improvement would make a positive difference in the lives of Californians.

**Conclude** your essay by explaining how working to improve life in our state is an important step toward creating a more just and peaceful world. (Include your word count at the end of your essay.)

### Divisions III (grades 7-8) and Division IV (grades 5-6):

**Begin** your essay by briefly describing what makes you glad to live in California. Considering the general categories listed in the introduction, or adding one of your own, choose a specific area that you think could be improved to provide a better quality of life for those who live in California. Do some research about your choice. Then, continuing your essay,

- **Identify and describe** the specific area that concerns or worries you.
- **Share** some ideas from your research that might help improve it.

**Conclude** your essay by explaining why this improvement would make a positive difference in the lives of Californians. (Include your word count at the end of your essay.)

### Deadline for Entries:

**November 16, 2018 ~ Notification of Winners: Late February 2019**

**Essays that are outside of the directed word count will not be considered for judging.**

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

Download flyers/entry forms/submission rules:  
<http://peaceessaycontest.weebly.com>

View information:  
[www.stanislausconnections.org](http://www.stanislausconnections.org)

OR  
[www.facebook.com/PeaceEssayContest](https://www.facebook.com/PeaceEssayContest)  
Email questions to: [peaceessay@juno.com](mailto:peaceessay@juno.com)





## 2019 Peace Essay Contest

### Rules & Submission Directions

1. The Peace Essay Contest is open to all fifth through twelfth grade students who live in Stanislaus County or attend any public, private, or home school in Stanislaus County.
2. Submit one copy of your essay. Essays in Division I & II must be typewritten, double spaced. Essays in Divisions III & IV must be either typewritten or written in dark ink, double spaced, using one side of white paper 8 1/2 x 11 inches. Number the pages consecutively. Your essay must be of a quality to photocopy legibly. **YOUR NAME OR IDENTIFYING INFORMATION SHOULD NOT BE ANYWHERE ON OR IN THE ESSAY.**
3. **Give your essay a title.** Place it on the first page where you begin your essay. DO NOT use a separate title or cover page.
4. **IMPORTANT:** Place the word count at the end of your essay. Essays that are outside of the directed word count will not be considered for judging.
5. Print & complete the Entry Form and staple to the front of your essay. Form may be found at: <http://peaceessaycontest.weebly.com> OR [www.stanislausconnections.org](http://www.stanislausconnections.org) OR email request: [peaceessay@juno.com](mailto:peaceessay@juno.com)
6. Cite any quotations, borrowed ideas, and facts that are not general knowledge. If you are uncertain about plagiarism, ask your teacher.
7. You must do your own work. However, you may ask a teacher, parent, or friend for constructive criticism.
8. The Modesto Peace/Life Center reserves the right to reprint entries. Entries will not be returned.
9. Entries may be delivered to the **Modesto Peace/Life Center, 720 13th St., Modesto, from 2pm-5pm on November 14 - 15 - 16, 2018.** You may also mail all entries, postmarked no later than November 16, 2018 to:

**2019 Peace Essay Contest  
Modesto Peace/Life Center  
P.O. Box 134  
Modesto, CA 95353-0134**



### JUDGING

**IMPORTANT:** Essays that are outside of the directed word count will not be considered for judging.

A distinguished group of local writers, educators, and peacemakers will judge the essays. Judging guidelines (in order of weight) include:

1. **Content**
  - A. Does the essay clearly address the assigned topic?
  - B. Does the essay show that the student researched their category and/or specific area of concern?
  - C. Has the writer used relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples to fully develop their ideas?
2. **Style**
  - A. Is the essay original and interesting?
  - B. Does the voice of the writer come through?
3. **Clarity of Expression**
  - A. Does the essay have a distinguishable introduction and conclusion? Is it well organized with clear transitions from one idea to the next?
  - B. Are the ideas clearly stated with factual support?
4. **Mechanics**
  - A. Has the writer attempted to use appropriate transitions, precise language, and an engaging style?
  - B. Are grammar, spelling, and punctuation reasonably correct?
  - C. Does the author cite all quotations, borrowed ideas, and facts that are not general knowledge?

First, Second, and Third prizes will be awarded in each of the four divisions which have at least 15 entries. In the event that fewer than 15 entries are entered in any one division, all prizes may or may not be awarded in that division at the discretion of the judging panel. Up to 3 Honorable Mentions may be awarded in each division. Group entries (more than one author) are welcome; however, a student may only enter one essay.

The writer of the best essay in a division from a school which has ten or more entries in that division will be honored as the school winner. All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation.

### Notification of Winners

In late February, 2019, winners will be notified through the student's teacher. Prizes will be presented at an Awards Reception on Friday March 8, 2019. All participants, teachers, judges, and sponsors will be invited as guests of honor.

### 2019 Peace Essay Committee:

Indira Clark, Peggy Hoover, Linda Lagace, Deborah Roberts, Sandy Sample, Shelly Scribner and David Tucker

This **32th Annual Peace Essay Contest** is a project of the Modesto Peace/Life Center (209) 529-5750 and is co-sponsored by: Department of Literature and Language Arts, Modesto Junior College

## Artists Sought for State's Game Bird Stamp Contest

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is conducting an art contest to select the design for the state's 2018-2019 upland game bird stamp.

The California Upland Game Bird Stamp Art Contest is open to all U.S. residents ages 18 and over. Entries will be accepted from Nov. 20 through Dec. 7.

For contest information and entry forms, visit [www.wildlife.ca.gov/upland-game-bird-stamp](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/upland-game-bird-stamp)

This year's stamp will feature the white-tailed ptarmigan (*Lagopus leucura*). This smallest of North American grouse species exhibits a dramatic change in plumage from a mottled or a barred brown-yellow during breeding in spring to a pure white during the winter months, allowing this chameleon of the bird world excellent camouflage on the ground year-round in its alpine habitat.

In California, ptarmigan occupy the highest elevations of the Sierra Nevada from Alpine County south to Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park.

Entries must include at least one white-tailed ptarmigan, preferably in a habitat or setting representative of California. Entries will be judged on originality, artistic composition, anatomical accuracy and suitability for reproduction as a stamp and a print.

The contest will be judged by a panel of experts in the fields of ornithology, conservation, art and printing. The winning artist will be selected during a public judging event, with the date and location to be announced.

An upland game bird validation is required for hunting migratory and resident upland game birds in California. The money generated from stamp sales must be spent on upland game bird-related conservation projects, education, hunting opportunities and outreach. CDFW sells about 175,000 upland game bird validations annually.

Any individual who purchases an upland game bird validation may request their free collectable stamp by visiting [www.wildlife.ca.gov/licensing/collector-stamps](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/licensing/collector-stamps). For collectors who do not purchase a hunting license or upland game bird validation, or for hunters who wish to purchase additional collectible stamps, an order form is also available on the website.

## Coping with the holidays

**When:** Thursday, November 8, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

**Where:** Community Hospice, 4368 Spyres Way, Modesto.

The holidays are often the most difficult time of the year for those who have lost a loved one. Community Hospice is hosting a free workshop to help those in the community cope with their grief during the holidays.

Participants will receive information to help them understand what they are experiencing and learn coping skills. The program will close with a memorial candle lighting ceremony.

Participants are encouraged to bring a framed picture of their loved one for the remembrance table. For more information or to register call 209.578.6300 or visit <https://heal.hospiceheart.org/>

## Green Tips for a Green Planet: Modesto City Schools Food Services goes compostable



By **TINA ARNOPOLE DRISKILL**

Modesto City Schools Food Services supplies more than 20,000 meals daily. All K-8 schools plus Downey, Davis, Johansen, Modesto and Eliot High Schools are slated to use compostable serving pieces by January 2019.

The City of Modesto and Modesto City Schools have been working together over a 5-year period to implement AB 1826, which requires cities to significantly reduce landfill disposables.

Starting from the first day of school on August 13 all MCS K through 8 schools have been serving meals on compostable serving pieces. Even the spork and napkin are wrapped in a vegetable based cellophane packaging.

During the fall transition to the January goal MCS Food Services will await industry-wide back-ordered biodegrad-

able serving supplies like straws and, return some plastics to vendors.

The good news...though the new service items will incur a significant cost of between \$400 to \$500 thousand dollars, these costs have been calculated over the past 5 years to work into an ongoing budget with no impact on the separate budgets for MCS staff or maintenance.

More good news: MCS works to be green nutritionally. For many years the Food Services Bakery has been using whole grain flours, has significantly lowered sodium content, and has created high fiber, low glycemic recipes.

Do the kids eat these nutritious foods? Probably so, at least those on the panel of student tasters and testers.

**ACTION:** Check in with your district to learn about their progress toward complying with AB 1826.

Encourage schools to go green. Example: Fremont Elementary School is fundraising for a reusable water bottle water dispenser.

Visit MCS Food Services at <http://mcsnutrition.org/>

## Young people's conference in Ceres

**What:** Everyone Counts/Todos Contamos Presents CIVIL:

Conference Integrating Valuable Independent Leaders

**When:** Friday, October 19, 2018

**Where:** Argus High School, 2555 Lawrence St., Multipurpose Rooms, Ceres.

### Schedule

5:00 pm – 5:10 pm: Welcome (General Session)

5:10 pm – 5:30 pm: **Anna Caballero (Speaker)**

5:30 pm – 6:00 pm: Two Panel Discussions:

Lawyers: Immigration Laws

College Students: Politics: How we ended up here



Everyone Counts / Todos Contamos Presents

### CIVIL 2018

CONFERENCE INTEGRATING  
VALUABLE INDEPENDENT LEADERS

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm: Small Group Discussions

7:00 pm – 7:30 pm: Reports (General Session)

7:30 pm – 8:00 pm: Voter Campaign Action Plan

**Registration:** Online at <https://civil2018tickets.eventbrite.com>

For a group registration form, email [psegovianodepier@yahoo.com](mailto:psegovianodepier@yahoo.com) or call Patricia Segoviano de Pier, (818) 357-9416).

**Overview:** Conference Integrating Valuable Independent Leaders (CIVIL) will focus on supporting Leadership Development and Voter Registration. CIVIL will be working with young people and their parents to discuss and address current immigration issues and will underscore the importance of young people registering to vote. As a part of CIVIL, young people will have the opportunity to present issues and their concerns regarding immigration and voter registration. Activities will be provided.

CIVIL is a partnership with Everyone Counts, *Cultiva La Salud* and other community organizations. Youth-focused community groups are invited to highlight how important civic engagement is and local youth organization can provide opportunities for youth to participate in the political arena.

Conference Sponsors: Ceres USD, *Cultiva La Salud*, Community Promotoras and Stanislaus State University.

Since 2011, *Everyone Counts* has worked as a united voice in the Central Valley for creating conscience and commitment in the area of civic engagement. In addition to its own work, it highlights and builds awareness of other active community organizations and their role in the community.

## Boys & Girls Clubs of Stanislaus County Presents Haunted Museum 2018

By **VERONICA JACUINDE**

If you are looking for a fun, family-friendly event to celebrate Halloween, then the Boys & Girls Clubs of Stanislaus County's **Haunted Museum** is for you. The event will take place at the historic McHenry Museum on October 25th, 26th and 27th, 2018. Tickets are \$5 per person. Children under 5 are free.

Offering fun, but not too much fright, the event is designed for children ages 5 to 12 and their families. The celebration will feature seven themed rooms, Halloween crafts, face painting, and a variety of games for kids in the arcade. Guests are encouraged to come dressed in their favorite costumes.

Kit Fox Trolley, a non-profit group that creates unique fundraising events, will guide visitors through the museum. Guests will go from room to room on a colorful and delightful tour

where they will experience some of their favorite Halloween characters. This will be an evening of "Scooby Doo" fun and games, not "Friday the 13th" terror, with plenty of laughs and candy too!

Dave Gianelli, Club board member and Haunted Museum actor says, "Every year this event gets bigger and better. We are happy we can host this special event for the families in our community. Expect to be entertained with kid friendly spooky characters that will have you laughing and scared at the same time." He adds, "Support a great cause and come out and have fun with the family."

The event is sponsored by F&M Bank and all funds will benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs of Stanislaus. Media partners include Hot 104.7 FM, *Modesto News* and the *Modesto View*.

Boys & Girls Clubs provide a safe and fun place for children during after-school hours to learn and grow. Club members get help with homework and participate in activities like sports, technology, art and much more. Kids learn leadership skills, health wellness and education. At the Boys & Girls Club Great Futures Start Here. Visit [www.bgcstan.org](http://www.bgcstan.org) to make your donation to support our kids.

**ACTION:** For tickets visit [www.HauntedMuseum2018.eventbrite.com](http://www.HauntedMuseum2018.eventbrite.com) or buy in person at all Modesto F&M Bank locations, the Boys & Girls Club's administrative office at 422 McHenry Ave. or the McHenry Museum at 1402 I St. For more information call Veronica Jacuinde, (209) 222-5826, ext.89 or email Denise Goodell, [dgoodell@fmbonline.com](mailto:dgoodell@fmbonline.com).



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF STANISLAUS COUNTY

# Chefs of New York

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# Are today's White kids less racist than their grandparents?

To explore more fully what White kids think about race, I went straight to the source: White children themselves.

By MARGARET HAGERMAN

In America's children, we often see hope for a better future, especially when it comes to reducing racism.

Each new generation of White people, the thinking goes, will naturally and inevitably be more open-minded and tolerant than previous ones.

But do we have any reason to believe this? Should we have faith that today's White kids will help make our society less racist and more equitable?

Previous research has had mixed findings. So to explore more fully what White kids think about race, I went straight to the source: White children themselves.

In my new book, "White Kids: Growing Up with Privilege in a Racially Divided America," I explore how 36 White, affluent kids think and talk about race, racism, privilege, and inequality in their everyday lives.

## The limitations of survey data

Before beginning my research, I looked at what previous studies on the racial attitudes of young White people had found.

According to some researchers, we do have reason to be hopeful.

Using survey data, they found that young White people are expressing less prejudice than generations before them. For instance, White support for segregated schools—a traditional measure of racial prejudice—has dramatically decreased over 50 years. And surveys show that younger Whites are less likely to express racial stereotypes than older Whites.

But a second group of researchers disagreed. They found that Whites today simply articulate racial prejudice in new ways.

For example, according to national survey data, high school seniors are increasingly expressing a form of prejudice that sociologist Tyrone Forman calls "racial apathy"—an "indifference toward societal, racial, and ethnic inequality and lack of engagement with race-related social issues."

Racial apathy is a more passive form of prejudice than explicit articulations of bigotry and racial hostility. But such apathy can nonetheless lead White people to support policies

## Racial apathy is a more passive form of prejudice than explicit articulations of bigotry and racial hostility.

and practices that align with the same racist logic of the past, such as a lack of support for social programs and policies designed to address institutional racism or an indifference toward the suffering of people of color.

Other researchers question the ability of surveys to capture honest responses from Whites about race-related questions or to describe the complexity of Whites' perspectives on race.

As useful as surveys can be, they don't allow us to fully understand how White people explain, justify or develop their views on race.

## What the kids said

To better understand how White children think about race, I interviewed and observed 30 affluent White families with kids between the ages of 10 and 13 living in a Midwestern metropolitan area. Over the course of two years, I immersed myself in the everyday lives of these families, observing them in public and in the home, and interviewing the parents and the kids. A few years later, when the kids were in high school, I reinterviewed a subset of the original group.

These children had some shared understandings of race, like the idea that "race is the color of your skin." But when I brought up topics such as racism, privilege, and inequality, their responses started to diverge, and there was more variation than I anticipated.

Some kids told me that "racism is not a problem anymore." But others told me in great detail about the racial wealth gap, employment discrimination, unequal schooling, and racist treatment of Black kids by police.

As an 11-year-old named Chris explained:

"I think that the White kids, since they have more power in general in society ... disciplinary actions aren't brought down as hard upon them. But when it's, you know, a Black kid getting in trouble with the police ... I think people are going to be tougher with them, because, you know, [Black kids] can't really fight back as well."

Although some of the kids had much greater understandings of the history of racism in America, others flattened time and lumped all of African American history together, while also mixing up names and dates.

One 11-year-old named Natalie told me:

"Racism was a problem when all those slaves were around and that, like, bus thing and the water fountain. I mean, everything was crazy back in the olden days. ... But now, I mean, since Martin Luther King and, like, Eleanor Roosevelt, and how she went on the bus. And she was African American and sat on the White part. ... After the 1920s and all that, things changed."

When it came to the understandings of privilege and inequality, some kids made comments like, "There's no such thing [as privilege]. Everyone gets what they deserve in life, if they work for it."

Other kids disagreed, like 11-year-old Aaron:

"I think [Whites] just kind of have the upside. ... And since much of society is run by White people anyway, which is an upside, more White people are, you know, accepted into jobs, so they get the upside. So, yeah, I do think they have the upside."

I also found that many of the children expressed forms of racial apathy. When a Black teenager was shot and killed by a police officer in the community, 16-year-old Jessica told me that she "did not care" about Black people being killed because they "obviously did something to deserve it."

But some kids, like 16-year-old Charlotte, had a different reaction:

"It should all be stopped. There is actually a problem and a system that allowed this to happen. ... Technically, legally, what that officer did was 'OK'? It's like, well, maybe that's the problem. Maybe killing Black people shouldn't be legally 'OK,' you know?"

## The importance of a child's social world

Why such stark differences among these kids?

These kids weren't simply repeating the views of their parents.

I found that their perspectives were shaped less by what their parents explicitly said about race and more by the social environments these kids grew up in—and how their parents constructed these environments.

Decisions parents made about where to live, where to send their kids to school, which extracurricular activities to enroll them in, where they traveled, and what media they consumed work to create what I refer to as a child's "racial context of childhood."

Within this racial context, kids developed ideas about race by observing and interpreting what was going on around them. And because of important variations in these social environments, the children made sense of race in different ways.

In this sense, my work builds on existing scholarship on how children develop understandings about race and racism in the context of family, place, early school experiences, elementary and secondary schools, child care and even summer camp.

All of these aspects of a child's social environment play a role in shaping how they learn about race.

Are White kids less racist than their grandparents? My research with kids doesn't give us any reason to believe that each new generation of White people will naturally or inevitably hold more open-minded and tolerant viewpoints on race than previous generations.

Dismantling racism in the United States will require more than just passive hope.

*This article was originally written for and published by The Conversation. It has been edited for YES! Magazine.*

Margaret Hagerman is assistant professor of Sociology at Mississippi State University.

<https://www.yesmagazine.org/peace-justice/are-todays-white-kids-less-racist-than-their-grandparents-20180925>



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## 'God Only Knows': The tortured, killed, or forcibly disappeared people of Yemen

US citizens bear responsibility for the US government's support of these crimes.

By KATHY KELLY

"If they would just confirm to us that my brother is alive, if they would just let us see him, that's all we want. But we can't get anyone to give us any confirmation. My mother dies a hundred times every day. They don't know what that is like."

In July of 2018, an Amnesty International report entitled "God Knows If He's Alive," documented the plight of dozens of families in southern Yemen whose loved ones have been tortured, killed, or forcibly disappeared by Yemeni security forces reporting to the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The UAE is part of the Saudi-led coalition that, with vital US support, has been bombarding and blockading famine and disease-ravaged Yemen for three brutal years. The disappearances, and torture, can sadly be laid at the doorstep of the United States.

One testimonial after another echoes the sentiments of a woman whose husband has been held incommunicado for more than two years. "Shouldn't they be given a trial?" she asked. "Why else are there courts? They shouldn't be disappeared this way – not only are we unable to visit them, we don't even know if they are dead or alive."

The report describes bureaucratic farces in which families beg for information about their loved ones' whereabouts from Yemeni prosecutors and prison officials, but the families' pleas for information are routinely met with silence or intimidation.

The families are appealing to an unelected Yemeni exile government whose president, Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi, (when "elected" president in 2012, he was the only candidate) generally resides in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The UAE has, so

far, supported Hadi's claim to govern Yemen. However, the Prosecutor General of Hadi's government, as well as other officials, told Amnesty International the government of Yemen has no control over operations "spearheaded by the UAE and implemented by the Yemeni forces it backs."

When months and years pass and families of people who are missing still have no news about their loved ones, some try to communicate unofficially with prison guards or with former detainees who have been released from various detention sites. They repeatedly hear stories about torture of detainees and rumors about prisoners who died in custody.

The Amnesty report implicates UAE-backed local forces in Yemen, as well as the UAE military, in the crimes of torture and other ill-treatment of detainees. Of seven former or current detainees interviewed by Amnesty, five said they were subjected to these abuses. "All seven witnessed other detainees being tortured," the report adds, "including one who said he saw a detainee held in a cell next to him being carried away in a body bag after he had been repeatedly tortured."

In June 2017, Human Rights Watch and the Associated Press exposed a network of clandestine prisons operated by the UAE in Yemen. Their reports described ghastly torture inflicted on prisoners and noted that senior US military leaders knew about torture allegations. Yet, a year later, there has been no investigation of these allegations by the Yemeni government, by the UAE, or by the UAE's most powerful ally in the Yemen war, the United States.

"It is shocking, to say the least," the Amnesty report states, "that one year after a network of secret prisons operated by the UAE and the Yemeni forces it backs was exposed, these facilities continue to operate and that there has not been a serious investigation undertaken into credibly documented violations, including systemic torture in custody." The Amnesty report calls on the US to "facilitate independent oversight, including by the US Congress, over US military or intelligence cooperation with Yemeni and UAE forces involved in detention activities in Yemen." It further calls for investigating any involvement of US military or intelligence personnel in detention-related abuses in Yemen.

To date, the US continues selling weapons to the UAE and to its coalition partner, Saudi Arabia, despite several Congressional debates and a few increasingly close votes demanding a full or partial end to US weapons sales considering the terrible practices being carried out as part of the Yemen war.

Since March of 2015, a coalition of nine countries led by Saudi Arabia and the UAE and relying on crucial U.S. logistical aid, has bombarded Yemen while blockading its major port, despite Yemen's status as one of the poorest countries in the world. Targeting transportation, electrical plants, sewage and sanitation facilities, schools, mosques, weddings and funerals, the vicious bombing has led to starvation, displacement, and the spread of disease including cholera.

On the same day that the Amnesty report was released, Saudi Arabia's Salman pardoned "all military men, who have taken part in the Operation Restoring Hope of their respective military and disciplinary penalties, in regard of some rules and disciplines." It seems likely that the Amnesty report precipitated this royal decree.

Along with three countries in North Africa's "Sahel" desert region, Yemen has been cited as part of the worst famine crisis in the 70-year history of the UN. In the past three years of aerial and naval attacks, Yemen's key port of Hodeidah has remained partially or fully closed despite the country's vital need for relief supplies. And, while Yemenis suffer the chaos and despair characteristic of war, the Saudis and UAE refer to the war as "Operation Restoring Hope."

Many thousands of Yemenis, subjected to consistent bombing and threats of starvation and famine, have fled their homes. Many seek refuge out of Yemen. For instance, close to 500 Yemenis have traveled nearly 500 miles to reach a visa-free port on South Korea's Jeju Island. On July 21, during an international phone call hosted by young friends in Afghanistan, listeners heard Kaia, a resident of Jeju Island, describe the "Hope School." She explained how she and several other young people are trying to help welcome Yemenis now living in their village of Gangjeong. The young people are already committed to peacefully resisting U.S. and South Korean military destruction of their shoreline and ecosystem. Now, they have started an informal school so Yemeni and South Korean residents can learn from one another. Small groups gather for conversational exchanges translated from Arabic to English to Korean. Many South Koreans can recall, in their own familial history, that seven million Koreans fled Japanese occupation of their land. Their Korean forebears relied on hospitality from people in other lands. The Catholic Bishop of the Jeju diocese, Monsignor Kang Woo-il, called on Koreans to embrace Yemeni refugees, labeling it a crime against human morality to shut the door on refugees and migrants.

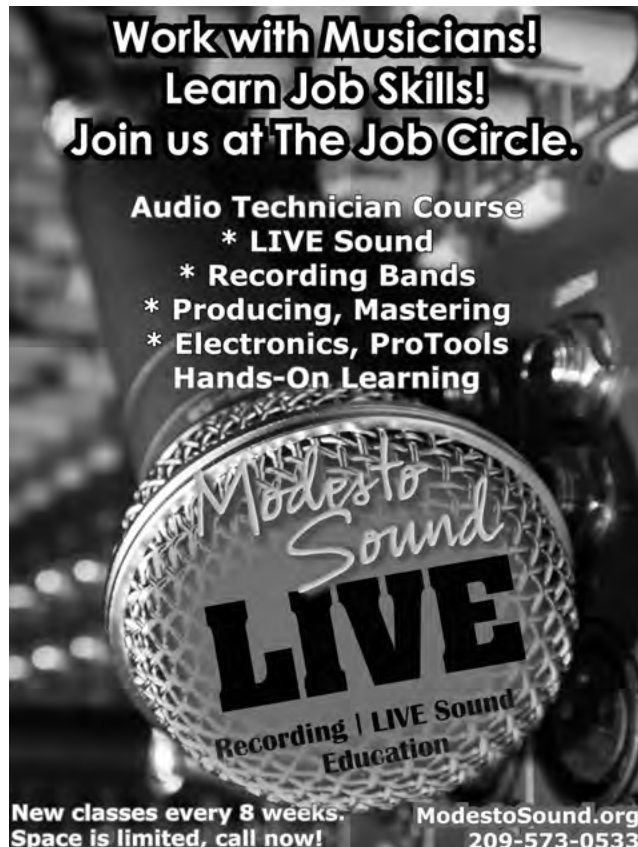
Kaia's account of the newly launched school describes an effort that truthfully involves restoring hope. The cynical designation of Saudi and UAE led war in Yemen as "Operation Restoring Hope" creates an ugly smokescreen that distracts from the crucial need to investigate war crimes committed in Yemen today.

US citizens bear responsibility for the US government's support of these crimes.

The Yemenis mean us no harm and have committed no crime against us. Congressional votes have come quite close, with bipartisan support, to ending US participation in and support for the Saudi and Emirati led Coalition war against Yemen. Ending arms sales to the UAE and Saudi monarchies, supported by both sides of the aisle, will signal to the UAE and Saudi Arabia the US will no longer assist their efforts to prolong war and siege in Yemen. On cue from the initiative and energy shown by young South Koreans, people in the US can and should organize campaigns to educate their communities, educational institutions, and media outlets about the plight of people in Yemen. Conscious of the nightmare faced by Yemenis whose husbands, brothers, fathers and sons have been disappeared or detained by shadowy military enforcers, US people can work toward implementing each recommendation in Amnesty's devastating report.

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Kathy Kelly (kathy@vcnv.org) co-coordinates Voices for Creative Nonviolence



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## Murder in a Small Town

*Ruston, Louisiana*

*In memoriam, R.C. Williams*

It smacks you hard in the face  
This slightly out-of-focus photograph  
You try and put it out of your mind  
But the brutal image grips you in its thrall  
Bloodies your sense of well-being  
Loosens your grasp on your moral compass  
Demands you look at it  
Think about it  
Search deep inside yourself to come to grips with it  
For there it is, the sin, our sin  
Our nation's crime  
The lifeless body  
Dangling  
The ubiquitous rope  
The bare branches of a majestic oak  
The searing reality of what just happened  
In the clearing, where the oak had stood since  
Reconstruction  
Where acorns dropped on silty Louisiana soil  
Near the cotton fields where R.C. had bled into the soil  
since he was six  
Where the white man let you know he gave no slack  
Not in the blinding suffocating heat  
Not if your family barely made a living and still had to buy  
at the company store  
Not if you were sick with grief or riven by consumption  
Not if every muscle in your soul cried out in anguish and  
rage  
At the white man's terror and the white man's cruelty  
There the teenager hangs  
Yes, he was only a teenager  
His neck broken  
Head tilted above his right shoulder  
Naked from the waist down  
Hands cinched tight behind his back  
It's October 11, 1938  
His name is R. C. Williams  
In some accounts he's called W.C. Williams  
We'll never know which is right  
He's nineteen years old  
White men murdered him this day  
They said he killed a man  
A white man  
Clubbed him with a baseball bat  
Said he took the baseball bat to the dead man's girlfriend  
Said R.C. confessed on the spot  
Said enough to whip a town into a mob  
Into blood lust  
Never mind the rule of law or justice  
Never mind common decency  
Never mind R. C. never had a chance  
That anyone could have fingered him  
And who'll doubt a white man's word?  
None of that mattered  
Instead, the mob became a beast

Ran R.C. down and whipped him till he lay bleeding by  
the road  
Then hung him and shot him full of bullets  
By some accounts, castrated him  
Lit a fire beneath his body, then thought better of it  
That's when someone took the photograph  
Memorialized the crime  
In grainy documentary horror  
The murderers chat breezily among themselves  
As if it's just another lazy Thursday afternoon  
Maybe about the price of cotton  
Or how lousy Tech is this season  
Or what a good ole boy Sheriff Thigpen is  
And he won't cause us no trouble, no sir  
Some of the murderers are lighting cigarettes  
Some have hands resting on hips  
Smiling or half-smiling, turning to a neighbor  
Sleeves rolled up for work  
Fedoras tilted at jaunty angles  
Supertime on their minds  
These are farmers, bankers, tradesmen  
Pillars of the community  
Only one of them  
Just one  
Looks up at R. C.  
His gaze is steady, direct  
Lingering  
As if he's seeking something he can't find  
Some deeper meaning to the day  
Maybe his own humanity  
Forever lost in the sunken eyes of the young man he's  
killed

It's 1938  
It's the year of *Kristallnacht*  
Of shattered lives and state-fomented pillage  
Of Goebbels taunting a civilization to bloodlust  
Of murder forged in the crucible of hatred  
Of shards of souls left sprinkled on cobblestoned  
thoroughfares  
Under the lampposts of ancient metropolises  
Of ruined synagogues and preludes to Final Solutions  
Five thousand miles away, Rustonians call their brand of  
racial terror Southern Justice  
But it's an epidemic of lynching trees across the land  
The twisted soul of a nation exposed in photos of lynchings  
Reprinted in *Time* and *Life*  
It's 1938  
The *Ruston Daily Leader* makes mention of the radio play  
*The War of the Worlds*  
Devotes a column to a charity campaign for the needy  
But the news of the day, the headline of the moment:  
Insufficient evidence found to bring charges in the death of  
R. C. Williams  
The townspeople go about their business, plan for the holidays  
Eighty years on  
The photograph haunts me  
Haunts us  
Eighty years on

We take one step forward, three steps back  
A new racial terror sprouts from a nation's original sin  
The stench of hatred thick as swamp gas, a poison in the  
bloodstream  
Spurred on by Neo Nazis and White Supremacists  
Billie Holiday's *Strange Fruit* played out now in viral  
videos  
Repeating endless loops of bleary images -  
Young Black men shot or strangled on street corners in  
broad daylight or  
In the backyards of their grandmothers or  
In the front seats of their own cars reaching for registration  
papers  
Young Black men and women dying, dying without cause  
Dying alone  
Dying because of the color of their skin  
Dying before they had time to live

Eighty years on  
It's the brazen chattiness of the murderers  
That shocks us  
Pins them in their calculated terror  
Compels us to recognize our own complicity  
It's R. C. Williams who gains nobility  
Who towers above his white killers  
It's to him we now turn  
Begging forgiveness  
Knowing the hardest work always awaits us

— Tom Portwood

**Note:** *The Equal Justice Initiative has documented over 4,000 racial terror lynchings in twelve Southern states between the end of Reconstruction in 1877 and 1950. The same organization has also documented more than 300 racial terror lynchings in other states during this time period.*

## Help! “Kitchen Korner” needs small kitchen items for the Homeless

**By SHELLY SCRIBNER & SANDY SAMPLE**

The Peace/Life Center's Homeless Project's “Kitchen Corner” urgently needs donations of SMALL gently-used kitchen items.

We're especially in need of pots and pans, dishes, serving dishes, pots and pans can openers, and cooking tools of all kinds.

Please look through your kitchen cupboards for items you don't really need that might be useful for someone who's finally able to make the transition from living on the streets to living in an apartment or house.

**ACTION:** Call Sandy (209) 523-8445, Shelly (209) 521-6304, or Frank (209) 556-2376, to arrange a time to meet you at the Peace/Life Center to receive your items and give you a receipt.







## Bus Stop

The lady at the bus stop  
Was anything but trash.  
Our Creator blew His spirit  
And she rose up from the ash.  
That lady held her head in hand;  
She's troubled just like us,  
But holds her worries all alone  
As she awaits the bus.  
Her anatomy's esoteric;  
She's understood by all too few.  
Disguised by someone's discards,  
Underneath—like me and you.  
On her shoulder is a canvass bag  
She found in mud knee deep.  
Inside are trinkets, memories.  
For her heart and soul to keep.  
No one joins her on her bench,  
No one offers a ride  
To the lady who could be Grandma,  
Whose world has up and died.  
As a girl, she had a Teddy bear, a doll, a bike and toys.  
She loved and laughed and sang and danced,  
Knowing hugs and smiles and joys.  
But the twists can oft betray us,  
Not seeing we're each a gift;  
As the lady alone sits waiting  
For the bus to offer a lift.

~Andra Greenwald

## Not Kosher

It's really not kosher, the way we live--  
Not often honoring the words we give.  
I count on you and you on me  
And it worked in the world that used to be.  
We had expectations and knew we could  
Expect the other to act as we would.  
Today, I'm saddened when friend and foe  
Ignore commitments and let their vows go.  
When trust is absent and truth eludes,  
You wonder 'bout my darkening moods?  
In simpler times, we RSVP'd;  
We helped our neighbors when they had a need.  
Young and old showed up on time  
And would easily part with their last dime.  
We called our grandmas, respected Gramps;  
Our parents were our all-time champs.  
Our values have turned in downward directions;  
Even first-graders discuss their erections.  
The 50's are where we all should have stayed.  
I'm told to take lemons and make lemonade,  
But the lemons are bitter and most are so tart.  
I'll need lots of sugar to get a good start.

~Andra Greenwald

## 'Bout Loving'

Leviticus tells us man can't lie with man  
And denies a true loving that is--  
Simply because the man's innermost soul  
Loves a body that looks just like his.  
A woman, as well, has her limits;  
We tell her who must be her other.  
So what if her soul connects deeply  
With one who's built just like her mother?  
We're damning the Almighty's child  
Based on her erogenous zone,  
Refusing to embrace her true love  
And shouting she must be alone.  
A young man, he sits in the corner;  
A rainbow is drawn on his face.  
His neighbors, they choose to walk past him;  
To them he has fallen from Grace.  
The pain we inflict on our children  
We say is the ruling of G-d,  
But He created all children  
So, rejecting them really feels odd.  
I ask you to look in the mirror;  
I ask you, "What do you see?"  
If you don't love the person who's in there,  
Of course, then, you cannot love me.

~Andra Greenwald

## Dark

The lady in the newsroom,  
Post the rally in the park,  
Felt the shadow in the heavens  
Was a symbol of the dark.  
The blanket of division  
Doesn't keep our children warm;  
Rather, it propels them toward  
The center of the storm.  
The sun peeked back mid-morning,  
But how long will she stay?  
Perhaps depends upon us all  
And the dance we do today.  
They lined up for dark glasses  
To look into the sky.  
My family lined up, too, you know,  
With other Jews, to die.  
The lines these days 'tween love and hate  
Erase; they're shadows, blurs.  
We look away when others cry,  
Ignoring painful slurs.  
When will the darkness lift, you ask?  
Outside, it left this morn.  
Please pray that inner hate lifts, too,  
Before my grandkid's born.

~Andra Greenwald

...for the dangerous words  
hiding in the pages...  
Kristiana Rae Colón

# WORDS HAVE NO BORDERS

Manny Moreno · Lillian Vallee ·  
Hmong American Writers' Circle ·  
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# The Most Disturbing Excerpts from Woodward's New Book on Trump White House

**"This is one of the most disturbing accounts of what is going on in the White House that we've seen yet. If one-tenth of it is accurate, we are, in a very real sense, in the midst of a national emergency."**

**By JAKE JOHNSON, staff writer, Common Dreams**

Bob Woodward has a book which details the first year and a half of Donald Trump's presidency, and excerpts published by the *Washington Post* and *CNN* depict a White House in the midst of a "nervous breakdown," sparked by a man who top aides have referred to as "an idiot,"... a "professional liar," and "a goddamn dumbbell" who has the understanding of "a fifth- or sixth-grader."

**"He's an idiot. It's pointless to try to convince him of anything. He's gone off the rails. We're in Crazytown."**

**— John Kelly, White House chief of staff**

According to the *Post*—where Woodward has worked as a reporter and editor for decades—the "thrust" of *Fear: Trump*

*in the White House* "mostly focuses on substantive decisions and internal disagreements, including tensions with North Korea as well as the future of U.S. policy in Afghanistan."

But these substantive decisions and disagreements often produced startling moments in which the president revealed his total ignorance and lack of fitness for office.

"He's an idiot. It's pointless to try to convince him of anything," White House Chief of Staff John Kelly reportedly complained during a small group meeting. "He's gone off the rails. We're in Crazytown. I don't even know why any of us are here. This is the worst job I've ever had."

Here are some of the most revealing and disturbing excerpts from Woodward's book, which was published on Sept. 11.

**"You don't need a strategy to kill people."**

During a meeting last July, Trump's national security advisers attempted to "educate" the president on foreign policy.

The gathering quickly went awry, however, when Trump decided to unload on his generals for attempting to discuss Afghanistan strategy.

"You should be killing guys. You don't need a strategy to kill people," Trump said, according to Woodward.

**"Don't testify. It's either that or an orange jumpsuit."**

Despite Trump's reported insistence that he would be "a real good witness" in an interview with Special Counsel Robert Mueller, the president's former lawyer John Dowd—who resigned in March—firmly believed that Trump would commit perjury if he talked to Mueller.

According to Woodward, Dowd explained to Mueller in January that he did not want the president to do an interview because he didn't want to "sit there and let him look like an idiot."

The president's attorney also worried that if a transcript of the interview leaked, as it inevitably would, people would say, "I told you he was an idiot. I told you he was a goddamn dumbbell. What are we dealing with this idiot for?"

Dowd later pleaded with Trump directly: "Don't testify. It's either that or an orange jumpsuit."

**"He's this dumb Southerner"**

Trump has a well-known habit of berating Attorney General Jeff Sessions in public, but according to Woodward, Trump uses far more abrasive and offensive language to ridicule Sessions behind closed doors.

"This guy is mentally retarded," Trump said of the former Alabama senator he picked to lead the Justice Department. "He's this dumb Southerner... He couldn't even be a one-person country lawyer down in Alabama."

**"An administrative coup d'etat"**

Reportedly alarmed by Trump's volatile combination of ignorance and impulsiveness, Woodward reports that top White House aides devised a strategy of stealing documents from the president's desk so he wouldn't see or sign them.

In Woodward's account, last spring former National Economic Council director Gary Cohn swiped "a letter off Trump's desk" the president planned to sign that would have withdrawn the U.S. from a trade agreement with South Korea.

Cohn later told an associate that Trump never noticed the letter was missing.

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Ed note: this article is slightly edited for language. To read the entire article, visit

<https://www.commondreams.org/news/2018/09/04/lets-fking-kill-him-were-crazytown-most-disturbing-excerpts-woodwards-new-book-trump>

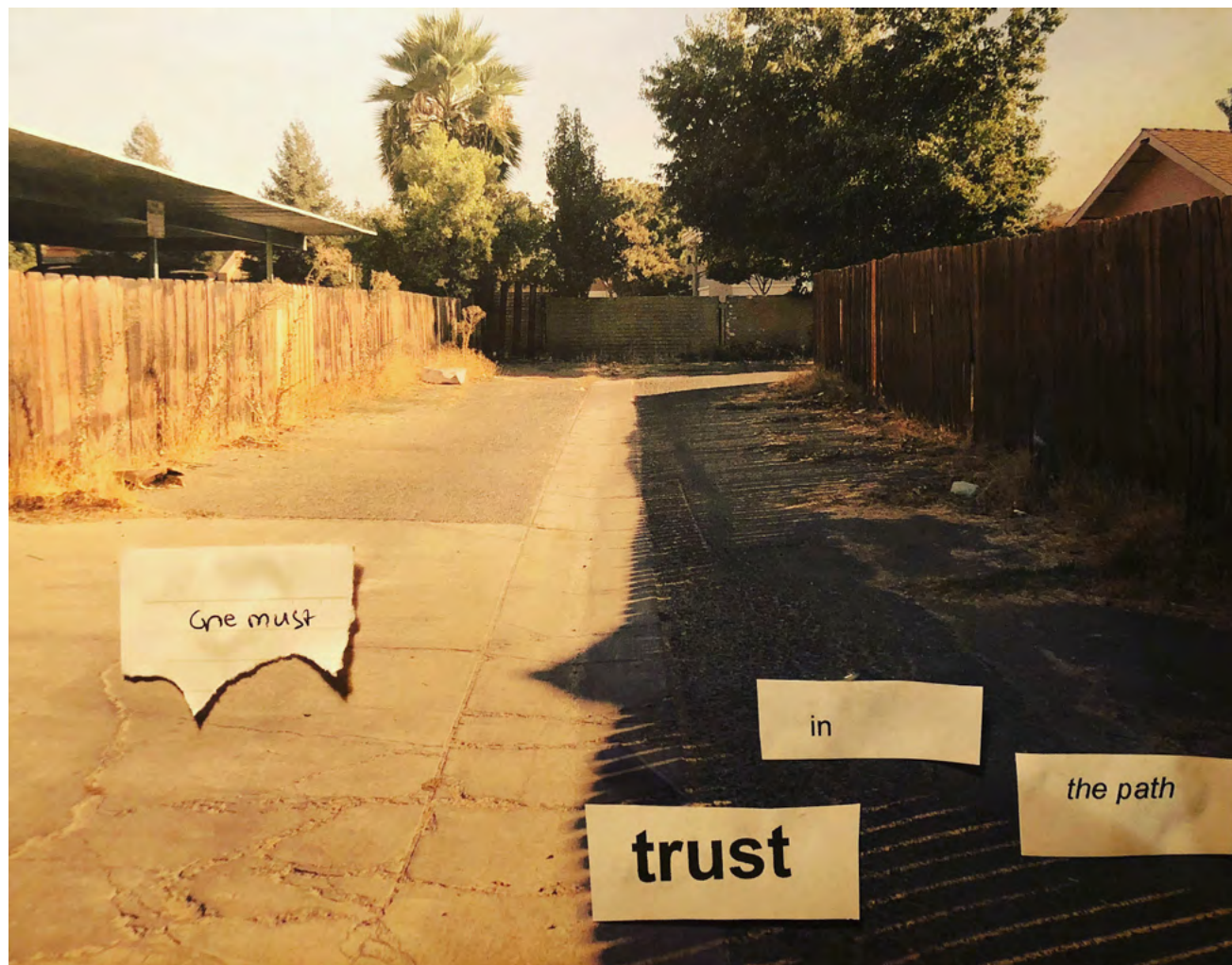


Photo Collage by Joe Homer

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# Why I’m betting on Millennials, this November 6th

By ROBERT REICH

Millennials (and their younger siblings, generation Z’s) are the largest, most diverse and progressive group of potential voters in American history, comprising fully 30 percent of the voting age population.

On November 6th, they’ll have the power to alter the course of American politics – flipping Congress, changing the leadership of states and cities, making lawmakers act and look more like the people who are literally the nation’s future.

But will they vote?

In the last midterm election, in 2014, only 16 percent of eligible voters between the ages of 18 and 29 bothered.

In midterms over the last two decades, turnout by young people has averaged about 38 points below the turnout rate of people 60 and older. Which has given older voters a huge say over where the nation is likely to be by the time those younger people reach middle age and the older voters have passed on.

I’m not criticizing younger non-voters. They have a lot on their minds – starting jobs, careers, families. Voting isn’t likely to be high on their list of priorities.

Also, unlike their grandparents – boomers who were involved in civil rights, voting rights, women’s rights, the anti-Vietnam War movement – most young people today don’t remember a time when political action changed America for the better.

They’re more likely to remember political failures and scandals – George W. Bush lying about Saddam Hussein’s weapons of mass destruction; Bill Clinton lying about Monica; both parties bailing out Wall Street without so much

as a single executive going to jail.

Most don’t even recall when American democracy worked well. They don’t recall the Cold War, when democracy as an ideal worth fighting for. The Berlin Wall came down before they were born.

Instead, during their lives they’ve watched big money take over Washington and state capitals. Which may explain why only about 30 percent of Americans born in the 1980s think it “essential” to live in a democracy.

Many young people have wondered if their votes count anyway, because so many of them live in congressional districts and states that are predictably red or blue.

Given all this, is there any reason to hope that this huge, diverse, progressive cohort of Americans will vote in the upcoming midterms?

My answer is, yes.

First, the issues up for grabs aren’t ideological abstractions for them. They’re causes in which Millennials have direct personal stakes.

Take, for example, gun violence – which some of these young people have experienced first-hand and have taken active roles trying to stop.

Or immigrant’s rights. Over 20 percent of Millennials are Latino, and a growing percent are from families that emigrated from Asia. Many have directly experienced the consequences of Trump’s policies.

A woman’s right to choose whether to have a baby, and gay’s or lesbian’s rights to choose marriage – issues Millennials are also deeply committed to – will be front and center if the Supreme Court puts them back into the hands of Congress and state legislatures.

Millennials are also concerned about student debt, access to college, and opportunities to get ahead unimpeded by racial bigotry or sexual harassment.

And they’re worried about the environment. They know climate change will hit them hardest since they’ll be on the planet longer than older voters.

They’ve also learned that their votes count. They saw

Hillary lose by a relative handful of votes in places like Michigan, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania.

They’ve been witnessing razor-thin special elections, such as Conor Lamb’s win by a few hundred votes in the heart of Pennsylvania Trump country, and Hiral Tipirneni’s single-digit loss in an Arizona district Trump won by 21 points in 2016.

They know the importance of taking back governorships in what are expected to be nail-bitingly close races – in states like Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Kansas. They’re aware of the slim but increasingly real possibility of taking back the Senate. (Who knew Ted Cruz would be so vulnerable? Who even knew the name Beto O’Rourke?)

As doubtful as they these young people are about politics, or the differences between the two parties, they also know that Trump and his Republican enablers want to take the nation backwards to an old, white, privileged, isolated America. Most of them don’t.

In my thirty-five years of teaching college students, I’ve not encountered a generation as dedicated to making the nation better as this one.

So my betting is on them, this November 6th.

The author is the Chancellor’s Professor of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley, and a senior fellow at the Blum Center for Developing Economies. He served as secretary of labor in the Clinton administration, for which Time magazine named him one of the 10 most effective cabinet secretaries of the twentieth century. He has written fifteen books, including the best-sellers *Aftershock*, *The Work of Nations*, *Beyond Outrage* and *Saving Capitalism*. He is also a founding editor of The American Prospect magazine, chairman of Common Cause, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and co-creator of the award-winning documentary, “Inequality for All.” Reich’s newest book is “*The Common Good*.” He’s co-creator of the Netflix original documentary “Saving Capitalism,” which is streaming now. [commondreams.org/views/2018/09/24/why-im-betting-millennials-november-6th](http://commondreams.org/views/2018/09/24/why-im-betting-millennials-november-6th)



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California Ballot Propositions	LWV	CFL	Sierra	CCC	CA Dem	CA Rep
1 Veterans & Affordable Housing Bond	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	N
2 Homeless Housing Bond	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	-
3 Water Bond	N	Y	N	Y	-	-
4 Children's Hospital Bond	N	-	-	Y	Y	N
5 Property Tax	N	N	-	-	N	Y
6 Gas Tax Repeal	N	N	N	N	N	Y
7 Daylight Savings Time	-	-	-	-	Y	-
8 Dialysis	-	Y	-	Y	Y	N
9 Removed from Ballot	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 Repeal Costa Hawkins	Y	Y		Y	Y	N
11 Ambulance drivers	-	N		N	N	Y
12 Farm Animals	-	Y		N	Y	N

LWV = League of Women Voters    CFL = CA Federation of Labor    Sierra = Sierra Club    CCC = California Council of Churches



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

## OCTOBER

**MJC Science Colloquium Schedule**, Fall 2018, Wednesdays, 3:15-4:15 pm Science Community Center, Rm 115, MJC West Campus. **Oct. 3:** Tom Crain: Carl Sagan. **Oct. 10:** Dr. Seang Seng: Cambodian Killing Fields. **Oct. 17:** Peter Drekmeier, Tuolumne River Trust: The Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan: Our Last Best Hope to Restore the Delta and Rivers that Feed It. **Oct. 24:** Emily Malsam & Nathan Bento, Professors, MJC Literature & Language Arts: 18th Century Science Fiction and Science. **Oct. 31:** Dr. Debi Bolter, MJC Anthropology Professor: Critical Recovery Efforts After Hurricane Maria at the Caribbean Primate Research Center and Cayo Santiago, Puerto Rico. \$2 Parking Permits from dispensers located near campus entrances.

**MAPS (Modesto Area Partners in Science)**. Free, informative, engaging community science programs. 7:30 pm, MJC West Campus, Sierra Hall 132. **Fri. Oct. 26:** Holley Moyes (UC Merced), Archaeology of Religion in Ancient Mesoamerican Civilizations. **Fri. Nov. 16:** Brandon Wood, Ph.D., Lawrence Livermore Laboratory; Hydrogen Storage Materials Advanced Research Consortium (HyMARC). **Fri. Dec. 7:** New time: 6:00 pm, Sergei Samborski, CSU Stanislaus, The 1986 Chernobyl Meltdown and Consequences.

**STUDENTS: ENTER THE PEACE ESSAY CONTEST.** Details inside this issue, page 3-4.

**3 WED: VIGIL: Vote for Justice**, McHenry & J St., 4:30-5:30 pm.

**6 SAT: Sierra Club Yokuts Annual Yard Sale Fundraiser**, 201 Virginia St., Modesto (corner of Virginia and Alice Sts.), 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

**10 WED: The State Theatre presents Ghostbusters**. 1307 J. St., 7:00 pm. <http://www.thestate.org/calendar/event/index.php?id=1096>. Become a member of the State Theatre and get perks! Visit <http://www.thestate.org/membership>.

**17 WED: Film Night at the Center: FRONTLINE: Separated: Children at the Border** follows the lives of children tragically separated from their families and parents at the Mexican-US border. Looks at immigration policies under Obama and Trump administrations. Why were 3,000 children separated from their families? Discussion after. 7:00 pm, 720 13th St., Modesto.

**18 THURS: MJC Civic Engagement Film, Human Flow** about world migration. 7:00 pm, Forum 110, East Campus. See article, this issue.

**19 FRI: Everyone Counts/Todos Contamos Presents CIVIL: Conference Integrating Valuable Independent Leaders**. Supporting Leadership Development and Voter Registration, working with young people and parents on immigration issues underscoring the importance of young people registering to vote. Guest speaker: Anna Caballero. Registration: <https://civil2018tickets.eventbrite.com>. Info: [psegovianodepier@yahoo.com](mailto:psegovianodepier@yahoo.com) or call (818) 357-9416).

**20 SAT: El Concilio's 50th Annual Gala Dinner in Stockton**. To learn more, contact Annette Sanchez, (209) 644-2627 or email [asan@elconcilio.org](mailto:asan@elconcilio.org).

**20 SAT: Words Have No Borders: A Night of Poetry & Fire**. Poetry, friendship, special guest poets. Non-profit resources, voter registration. College Ave. United Church of Christ, 1341 College Ave., Modesto. 7:00 pm. More on Facebook.

**21 SUN: The Modesto Film Society and The State Theatre presents Stanley Kubrick's The Shining**. 1307 J. St., 2:00 pm. <http://www.thestate.org/calendar/event/index.php?id=1077>. Become a member of the State Theatre and get perks! Visit <http://www.thestate.org/membership>.

**26 FRI: Harvest Gathering** fundraiser for Peace Essay Contest. See front page, this issue.

**25, 26, 27 THURS, FRI, SAT: Boys & Girls Clubs of Stanislaus County presents "Haunted Museum 2018."** See article, this issue for details.

## LOOKING AHEAD

**Tuesday November 6 - Election Day: VOTE!**

**Thursday, November 8: Coping with the Holidays.** Free workshop. Community Hospice, 4368 Spyres Way, Modesto. 6:30 pm.

**Friday November 9: Yokuts Sierra Club** presents the film, Reinventing Power: America's Renewable Energy Boom. College Avenue United Church of Christ, 1341 College Ave., Modesto. 6:45 pm. See article, this issue. Visit <https://www.sierraclub.org/mother-lode/yokuts>

**Monday November 19: 22nd Stanislaus County Interfaith Council Thanksgiving Celebration at the Modesto Centre Plaza**, 6:45 pm with gathering music. Faith communities bring messages of thanksgiving with song and spoken word. Bring non-perishable food items for the Interfaith Ministries' food pantry. A free-will offering will also benefit Interfaith Ministries.

**Friday, December 7: Annual Holiday Potluck Song Fest.** Celebrate our Peace Community at the Onorato's, 1532 Vernon Ave., Modesto. Bring your favorite dish and beverage to share, your merry Holiday spirit, and your eagerness to sing. 6 to 9 pm. Bring an unwrapped children's book (K-6). All welcome.

**Tuesday, January 15: Annual John McCutcheon Concert**, 7:00 pm, Modesto Church of the Brethren.

**TBA: Peace Essay Contest Awards Ceremony.**

**June 28-30-Peace Camp in the Sierra.**

## REGULAR MEETINGS

### SUNDAYS

**Modesto Vineyard Christian Fellowship**, 10:00 am at the MODSPOT, 1220 J St. Call or text 209-232-1932, email [modestovineyard@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:info@imcv.org)

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

### MONDAYS

**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](mailto:WalkWithMeGroup@gmail.com) or call 209.577.1604.

**Silver & Gold Support Group** 50+ years of age. Ongoing support group for mental health and wellness to meet the needs of the mature Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) community. Every Monday 3:00 - 4:00 pm, Community-Hope-Recovery, 305 Downey Ave. Modesto. Info: Monica O, [Tiamonica64@gmail.com](mailto:Tiamonica64@gmail.com) or Susan J, [SusanthePoet@gmail.com](mailto:SusanthePoet@gmail.com)

### TUESDAYS

**NAACP Meeting**. Christ Unity Baptist Church, 601 'L' St., Modesto, 3rd Tuesday @ 7 pm. 209-645-1909; email: [naacp.branch1048@gmail.com](mailto: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 Road, Donation. 209-

## MODESTO PEACE LIFE CENTER ACTIVITIES

**Modesto Peace/Life Center VIGILS:** held THE FIRST WEDNESDAY of the month at McHenry Ave. and J. St. (Five points), 4:30-5:30 pm. Call the Center for info: 529-5750.

**MEDIA:** Listen to Peace/Life Center radio, KCBP 95.5 FM streaming at <http://www.KCBPradio.org>

**PEACE LIFE CENTER BOARD MEETING**, FIRST Thursdays, 720 13th St., Modesto, 6:30 pm, 529-5750.

**MEDIA COMMITTEE** of Peace Life Center. Meetings TBA. Call John Lucas, 527-7634.

**CONNECTIONS EDITORIAL MEETINGS:** Info: 537-7818, [jcostello@igc.org](mailto:jcostello@igc.org)

**PEACE/LIFE CENTER MODESTO**, 720 13th St. Call 529-5750. We'll get back to you with current info on activities.

505-3216, [www.Funstrummers.com](http://www.Funstrummers.com).

**IMCV weekly Insight Meditation** and dharma talk, 6:30 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](mailto: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](mailto: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: [merced-board@gaycentralvalley.org](mailto:merced-board@gaycentralvalley.org) - 1744 G St. Suite H, Merced, CA. [www.mercedlgbtcenter.org](http://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/>

**Modesto Folk Dancers** All levels welcome. Raube Hall, Ceres (call for address), 480-0387.

**LGBT 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](mailto:info@stanpride.org) , or [tgsupport@stanpride.org](mailto:tgsupport@stanpride.org)

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

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

### THURSDAYS

**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

**LGBTQA Collaborative Meetings** 4th Thursdays. Agendas are the same for each meeting. Lunch meeting: Peer Recovery Art Center, 1222 J St, Modesto, Noon to 1:30 pm. Dinner meetings: Stanislaus BHRS - Redwood Room, 800 Scenic Dr., Modesto, CA 95354, 5:30 pm to 7 pm. Dedicated to promoting well-being in the LGBTQA community. John Aguirre, [jpmamodelsto@gmail.com](mailto:jpmamodelsto@gmail.com), 559-280-3864.

**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](http://www.StanislausGreenTeam.com)

**Third Thursday Art Walk**, Downtown Modesto, downtown art galleries open - take a walk and check out the local art scene. 5-9 pm every third Thursday of the month. Info: 579-9913, <http://www.modestoartwalk.com>

**A Buddhist Approach to Recovery from Addiction**. Jana Lynn Community Rm., 500 N. 9th St., Modesto. Thursdays 6:30-8 pm. FREE (donations accepted). Info: email [RefugeRecoveryModesto@gmail.com](mailto:RefugeRecoveryModesto@gmail.com)

**The Book Group**, First & third Thursdays. College Ave UCC Youth Bldg., Orangeburg & College Ave., 3:30 - 5:00 pm. Info: [mzjurkovic@gmail.com](mailto:mzjurkovic@gmail.com)

**The Compassionate Friends**, Modesto/Riverbank Area Chapter. 2nd Thursday of the month. Contact: Joanna Rose-Murray, 209-484-8276, [jrmcompassionate@gmail.com](mailto:jrmcompassionate@gmail.com), <http://www.tcfmodesto-riverbankarea.org>

**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

**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; [jpmamodelsto@gmail.com](mailto:jpmamodelsto@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](http://www.Funstrummers.com).

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

**Village Dancers:** Dances from Balkans, Europe, USA and more. Fridays, Carnegie Arts Center, 250 N. Broadway, Turlock. 7:30-9:30 pm, \$5 (students free). Info: call Judy, 209-480-0387.

**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](mailto:yamiletv@hotmail.com)

### SATURDAY

**Indivisible Stanislaus 2.0** will hold a demonstration every fourth Saturday until the November election at McHenry and Briggsmore Aves., Modesto from Noon to 1:00 pm. All resistance groups invited. Please bring signs regarding the upcoming District 10 election. Info: June Mills, 209-765-5029, [millsjunem@sbcglobal.net](mailto:millsjunem@sbcglobal.net)

**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](mailto: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](mailto:orkingenne@gmail.com)

**Citizens' Climate Lobby**, Modesto Chapter, meets every first Saturday, 10:30 a.m., 937 Oxford Way, Modesto. Questions: Call Kathy, 523-5907.

**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](mailto:kathyhaynesSESG@gmail.com)

**SERRV:** Gifts from developing countries. Church of the Brethren, 2301 Woodland, Rm. #4, Modesto. Call Marye, 209-523-0449, or email [ezjamm@aol.com](mailto:ezjamm@aol.com)

**DEADLINE to submit articles to CONNECTIONS:** Tenth of each month. Submit peace, justice, environmental event notices to [Jim Costello, jcostello@igc.org](mailto:Jim Costello, jcostello@igc.org) Free Calendar listings subject to space and editing.