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Lighthouse Peddler

January 2016

(707) 882-3126

Issue #171

www.lighthousepeddler.net

Stones: A Love Story

Since we were children, finding stones along the beach was part of summer fun and some of the best stones were our early treasures. A flat stone could be skipped across the pond. A rounded one might be taken home to be placed in the bottom of a fish tank, or used as a paperweight; a collection of polished or rounded stones might make their way from the shore into a garden. Stones, these durable pieces of our earth have long appealed to children and adults, so much so that some of us remain intrigued for years, decades or our entire lives. We appreciate stone in all shapes and sizes. These weighty objects often have an obvious beauty to the trained eye, and some are adapted to a context that makes the beauty obvious to almost any observer.



The "pyro-mid". John Shaw-Rimmington

The love of stones and stone work will receive a higher profile this month as the non-profit Stone Foundation (www.stonefoundation.org) brings its annual calendar of events to northern California. Building on its mission to "Honor Stone and Stonework", the Stone Foundation's "Symposium XIV" will host events in San Francisco, along the coast via Highway One, and conclude with additional events in Gualala. All of this in an effort to celebrate the medium, encourage others to consider the craft, and support the idea with a research and education-based mission statement. As a prelude to the rest of the event schedule, and Free to Stone Foundation members, Gualala Arts members,

Continued on Page 16

Beside the well-trod path . . . Little Cottage in the Woods, Pacific Woods. Sited on four acres of towering redwoods, this two bedroom home emerged like a phoenix from the flames with a bright brand new interior from floor-to-ceiling, wall-to-wall! Beautiful wood cabinets contrast with dark grey countertops in a kitchen complete with wood burning stove and breakfast bar open to the living room. All fixtures throughout the home, propane wall furnace, water heater, electrical and plumbing are new. A second structure, an "A-Frame" cabin, is currently used for storage. Zoning allows potential



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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

January is a big month for lovers of stones which explains the title “**Stones: A Love Story**”. Less about little gems, and so much more about the magnificence of stones: appreciating them, working with them, architecture, some history, and some legacy building. It’s all wrapped up in the Stonework Foundation’s “*Stonework Symposium XIV*”, a gathering of the international community of stone masons, artists, professionals, patrons, and enthusiasts. (See cover page).

Looking back on 2015, or looking ahead to the new year, perhaps you feel you need a dose of live standup comedy. Arena Theater presents the return of the **Bay Area Comedy Invasion** on the 16th featuring Phil Johnson, Bryant Hicks, Shanti Charan, and host Ash Fisher. (see page 3).

Gualala Arts and the Dolphin Gallery open the new year with events for the eyes and the ears. **Assemblage, The Art Of Everyday Discovery** opens on January 8th. And the Dolphin Gallery hosts an exhibit by **Paula Bonham** and **Elizabeth Sheets** (see page 9).

Chamber music is once again center stage at Gualala Arts on January 17th with a return visit from **STZ**. (see page 14).

Joel Crockett considers the latest offering from historian/author **David McCullough, The Wright Brothers**. (see page 13).

Shakespeare’s **Taming of the Shrew** will be one of Arena Theater’s big screen offerings this month. This performance by the **Bolshoi**, on January 24th. (see page 9).

An ever more important quest to save the African Rhino is the central theme in **Mitch McFarland’s** conversation with **Dr. Frank Mello of the B Bryan Preserve** in Pt. Arena. (see page 8). Meanwhile, Mitch’s **Scuttlebutt** column looks at recycling. (see page 11).

Blake More offers a preview of poet **Sal Martinez** who will be featured at the **Third Thursday Poetry** January 21st in Point Arena. (see page 6).

Opera from the Met appears on screen in HD at Arena Theater this month. Bizet’s **Les Pecheurs de Perles** screens on the 16th. Two weeks later Puccini’s **Turandot** is the featured production on January 30th. (see page).

Since this is the season of giving, or it seems so many of us like to think, Contributing Editor David Steffen decided to reflect on the words of sage Maimonides and his thoughts on the subject of giving. This may be the only time that anyone places Maimonides and Donald Trump together. (see page 10).

Arena Theater Film Club will offer three evenings of film in January. *Enemy of the People* on the 4th, *The 17th Annual Animation Show of Shows* on the 11th, and *Shun Li and the Poet* on the 25th. (see page 5).

Rhythm Method and the Mark Weston Band perform at Garcia River Casino in this month (see page 4).

The memory and legacy of Millard Sheets will be part of the Stone Foundation’s Symposium XIV this month. Sheets’ mural (which is a permanent fixture at the San Jose Airport) is featured in this issue along with a brief bit of background on its creation. (see page 16).



Detail of Stonework by John Shaw-Rimington

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Issue #171 January 2016

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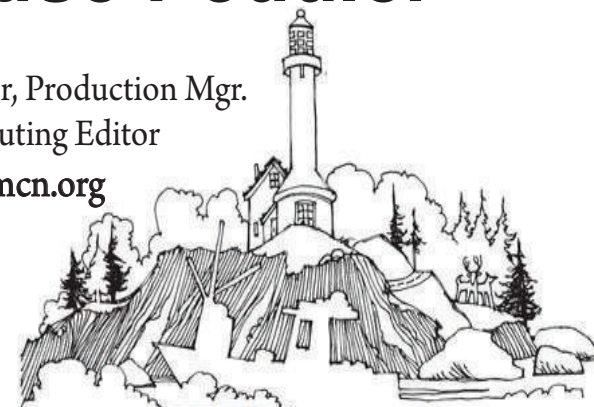
Dolly Steffen: Publisher, Production Mgr.

David Steffen: Contributing Editor

lighthousepeddler@mcn.org

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Standup Comedy at Arena Theater
 Bay Area Comedy Invasion Returns Saturday, January 16th

Host and comedian Ash Fisher will return to the theater with three new guests for a second round of cutting-edge stand-up comedy that promises to keep the audience laughing throughout the evening. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and tickets are \$20, available at local outlets and online at www.arenatheater.org. The line-up for the show includes headliner Phil Johnson, Bryant Hicks, and Shanti Charan.

Johnson, who has appeared at the Sundance Film Festival and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival uses comedy and music to explore the challenges and rewards of being different and proud of it. "I've always been the guy who isn't quite what people expect," says Johnson.

Using that experience, his shticks include poking holes in the medical marijuana argument, discussing being a white guy at a hip hop show (and the innocent gestures that can get him in trouble), and revealing why Hawaii isn't the paradise many think it is.

From Shakespearean bees to red-neck vampires to anthropomorphic cell phones with weight issues, Johnson fills the stage with quirky characters that combine social satire with absurdist flights of fancy.

"I use stand-up comedy and music trying to make sense of why crazy humans do what they do," says Johnson. His playful humor and endearing manner on stage allow him to shake things up without antagonizing the audience.

Stand-up comic Hicks burst on to the comedy scene in 2011 and regularly appears on the comedy



stages of the San Francisco Punchline, San Jose Improv, and a variety of other West Coast venues. He also co-produces the monthly stand-up show Top Shelf Comedy at Drexel Bar in Oakland, a venue known to



feature some of the best comedians in the Bay Area.

Charan is a regular at local clubs including both San Francisco and Sacramento Punch Line, Cobb's,

Rooster T Feathers and The Improv. SF Weekly calls her writing "clever and confident beyond her years," and presented her with the 2012 Best Stand-Up on the Way Up award.



Oakland based comedian and host of the evening, Fisher, was the 2012 Newcomer Runner-Up in the Ladies of Laughter Contest at Gotham Comedy Club in NYC and co-produced the 2014 Hella Gay Comedy Festival in Oakland and San Francisco. She performs stand-up all over the Bay Area; produces and hosts the weekly Gay for Days Comedy Show at Club 21 in Oakland. Fisher holds a B.F.A. in Theatre from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts.

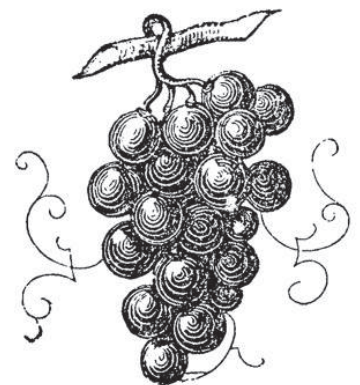
Arena Theater is located at 214 Main Street, Point Arena, California. Arena Theater is a member-supported community theater owned and operated by the Arena Theater Association, a 501 (c) (3) not for profit corporation. For additional information visit: www.arenatheater.org



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**Rhythm Method and Mark Weston Band
at Garcia River Casino in January**

Finding live music is rarely an issue in northern California. Individual artists and groups are constantly traveling the highways and byways to reach existing fans and bring in new converts. Besides, performing on the road is part of the dna of most musicians these days. January brings two such traveling ensembles to the Garcia River Casino. Rhythm Method will bring their classic/contemporary rock and rhythm & blues on January 8.

On Friday the 22nd, the Mark Weston Band comes to the casino with its own brand of entertainment, and a repertoire that covers a vast variety of genres ranging from the Top-40 songs of Yester-Year up through the Cutting Edge sounds of The New Millennium, including a set of Originals which Mark showcased opening for Blackhawk. Information for the Gracia River Casino is at (707) 467 5300.



Rhythm Method

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January at Arena Theater Film Club

This month the club offering includes a unique Steve McQueen role, a compilation of compelling animation, and a foreign film with multiple flavors.

In *Enemy of the People*, McQueen stars as a small town doctor who discovers the therapeutic nature of the local hot springs isn't all that therapeutic. The town leaders fear that the cost of cleaning up the toxic waste, and the resultant drop in tourism if the news got out, would hurt the town. In today's age of documented corporate greed, the film remains relevant.

Enemy of the People, based on an Ibsen play, was clearly a film McQueen wanted to

produce, since he served as executive producer. It also stretches his craft at a time when neither he, nor those around him, knew his life would come to an end less than two years after the film was released.

McQueen is always worth seeing on the big screen (and, by the way, that also includes *The Blob*, in case you're wondering.) Rated 'G', 103 minutes. Directed by George Schneider. January 4th, 7:00pm. Note: Preceding the film at 6:30 p.m. there will be a free screening of Savannah Power's new 12-minute short "Hush". The film centers on a young woman suffering from selective mutism and childhood memories of bullying and must overcome her inability to speak in order to stand up for herself.

Continued on page 7



from Shun Li and the



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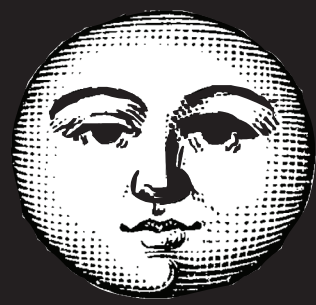


New Moon



January 10

Full Moon



January 24



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Bay Area Comedy Invasion
Cutting-edge Stand-up Comedy
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Legends of the Celtic Harp

National Theatre Live
Hamlet Encore
Saturday Jan. 9 1 PM

...
Met Opera Live in HD
Les Pêcheurs de Perles
Saturday Jan. 16 9:55 AM
Turandot
Saturday Jan. 30 9:55 AM

...
Bolshoi Ballet
Live from Moscow
The Taming of the Shrew
Sunday Jan. 24 2 PM
...
3rd Monday Music
Anthum
Monday Jan. 18 8 PM

...
Arena Theater Film Club
Mondays 7 PM
Jan. 4 *An Enemy of the People*
Jan. 11 *17th Annual Animation Show of Shows*
Jan. 25 *Shun Li & the Poet*
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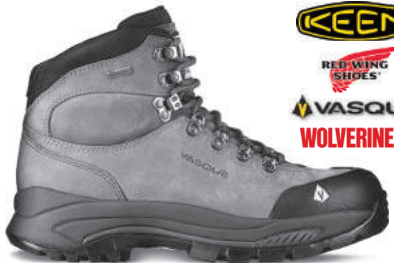


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Point Arena Poet Sal Martinez Featured At Third Thursday Poetry In Point Arena

By Blake More

On Thursday, January 21, at 7:30pm The Third Thursday Poetry & Jazz Improv Reading Series at 215 Main in Point Arena will feature Point Arena poet Sal Martinez. The reading will begin with live improv jazz and an open mic with jazz improv; the reading will conclude with more live improv jazz.

Sal Martinez is a proud citizen of the Manchester/Pt. Arena Band of Pomo Indians. His work has been published in two (In)Visible Project anthologies sponsored by *Memoir Magazine*, and has work published online (free to view) at *Misfit Magazine*. Two poems (Native Americana and Dayshift of a Special Kind) will be featured in an upcoming anthology, *Red Indian Road West*, sponsored by Scarlet Tanager Books, and are included in his new self-

published 11-page chapbook *Stroke of the Hummingbird* (available at reading only).

Sal is an advocate for integrating Native history into the public school's current curriculum at the Point Arena Schools. He is also in support of renaming the Garcia River to its ancestral name pda haū and an administrator of a Facebook group titled Pda Hau! Not the Garcia River!

He currently works as a Security Guard at the Garcia River Casino, and currently resides in Point Arena, CA with his wife and family.

Third Thursday Poetry is supported by The Third Thursday Poetry Group, many anonymous donors, and Poets & Writers, Inc. through a grant it has received from The James Irvine Foundation.

Another Chance to Register to Vote

Another opportunity to register to vote is set for January 16th at the Garcia Grange Breakfast. Registration is for residents of Mendocino and Sonoma counties, who are US citizens and will be 18 years old by June 7, 2016 to vote in the Primary.

Bring your Driver's License or Social Security card. Voting is a privilege and a rights. Exercise your right to Vote!

Your vote does make a difference. If you are registered as any party other than Democrat or Republican, you must re-register to vote as a Democrat or Republican to vote in the June 7th 2016 Primary.

The Grange Hall is located near the intersection of Highway One and Crispin Lane in Manchester. Registration is scheduled to be available from 8:30am to 12:30pm.

"Advice is what we ask for when we already know the answer but wish we didn't." —

Erica Jong

Defined by Choice

in the depths of pain

lies a sort of sane dementia

entangled by strains

oblivious to gain

it stirs one's essence

into a tide's surge

while reality will sure emerge

leading nowhere

or rather now here

to reap and cherish

the benefits of survival

because the depths contained

a choice for revival

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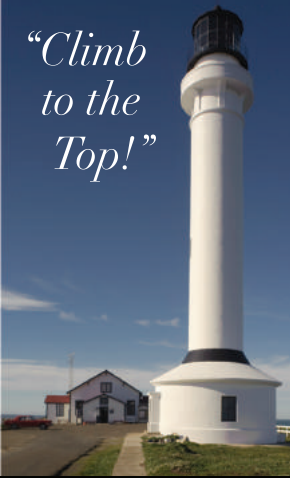
Lucinda Weaver, MPT will be joining the Gualala office of Peter McCann, MPT. Weaver received her degree in Physical Therapy at the University of Southern California and has been in practice on the Mendocino Coast since 2005. She can be reached at (707) 884-4800. More in next month's Lighthouse Peddler.

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Two Operas in HD This Month at Arena Theater
Bizet's *Les Pêcheurs de Perles*
and Puccini's *Turandot*



If you're asking yourself how much more special can the performances from the Metropolitan Opera be, we find that the Met continues to impress.

For the first time since Enrico Caruso starred in the opera in 1916, the Met will present Bizet's lush, melodic romance *Les Pêcheurs de Perles* (The Pearl Fishers), in a production by director Penny Woolcock, who made her Met debut staging John Adams's *Doctor Atomic*. Gianandrea Noseda

conducts a cast led by Diana Damrau as the beautiful priestess Leïla. Matthew Polenzani and Mariusz Kwiecien sing the roles of Nadir and Zurga, the two pearl fishers whose friendship is tested by their rivalry for Leïla's affections; their "Au fond du temple saint"

is one of the best-known duets in opera.

Nicolas Testè sings the high priest Nourabad in the new production, which will have its premiere on New Year's Eve. Saturday, January 16, 9:55am. Run time 2 hrs, 55 mins, and it's in HD.

Just two weeks later, the Met presents *Turandot*. Swedish dramatic soprano Nina Stemme sings her first Met performances of the demanding title role of Puccini's Chinese ice princess, with Anita Hartig in

Continued on page 12

"I've had my share of
doing things that
I really wish I hadn't done."—
Natalie Cole

FILM CLUB from page 3

A week later on Monday, January 11, 7:00pm, the club screens The 17th Annual Animation Show of Shows. Curated by Ron Diamond, the running time is 97 minutes. This is an incredible cinematic showcase for new animation, representing the apex of animation compilation programs, prized by industry professionals, students, and fans. Ron Diamond will join the discussion via skype or phone. This year's program features 11 new international award-winning animated shorts in a variety of animation techniques including traditional hand drawn 2D, computer graphics 3D, stop motion and painted clay. Also included in this program are engaging short profiles of several of the animators, filmed on location in Russia, Ireland, the U.S. and Iran.

The third club offering is titled *Shun Li and The Poet*, an Award-winning film about a Chinese barmaid (Tao Zhao) and a Slavic fisherman (Rade Serbedzija) who find friendship and more in an Italian fishing village. Shun Li works in a textile factory in the outskirts of Rome in order to get her papers and enable her eight-year-old son to come to Italy. She is suddenly transferred to Chioggia, a small city-island in the Veneto lagoon, to work as a bartender in a pub. Bepi, a Slavic fisherman, nicknamed "the Poet" by his friends, has been a regular at that little pub for years. Their meeting is a poetic escape from loneliness, a silent dialogue between different cultures. But the friendship between Shun Li and Bepi upsets both the Chinese and local communities, who interfere with this new voyage, which they are perhaps simply too afraid of. Screens Monday, January 25th at 7:00pm. Directed by Andrea Segre, the film is not rated and has a running time of 102 minutes.

Arena Theater is located at 214 North Main Street in Point Arena. Recorded information on all of the films, including film times are at (707) 882-FILM.

Gualala Arts
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Friday, January 8 5 pm
**Assemblage, the Art of
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Arts Center Opening Reception,
exhibit runs through Jan. 31

Saturday, January 9 5 pm
**Paula Bonham: Painting
& Elizabeth Sheets:
Handmade Books**
Opening Reception at the Dolphin
Gallery, exhibit through Jan. 31

Thurs. Jan. 14–Thurs, Jan. 28
Stonework Symposium
Stone Foundation's dual-venue
event, San Francisco and Gualala.
Presentations & workshops

Sunday, January 17 4 pm
STZ Trio
Chamber Music Series presents Axel
Strauss, violin; Tanya Tomkins, cello;
and Eric Zivian, piano.

Workshops
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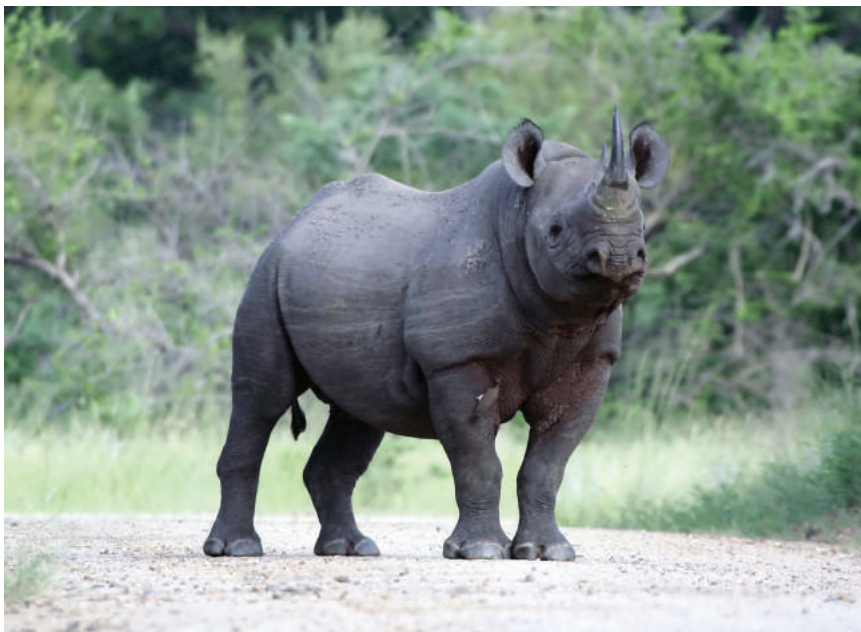
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Point Arena's B Bryan Preserve Joins Effort to Save the African Rhino

B Bryan Preserve of Point Arena has joined the effort to save the African Rhino from extinction due to poaching. Owner Dr. Frank Mello announced, "We have changed our purchasing policies to help save the rhino from extinction by no longer selling products manufactured in countries that continue to use Rhino horn." Because of the emerging economies of China and Vietnam, the demand for rhino horn has skyrocketed to the point that rhino horn can now be worth more than its weight in gold. As the 2 largest consumers of rhino horn, China and Vietnam are being targeted by the B Bryan campaign. Dr. Mello indicates that this policy also applies to purchases of



Black Rhino Photograph Courtesy International Rhino Foundation

construction and other general use items around the Preserve. This is a logical step to take for the Preserve, which is a Conservation Center for African Hoof Stock.

Rhino horn has been prized in many parts of Asia for centuries during which time numerous claims have been made as to its curative powers. Rhino horn consists mainly of the protein Keratin, the chief component of hair, fingernails, and animal hooves. Though there may be some justification for some of these claims, modern medicine, including herbalism, provides far more effective treatment. Ecologist Raj Amin of the Zoological Society of London advises those who use rhino horn products that chewing on their fingernails would have a similar effect.

The population of rhino has decreased 90% in the last 40 years. To date efforts to save the rhino through user and poacher education and conservation programs have failed. Recently the U.S. and China have reached an import/export ban of rare and endangered animal parts, but Dr. Mello feels that history has proven that these agreements do not work. He feels the only way to save the rhino is by attacking the economy of end user countries for rhino horn, particularly China and Vietnam.

To compound the problem China has targeted Africa as an area for development

to extract resources. Because of the large Chinese presence in Africa, an extensive smuggling distribution system has been established to more easily traffic rhino horn

to China. "It has gotten so bad that armed guards are required to protect some rhinos from poachers," states Mello.

B Bryan Preserve's 1890's renovated General Store is now stocked with work by talented local artists using the Preserve's endangered animals as a theme, along with vintage African inspired items made by Kenya villagers as well as other vintage items. "We go to great lengths to make sure our caps and other apparel are sourced from countries that do not support the use of Rhino horn," stated Mello.

"At first it was challenging to find some products not manufactured in China. Now with the Internet, we are more easily finding comparable cost and higher quality products made in the Americas and other countries. Additionally we changed our merchandise mix to sell more vintage/antique products and products made by local artists, which helps our local economy. Even though we are remotely located, local manufacturers and artisans have come out of the woodwork for new business. To our amazement this policy change has significantly increased our sales and the encouragement from our customers has been inspiring" says Mello. He believes the best way to change China and Vietnam's policy and practice is to hit them where it hurts most, their economy. Dr. Mello feels that if we could reduce China's annual

GDP by 1%, he believes that this policy and practice would immediately stop. He emphasizes that B Bryan Preserve has proven that results-driven conservation can take precedence over commerce profits without losing revenue.

Mello recently visited a zoo in the U.S. and found a baseball cap with a Rhino image that was made in China (incidentally, it was a really ugly design). Of course, he spoke with the operators of the zoo to point out this inconsistency.

B Bryan Preserve is a certified related facility of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and a member of the Zoological Association of America (ZAA). Dr. Mello believes that if all of the members of these organizations took the obvious step of not supporting merchandise from nations that are in contravention of their mission, these nations would likely take notice.

There were originally 7 sub-species of rhino, but 2 are already extinct. At the turn of the last century, there were one million rhinos. Forty years ago there were 70,000. Today there are just 25,000 rhinos surviving in the wild, of which 20,000 are white rhinos in South Africa. Only 50 Java rhinos still exist and 200 Sumatran rhinos. Mello hopes to one day to bring a breeding group of the remaining 3000 black rhinos to the B Bryan Preserve.

Educational efforts are underway to

Continued on page 13

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Gualala Arts and the Dolphin Gallery Open New Exhibits This Month

Gualala Arts begins the new year with the opening of a collection that is truly a collection. “A s s e m - blage, the Art of Everyday Discovery” is as described:



Tales (Rooster”) and Elizabeth Sheets (Hand-made Books, as in “The Heart of the Matter”); Saturday, January 9th at 5:00pm. It’s an introduction to two artists who are relatively new to the local art scene. Sheets creates distinctive pieces in a

an artistic composition made from scraps, junk, and odds and ends (as of paper, cloth, wood, stone or metal). Some may be familiar with curator Barbara Fast, from her “Assemblage” workshop. Included are works created by workshop participants, as well as other artists working in the medium. 2-D and 3-D art appropriate for indoor or outdoor display will be accepted. There’s an opening reception at the Dolphin Gallery on Friday, January 8th at 5:00pm.

January also marks the opening reception (also at the Dolphin Gallery) for Paula Bonham (Painting, as in “Balinese Folk

variety of media, but her work also creates a distinctive milieu leading the observer to conjure up exotic worlds

Bonham through her wide range of expressionist paintings. Paula’s “Aspen and Apples” series which she exhibits in this show, is a particularly good representation of how she can creatively depart from a more realistic interpretation to convey a more personal vision in terms the viewer can appreciate. She derives inspiration from nature as evidenced in this series of abstracted still life paintings.

This is the first Dolphin exhibit for both.



Images above include (l) “Balinese Folk Tale Roosters” by Paula Bonham, (c) “The Heart of the Matter” by Elizabeth Beronich Sheets, and (r) “Three Saints” by Rozann Grunig”

The Taming Of The Shrew New Production from the Bolshoi



Image from Taming of the Shrew from the Bolshoi Production

January 24th, Moscow comes to the Mendocino Coast as the Bolshoi performs Shakespeare.

Many suitors dream of marrying the lovely and docile Bianca, including Luciento. However her father will not let anyone marry her before her elder sister, the ill-tempered shrew Katharina, is herself married.

French choreographer Jean-Christophe Maillot lands a coup with his adaptation of Shakespeare’s comedy tailored specifically to the Bolshoi dancers, and achieves a mag-

netic two hours of breathtaking, nonstop dance unlike any other, portraying the Bolshoi’s audacity and energy in a completely new way.

This new production was staged exclusively for the Bolshoi and cannot be seen anywhere else! Featuring the music of Dmitri Shostakovich. The cast of The Bolshoi Principals, Soloists and Corps de Ballet. Sunday, January 24th, 2:00pm. Doors open at 1:30pm. Est. Run time: 125 min. Information at www.arenatheater.org.

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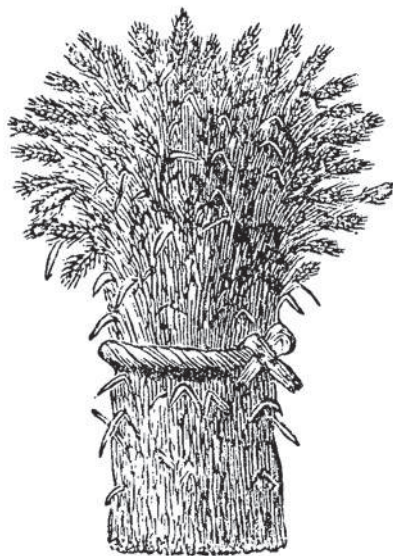
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Return of the Pharisees

by David Steffen

The concept of giving is wonderful, confusing, rewarding, necessary. And that's just for starters. From my earliest days in Lutheran elementary school, I learned about the poor, the sick, and the disadvantaged. "Alms for the poor" (or a variation), a phrase we were assured was found throughout the Bible, was drilled into our heads. What Sunday School 8-year old could not feel some degree of empathy? There are the numerous lessons on giving offered by the world's major religions including Judaism, Christianity (including Catholicism, Protestantism, Mormonism, etc), Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islam and among them we learn what alms are, who they are for, why we should give, and so on.

We'd like to believe that charitable giving is only or primarily altruistic. But, of course, it is not. To be fair much of the giving to charity by Americans is personal, like a check to the ASPCA, or money dropped in the collection plate during mass, or in the Salvation Army collection pot. Yes, someone may observe the act of giving but not necessarily the amount given. The idea is to be less than obvious. And to be clear, there exists no societal norm for how much is enough. Some elect to follow an historical or epistemological practice. Tithing, for example: giving 10%. Others may have a familial 'norm' based on nothing more than "I always give \$5.00". And still others follow the "spare change" model. I was in a conversation with a priest who told me of a parishioner who asked "if one wishes to practice tithing, is 10% based on gross or net?" Somewhat predictably the priest responded, "well, if you have to ask..."

The number of people who choose to give anonymously is infinitely larger than the "look at me" crowd, those who make very public contributions. My analysis is based solely on the far greater number of people in the so-called 99%, versus the smaller group—the 1%, those who hold the greatest amount of accumulated wealth within this or any society. It is possible that some within the latter "one percenters" give for one or more sincere reasons, but I would wager that most of the wealthy believe that public giving works beyond helping others; it improves their standing in the community, society, or the world. They are also likely to be well versed in the tax code, as in a list of deductions to offset income and reduce taxes.

Charity, from ancient times to today, has

been used by some as a billboard, a neon sign, offered publicly to impress others. Like the pharisees of old, the wealthy and particularly the über-wealthy seem to relish making public donations, affixing their family name to a fund, trust, or charitable organization so everyone knows it was they who made the donation. These days when I see the credits at the beginning of a documentary film or a public television program (or video) I find I'm spending more time scrutinizing the donors than the stars, producers, or writers. The latter have an agenda, to be sure, but the former—the donors to one of these projects—have an agenda as well. The size of the on-screen font suggests that some (or many) of these donors are 21st-century pharisees who, like their namesakes two thousand years ago, believe in their inherent lofty place in society, and wish to reinforce an equally pretentious "knowledge" of their superior sanctity. They want the world to accept their premise.

The wonderful and long-running PBS series Nova is just one example where the good vibe and hopeful anticipation of what is to come quickly crashes through the floor when you see one of the named contributors to the funding: The David H. Koch Fund For Science. You understand that this is no quiet unobtrusive credit to the billionaire. The fund's logo takes up about 25% of the screen. About as subtle as a freight-train. The Koch brothers, more than any single American family—at least during the past twenty years—have used their wealth



to reshape the American political landscape. Their agenda is simple: spend hundreds of millions (billions really by some estimates) to place very conservative, anti-government, low-tax (for the wealthy) candidates in state legislatures, governorships, in the U.S. congress, the senate, and on the supreme court. And they receive tax deductions for their efforts.

As one of his contributions to the generations who followed, the great codifier of Jewish law, Maimonides left the world his

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"There are several things I think I would have done if I had the chance again. I would have been a little more patient about getting out into the world. I would have seen to it that I had a more formal education. I would have become an accomplished musician" —

Frank Sinatra



Scuttlebutt

by Mitch McFar-

So, how's the recycling going? Are you thinking it was just a fad and that you don't need to be bothered anymore? Or are you working to diligently reduce the fees you pay at the transfer station for landfilling your undesirables? Maybe you don't like to recycle, but you realize that if you want to continue living in a consumer society that is devouring the planet's resources at an alarming rate, you have to. Many people seem to ignore that little nuance. Yet I sympathize with those of us who are struggling to change our behavior. After all, we have been subjected to half a century of media blitz convincing us to mindlessly consume for the sake of our economic well-being.

Though less than 5% of the world's population, we consume more than 25 percent of the resources and produce 30 percent of the trash and environmental pollutants (some say 40%). Also, every square mile of the ocean has over 46,000 pieces of floating plastic in it. Rainforests are being cut down at the rate of 100 acres per minute. The US population discards each year 16,000,000,000 diapers, 1,600,000,000 pens, 2,000,000,000 razor blades, 220,000,000 car tires, and enough aluminum to rebuild the US commercial air fleet four times over.

The list of amazing and alarming statistics is long and impressive. I could fill paragraphs with more startling statistics like these, but that eventually tends to overwhelm the brain and leave us numb and disinterested. Still, how long do you think we can continue gobbling up the planet like this before things spin out of control? The good news is that we have the ability to change our habits. And it starts with you and me. Have you ever heard the expression "the revolution begins at home"? What it means is that mass movements consist of many, many individual actions. If you are waiting for someone else to save the world, we are all in big trouble.

Politicians love to bray about how we all need to take individual responsibility for our actions and the public nods in wholehearted agreement. Unfortunately, many of us think these politicians are referring to other people, not us.

I often think about Richard Alpert (AKA Ram Dass) and his book *Be Here Now*. Most of us walk around in a daze much of the time thinking about what just happened to us or

what we are about to do. What is actually happening right in front of us often is not our focus. Let me offer an example regarding recycling. When (and if) you are recycling a beverage container have you ever stopped to think that the aluminum cap on that glass bottle is not made out of glass? If you had, you would realize that it would make sense to simply remove the cap and recycle it separately. How about those who recycle a cardboard box, but leave the Styrofoam packing material in the box. I would hope that everyone knows by now that Styrofoam is virtually never accepted for recycling.

Let's talk about water bottles for a minute. We in the U.S. use 30 billion plastic water bottles every year. That is 60% of the world's use even though we are only 5% of the population. It takes a fleet of 40,000 18-wheelers just to deliver our bottled water every week! We use 17 million barrels of oil each year just to produce all of those water bottles. Pick up a water bottle at the supermarket, hold it up and imagine it filled 1/4 with oil. That's how much in fossil fuels it took just to manufacture it! It takes three times the volume of water to manufacture one bottle of water than it does to fill it. Our national recycle rate for PET's is only 23 percent, which means we throw 23 billion water bottles into landfills every year. That's \$1 billion worth of plastic that should end up in the recycling stream. People crave their bottled water, yet 22 percent of the bottled water tested contained contaminant levels that exceeded the state health limits. Are we too mentally lazy to bring water from home? Is it more convenient to go to a store and buy water than it is to just bring it from home?

This sounds like something only crazy people would allow to happen, yet how many of us (including me) have bought bottled water in the last month instead of carrying our own bottle with us when we travel. Even more frustrating is that I sometimes have my stainless steel water bottle in the car, but forget to fill it!

I know that we live in a pretty environmentally conscious area and I am to some extent preaching to the choir, yet all of us humans are subject to laziness. I'm sure that you cannot honestly say that you are doing all you can to reduce waste and recycle. After all, we all are very good at coming up



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with justifications for our actions- or lack of same.

Perhaps you are confused as to whether or not something is recyclable. Well, you can just pick up the phone and call the hauler who takes your recycling and ask them.

I try to make a game out of recycling. I start from the assumption that if I take something out of a store, it is my job to do something responsible with it when I am done. That includes the packing material, which, by the way, represents about 65% of household trash. That is why I take the little ping pong ball out of my Guinness cans before recycling them. Or tear the tape off cardboard boxes and don't recycle wine bottles with the cork in them.

Styrofoam is one of the things that drives

continued on pg. 13



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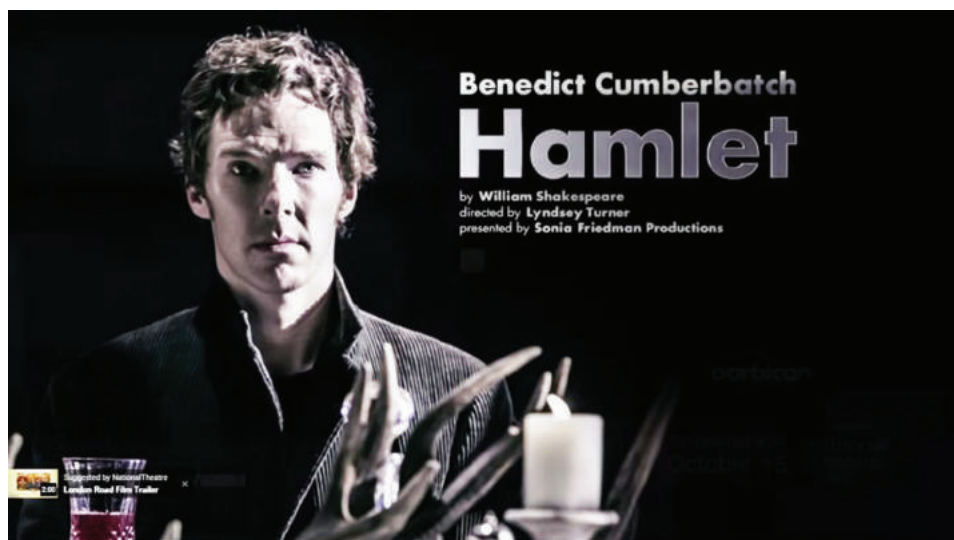
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Hamlet, The Encore at Arena Theater



Following record-breaking attendance for the screenings of National Theatre Live's Hamlet world-wide and a sold-out show at Arena Theater, an encore presentation of Shakespeare's masterpiece Hamlet with Benedict Cumberbatch in the title role is set for Saturday, January 9th at 1:00pm. The screening will also include the complete interview with Cumberbatch.

The original National Theatre Live international broadcast of *Hamlet* last fall was seen by over 225,000 people, making it the largest global audience for a live broadcast day of any title in National Theatre Live history.

Set in the Kingdom of Denmark, the play dramatizes the revenge Prince Hamlet is instructed to exact on his uncle Claudius, who murdered his own brother, Hamlet's father King Hamlet. Forced to avenge his father's death but paralyzed by the task ahead, Hamlet rages against the impossibility of his predicament, threatening both his sanity and the security of the state.

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Doors open at 12:30pm. Tickets are at www.brownpapertickets.com.

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SCUTTLEBUTT from page 11

me the most nuts. Fortunately we are seeing less and less of it as shippers switch to recyclable materials, but whenever I do get something with Styrofoam peanuts I mail them back to the shipper with a note mentioning that I didn't order any Styrofoam and please put them in your landfill. Lately, however, I have found a local merchant who will accept peanuts that they can use to ship their products, but I won't say who it is or they might be overwhelmed with Styrofoam.

Perhaps what has to happen is that we continue to waste the earth's resources until things get so expensive that we can't afford to create waste. I'm afraid that is more likely than a wholesale change of attitude among the public. Unfortunately, that is likely to bring with it fierce competition among nations for those resources. Our Middle East oil wars are just a preview.

You may think I am a fanatic about recycling and maybe you are right, but that doesn't keep me from constantly thinking of the Spike Lee film in which the old man reminds us to "Always do the right thing". It is certainly not always easy, but isn't striving better than resigning?

"You're never as good as everyone tells you when you win, and you're never as bad as they say when you lose." -

Lou Holtz

OPERA from page 7



in her company role debut as the angelic slave girl Liù. Marco Berti sings Calaf, the suitor who risks his head for Turandot's hand, and Alexander Tsymbalyuk sings Timur. Paolo Carignani conducts Franco Zeffirelli's visually spectacular 1987 production.

Turandot, Puccini's final opera, is an epic fairy tale set in a China of legend, loosely based on a play by 18th-century Italian dramatist Carlo Gozzi. Featuring a most unusual score with an astounding and innovative use of chorus and orchestra, it is still recognizably Puccini, bursting with instantly appealing melody. The unenviable task of completing the opera's final scene upon Puccini's sudden death was left to the composer Franco Alfano. Conductor Arturo Toscanini oversaw Alfano's contribution and led the world premiere. Saturday, January 30th, 9:55am. Run time 3 hrs, 35 mins, and it's in HD.

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RHINO from page 8

reduce the demand for rhino horn, but Mello believes that this will take generations to be effective during which time the rhino will be hunted to extinction. He would like to see people contact zoos, aquariums and parks to stop selling products from countries that continue to support the use of Rhino horn.

He would also like to see the popular shopping website Amazon list country of origin on their listings for the items they sell. This would enable purchasers to know if they are supporting nations that consume rhino horn products.

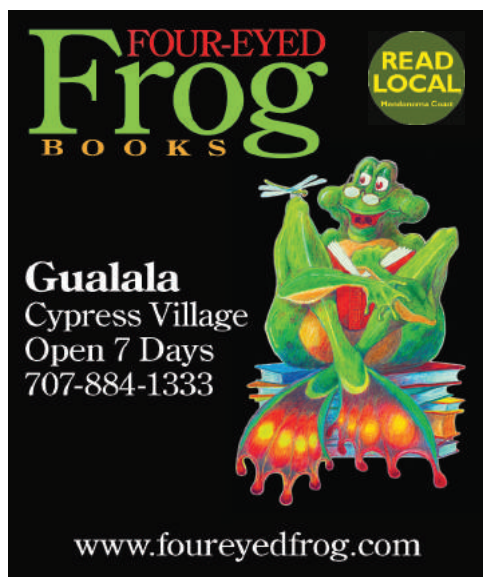
Another attempt to thwart poachers is to surgically remove the horns before poachers can kill the animals. Unfortunately this leaves the rhino with no protection if challenged by a dominant male.

Perhaps an educational campaign geared toward consumers is the most effective way to end a tragic and unnecessary practice. Sympathizers with this cause can email their comments to the Chinese Embassy at chinaembpress_us@mfa.gov.cn and Vietnam at info@vietnamembassy.us.

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Book Review:

The Wright Brothers by David McCullough

Review by Joel Crockett, Four Eyed Frog Books

I was 7 years old, in the second grade, when Orville Wright died. I knew who he was. And I remember reading about his death, as well as the achievements attributed to him and his brother, Wilbur, in the Weekly Reader. Gosh I looked forward to that little school newsletter. I learned a lot from it; some of its articles, though, turned out to be incomplete or downright wrong (people from Japan were shorter than people from the United States because we ate potatoes and they ate rice?!).

My long ago memory of the article about the Wright Brothers suggests that it was no more than an overview for school kids. The brothers had a bike shop. They figured out how to build an airplane. They flew it from a sand hill in a place called Kitty Hawk. It was the first airplane in the world. Someone took a photo and they became famous; in fact, legendary. That's all I knew. But it didn't exactly happen that way; not at all.

Orville and Wilbur Wright were tenacious and highly focused. They were creative yet methodical and thorough mechanics. There's no doubt that Wilbur, the older brother, was a true genius. To learn more about the detailed functions necessary for successful flying; he spent exacting and exhausting hours studying birds in flight. The brothers built a homemade wind tunnel to study the technicalities of lift as it applies to wing structure. They

out-thought world-famous physicists on the basic principles of flight. And despite a number of crushing failures, they were imbued with try, try again persistence.

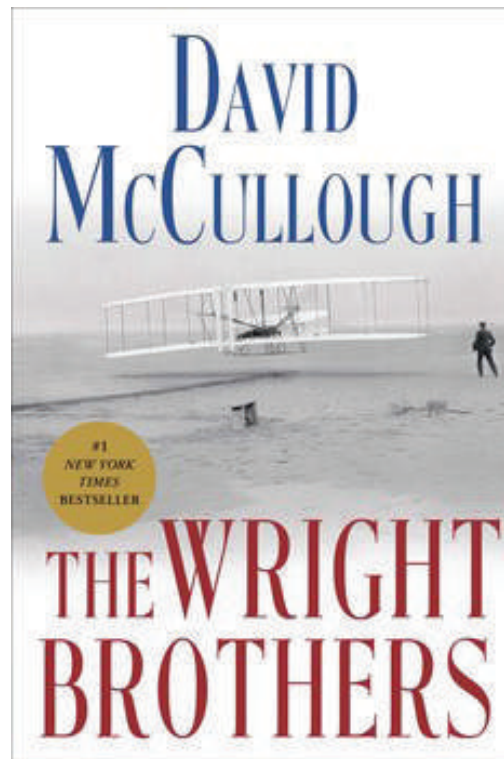
The Wright Brothers were low-key: off the radar. They conducted their tests in private. When rumors spread about their successes,

they were ready, they astounded the world.

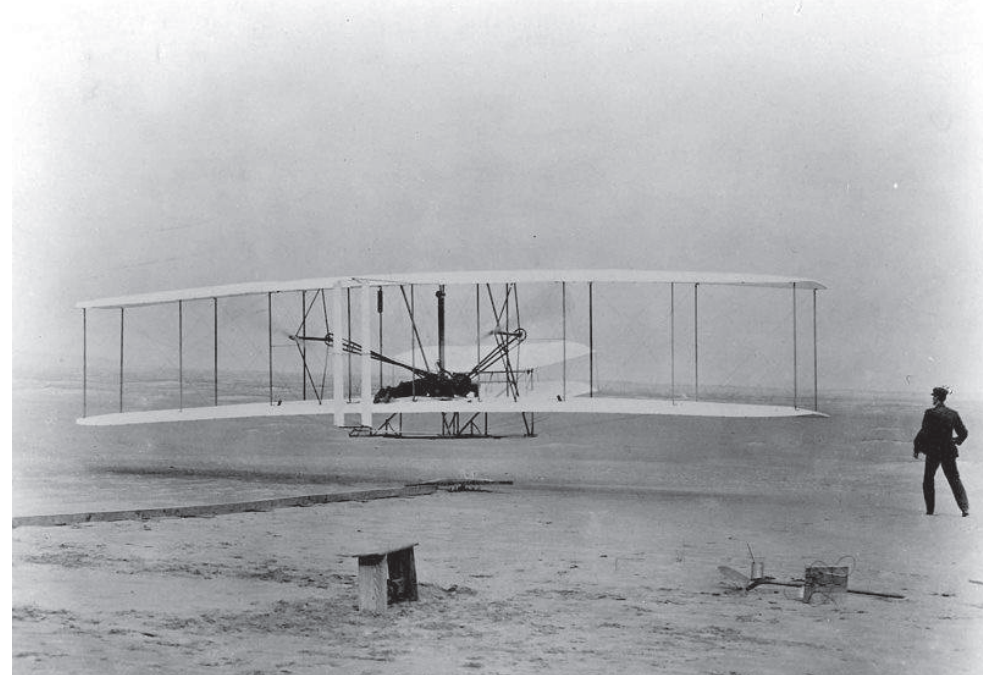
McCullough tells us much about how the brothers were raised. They had siblings; the family totaled seven children although two died in infancy. Their father was a prominent bishop and it was from him that the brothers developed a strong, unwavering commitment to values. Their high-spirited sister, Katharine, played an important, arguably imperative, supporting role as they developed and improved their invention, and ultimately received the recognition they so richly deserved.

The true and complete story of the Wright brothers is an engaging, even thrilling saga complete with life threatening risk and adventure, breath-taking drama and international intrigue, espionage, colorful travels abroad, and even a touch of romance.

When it comes to chronicling history such that it reads like an absorbing novel, David McCullough is among the very few masters of the craft. The Wright Brothers drew and kept me in. It's my kind of book. If you enjoy good history and a thorough look at those who created it, put this book at the top of the stack on your nightstand. And be prepared to lose a few hours of sleep. It's worth it!




the world scoffed. They were debunked, ridiculed, defamed. Still they persevered at their own pace, in private. Recognition came only when they were ready. And when



KITTY HAWK, NC -- The first sustained flight with a powered, controlled aircraft. Orville Wright at controls. Distance, 120 feet. Time, 12 seconds, taken December 17, 1903.





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Chamber Music at Gualala Arts with STZ on January 17th

No, Strauss, Tomkins, and Zivian is not the name of the group, and they aren't partners in a law firm. These three immensely talented musicians form the equally talented trio of world-class musicians known as STZ. Tanya Tomkins (cello), Eric Zivian (piano), and Axel Strauss (violin) return to Gualala Arts. Chamber musician and soloist Tanya Tomkins specializes in both modern and Baroque cello.

Eric Zivian is a member of the Left Coast

STEFFEN from page 10

take on giving, on charity, with a list of eight levels of giving, correlating to the degree to which the giver is sensitive to the needs and feelings of the recipient. Counting down, and in an abbreviated form, here are Maimonides' levels, the "Great Eight":

Eight: Giving grudgingly. If the option is to give grudgingly or not at all, Maimonides prefers that you give grudgingly. Better to help someone in need, albeit with a bad attitude, than to ignore them.

Seven: Giving less than you can afford, but doing so pleasantly. If you or your accountant suggest you can afford to give \$1,000 and you decide to give \$250 and you do so with a pleasant demeanor, the positive nature of your expression of caring helps offset—to some degree—the decision to do less than you can afford.

Six: If you give generously, but must first be asked, you land at level six. Take heart. You gave, even though the person in need had to calmly ask or grovel in your presence.

Five: You gave before anyone asked. This requires you to pay attention, to look where you may not wish to look. No crying, begging, or pleading required. In essence, you reached out before the needy reached out to you.

Four: The person on the receiving end knows that the gift came from you, but you don't know who received the gift. Perhaps the donor feels like they've accomplished something of more value because of the anonymity. Of course, those on the receiving end still know they are indebted to the donor. The superiority of the giver is maintained.

Three: This is the reverse of level four: The donor knows the recipient, but the recipient does not know who donated the money. I disagree with Maimonides here, as this seems like it should change places with level four (above). After all, this type of giving enables the donor to maintain a feeling of superiority over the recipient. In any case, Maimonides placed this at level three.

Two: A completely anonymous gift. The donor does not know where the money went, or who received the money, and the recipient has no idea whom to thank. This is a near-perfect level, since the receiver can take the gift with the knowledge that there is no one to whom they need to feel indebted, and the giver can never know if the recipient was someone on the other side of the world or down the block.

One: Helping someone reach self-sufficiency. If you recall the saying that "give someone a fish and they eat for a day, teach someone to fish and they can feed themselves", then Level One is the idea that you can actually help someone become self-sufficient. Better to have a job than to be unemployed. Better to feel you are contributing to society than to take from society (although many on the far right speak only of the "takers"). Along with income, food, and shelter, there is the preservation of one's dignity.

Many followers of western religions believe that doing good things on earth will be rewarded in heaven. And Karma, from Hinduism and Buddhism, represents the sum of one's actions in this and previous states of existence, and those actions are viewed as deciding their fate in future existences. This year let's resolve to do more, and perhaps we should consider doing it silently. Our karma may depend on it.

Note: A more detailed version of this is available at jazzdavid.wordpress.com.

Chamber Ensemble, as well as STZ, and has performed with the Empyrean Ensemble, Earplay, and Alternate Currents.

Axel Strauss currently serves as Professor for Violin and Chamber Music as well as Chair of the String Area at the Schulich School of Music of McGill University in Montreal.

STZ will perform at Gualala Arts' Coleman Auditorium on Sunday, January 17th at 4:00pm.

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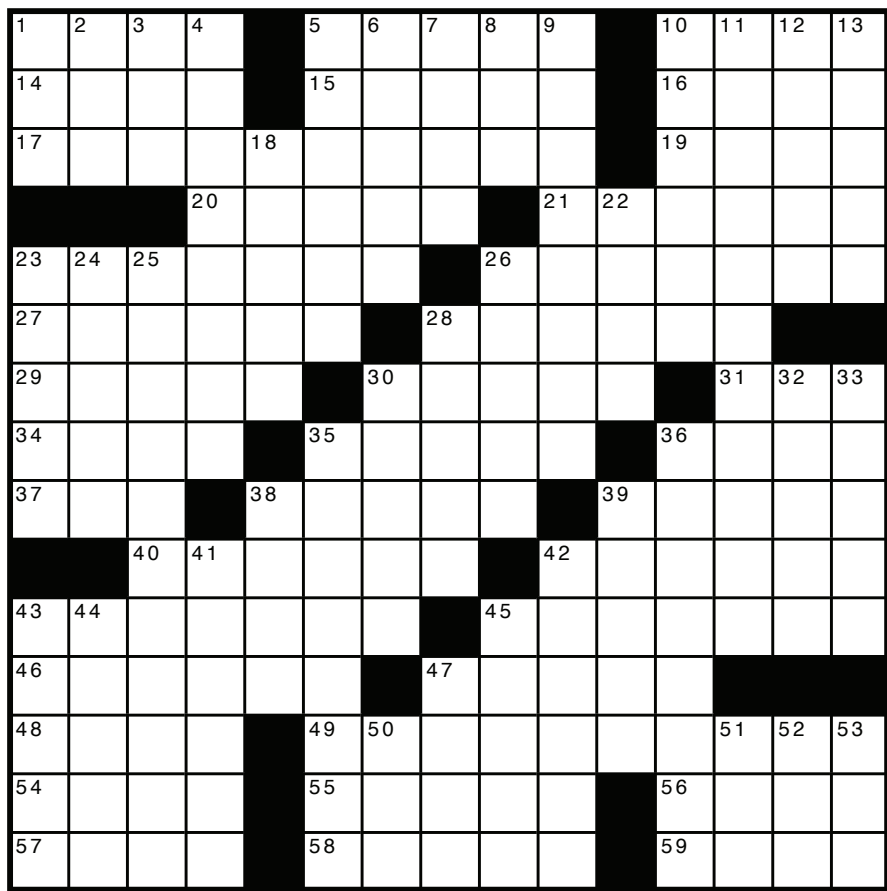
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puzzle by bestcrosswords

<ACROSS>

- 1- Actor Julia
- 5- "The dog ate my homework," e.g.
- 10- Prehistoric sepulchral tomb
- 14- Greek peak
- 15- Horse opera
- 16- Against
- 17- During the recent past
- 19- Hydroxyl compound
- 20- Computer key
- 21- Make certain
- 23- Pertaining to the sole of the foot
- 26- Vegetable appliance
- 27- Passenger ships
- 28- Ask
- 29- Fidgety
- 30- Singer Bonnie

- 31- Male sheep who may play football for St Louis!
- 34- Driving aids
- 35- Starbucks order
- 36- Fabled loser
- 37- SASE, e.g.
- 38- Greek goddesses of the seasons
- 39- It merged with Exxon
- 40- 31st president of the U.S
- 42- Rascal
- 43- Splash
- 45- Dog-houses
- 46- Military organizations
- 47- Staggering
- 48- Timber wolf
- 49- Everlasting plant
- 54- Nights before
- 55- The ___ Mutiny

- 56- German river
- 57- Open infection, painful
- 58- Massage
- 59- Cpls.' superiors
- <DOWN>
- 1- Siegfried's partner
- 2- Enzyme ending
- 3- Battleship letters
- 4- Tardiness
- 5- Main arteries
- 6- Stratum
- 7- Anatomical passage
- 8- Actress Arthur
- 9- Annoy
- 10- Roman general
- 11- Countless
- 12- Grocery, e.g.
- 13- Floor worker
- 18- Diary bit
- 22- Nair rival
- 23- Shallow circular dish
- 24- Fabric woven from flax yarns
- 25- Anteroom
- 26- Connected series of rooms
- 28- Emirate on the Persian Gulf
- 30- Less common
- 32- Disney mermaid
- 33- Thaws

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- 35- Pining for one's amour
- 36- Polled
- 38- Table d' ____
- 39- "Olympia" painter
- 41- Lazy
- 42- Swerved
- 43- Shops want to achieve high ones!
- 44- Brigham Young University site
- 45- Basic monetary unit of Sweden
- 47- French friend
- 50- Adult male
- 51- Fall behind
- 52- Back muscle, briefly
- 53- Hesitant sounds



STONES from cover page

Tile Heritage Foundation members and invited guests, art enthusiasts will gather to honor Millard Sheets on Thursday, January 14th at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center in San Francisco—a building designed by Millard Sheets. Peter Mullins, Gualala resident, Stone Foundation member, and sponsor of the day's events, believes "Millard Sheets is the single most influential artist of the twentieth century in California."

The city schedule opens on January 15th including an opening reception for members hosted by Mullins. On the 16th the events move to Koret Auditorium at the De Young Museum in Golden Gate Park for lectures and the symposium's Key Note. Tomas Lipps, Stone Foundation founder, will speak on the history of the Stone Foundation as an introduction to what will be an ongoing discussion about its future form and function. Lipps will be followed by Edwin Hamilton, who has been building with stone as a sculptor and stonemason for 30 years.

The afternoon session includes geologist and author David Williams, who will focus on the natural and human history of stone in San Francisco's historical buildings.

Millard Sheets and San Jose: California's First City

The above mural was created in 1977 by artist Millard Sheets (1907-1989) with a commission from the San Jose Mercury News to the people of San Jose, commemorating the paper's 125th anniversary, and the 200th birthday of the City of San Jose. The mural presents scenes that paid tribute to the area's heritage.

The mural is intended to be read counter-clockwise. Starting at the bottom left-hand corner is a group of Ohlone people, the indigenous settlers of this Valley. Spanish colonists shown on the bottom right. The scene shifts to the top right, presentation of the original Santa Clara Mission, and then left to the days of Mexican rancho life in the Valley. Moving further left, the mural depicts blooming orchards, in the upper left-hand corner the beginning of modernization of San José, represented by the building of San José Normal School (now SJSU). San José historic downtown 237-foot electric light tower, built in 1881 and demolished in 1915, is the focal point of the upper left. More information can be found at www.flysanjose.com under "About SJC". Our thanks to them for the information.

Keynote speaker is sculptor, stonemason, entrepreneur and scholar Richard Rhodes, to present his thoughts on Materiality.

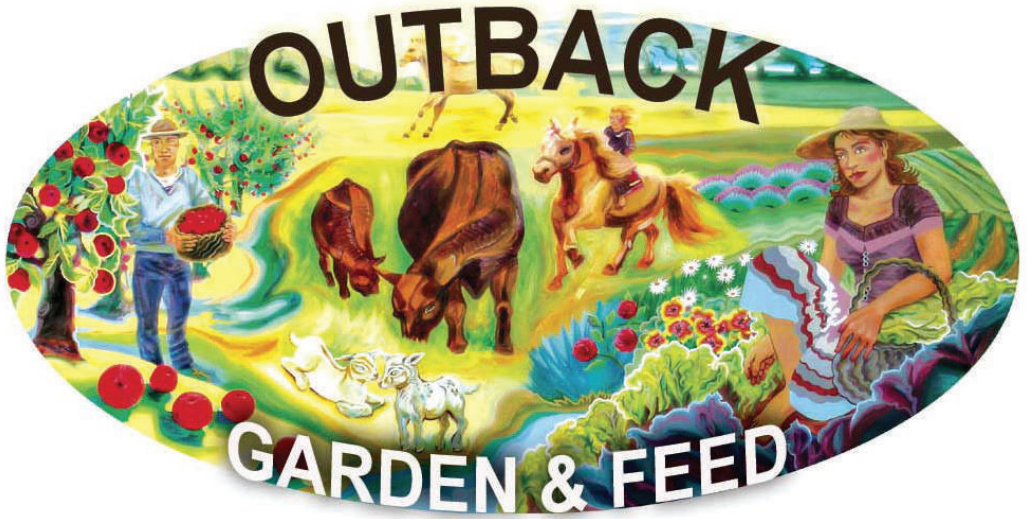
The symposium's agenda continues on January 17th with relevant tours of stone buildings in San Francisco, a city with a well documented history of earthquakes as well as subsequent and extensive seismic retrofit and restoration. Quarry House owner and stonemason Ed Westbrook, Coburn Everdell, the president of the ICAA-Norcal, and Canadian Stonemason Bobby Watt, round out the evening session. On the 18th, Symposium participants will make their

way to Gualala. Locals know, and visitors will discover that it's a spectacular drive.

Once in Gualala attendees will gather for a group dinner at Gualala Arts Center, the local host for the Symposium and workshops, and the site of the Legacy Build Project. Lime mortar expert Patrick McAfee, and lead stonemason Kyle Schlagenhauf will bring members up to speed on the Fish Rock Watch Tower being constructed using hot lime mortar and traditional construction techniques. The lecture will prepare listeners for the demonstration they will experience the following day at Peter

Mullins Stone Zone.

It's an ambitious and impressive agenda as the Symposium will feature several workshops in Gualala at the end of the event, from January 22nd - 28th. The extensive workshop offerings cover multiple disciplines within the world of stonework and art. Participants will experience a small 'community' of their peers and instructors forming the heart of the Gualala Arts Center - with different projects being built all around them. No matter what workshop they take, participants will have the opportunity to observe and discuss all the other disciplines being taught during restorative lunch breaks and organized evening lectures. A primary goal of the Stone Foundation's Symposium Workshop Series is to foster an environment of great learning and strong community. Equally important is to build amazing and enduring testaments using the skills of its members and the beauty of stone - our Legacy. There is truly something for everyone to enjoy and, in some cases, to participate. And there's no better place to observe, enjoy, and participate in these events than along Mendocino County's south coast.



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