

September President's Letter



Here it is September, the traditional end of Summer. After Labor Day we magically enter the fall season. In California we often have our warmest days now, enjoying the end of summer tomatoes and savoring staying out in the early evenings.

At Carquinez Village, we are taking advantage of the last days of summer with several outside events. **This month's picnic will be at Francesca Terrace Park, a hidden gem at the end of Hillcrest, off East Second St.** You may know it as Dinosaur Park, but when I went there with my grandsons, I couldn't figure out why. I did a Google search and found out that "Dixie" the dinosaur was moved by helicopter from Dixon to Benicia in 1998, but we did not see her at the park. Maybe one of you longtime residents can explain the park's nickname?

Last month's Village excursion was to Sausalito to see the Bay Model. I think I enjoyed the tour even more than I did in the early 80's when I went with my

daughter, Sara's class. We had the most amazing lecture/tour from Linda Holm. US Army Corps of Engineers. I think it was her dynamic delivery not the absence of the din of 5th graders.

This month we will be visiting the [Vacaville Museum](#). Tucked away in a Victorian neighborhood, shaded by large trees, the Vacaville Museum is a center for Solano County and culture.

Its current exhibit features all things original Nut Tree. Born as a roadside fruit stand in the summer of 1921, the Nut Tree became one of California's favorite roadside stops and put Solano County on the map for aviators and road weary travelers from all over the state.

We also still have many programs for you on Zoom. Last month's speaker, Bill Essert, talked about grab-bars and other home modifications and even played the trumpet for us! If you missed it, you could follow the link on our website or click here. **This month's talk by Robert Lewis from the Fire Department on September 16th at 10:30 am will be on Fire Prevention and Safety around the house—very timely.**

You can register for all these programs or sign up to join us on the Suicide Prevention walk on the [event page](#) on our website, carquinezvillage.org or by calling us at 707- 297-2472.

Stay well and call us if we can help.

– Susan Neuhaus

September is Suicide Prevention Month

As you have read in an earlier edition of this newsletter, Carquinez Village and the Kyle Hyland Teen Center are partnering in Senior-to-Senior activities. We will be joining Kyle Hyland Teen Center on Saturday September 25th in a Suicide Prevention Walk. I had heard in the news that suicide is the second leading cause of death in people 10 -24 years old. I was surprised to learn from the National Council of Aging that those over 85 have the highest suicide rate of any age group. The walk has become an annual event in memory of Kyle Hyland and this year we will walk in memory of Gabe Rucker a middle school student we lost in December 2020

I hope you will wear something purple and join in solidarity either for the ½ mile walk from the center on Church Street to the 9th St pier or just meet up at the pier. At the pier there will be a short memorial ceremony and maybe even a balloon release. Register on our [event page](#).

KHF Memorial Walk for Suicide Prevention



The Kyle Hyland Foundation for Teen Support is hosting this event to spread awareness and messages of hope about suicide. This year's walk is dedicated to Gabe Rucker who we lost to suicide in [December, 2020](#).

We will be meeting at the Benicia Teen Center and walking to 9th Street Park where we will gather for a brief ceremony at ~11:00am. All are welcome. Suicide is preventable and together we can make a difference!

Please wear purple.

When: September 25 at 10:00am

Where: Benicia Teen Center, 1135 Church St.
Benicia, CA

Note: Those that are unable to walk are welcome to join us for the ceremony at 11:00am or at ~12:00pm when we will gather for refreshments at the Benicia Teen Center.

**Donations are accepted and will benefit the Sources of Strength (peer-led suicide prevention) Program at Benicia Middle School.*



Short Stories

Where does one start? I can remember waiting in the 50's with wild anticipation and impatience for the weekly edition of the *New Yorker* to arrive and voila who jumped out of the pages but the Glass family, Franey and Zooey, J.D.Salinger's wonderful short story gifts!! What ecstasy!

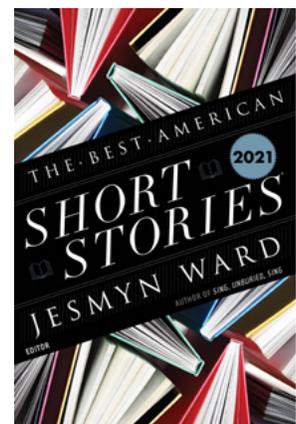
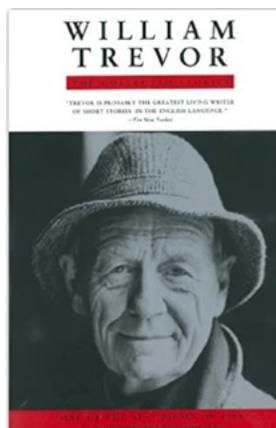
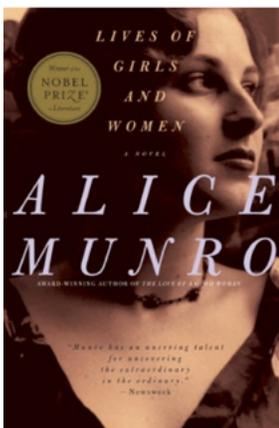
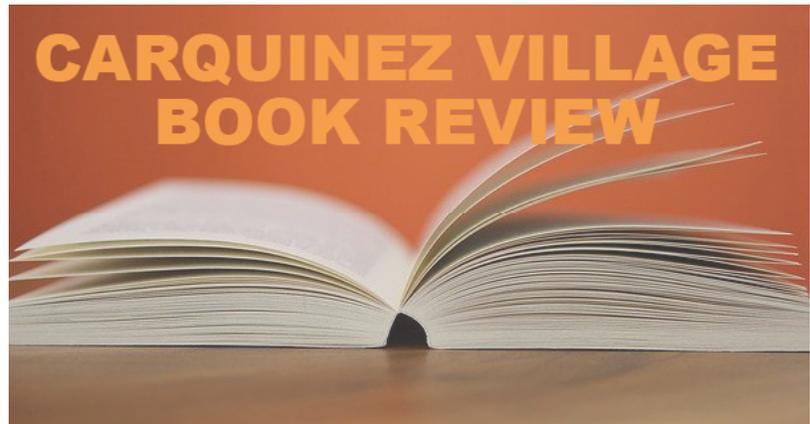
This wonder I duplicated this month by currently rereading the short stories of other favorite authors.

I started with Canadian Nobel laureate, Alice Munro. Such a prolific writer, it has been a frenzy of delight, even dipped into her sole authorship of a novel, *Lives of Girls and Women*. Her stories are irresistible, dark, fantastic plots, populated by ensembles of amazing people.

Another favorite is Anglo-Irish, Cork born, William Trevor who has alas departed us. He was an accidental find. Many a moon ago, a collection of his short stories was left behind by a suitor of one of our daughters. On reading it, we were overwhelmed with enthusiasm. The book was touted by mouth, passed hand by hand, door to door, by mail, until it dissolved into a shred of nonexistence. Needless to say, the suitor who had such impeccable taste was designated a "keeper" and woe if he was ever treated with any distain. Trevor still charms, grasps after all this time, with many more wonderfully crafted, terse, dense, very Irish stories with a universal slant. One never knows who you'll meet or where you are going in his works.

For a potpourri of the contemporary short story, the yearly publication of *The Best American Short Story of the Year* is a must. Each year an editor is invited to read and select from our myriad of magazines what will be in the year's collection. The guest editors are usually quite literary luminaries--John Updike, Anne Tyler, Junot Diaz, Amy Tan, and Tobias Wolf, just to name a few. As a rule, the biggest representation of stories is from the *New Yorker*. The style, substance varies very widely as each guest editor has his/her take on what is the best. This variety, from year to year, adds greatly to the interest of the selections. *The Best American Short Stories of 2021* has been published and available. Have a good time, delve into one of these collections!!!!!!

– Carolyn Fallon



A Question from One of Our Members

“Who answers the General Information Number, 707.297.2472?”

You may be curious to know who answers our phone and who picks up our messages to this Carquinez Village General Information number, 707.297.2472.

Well, its Carquinez Village volunteers, often members themselves, who pick up messages regularly and help direct the calls to the right people or call back themselves. Members may need help in signing up for an event or need to talk about a certain situation regarding their membership or events or services. We also get calls from the public wanting to know about our services or wanting to sign up to be members themselves, or we may get other types of calls.

If you think this is something you would like to do as a volunteer for the village, we are always in need of volunteers, so let us know. It takes a short training and a commitment to responding to calls for a week at a time, approximately once a month, from the comfort of your own home!!

We use the Google Voice App, which is very easy to use, so you never have to reveal your own number to anyone. It really keeps you in touch as to what is going on with the Village at all times.

If you want to be a volunteer Administrator On Call, give me a call: Helen Hughes, 707-766-4717.

– Helen Hughes

SENIOR COALITION OF SOLANO COUNTY & THE KROC CENTER PRESENT

SENIOR WELLNESS EXPO

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2021
9:00AM - 12:00PM



FITNESS PRESENTATIONS

PROFESSIONAL HEALTH PRESENTATIONS

SPECIAL GUEST DR. BELA MATYAS
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER, SOLANO COUNTY HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

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RAY & JOAN
KROC CENTER
SUISUN CITY, CA



Memoir Class

Begins Wednesday October, 6th 1:00 pm - 3:00pm

Mary Eichbauer and I will teach a memoir class starting Wednesday, October 6, from 1 to 3 pm and continuing for six weeks. The class is open to members of Carquinez Village and Benicia Literary Arts. It's limited to 12 participants. Go to the website to sign up: carquinezvillage.org.

The class will include lecture, practice writing, reading works created in class, and editing of those works. Questions? Write Lois Requist at lois@requist.com.

Fire Prevention and Safety Around the House

September 16th, 10:30 am (A Zoom Program)

with Robert Lewis, First Prevention Inspector, Benicia Fire Department

Don't miss this program! Robert Lewis will inform us how we can make our homes as safe as possible. The fires in California should be a reminder to all of us to do all we can. Let's make certain that all homes in Benicia are safe. Bring your friends. The Senior Speaker Series is always open to community members.

**To make a reservation, call
707-297-2472**



Carquinez Village's

Annual Wine and Light Bites Reception

**We are canceling the in-person event do to saftey concerns and may go virtual instead.
Check your email for updates.**

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