


  
**THE CONNECTION**

**WEST CONTRA COSTA BRANCH**  
**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**

Advancing gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy  
[westcontracosta-ca.aauw.net](http://westcontracosta-ca.aauw.net)

VOLUME XXXVII

NEWSLETTER 4

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2021

**COME HEAR SUE DUNCAN'S TALK ON WILDFIRE PREVENTION**  
**LEARN HOW TO INCREASE YOUR HOUSE'S CHANCE OF SURVIVAL**

**Virtual Meeting**  
**Saturday, February 20, 2021**  
**10:00 a.m. Zoom Check-in**  
**10:30 a.m. Talk**



AAUW WCC member **Sue Duncan** co-founded with her husband **Make El Cerrito Fire Safe** in September 2018. The mission of **Make El Cerrito Fire Safe** is to keep El Cerrito fire safe by advocating for and working toward the reduction of the fuel load on public and private property, to create clearly marked and passable evacuation routes and to educate the public about and to motivate them to fire harden their structures and create defensible space around their homes. Almost half of El Cerrito geographically and all of Kensington is designated as a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, VHFHSZ, by Cal Fire.

For this virtual meeting, Christine will send all members with email addresses the Zoom invitation. Family and friends are welcome to attend. For them to get the Zoom invitation, they need to send an email to [aauw.wcc.94530@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.wcc.94530@gmail.com). Christine will open the Zoom meeting at 10:00 a.m. so attendees can check-in (and informally chat) before Sue Duncan begins her talk at 10:30 a.m.

**Gloria Merrill, Program Co-Chair**

<b>President</b> Roberta Montgomery	<b>Co-Membership VPs</b> Mimi Fruehan Judy Sam	<b>Tech Trek Co-Chairs</b> Roberta Montgomery  Marsha Weintraub	<b>Secretary</b> Marilynn Bracelin
<b>AAUW Fund VP</b> Barbara Vaughan	<b>Co-Program VPs</b> Maria LaForge Gloria Merrill	<b>Treasurer</b> Christine Hills	<b>Sunshine Chair</b> TBD
<b>Hospitality Chair</b> Sally Dunham,	<b>Website Manager</b> Barbara Vaughan	<b>Bylaws, Policies &amp; Procedures</b> Marilynn Bracelin,)	<b>Newsletter Editor</b> Sue Walenta
<b>Community/Cultural Chair</b> Barbara Miller	<b>Contra Costa College Relations</b>	<b>Publicity Chair</b> Maria LaForge,	<b>Public Policy</b> Marianne Selph
<b>Newsletter Circulation</b> Marion McIntire,	<b>Read Aloud Chair</b> Judy Sam,	<b>Telephone Monitor</b>	<b>Facebook Monitor</b> Christine Hills



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Happy New Year! We survived 2020 and there is hope for 2021 with the COVID 19 vaccine. However, there is still no in-person meetings for the foreseeable future. AAUW and our branch continue with all virtual meetings.

The **Board** meets monthly via Zoom on the first Tuesday at 2:00 pm. All members are invited to attend. At the February 2 Board meeting we will discuss our branch income ("Adopt-A-Fund") and how we fund our expenses. The discussion will include the use of the restricted funds in our budget. See 2020-2021 Budget Update Page 7.

**2020-2021 Program:** Ruth Sasaki's *Topaz Stories Project* talk on **November 21** was well received. We plan to invite her back next year for more of the stories. Likewise **Ruth Saxton's January 16 talk on "The Book of Old Ladies"** was well attended. See write-up on Page 3. It includes where to order her book. On **February 13** we are invited to attend another **CalACS-WCC** virtual meeting where **Dr. Jillian Sanzone** will talk about **Discovery Chemistry at Merck Research**. See write-up on Page 5. Note registration needs to be made by February 11. On **February 20** we host our third virtual meeting. You won't want to miss Sue Duncan's talk on **Wildfire Prevention** to Learn how to increase your house's chance of survival. Hope that you can attend and support this event. Family and friends are welcome (they send an email to [aauw.wcc.94530@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.wcc.94530@gmail.com) to get the Zoom link).

**Interest Groups:** Christine Hills is starting a **new virtual interest group – Tell Your Story!** See write-up page 5. The **next class** will be **Tuesday, January 26, 2-4 pm**. Christine is our Zoom person and is willing to help other members setup virtual meetings for Interest groups.

**AAUW National News:** The National dues is increasing for the next three year (See Page 8) and National is proposing a bylaw change to eliminate the degree requirement (See article Page 6).

**2021-2022 Branch Officers:** It is time to start thinking about the management of the branch. All positions are open. We can use your help. Where can your talents best be used? We still have the Newsletter Editor position available and Christine has indicated that she would like to move off the treasurer position. Co-positions are an option.

**Roberta Montgomery, President**

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## **MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY**

The Board decided that we would not print a new Directory for 2020-2021. We will continue to use last year's Directory (**2019-2020 with gold cover**) that Ellen Mills and her husband Paul printed. Member information updates will continue to be published in the Newsletter. **Note new email address for Marty Souto-Martinez below.** I have extra copies of last year's Directory. Let me know if you need one.

CORBIN, ROSEMARY 474 Western Drive, Richmond 94801

SOUTO-MARTINEZ, MARTHA (Marty) [martysoutomartinez@gmail.com](mailto:martysoutomartinez@gmail.com)

**Roberta Montgomery, President**

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## COME HEAR DR. RUTH O. SAXTON DISCUSS "THE BOOK OF OLD LADIES"

**Virtual Meeting**  
**Saturday, January 16, 2021**  
**10:00 a.m. Zoom Check-in**  
**10:30 a.m. Talk**

Mills College Professor Emerita **Dr. Ruth O. Saxton** will discuss her latest work, "*The Book of Old Ladies: Celebrating Women of a Certain Age in Fiction*". She has chosen thirty stories of women who defy societal stereotypes and are "examples of good aging". At Mills College she co-founded the Women's Studies Program, founded the Rhetoric and Composition Program and served as the first Dean of Letters.

Dr. Ruth O. Saxton, welcomes our recommendation of books or short stories we have especially enjoyed. E-mail her ( [rosaxton@gmail.com](mailto:rosaxton@gmail.com) ) any suggestion with a brief explanation of why you were drawn to it. "*The Book of Old Ladies*" is available at Mrs. Dalloway's and Pegasus (by order) in Berkeley, Walden Pond in Oakland, Amazon (also Kindle) and BARNES&NOBLE.

For this virtual meeting, Christine will send all members with email addresses the Zoom invitation. Family and friends are welcome to attend. For them to get the Zoom invitation, they need to send an email to [aauw.wcc.94530@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.wcc.94530@gmail.com). Christine will open the Zoom meeting at 10:00 a.m. so attendees can check-in (and informally chat) before Dr. Ruth O. Saxton begins her talk at 10:30 a.m.

**Maria LaForge, Program Co-Chair**

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**IN MEMORIAM**



**JANET MENGLE**

I am sorry to report that **Janet Mengle** passed away on November 17. Her daughter, Jeanine Bishop, contacted me. She said that her mom valued her long membership (over 60 years) with AAUW and always shared with her family her fondness for the friends she met and activities she enjoyed through AAUW.

**VIVIAN COE**

I was notified by **Vivian Coe's** daughter Carol that she passed away on December 10. She celebrated her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday on November 28. Vivian died peacefully in Carol's home, surrounded by her daughters and beloved grandchildren. Vivian was a very active member of our branch for over 37 years. She will be missed by her family and her many friends.

Vivian was most insistent on completing her endowment fund (**AAUW CA Vivian Lamont Coe American Fellowship**). We are very close and may be able to select the first recipient this year. If you would like to make a donation, send a check made out to **AAUW Fund** with the fund number, **4046**, on the memo line to **Barbara Vaughan**, 970 Wildcat Canyon Road, Berkeley, California 94708.

Cards to the family can be sent to Carol Pugh, 1937 Alford Ave., Los Altos, CA 94024

**Roberta Montgomery, President**

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## CALENDAR – MONTHLY VIRTUAL MEETINGS

### JANUARY 2021:

**Board Meeting:** using Zoom **Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 2:00 pm.** All members are invited to attend.

**Virtual Meeting:** using Zoom **Saturday, January 16, 2021 at 10:00 am.** **Dr. Ruth O. Saxton**, will discuss her latest work, *“The Book of Old Ladies: Celebrating Women of a Certain Age in Fiction”*. She has chosen thirty stories of women who increasingly become their truest selves. See write-up on Page 3.

**TELL YOUR STORY Virtual Interest Group:** Meeting Fourth Tuesday of month. Next meeting **Tuesday, January 26, 2021 2-4 pm.** See write-up on Page 5.

### FEBRUARY 2021:

**Board Meeting:** using Zoom **Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 2:00 pm.** All members are invited to attend.

**CalACS-WCC Virtual Meeting:** **Saturday, February 13, 2021 at 10:30 am** Dr. Jillian R. Sanzone will talk Merck Research Laboratories in South San Francisco - Discovery Chemistry at Merck in the Bay Area. Detail information on Page 5.

**Virtual Meeting:** using Zoom **Saturday, February 20, 2021 at 10:00 am.** Sue Duncan will talk on **Wildfire Prevention.** Learn how to increase your house’s chance of survival. See Page 1.

### MARCH 2021:

**Board Meeting:** using Zoom **Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 2:00 pm.** All members are invited to attend.

**Virtual Meeting:** using Zoom **Saturday, March 20, at 10:00 am.** AAUW CA Fund Selected Professions Fellow awardee Rebecca Sung will give a seminar.

### APRIL 2021:

**Board Meeting:** using Zoom **Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 2:00 pm.** All members are invited to attend.

**Virtual Meeting:** using Zoom **Saturday, April 17, 2021 at 10:00 am.** Two *“Sisters in Crime”* mystery writers will talk.

### MAY 2021:

**Board Meeting:** using Zoom **Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 2:00 pm.** All members are invited to attend.



**HEAR DR. JILLIAN R. SANZONE'S TALK:**  
*Merck Research Laboratories In South San Francisco –  
 Discovery Chemistry At Merck In The Bay Area*

The California Section American Chemical Society  
 Women Chemists Committee  
**Virtual Meeting**  
**Saturday, February 13, 2021**  
**10:30 am Chatting**  
**11:00 am Talk and Discussion**

Our member Elaine Yamaguchi has invited us to attend this CalACS-WCC virtual meeting. Information about Dr. Sanzone and her talk are below.

All are welcome, but you **must make a reservation by Thursday, February 11**. To register go to <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4854220>. The Zoom link will be sent out the day before the meeting via Brown Paper Tickets.

### **About the Speaker**

Dr. Jillian R. Sanzone received her B.A. from New York University in Chemistry. She went on to earn her Ph.D. in 2018 at New York University under the advisement of Professor K. A. Woerpel working on the development of new synthetic reactions involving strained cyclic alkenes. In 2018, she relocated to San Francisco and started working in the Discovery Chemistry group at Merck Research Laboratories in South San Francisco, CA. Her current work includes inventing new small molecule drugs for the treatment of metabolic diseases and designing novel synthetic methods to enable medicinal chemistry programs at Merck.

### **Abstract**

In this talk, Dr. Sanzone will highlight the new Merck Research Laboratories site in South San Francisco, CA. Merck is a global healthcare company headquartered in New Jersey focusing on oncology, vaccines, infectious diseases, COVID-19 treatments, and cardiometabolic diseases. The Merck discovery hub in South San Francisco was established in 2017 and has grown to over 200 employees in the newly designed 290,000 square foot research and office space. The South San Francisco site focuses on developing treatments for cardiometabolic diseases and oncology. The Discovery Chemistry group enables these goals by leveraging the strong chemistry and scientific expertise at Merck to focus on discovering better molecules faster across modalities and advancing the best molecules into the pipeline to deliver to patients.

### **New Virtual Interest Group** **TELL YOUR STORY!**

Fourth Tuesday 2-4 pm via Zoom  
 Hosted by Christine Hills

Do you have a novel in the drawer? Do you like to write poetry? Are you toying with the idea of writing your memoirs? Bring your work to the group and share your story. **Tell Your Story!** will be a writer support group for any writing you wish to share. The group's job is to listen actively and provide feedback to the writer. The **next class** will be **Tuesday, January 26, 2021 2-4 pm**. Send an email to [chills627@gmail.com](mailto:chills627@gmail.com) if you want to receive an invitation.

**Christine Hills**

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## AAUW Board of Directors Statement on Open Membership

The AAUW National Board of Directors strongly supports elimination of the degree requirement for membership and will put the requirement up for a membership vote this spring. This important change is a critical step in bringing AAUW's bylaws and membership requirement in line with our mission of advancing equity for women and girls. While AAUW is fiercely committed to educational attainment for all women, given our commitment to inclusion, this is simply the right thing to do.

Proposals to eliminate the degree requirement for membership have come before the membership for vote a number of times. The Board feels very strongly that, while the degree requirement made perfect sense at AAUW's inception, this requirement is now counter to our mission and limits our ability to build the capacity needed to increase our impact as an organization.

Now through February 5, 2021, 5:00 p.m. ET, you can provide thoughts and comments on the proposed changes to the AAUW bylaws as well as proposed changes to the Public Policy Priorities. To learn more about the proposed changes and submit your feedback, please visit the election page on the AAUW website: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/>

We encourage your participation and look forward to hearing your thoughts. Please join us on **Tuesday, January 19, at 4:00 p.m. ET for an interactive town hall on open membership**. To attend RSVP here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAvde6sqj0oE9ITF34WG6TgtfKB5j8pjnBd>

Voting will open on April 7 and close May 17, 2021, 5:00 p.m. ET. **Note: a "yes" vote on two-thirds of the votes cast is required to change the bylaws.**



## 2020-2021 BUDGET UPDATE

No adjustments need to be made to the 2020-2021 Budget. There is enough money to cover expenses for the rest of the year. We also know that our budgeted expenses will be less because of the continued restriction on in-person meetings. When the 2020-2021 Budget was developed changes were made. We decided not to generate a new Membership Directory and with virtual meetings, we decided to reduce the speaker honorarium and hospitality expenses. We decided however to continue to pay Christ Lutheran Church the room rental fee. Also with the uncertainty of the 2021 Tech Trek camps, we didn't budget for the Tech Trek family fee income. Thanks to the extra donations through the Adopt-A-Fund Program (\$1,990) we are able to supplement our branch dues (\$544) to help meet our budgeted expenses (\$2,588).

At the February 2 Board meeting we will discuss our branch income ("Adopt-A-Fund") and how we fund our expenses. The discussion will include the restricted funds ("special buckets") in our budget. Note there is over \$2,000 in our carryover / reserve. We will be reviewing our income as we put together plans for the 2021-2022 Membership Renewal.

The restricted funds are:

- Contra Costa College Scholarship: Balance in our CCC Foundation account when our scholarship could no longer be sponsored by CCC. Money will go into new account when scholarship is reactivated.
- Scholarship Fund: Donations to WCC scholarship fund (\$1,500 bequest from Leslie O'Hara) money used to supplement Tech Trek and CCC scholarships and for speaker donations.
- Special Projects: Money left over from last Math Science Conference and speaker honorarium donation.
- "Let's Go" Fund: Money earned years ago from sale of "Let's Go" booklet. Used to fund special activities / projects with approval. Note in WCC Policies and Procedures says "a balance of at least \$2,500 should be maintained for financing major projects of the branch"

**Christine Hills, Treasurer**

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Tech Trek 2021 will be a virtual camp. At our December Board meeting after reviewing the plans, we decided not to participate in the **Tech Trek 2021 Virtual Camp**. We felt that the whole virtual process starting with the nomination and selection would not work for our schools and girls. We are very disappointed, but look forward to 2022 and the "normal" Tech Trek residential camp.

**Roberta Montgomery and Marsha Weintraub, Tech Trek Co-coordinators**

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## NOTICE OF NATIONAL DUES ADJUSTMENT

At its October 16, 2020, meeting, the AAUW National Board of Directors voted to increase Individual Member dues for the next three years. The dues will rise by \$3 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, \$5 for FY 2023 and \$5 for FY 2024, making the total dues amount for those years \$62, \$67 and \$72, respectively. All but \$3 of your annual dues remains tax deductible. **(CA State \$20 and WCC Branch \$16 dues remain the same)**

This decision wasn't made lightly. The board members couldn't be more grateful for our members — or prouder of the work you've done this year. We also recognize that all of us are navigating numerous challenges in these uncertain times. However, in order to preserve the viability of this organization we all love, the board needed to take action. Simply put, this measure is essential for AAUW to continue our mission to achieve gender equity.

Most nonprofits adjust their dues annually or every other year to keep pace with inflation and rising expenses. However, due to prudent budgetary management, AAUW has been able to keep its dues flat since July 2018. That means that, by the time the first scheduled increase takes effect, we will have maintained three years of dues stability.

Moreover, in recognition of the difficult economy we're in, the board planned for the initial adjustment to be the most modest. Over the course of the year, it works out to be only an additional 25 cents per month — what we hope is a small price to pay for maintaining our important work and community.



## CULTURE CORNER for JANUARY and FEBRUARY 2021

By Barbara Miller

**City of El Cerrito.** Most public events are currently cancelled, including tours of the recycling center. Check the city calendar to see what is happening. <https://www.el-cerrito.org/Calendar.aspx> For copies of the minutes, agendas, and other information about meetings of city boards and commissions, click here: <https://www.el-cerrito.org/698/Agendas-Minutes>

- **Mon., January 18: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration.** A car parade, program and rally. BYOC (Bring Your Own Chair!) Details will be posted at <http://www.el-cerrito.org/mlk> . Until this website is updated, you can call Patricia Durham at 510-234-2518 for information.
  - **8:30am:** Gather at Del Norte BART Station
  - **10:00am:** Car Parade down San Pablo Ave. to El Cerrito Plaza BART Station.
  - **11:00am:** Program and rally. Music, food, entertainment.
- **Tues., January 19, 7:00pm: City Council Meeting.** Via WebEx. City council meetings are usually held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. There will be no meeting on January 5. City council meetings are open to the public. For instructions on streaming or watching the meeting, submitting comments, and other information, go to: <https://el-cerrito.org/DocumentCenter/View/13983/Instructions-for-Public-Comments>

**El Cerrito Art Association.** Check the website for updates about meetings in 2021.

<https://elcerritoart.org/our-mission-and-programs/>

- **Exhibitions:**
  - **Nov 18 through mid-March, 2021** at the El Cerrito DMV: **Connections.** Coordinated by Marva Reed and Elmarise Owens.
- **Online:** Photos of The Day, taken by members who ventured outside in 2020. Published in Patch. <https://patch.com/california/elcerrito/san-francisco-afar-photos-day>

**NIAD Art Center.** 551 23rd Ave., Richmond. 510-620-0290. <http://niadart.org> The NIAD building is closed, but NIAD is displaying art from its exhibitions in its windows.

- **Current Window Exhibition: *Be Heard Speak Up***, curated by Fenwick and West's Michelle Hamilt and Ed Rymsha
- **Online Exhibitions:**
  - **January 7 through February 6: *At Adams and Ollman: Billy White on View.*** <https://niadart.org/exhibits/at-adams-and-ollman-billy-white-on-view-january-7-through-february-6-2021/>
  - **Ongoing: *Road to Nowhere.*** <https://niadartstore.org/collections/227>
  - You can visit past online exhibits here: <http://niadart.org/exhibits/onlinehistoryarchive/>
- **Thursdays at 6:00pm. *Thirsty Thursdays.*** Join artists and other speakers for online conversations. This event is free. See details here: <https://niadartstore.org/collections/thirstythursdays>
- **Saturday, March 6: *Win Win 9.*** NIAD's annual benefit event will be held online this year.

**Richmond Art Center.** 2540 Barrett Ave., Richmond. 510-620-6772. The largest visual arts center in the East Bay. While RAC's galleries are closed due to COVID-19, RAC's website is featuring projects that represent how artists are adapting, responding and imagining during this period of COVID-19 self-isolation. Many of these were exhibited in 2020 and are still available on the RAC website.

<http://www.richmondartcenter.org>

- **Upcoming online exhibitions:**
  - **Feb. 11-May 16: *Art of the African Diaspora.*** This annual exhibition supports artists of African descent in the Bay Area. You will be able to view their work at the RAC site and at [aotad.org](http://aotad.org). Works by the 2020 award winners can be viewed here: <https://aotad.org/wp/2020-art-of-the-african-diaspora-award-winners/>
- **Current online exhibitions:**
  - **Ongoing from December, 2020: *At This Very Moment.*** A collection of photographs of "small moments" that show what life is like during our time apart. Organized by Dawline-Jane Oni-

Eseleh. <https://atthisverymoment.org/about> Click on “Work” at the upper right to see a photo from each artist, then click on a photo to see other works by that artist.

- **Ongoing: *Three Artists in the Studio*.** 2020’s winners of the RAC Spotlight Award are unable to show their work in the galleries. They have each made videos discussing their creative processes. Although scheduled to close at the end of July, these videos were still available as of early January <https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/three-artists-in-the-studio/>
  - i. **Laura Kamian McDermott** is a textile artist who produces labor-intensive work using woven, knitted and embroidered techniques.
  - ii. **Separation 2020** by Steven Morales, who uses construction materials to make collages examining the permanent effects of our temporary period of separation.
  - iii. **Black, White and Pink** by Leslie Plato Smith creates pottery based on endangered black and white animals who have pink vulnerable zones.
- **Ongoing: *Exposure: The Photography of Ezly Torrez*.** In response to the requirement to wear masks, Torrez decided to use the mask as a prop for performing characters, inspired by the beauty and technique of classical painting. Some of his photographs can be viewed here: <https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/exposure/>
- **Ongoing: *Portrait of a Neighborhood in the Time of Covid-19*.** Colleen Haraden-Gorski shares images of her Richmond Annex neighbors. A slideshow of over 50 black-and-white images. This exhibit was scheduled to end on September 16 but is still available for viewing online. <https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/portrait-of-a-neighborhood/>
- Arts and Crafts Hub: You can view and, in many cases, purchase art produced by artists associated with the RAC. <https://richmondartcenter.org/haf/online/>

**Cerrito Theater (Rialto Cinemas).** 10070 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 510-273-9102. El Cerrito’s own restored art deco movie theater. <https://rialtocinemas.com/index.php?location=cerrito> The theater is currently closed. It offers a selection of movies for streaming at home for \$10.00-\$20.00 per movie. You can stream the movie on your computer, phone, or on your TV, if you have access to a browser. Our home-town theater is suffering financially, as government funds have dried up and the theater is still closed. The theater has taken advantage of the absence of customers to replace seats in both theaters and do other repairs and upgrades. In addition to renting these movies and buying popcorn and pizza, you can help by going to the Rialto’s GoFundMe page for the Cerrito and Elmwood theaters: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/rialto-cinemas-elmwood-amp-cerrito-need-your-help>

- Saturdays, 2:30pm-5:30pm. *Popcorn Pickup*. Pick up high-quality movie theater popcorn for your at-home movie night. Also serving pizza, burgers, nachos and tater tots. Pre-order online or order your food in the theater lobby. [https://rialtocinemas.com/index.php?location=cerrito&film=2020\\_popcorn\\_cer](https://rialtocinemas.com/index.php?location=cerrito&film=2020_popcorn_cer)
- **Virtual Cinema Now Playing:**
  - ***The Library That Dolly Built*.** A documentary about Dolly Parton’s “Imagination Library” that donates books to children in all 50 states and 5 countries.
  - ***Crock of Gold: A Few Rounds with Shane MacGowan*.** A biography of the Irish vocalist.
  - ***76 Days*.** “a riveting documentary filmed during the shutdown in Wuhan, China. [An] astonishingly candid and deeply wrenching portrait of death, suffering and compassion.” – *Washington Post*.
  - ***Zappa*.** The private life of musician Frank Zappa, using archival footage and interviews with family members and musical collaborators. Directed by Alex Winter.
  - ***WBCN and the American Revolution*.** WBCN-FM was a radical underground radio station in Boston. This film tells the story of its activities and impact in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Directed by Peabody Award winner Bill Lichtenstein. “The incredible, true story of how a radio station, politics, and rock-and-roll changed everything.”
  - ***Collective*.** A story about how reporters revealed a case of deadly health care fraud, “Collective is an uncompromising look at the impact of investigative journalism at its best”.
  - ***Monsoon*.** The story of a visit to Vietnam by a refugee who fled the country for Great Britain at age 8 with his parents. Unable to speak the language and unfamiliar with the country and its

customs, he returns to Vietnam 30 years later to scatter his parents' ashes. "a thoughtful, deeply felt movie of great sweetness, unfolding at an unhurried pace." – *The Guardian*.

**El Cerrito Historical Society.** <http://elcerritohistoricalsociety.org/thehistoricalsociety.html>. The EC historical archive is in the Sundar Shadi History Room on the second floor of City Hall. It is currently closed due to Covid-19 restrictions.

- **January 31, 3:00pm. Annual Meeting** via Zoom. Chris Sterba will discuss Hambone Kelly's, a cooperative night club created by jazz legend Lu Watters. Find more information and the Zoom link at: <http://elcerritohistoricalsociety.org/>
- **Walking Tour of the Commercial Core of El Cerrito.** For a safe, different kind of outing, consider a walk along San Pablo Ave. in El Cerrito. Pavers mark historic locations. You can print out a guide here: <http://elcerritohistoricalsociety.org/walkingtourbrochure.pdf>
- **Historical Narratives.** The Historical Society posts articles about events and people in El Cerrito's history here: [elcerritohistoricalsociety.org/historicalnarratives.html](http://elcerritohistoricalsociety.org/historicalnarratives.html) From the history of our parks (including Point Isabel) to how we were affected by the 1906 earthquake, this is full of interesting information. The December 2020 issue features an article about the earliest Black residents of the city: <http://elcerritohistoricalsociety.org/forge/forgewinter2020.pdf>

**Rosie the Riveter National Historic Park.** 1414 Harbour Way South, Suite 3000, Richmond. 510-232-5050. The indoor portions of Rosie the Riveter Park are currently closed. You can view the outdoor Rosie the Riveter Memorial any time. For updates, go to: <https://www.nps.gov/rori/index.htm>. Betty Reid Soskin, at 99, the country's oldest serving park ranger, returned to work at RtR in January 2020 after a stroke in 2019. And then COVID struck. You can view an inspiring film about her life and service here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BcONCVIVCxQ>

**El Cerrito Trail Trekkers.** The El Cerrito Trail Trekkers is a nonprofit group dedicated to preserving, improving and extending the city's network of public pathways, stairs, trails and greenways for pedestrian and bicycle use, advocating for increased public open space, and sponsoring activities that involve trails and open space, including hikes, festivals, and other educational events. While most events have been suspended for the time being, you can enjoy the fruits of this group's work by trekking the trails yourself. A map of trails in El Cerrito is available at Jenny K Gifts, 6921 Stockton Ave. Recently, the Trekkers have made improvements in the El Cerrito Hillside Natural Area, and last May they installed a 15-sign interpretative walk, funded by the El Cerrito Rotary Club. For information and directions, go to:

<https://ectrailtrekkers.wordpress.com/>

- **January 9, 10:30am-12:00pm. Board Meeting.** The Board of Directors meets on the second Saturday of each month. If you want to attend via Zoom, contact Dave Weinstein, [davidsweinstein@yahoo.com](mailto:davidsweinstein@yahoo.com)
- **January 24, 4:00-5:30pm. Annual Meeting.** Speakers will discuss the geology, insects and plants of the Hillside Natural Area and will provide updates on the Rotary Interpretive Trail. For Zoom instructions, check the Trail Trekkers website or contact Dave Weinstein.

**El Cerrito Library.** 6510 Stockton Ave. (510) 526-7512. Front door service is now available. <https://ccclib.org/front-door-service/>.

- **Mondays through Thursdays, 2:00pm-4:00pm: Lunch at the Library.** Children and teens 18 and younger can pick up lunch at the front door Mondays through Thursdays. Masks and social distancing are required. [https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/search/fq=types:\(5d968fc8a10c7024004c96f8\)](https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/search/fq=types:(5d968fc8a10c7024004c96f8))
- Meanwhile, the library continues to offer the following services and many more. <https://ccclib.org/digital-resources/>
  - **Kanopy.** Get free access to thousands of movies with your library card. You can stream these movies to your TV, your computer, or your mobile phone. <https://ccclib.kanopy.com/>
  - **Newspapers.** Using your library card, you can read entire newspapers online, including the *East Bay Times* and the *New York Times*.
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