

Happy Troupers (& Shoppers)

By Karen Holzmeister



Shoppers Jennie Guan, left, & Linda Liem

Talk about lucky! Some members of the Albany Senior Travel Troupe hit jackpots as soon as they walked into Cache Creek Casino Nov. 4. Signing up for a casino membership card earned them \$25 credit, good for restaurant or gift shop purchases. Keiko Mihara used her award to treat friend Pearl Wong to coffee at the casino deli, while they planned gambling strategy, and later to lunch. Luce

Denney, Macheryl Franklin and Judith Peterson each bought their lunches with a portion of their bonuses. Then, after a 5 1/2-hour stay at the Capay Valley casino in rolling farmlands, they used the remainder for tasty treats to take home. Judith opted for deli dishes, Luce purchased sticky buns from the bakery, and Macheryl said the Mexican restaurant's food would make a delicious dinner.

The bus was packed for the Albany Senior Center's popular quarterly trip to a casino. Many regulars from past trips welcomed first-time travelers Keiko, Macheryl, Anthony Adorna, Teya Brown and Rachel Karnes.

Everyone was happy that Maya Mizuhara was able to take a day off from the senior center kitchen to enjoy a day of travel, gambling and dining. Gamblers from several other tour buses crowded the card and roulette tables at Cache Creek.

Casino signs also advertised "loose" slot machines, perhaps because of anticipated future competition from the 3,000-slot machine Graton Casino, which opened the next day in Rohnert Park. Coincidentally, senior center hikers traveled on

Highway 101 to Sebastopol on Nov. 5, and got caught in the first-day traffic of gamblers heading to Graton. And, travel troupe planner Sid Schoenfeld is counting on a lot of interest in the next casino trip _ to Graton on March 19. Albany Senior Travel Troupe partici-

pants launched a jolly holiday season with a Nov. 22 shopping spree in the Napa Valley. **Twenty-one travelers started their excursion** with three hours at the "Gifts 'n Tyme" holiday faire at the Napa Valley Expo center, followed by two hours at Napa Premium Outlets. The faire featured 85

vendors from California and Nevada with hand-crafted gourmet foods, pottery, jewelry, clothing, quilts, dolls, folk art, metal sculpture, wood-crafts, stained glass, baked goods, jams and jellies, soaps, toys and lots more. Jacqueline Armstrong patronized a popular booth selling fragrant bars of soap, purchasing gifts for herself and others. Sheri Deming bought fudge for her parents, while Carolyn Weishahn found a miniature snowman to add to her collection.

Some travelers, such as Nikki Bailey, walked a scenic five blocks to the popular Oxbow Marketplace. Others, including Barbara Campbell and Mary Kaarto, opted to lunch at the faire, where soups, plate-sized apple fritters and Mexican dishes were popular orders.

First-time travelers Linda Liem, Jennie Quan and Roegene Lewis were particularly pleased to visit the 50-store outlet, where they found clothing and other gifts.

"I found most of my holiday gifts for my family," Quan said, happily.

Bonnie Taylor donned newly-bought shoes from an outlet store, and proudly displaced them to her fellow travelers on the Albany senior center bus. Everyone was grateful for the storage space under the bus, where they stowed their bags and boxes during the late-afternoon ride home.



Roegene Lewis is ready with big shopping bag



Carolyn Weishahn browses clothing dept.



Sisters Elvera Walker & Fidelia Leavitt sit happy with their acquisitions

THE BOOSTER NEWS

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FOAS President's Message

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The last day to donate to the Holiday Market is Thursday December 5 th. We need Christmas decorations, items that can be used for entertaining and gift giving. No clothing, electronics or badly damaged goods. The affair is Saturday, December 7th, from 11am to 3 pm. Check out our mini - White Elephant Sale. Many outside vendors will also be selling their goods. There will be a bake sale and tuna sandwiches available. Our next event will be February 's Pancake Breakfast.



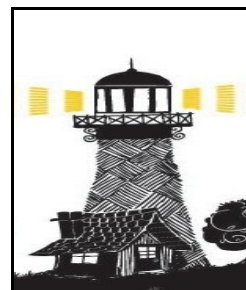
condensed milk. Cook and stir constantly until smooth. Pour over pretzels, stirring to coat. Immediately spread mixture into foil-lined 15 x 10 inch jelly roll pan. Sprinkle with 1 cup dried cranberries, raisins or mixed dried fruit. Press down with back of spoon. Chill 1 to 2 hours until set. Break into chunks. Store leftovers loosely covered at room temperature.

Humors -es-que. A gal was engaged to five guys at the same time. She could hardly wait for Christmas to be over to straighten things out.

Happy Holidays to everyone !

*Barbara Van Pelt
President, FOAS*

Recipe of the Month- Candy Crunch. Place 4 cups of pretzels sticks or pretzel twists in a large bowl. In a large saucepan over low heat, melt 24 oz .white chocolate chips with 14 oz. can of sweetened



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Thanksgiving 2013.

By Zion Lee

While the number of Albany's wild turkeys appears to be on the wane, Booster News reports a recent sighting at the Albany Senior Center. This occurred on a Wednesday evening on November 27, appropriately on Thanksgiving Eve, at the time of the Center's annual Thanksgiving dinner. It appears that these turkeys have abandoned Golden Gate Field, in favor of the make-shift Golden Egg Field at the Center, and instead of tying up traffic on Solano Avenue, they took part in an unusual turkey race that proved to be highly beneficial to the party-goers. Seniors who found "golden eggs" (in the form of gift certificates) are Stella Ong, Kathleen Cardinelli and Gloria Slavazza. Besides golden eggs, near gold-colored pumpkin pies were presented to Alice Minellone (the most senior person in attendance), Fidelia Leavitt (the most senior volunteer), Evelyn Berman (the senior from the most distance), and Nishan (a lucky H.S. volunteer for the event). Prior to the race, the audience at the party were entertained by the Albany High School Choir directed by the H.S. music teacher Mary Stocker. In addition to the turkeys, there were 48 guests in attendance.

Photos by Nick Jordan



Karen H., left, with Zetta, Betty & Floyd Garret, & Isabelle



Karl Turne, left, Helene Segal, & Maya Mizuhara



Fran Roberts. Left, Floyd Garret, Margaret Rodriguez, & Xiao-Lan Bai



A perfect Ipad moment—with Mary McKenna



The Albany High School Choir entertains



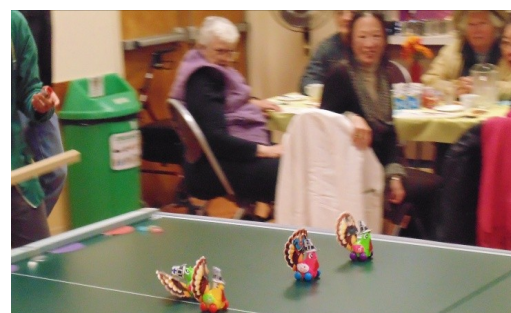
Volunteers from Albany H.S.: Nishan, Jennifer & Princess



Zion & assistant Ayizi coaxing the turkeys for the race...



....On Golden Egg Field



Turkeys racing to the finish line

In Memory - Anne Richardson 1942—2013

Anne Richardson passed on October 2nd due to a heart attack. And it was a shock to all of us here at the Senior Center. I have known Anne Richardson through the Friends of Albany Seniors when we were both on the board of directors. You might have seen her selling raffle tickets or helping at the Polish Dog Sale. Her sister Courtney Simson had a very nice memorial high tea for her on November 16, 2013, and four people from the Albany Senior Center attended. It was there that I learned more about the life of Anne from many different angles and I'd like to share it with you.

1. Anne, the beautiful.

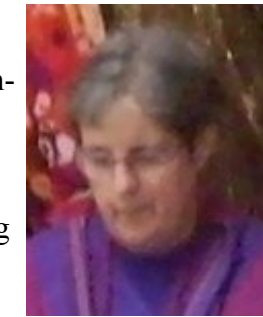
At the memorial there were stunning photographs of Anne when she was young—she was indeed as beautiful as this statement says.

"She walks in beauty, like the night of cloudless climes - starry skies and all that's best of dark and bright meets in her aspect and her eyes, thus mellow'd to that tender light which heaven to gaudy day denies" --- Lord Byron

2. Anne, the Scholar

Anne graduated from Berkeley High School and the University of California in Berkeley. Then she earned a doctorate in English literature from Yale University and an M.L.S from the UC Berkeley School of Library and Information Studies. She taught English at Albertus Magnus College and at George Washington University.

Anne devoted her life to research and publishing literature concerning William Tyndale who translated the Bible into English for the common people.



ple. I saw references to her publications.

"A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination. But when you add to that literary tongue or pen, then you have something special" -- Nelson Mandela

3. Anne, the Philanthropist and Activist.

Anne tirelessly volunteered for worthy causes. She was an active member of the National Democratic Party. And here is a list of organizations where she put her money and time:

Friends of Albany Seniors, The Tyndale Society, Women's Action Council, Amnesty International USA, Progress Patriots Fund, World Wildlife Fund, Audobon, ACLU, Democracy for America, UC California Alumni.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it's the only thing that ever was" -- Margaret Mead.



Anne (center) volunteers at the ticket booth of the 2010 Luau

From time to time Anne and I got together to have lunch on Solano Avenue. But about six weeks before her passing, she invited me and some friends to her apartment for dinner. I was apprehensive because I knew she had some health problems. I was expecting something simple like soup or pizza. But to

my surprise it was a full course shrimp dinner, and it was served on a beautiful table complete with lace table cloth, crystal and fine china. She tried so hard and always did her best—that's the Anne that will remain in my memory.

by Julia Lee

The Albany Senior Center is funded jointly by

The City of Albany, The Alameda County and The Friends of Albany Seniors.

FOAS provides funds to run many of the programs and special events that you've come to enjoy. Please support the Senior Center by becoming a member of FOAS, and volunteer for some of the FOAS-sponsored activities. Contact the Front Desk if you wish to volunteer. Thank you!

FOAS meetings are held on the first Monday of every month, at 11:30 am. All are welcome.



Edgewood Park 's education course

Walk, Talk and Be Healthy

By Pat Tousant

“The wheels on the bus go round and round, round and round, ...” and the highlight of our hiking trip to the Lagunada de Santa Rosa Preserve just east of Sebastopol was not getting

around the traffic for the opening of the new Graton Casino as Joe maneuvered us around that without a problem. But the unquestionable highlight was seeing the 20-30 white pelicans flying in the vicinity of Kelly Pond and then the 10-15 white pelicans swimming and fishing on the pond itself. These pelicans, all white with black on their wing ends, dip their bill into the water while swimming to get their food. They do not dive into the water from flight as the brown pelicans do. The 3-4 mile hike was through level marshlands, that when the rains come, will undoubtedly be flooded. The trail led us into the upscale hippie community of Sebastopol. We all spread different directions for lunch and shopping. It was a beautiful fall day and the red maple leaves gracefully fluttered down only to be rustled beneath our feet as we sauntered around the Plaza. Actually Sebastopol is a different, fun place. And then Joe maneuvered us around the Graton Casino traffic and we came back to the Center.

Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve, just off Hwy. 280 in Redwood City was the destination on our next hike. We saw a few ‘survivor’ wildflowers on our 4 mile hike up the 800’ ridge and back through oak trees and open terrain but the true beauty of the park are its grasslands with its abundance of magnificent springtime wildflowers on display. Hopefully we will get back there next spring and again have the informative, knowledge-

able docents that did so much to enhance our hike. At the top of the ridge we had 360 views of the bay area—great sunrises and sunsets undoubtedly. The park has a very nice picnic area and visitor’s center. We did not see Jerry Rice or Roger Craig but we understand that they religiously trained on these hills when they were active 49ers. Rumor has it that they now belong to the Redwood City Senior Center.

It felt like such a privilege and honor for us to amble around in the Martinez house that John Muir lived in for 24 years. The 17 lucky seniors were led by a John Muir aficionado working for the National Park Service, Ron Good, who obviously loved John Muir and all that he represented. We started with a 20 minute movie, went through the gift shop, took a few pictures with a life-size bronze Mr. Muir, and then were led up the hill into the 14-room Italianate Victorian mansion. Ron lovingly told us many stories of the life and times of the conservationist, Mr. Muir. Among the more notable things, John was the founder of the National Park Service and the first president of the Sierra Club. He loved Yosemite but who doesn’t. It poured rain while we were touring the house and that gave it a homey feeling; however the rain continued and we got

rained out of our hike to Mt. Wanda on the Muir estate. We all were extremely happy with our visit to the John Muir house. It felt good being there and we felt utmost respect and admiration for what John Muir did for our country.



Ranger Ron gives a lively narration of the life of John Muir



John Muir and his legacy



John Muir (center) and fans

.....More pictures from the Thanksgiving Party



48 seniors enjoyed good food, and fun times.



Thanks to our hard-working kitchen crew



Barbara V.Pelt (center) & Robert Berman (right)

December Birthdays



Valjean Adams
Robert Berman
Chris Caseio
TC Chi
Frank Correia
Walter Corvello
Joan Curry
Dick Davis
Bill Decker
Sherri Deming
Bayle Emlein
Ellen Farwell
Leonard Farwell
Lorena France
Iris Greenbaum
Naoma Guevara
Barbara Hirsch

John Houghton
Tie Cheng Huang
Diane Ichiyasu
Barbara Ivry
J. Kawahata
Anita Levitch
Linda Liem
Annette Lys
Kent MacDougall
Deborah Morrison
Raul Munoz
Lilly Nardi
Katharine Osburn
Pasquale Petti
Karen Powers
Sally Redick

Howard Reinhartz
Isabelle Revoir
Thomas Rogers
Patricia Russell
Gou Ping Shen
Carol Sparks
Richard Stovall
Trish Thomas
Margaret Tong
Patricia Tousant
Nancy Tyler
Florence Wahl
Margaret Weitkamp
Alfred Windsor
Shok May Wu



Congratulations to the above individuals on their December birthdays. They will be honored at a Diner Party on **Thursday, December 12, 4:00 pm.** After-dinner entertainment features **popular vocalist Freddie Crenshaw** who will brighten the season with your favorite holiday music. Donation is \$5, paid at the door. Sign up now at the Front Desk, and invite your friends. Space is limited.



Holiday Market, White Elephants & Bake Sale
Saturday, December 7th 11am - 3pm

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