

Twin Cities Village Voice

Empowering older adults to remain active, connected,
and independent in the place they call home

May 2022

EDITORIAL

by Sue Sommer

Marvelous May! Named after the goddess of fertility, Maia, the month is celebrated from day one, with the May Day spring festivities throughout the world, culminating with the entwining May Pole Dance. May first also celebrates International Workers Day, giving better working conditions to those in the labor force.



But here in Marin we will celebrate a personal birthday: Greenbrae's Bon Air shopping center will fete its 70th year. It was a grand vision of a fire department, recreational park, and in 1952, the Bon Air Super Market—how many of you were here for that? In 1955, a hardware store, beauty salon, barber shop, and dry cleaners were added. Still family owned, the Center will celebrate on May 7, 11:00 – 2:00pm.



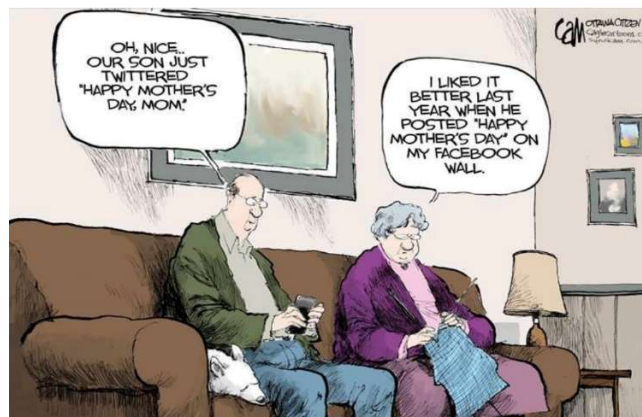
Even older, our Golden Gate Bridge turns 85 this month. At 1.7 miles, it was longest suspension bridge span in the world at that time, costing \$35 million (\$1.6 billion today). Pedestrians were charged a nickel to cross, but now, in a twist of the times, it's free!

May 3 is World Press Freedom Day. This day takes on special meaning now because we can be thankful that we have a choice of news outlets, but, as is made horrifically clear lately, those living under dictatorial regimes have one stream of propaganda to digest, giving them a skewed vision of, for instance, the war in Ukraine, which is labeled an "uprising that needs to be quelled" by the Russian leader. Free press is vital to the assurance of democracy.

Star Wars Day—May the Fourth Be with You—an informal commemoration for fans giving homage to the galactic saga begun in 1977 by George Lucas. The phrase, for the uninitiated, is a pun on the blessings given in Star Wars films throughout the franchise, "May the force be with you."

Another festive day made special by its celebratory aspect is Cinco de Mayo. It commemorates Mexico's victory over France in the Battle of Puebla in 1862—but ask that to just about anyone at a festival on that evening, and I'll bet you a margarita nobody would have the correct answer.

Mother's Day is May 9, but I like to call it Mothers and Others Day to thank anyone has supported us throughout our lives—aunts, grandmamas, caring neighbors, nurses—and not just women; the male counterparts, too.



May 12 is National Limerick Day. Try one for next month's *Village Voice*. My favorite follows:

*A flea and a fly in a flue,
were caught, so what could they do?
Said the fly, "Let us flee!"
Said the flea, "Let us fly!"
So they flew through a flaw in the flue.*

Memorial Day is May 30. It is the unofficial beginning of the summer, formerly the day on which we could begin to wear white (now it's those disgusting torn jeans any time for any occasion, it seems), and the long weekend of gigantic sales, but let's not forget that the more important and relevant reason for the federal holiday is to honor all those in the U.S. military who died

during their service. In 2000, the National Moment of Remembrance was created, during which Americans take several minutes at 3:00 to reflect on, and to show reverence for, those who died defending our nation and its values. I wonder how many of us will remember...

So, happy anticipation of spring; of flowers and sunshine and the hope of peace. May the forces of love and goodness and kindness be with you.



WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Members: Marge Cavelli, Pauline France, and Vernetta Jones

We look forward to seeing you all at an event soon!

TWIN CITIES VILLAGE EVENTS

If you need a ride to any of the events below, please call the office. (415) 457-4633

Food & Drink

Men's Coffee at the Sweetwater

Wednesdays, May 4 & 18, 11:30am



Join this ongoing group to meet with others for discussion, and to enjoy coffee at the same time! Men from all local villages are invited to participate. To get more information or to be put on the reminder list for upcoming meetings contact Irv Gubman (irvgubman@gmail.com or (415) 250-6155). The group meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

Sip 'n' Chat—Cocktail Hour

Tuesday, May 17, 3:30 – 5:00pm
9 Niven Way, Larkspur

Invite a friend to join us at the home of Marty Schwarz. It's a chance to meet new friends and enjoy the springtime plantings in Marty's lovely yard.

Fun & Games

Bocce Ball

Friday, May 27, 1:15 – 3:00pm
Marin Bocce Federation, 550 B Street, San Rafael



Come for some fun and exercise—and friendly competition. "Lessons" available! Put on soft-soled shoes and head over to Albert Park.

OTHER MARIN VILLAGES EVENTS

Not Home Alone Early Mothers and Others Day Dinner

Sunday, May 8th, 2:00 – 4:00pm
Pacific Catch, Corte Madera Town Center



All members and volunteers are welcome! Join Not Home Alone hostess Donnalee Wells and other Marin Villagers for an early Mother's and Others Day dinner. First come, first served, and space is limited to 20 guests. Please **bring cash** for your meal. All attendees must be COVID vaccinated, and masks are required. RSVP ASAP to Donnalee at donnaleewells@comcast.net or text or call (415) 302-9244. Please call the Marin Villages office ASAP if you need a ride. (415) 457-4633

Pop-Up Bazaar

You can't save the date yet because we're not sure of the exact one, but you can save your gently used goodies—including small furniture that can be carried by one person, men's clothing, books, home decor objects, clothes, and more.

Same old announcement! The mask mandate has lifted in most venues, but it is up to you in many indoor areas—at least things are open and available. Check the Marin Villages' *Village Square* or local news for updates. Also check the *Village Square* for suggestions of films, books, events, and activities.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Larkspur Walkers

Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 9:00am

Join the Larkspur Walkers (<http://www.ci.larkspur.ca.us/775/Larkspur-Walkers>) for exercise, fun, companionship, and, last month, a little human kindness.



The little duckling couldn't make it up the curb, so a Larkspur Walker came to the rescue (see lower right-hand corner of the photo)! Within a minute, Mama and her entire family were happily quacking, cheeping, and waddling along their merry Marin way. Thank you to the rescuer...

Discover events and activities on other local websites:

- Library (marinlibrary.org)
 - Buck Center informational lectures and events (buckinstitute.org/events)
 - Age Friendly Corte Madera (agefriendlycortemadera.com)
 - Parks and Recreation departments of our sister cities
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TWIN CITIES VILLAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS

May birthdays



Happy birthday to our May birthday ladies!

Susan Stoddard, May 1

Bette Foley, May 4,

Virginia Dunn, May 17

The Steering Committee

Your Twin Cities Village Steering Committee helped celebrate the season at the April meeting by readying the spring cards for mailing—with the help of some chocolate chip cookies, coffee, and a lot of good discussion!



INVITE TO WRITE

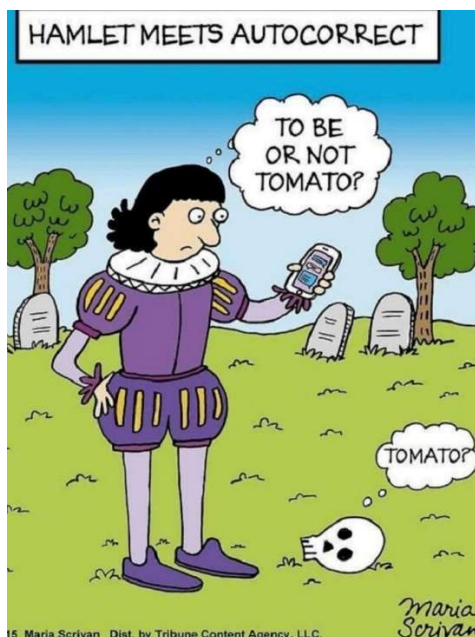


I talked about limericks in the editorial—why not try one on your own and submit it (ssommertime@sbcglobal.net)? Five lines; 1,2,5 rhyme, and 3,4 rhyme with each other, but not with 1,2,5; emphasis on the second syllable: da DA, da DA, da DA...

There once was a fly on the wall
I wonder, why didn't it fall?
Because its feet stuck,
Or was it just luck?
Or does gravity miss things so small?

AND MORE...

Signs of the times





**She danced like
nobody was watching.**

**But people were
watching and she
looked like bees were
attacking her.**

**CATS CAN MEMORIZE
120 COMMANDS
BUT THEY DON'T
WANT TO**

HELP US HELP OTHERS

For more than two decades the belief that it takes a village to raise a child has become embedded in our culture. Not as embedded but equally important is the village it takes to provide a comfortable, nurturing, and safe environment for people as they age. You can help. Marin Villages is looking for volunteers to provide a variety of support to older adults. Our goal is to match skills from volunteers with the needs of members. Volunteers sign up for visits that fit their life and lifestyle, but we ask for a commitment of two assignments a month.

If you know someone who could use our services or is interested in volunteering with an organization serving older adults in Marin, please have them call the office at (415) 457-4633, or visit our website (www.marinvillages.org) for application forms. We always welcome donations to support our work! Please visit <https://marin.helpfulvillage.com/pages/10049-marin-villages---donate> to contribute.

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