

# Gold Country Living

## SAVE THE DATES

We have set the dates for our winter pruning classes on Sunday, January 22, Japanese Maples at 10am & Roses at noon; Saturday, February 4, Roses at 10am and Japanese Maples at noon. Classes are FREE, please call the nursery to save your spot. Classes held rain or shine outside; bring a jacket!

Our classes are very informative, and held outdoors. We will cover all aspects of the care and selection of maples and roses, and answer any questions you might have. Plan on one hour per class; RSVP so we have enough chairs, snacks, and hot drinks for everyone.

We are hoping to offer additional pruning classes; please check our web page and Facebook for more info. El Dorado Nursery, LIKE us on FB <http://www.facebook.com/pages/El-Dorado-Nursery-Garden/193905410634956>

## Gianelli

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...produced before outside of Italy. Wines are produced by well-respected Sierra Foothill winemaker Chuck Hovey. The 53-acre ranch has been in the Gianelli family since the late 1800s when Giovanni Rocca purchased the land after marrying into the Gianelli family.

Once a gold mining camp, working cattle ranch and a major stagecoach stop for supplies coming into Jamestown, the property is now home to Gianelli Vineyards Winery and well-tended rows of grapevines. "We invite you to enjoy our wines in our tasting room on the historic main street of Jamestown or served at many fine restaurants in northern California," added Lorie.

The tasting room, located at 18263 Main Street, is open from 1pm to 5pm, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Mondays; noon to 5pm Saturdays and Sundays. For additional info, call Gianelli Vineyards at 209-532-0414; tasting room, 209-984-1500 or visit online at [gianellivineyards.com](http://gianellivineyards.com).

## West Side Story

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...24th through Saturday the 28th at 8:00PM. Matinees run Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday at 2:00PM. For more info, visit [www.westsidestory.com](http://www.westsidestory.com) online. For more info about the California Musical Theater or for tickets, [www.californiamusicaltheater.com](http://www.californiamusicaltheater.com), or call the box office at (916) 557-1999 or (916) 808-5181.

The Community Center Theater, 1301 L Street, Sacramento, is now the region's largest live performing arts event with over 200,000 tickets sold annually, Broadway Sacramento draws theatre lovers from the Oregon border to western Nevada and the Central Valley.

## Farms of Amador

Inspiration for Year-Round Food Production Event, Amador City Community Hall, 14531 East School St., Amador City, starting 5:15 p.m. on Wednesday February 15, 2012. Farms of Amador wants to continue developing a regional food system for Amador County and to increase productivity and profitability of our County's producers.

To this end, we are hosting Gary Hickman, a UCCE Farm Advisor for over 25 years in Mariposa county who now works as an international consultant for greenhouse vegetable production and owner of Cuesta Roble Greenhouse Vegetable Research Nursery.

Gary will begin his 2-hour presentation on the basics of greenhouse production in a foothill climate at 5:30 which will be followed by a local food dinner at 7:30 p.m. Farms of Amador will provide the main course while our members will bring side dishes to share.

The cost for the event will be \$10 per person for non-Farms of Amador members, free admission for Farms of Amador members who bring a side dish. To RSVP for this event, visit: [www.farmsofamadior.com](http://www.farmsofamadior.com) or contact [skriletich@ucdavis.edu](mailto:skriletich@ucdavis.edu)

## Newsome - Harlow Wines

The Kitchen at Newsome-Harlow is undergoing changes. Effective immediately, The Kitchen will be open only on Friday and Saturday nights from 5- 10 pm. Owners Scott and Melanie Klann will be spending the next several weeks creating new programs and menus that will be launched in late winter.

The Klanns opened the restaurant in May and have been tweaking their operation ever since. "I think we have landed on the ultimate vision for The Kitchen," commented Scott. "We want to create a place that is all about food and wine pairings, more of a lounge than a restaurant, an adjunct to our tasting room, there is nothing else currently like it in Murphys."

Melanie added, "The beginning of 2012 is a perfect time for us to reflect and take the time to put some really cool things together, I'm super stoked." To keep updated on future changes, you can subscribe to their newsletter at [www.nhvino.com/Reach-Out-To-Us](http://www.nhvino.com/Reach-Out-To-Us). Or for more information, contact Newsome-Harlow at 209-728-9817 or via email at [wines@nhvino.com](mailto:wines@nhvino.com)

## The Progressive Women's Committee

February 2, 11:30am at Thomi's Banquet Room in Jackson. Speaker: U.S Congressional candidate, Jack Uppal. Buffet luncheon \$15. RSVP Sally at [trestrail@gotsky.com](mailto:trestrail@gotsky.com)

## Shenandoah Valley Ecclectetcetera # 31 How to Build a Better Library

By Michael Spinetta

Once again, I did not want to read the rules of Arthur Shapiro's 'beer-for-a-butterfly' contest. I know now that the contest does not apply to my county – nor to my butterfly. The blog post "Pop Goes the Pieris" by Kathy Garvey on [ucanr.org](http://ucanr.org) states it's all over anyway.

The good professor captures a cabbage white specimen and wins again. He must wash his car with Gatorade and drive around attracting the fluttering things. And here I sit stupidly in the middle of my own butterfly garden with a satyr angewing mocking me, landing in my friend's hair, teasing my cat, tasting my calendulas. So you don't end up like me, please visit: [butterfly.ucdavis.edu/butterfly/Pieris/rapae](http://butterfly.ucdavis.edu/butterfly/Pieris/rapae) and read, read, read.

### UCCE & Our School

Readers have asked how the Master Gardeners are involved with Plymouth Elementary School. Teacher Toni Linde asked Chris Taylor to plant a butterfly garden in 2004, and students kept records of plant growth and cycles.

The garden has since flourished, diminished, and reached a happy medium. Students are more aware of their environment: one in particular demanded better food in the cafeteria, and now there is breakfast program with a salad bar coming soon. Thanks, Brook Velasquez.

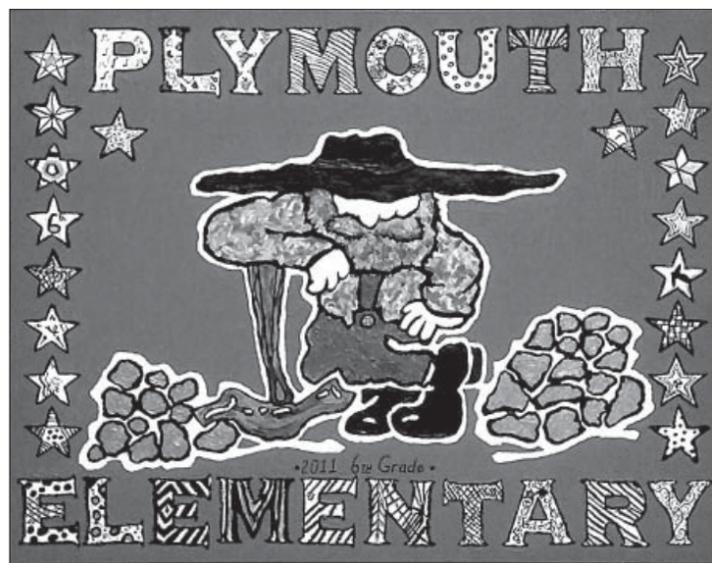
Plants that were bad for the school have been taken out – like the cyprus that would have broken up the school's foundation, and the impossible-to-maintain junipers in which I found a Pepsi can from the 1960's. Two test plots of UC Davis' "Arboretum All-Stars" are thriving on and off campus.

When the kids helped to prune the plants yesterday, we left the cuttings in the beds so parents and teachers can take them home to hold back an eroding slope, fill in a bereft yard, or simply make a spouse happy with beautiful roses.

### Flowers & Paintings

The "Bulbs for Books" program succeeded. The 1100+ bulbs are in the ground in front of the school and will hopefully give yellow blooms on March 2nd, 'Read Across America Day'. Why then? That's Dr. Seuss' birthday (and the release date of the Lorax movie, too)!

Right now, I'm sketching out about 20 canvasses large and small with the *Cat in the Hat* and balloon themes in them. Why balloons? Yellow balloons with tags for pen pals were the rewards for my mom's reading program. Why paintings? Because the students are good at it, as evidenced in this month's photo. And yes, the paintings will not at all draw from my mom's library fund mentioned below.



The 2011 sixth grade students at Plymouth Elementary School created this 4' x 5' piece. *Courtesy Photo*

Please read more online at [www.goldcountrytimes.com/plymouth\\_main.htm](http://www.goldcountrytimes.com/plymouth_main.htm) and help out if you can.

### Laura Spinetta Library

Plymouth Elementary School will double the size of its library this winter, and the Laura Spinetta Library Fund has been established to fund this project. Supporters will raise \$25,000 to expand the school's library, and Charles Spinetta initiated the fundraising with a \$7,500 donation. "We ask the community to help with this project because improving the school library is important for our children", said Mr. Spinetta. "Several people will make significant donations, and everybody agrees that enriching the library is a wonderful tribute to my wife as well as a great asset for our students and their teachers."

The library will be named after Laura Spinetta, who volunteered as a librarian at Plymouth Elementary School for many years. She organized the library, recruited a volunteer staff, and made the library a comfortable place for students.

Laura's work encouraged teachers and students alike, and she taught the fundamentals of using a library for research and enjoyment to countless children.

She also helped establish reading programs at Plymouth Elementary School and appreciated support from many local

businesses and neighbors who donated time, money, and supplies whenever the library needed help.

Elizabeth Chapin-Pinotti, assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction for the Amador County School District, explained the specifics of the library's project. "We are going to double the square footage of the school's library and purchase a wide assortment of new books as well as shelving and supplies. Our students will discover a welcoming room with an abundance of books!"

She explained that the theme of the Laura Spinetta Library would be inspired by Dr. Seuss' "The Cat in the Hat". The Laura Spinetta Library Fund has been established with the Amador Community Foundation.

Donations should be made payable to Amador Community Foundation with Laura Spinetta Library Fund noted on the check. Please mail your donations to P.O. Box 1154, Jackson CA 95642. You may also donate at [www.amadorcommunityfoundation.org/local-charities](http://www.amadorcommunityfoundation.org/local-charities) online.

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The butterfly, a cabbage-white, (His honest idiocy of flight) Will never now, it is too late, Master the art of flying straight. ~Robert Graves, "Flying Crooked"

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