



The HOPE Coalition

Humboldt Organized for Peace & the Environment

"Working in partnership toward the development of a diverse, just, & sustainable community."

Calendar of Happenings in Humboldt County Inside

Newsletter Editorial Page – Feb. 14, 2012

States Settle for ... a Poke in the Eye

By Maria Tomchick, www.MariaTomchick.com

The \$26 billion settlement that state authorities wrangled out of the nation's five biggest banks amounts to peanuts compared to the damage that was done to homeowners across the country.

The five banks who've agreed to the settlement are Bank of America (who purchased the nation's largest mortgage lender, Countrywide Financial), JP Morgan Chase (who bought Bear Stearns), Wells Fargo (who bought Wachovia), Citigroup (who was a major recipient of federal government bailout money), and Ally Financial (formerly GMAC and now majority owned by the US Treasury).

Are you seeing a pattern here? All of these banks have been the recipient of federal bailout funds and some, like Ally Financial, are still dependent on US taxpayers. Nevertheless, they've stockpiled enough cash that they could pay the \$26 billion settlement today and not take a hit to their bottom lines. But that's not what they'll have to do. The settlement terms are much sweeter than that.

Over three years, the banks will help about one million homeowners who owe more than their homes are worth to restructure their mortgages. This is estimated to provide about \$20,000 in debt relief per homeowner. Unfortunately, most homeowners in that situation are underwater on their mortgages by an average of \$50,000 each, so this provision won't be enough to stop the rise in foreclosures and bankruptcies. Furthermore, the three-year timeline is too long; people are in debt and in financial trouble right now, and in three years a lot of people could lose their homes before they see any debt relief from the big five banks.

The settlement also sets aside funds for people who lost their homes to foreclosure: about 750,000 people will receive between \$1,500 to \$2,000 in cash. Whoopee. When you've lost your home, a \$2,000 check doesn't mean very much, especially when the bank that foreclosed on you has been accused of forging documents and was completely unresponsive to your requests to refinance or negotiate better payment terms. And these banks will be released from prosecution by the states for their criminal activity, which makes the settlement that much more painful for the American people.

The banks say this settlement will help the nation put the mortgage mess behind it, and it will ultimately help the housing market recover. They're wrong. Four million people have lost their homes to foreclosure since 2008. The settlement barely covers less than one-fifth of those households. And most US homeowners won't qualify for debt relief, either. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac own over half of the mortgages in the US, but they're not a party to the settlement, and neither are people whose mortgages were bundled and sold to private investors as mortgage-backed securities. That mess could take more than a decade to unravel.

In short, the settlement is a very, very good one for the big five banks. It will help them put the mortgage scandal behind them so they can get back to record profits, huge executive pay packages, and business as usual. And because the penalty was so small, the banks won't be cleaning up their act any time soon.

We'll have to wait and see if the federal government, particularly Obama's new mortgage crime-fighting unit, can extract meaningful penalties from these scofflaws. So far, the federal government's record isn't good: over the past 20 years, the SEC has let these banks off the hook time and time again for the same violations, with only minimal financial penalties. And the federal government, unlike the states, has a vested financial interest in seeing these banks succeed, so we can't expect them to be more aggressive in taking these big banks to court.

But somebody needs to do something, and the best move would be for Congress to pass legislation to reinstitute Glass-Steagall or another law that would break up the big banks into smaller entities. This would reduce their lobbying power in Washington DC, reduce the amount of resources they can bring to bear against state and federal regulators, and make the failure of any one of them less likely to jeopardize the entire financial system. This necessary re-regulation is long overdue and, while Congress is paralyzed with partisanship, at least one of the presidential candidates should be taking up this issue. So far, all of them are avoiding the most important campaign issue of all: what to do about the economy.

It's up to the voters—ordinary people like you and me—to force a shift in the political discussion. To ask each candidate, "What will you do to re-regulate the banking industry?" and "What is your solution to help homeowners who are underwater on their mortgages?" and "Four million people have lost their homes to foreclosure, and many of them are out of work. What are you going to do about that?"

Keep asking. Shout if you have to.

[All opinions in editorials, action items, & calendar items are those of the writers, submitters, and involved organizations; and not necessarily the opinions of the HOPE Coalition or its volunteers. HOPE will consider rebuttal editorials from the progressive viewpoint.]

PEACE NEWS

The Redwood Coast Peace Poetry Contest: Teens Invited to Submit Peace Poetry. Submissions should focus on peace, the abolition of war, hate or violence, or peace-making in communities. The contest is open to all high school students in Humboldt County. Authors will be honored in a public ceremony and will be considered for one of several cash prizes of up to \$200. Entries must be received by March 5. Info: www.vfp56.org, Jon at 822-4595 or jonreisdorf@hotmail.com.

ENTERTAINMENT, CELEBRATIONS, & CULTURE

Thursday, February 16: Humboldt Varietyville, featuring acts by a variety of local artists performing original music, circus, and burlesque scenes plus many other weird forms of live art. Fundraiser for SRPP's peer education program Spare Change! 9 pm at the Arcata Playhouse, 1251 9th, Arcata. \$7. Info: 822-1575.

Thursday, February 16: Congressional Candidate Interview. Radio host Peter B. Collins interviews Congressional candidate Susan Adams. 7:30 pm in the Senior Dining Room at Arcata Community Center. Suggested donation \$15. Info: 822-5500.

Friday, February 17: Eureka Chamber Music Series: Anton Nel, Pianist, winner, first prize at the Naumberg Competition and Joanna Hodges International Piano Competitions. 7:30 pm at the Cavalry Lutheran Church, 716 South Ave, Eureka. \$30. Info: 445-9650.

Saturday, February 18: 15th Annual Arcata Eye Ball, featuring live and silent auctions by the Eureka Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Shea Freelove, Bob Ornelas, the Rutabaga Queens, the Eye Dolls, Dell'Arte and The Arcata Eye Rockestra. 7 pm at the Arcata Theater Lounge. \$15 or 2 for \$25. Info: 826-7000 or www.arcataeye.com.

Monday, February 20: HSU Music Dept: Pipe Organ Recital. Free. 8 pm in Music Room A 131 at HSU. Info: 826-3531.

Friday – Sunday, February 24 – 26: A Musical Cabaret: The Dell'Arte Company & Guests. Old songs, new and original songs, comic songs, ballads, and more, hosted by the inimitable and eccentric Albert McFee. 8 pm at the Carlo Theatre in Blue Lake. \$15. Info: 668-5663 or www.dellarte.com.

Saturday, February 25: HSU International Cultural Festival to promote cultural exchange, and to give international students an opportunity to share information about their respective countries in a friendly, interactive, fun-filled atmosphere. Enjoy cultural displays, performances, music, and friendship. 1 - 5 pm at HSU's Kate Buchanan Room. Free. Info: 826-4142.

Saturday, February 25: Annual Indian Island Candlelight Vigil held every February to remember those who lost their lives in the 1860 Massacre and help heal the community. Prayer, song, and poetry. 5 – 7 pm by the fisherman statue on Woodley Island in Eureka. The community is welcome. Rain or shine. Please bring a candle. Info: 733-5055.

Saturday, February 25: HSU Music Dept. Symphonic Band/Jazz Orchestra. 8 pm in the Fulkerson Recital Hall, HSU. \$7, \$3. Info: 826-3456.

Saturday, February 25: Barn Dance with Tara Stetz and the Striped Pig Stringband. 7:30 – 11 pm at the Arcata Veteran's Hall. \$7 general and \$6 for HFS members, students and seniors. Kids under 12 free! Info: 822-5394.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & ALL AGES

Sunday, February 19: I Love Mud! A Valentines-Inspired Bilingual Event For Kids And Their Adults. Join Friends of the Dunes as they explore the intertidal mudflats. Discover the cool creatures that live in the mud, learn about the birds that eat them, and create some mud art! 2 – 4 pm at the Samoa Boat Ramp. This event is free, but donations are gladly accepted. Wear boots if you have them, and be prepared to get muddy! Se habla espanol en este evento. Please R.S.V.P. to 444-1397.

Saturday, February 25: Bilingual Story Time. Children and their parents are invited to enjoy fun stories and songs in Spanish and English. 1 pm at the Humboldt County Library, 1313 3rd St., Eureka. Free. Info: 269-1910.

Redwood Region Audubon Society Student Nature Writing Contest on the topic, "What nature means to me." Entries should be up to 300 words in length; one entry per person. Cash prizes. Deadline: March 19. Info: tomleskiw@suddenlink.net.

Student Bird Art Contest, sponsored by Redwood Region Audubon Society and Friends of the Arcata Marsh. \$500 in prizes will be awarded to students K - 12 who submit a drawing of one of 40 selected bird species. Artwork may be in color or black and white. Any media may be used (e.g., crayons, pastels, paint, pencil, collage). One entry per person. Info at the Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center and Strictly for the Birds in Old Town Eureka, or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Louise Bacon-Ogden, 2337 B Street, Eureka 95501. Artwork must be received by Friday, March 23.

The Redwood Coast Peace Poetry Contest: Teens Invited to Submit Peace Poetry (see "Peace News," above).

PROTECT THE EARTH & ITS LIVING CREATURES

Sunday, February 19: I Love Mud! A Valentines-Inspired Bilingual Event For Kids And Their Adults. Join Friends of the Dunes as they explore the intertidal mudflats. Discover the cool creatures that live in the mud, learn about the birds that eat them, and create some mud art! 2 – 4 pm at the Samoa Boat Ramp. This event is free, but donations are gladly accepted. Wear boots if you have them, and be prepared to get muddy! Se habla espanol en este evento. Please RSVP to 444-1397.

Saturday, February 25: 34th Annual Lupine Bash at the Lanphere Dunes Unit of Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge. The Annual Lupine Bash is one of the largest restoration events coordinated by Friends of the Dunes and the US Fish & Wildlife Service. Tools, gloves and snacks will be provided. Bring a mug for coffee, drinking water and wear work clothes and closed-toe shoes. Meet at Pacific Union School in Arcata and carpool to the Dunes. 9:30 am - 12:30 pm. Info or to RSVP: 444-1397.

Sunday, February 26: Sierra Club Free Public Hike From Clam Beach To The Mouth Of the Mad River. This 6-mile, medium-difficulty walk will start south along the beach via a route that visits streams and wetlands. Return along the Hammond Trail. Bring water and snacks. Fit, well-socialized, leashed dogs welcome. Two shallow stream crossings are necessary. Heavy rain cancels. Meet 12:30 pm at the southern, unpaved Clam Beach parking lot. Info: Bill at 839-5971.

Sunday, February 26: Patrick's Point Day Hike. See 9 species of fern, a spikemoss (Selaginella), and various mosses, Bishop pine, two species of angelica, three of plantain, and look for an early bloom of milkmaid, skunk cabbage, or black trailing currant. The hike is 2 – 4 miles on level, beautiful trails in the state park. Bring lunch and water; dress for a day outside. Meet at 9 am at Pacific Union School or 9:30 at the visitor center in Patrick's Point State Park. If you don't want to support State Parks with your \$8 park entrance fee, park outside and walk in or join another car. Info: Carol Ralph at 822-2015.

Saturdays, Ongoing: Redwood Region Audubon Society Free Public Field Trips at the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary. Rain or shine, docent-led field trips. Meet with binoculars in the parking lot at the south end of I Street in Arcata at 8:30 am.

Saturdays, Ongoing: Friends of the Arcata Marsh Docent-Led Walks. A 90-minute, docent-led walk focusing on different topics of the marsh. 2 pm at the Interpretive Center on South G St. Info: 826-2359.

WORKSHOPS AND MISCELLANEOUS

February is Teen Violence Prevention and Awareness Month in the United States. Members of the community who wish to make a personal or financial contribution to this issue should call Susan McGee, the coordinator of DVCC, at 601-6042 or email her at SusanGSMcGee@aol.com.

Saturday, February 18: Access Humboldt Community Media Center (CMC) Orientation. This 2-hour overview of the CMC is a prerequisite for all certifications and includes an introduction to the community resources and common procedures at Access Humboldt. 10 am – noon. Info and reservations: 476-1798 or email info@accesshumboldt.net.

Saturday, February 18: Access Humboldt Studio Certification. Learn how to operate the high-definition studio and control room (switcher, mixer, lights, cameras, roles, and more). 2 – 5 pm. Info and reservations: 476-1798 or email info@accesshumboldt.net.

Wednesdays, Through April 4: VITA Volunteer Tax Assistance – Free Tax Help! Trained Volunteer Income Tax Assistance tax preparers will help you receive the largest refund you qualify for this tax season. To be eligible for free tax help, your 2011 income must be less than \$50,000. The tax help is by appointment every Wednesday at the Library and other times and places are also available. Call 441-1001 to make your appointment. Authorized by the IRS as a provider of eFile.

MEETINGS

TALK SHOWS, COMMENTARY, & MEDIA SPECIALS

“Thursday Night Talk” hosted by David Cobb of Democracy Unlimited airs every Thursday 7:30 - 8:30 pm on KHSU FM 90.5. It is a live call-in show, so it's a great way to have your opinion heard by thousands of listeners. The studio line is 826-4805.

“Through the Eyes of Women” hosted by Women in our Community. News, views and interviews for, about and by women. Aired every Monday 1:30 - 2 pm on KHSU FM 90.5. Info: 826-4805 or <http://khsuwomen.wordpress.com/>.

“Moyers and Company” with Bill Moyers. Discussions on the state of American Democracy. Saturdays. 4 pm on KEET World (Channel 13.2) and 7 pm on KEET HD (Channel 13.1). Info: 445-0813 or www.keet.org.



HOPE Coalition Newsletter & Calendar, Feb. 14, '12 **Page 4**
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Editorial: Page 1, **Calendar:** Pages 2 - 3, **Action Item:** this page.

Newsletter, **Feb. 14, '12.** Vol. 18, Number 2. Published semi-monthly on 2nd & 4th Tuesdays; **next Feb. 28, '12.** For calendar items PO Box 385, Arcata 95518 or e-mail to hopecoalition@igc.org. **Next deadline. Feb. 23, '12.** Write or e-mail for sample newsletter. Newsletter volunteers: Dave Keniston, Mara Segal, Mayer Segal, Michael Welch, Paloma Orinoco. Web site: www.hopecoalition.org.

Take Peace to the CA Democratic Convention in San Diego

ACTA—a global treaty—could allow corporations to censor the Internet. Negotiated in secret by a small number of rich countries and corporate powers, it would set up a shadowy new anti-counterfeiting body to allow private interests to police everything that we do online and impose massive penalties—even prison sentences—against people they say have harmed their business.

Europe is deciding right now whether to ratify ACTA—and without them, this global attack on Internet freedom will collapse. We know they have opposed ACTA before, but some members of Parliament are wavering—let's give them the push they need to reject the treaty.

Sign The Petition

To all Members of the EU Parliament:

As concerned global citizens, we call on you to stand for a free and open Internet and reject the ratification of the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA), which would destroy it. The Internet is a crucial tool for people around the world to exchange ideas and promote democracy. We urge you to show true global leadership and protect our rights.

Sign here: www.bit.ly/No_ACTA



--- HOPE Coalition Needs Your Support ---

The Objective of the HOPE Coalition:

To synthesize & promote the individual visions of the organizations that make up Humboldt's environmentally & socially just community. These include, but are not limited to, the following organizations: Environmental, Social Justice, Peace, Labor, & Human Service.

Yes, I would like to help support the HOPE Coalition's newsletter and other efforts:

- \$25 \$50 \$100
 \$500 \$15 \$_____ other

Make checks to payable to: HOPE Coalition.

I wish to receive newsletter by

- US mail Email Both

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

The HOPE Coalition • PO Box 385 Arcata, CA 95518 • hopecoalition@igc.org • www.hopecoalition.org

The HOPE Coalition Newsletter is available at the Arcata & Eureka Co-ops, the Booklegger, Wildberries, and Eureka Natural Foods.

HOPE Coalition Newsletter Insert—this insert contains regularly scheduled events. For special happenings and one-time events, see the regular calendar that follows the page one editorial.

PEACE NEWS

GI Rights Hotline; provides accurate, helpful military counseling and information on military discharges, AWOL and UA, and GI Rights. [www. Glrightshotline.org](http://www.Glrightshotline.org) or 877-447-4487.

Peace Vigils Fridays 5 - 6 pm on the Arcata Plaza. Mondays at 4 pm at the Courthouse in Eureka, 445-5100 ext. 215, ask for Jack.

Vets for Peace Silent Vigil; Fridays, 5 - 6 pm: SW corner Arcata Plaza.

Vets for Peace, Humboldt Bay Chapter 56 meets 1st Thurs. at 7 pm: at 550 Union St. Arcata in the Common Room (next door to Equinox). Info: 826-7124.

Women in Black stand in silent vigil every **Friday 5 - 6 pm** at the **Arcata Plaza**, 8th & G, at the **Humboldt County Courthouse** (also Saturdays at noon), the **McKinleyville Shopping Center** on the grassy area out front, and **Fridays 4 - 5 pm** in **Trinidad** at the intersection of Scenic Dr. and Main St.

TALK SHOWS, WORKSHOPS & COMMENTARY

Access Humboldt: Public, education, & government media access. Cable channels 8, 10, 11 & 12. For program schedule, submission policies, and program request forms go to www.accesshumboldt.net. Call or email for further info. 476-1798 or info@accesshumboldt.net.

Commentary on Access Humboldt Thom Hartmann, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday at 10 pm, channel 12.

Commentary on the Internet, madashellinamerica.com from KPOJ in Portland with host Adam Klugman. Saturdays 3 – 6 pm

Commentary on KEET TV Channel 13 445-8013: **Wide Angle** Tues. at 9 pm

NOW with David Brancaccio. Fri. at 8:30 pm:

Commentary on KGOE 1480 am, 442-2000: **Thom Hartmann**, weekdays 9 am - noon.

Commentary on KHSU, 90.5 fm, 826-6089. **Democracy Now!** with Amy Goodman: weekdays 9 - 10 am.

The Econews Report, 1:30 pm Thursdays.

Commentary on KMUD, 88.3 fm, 923-2513. **Counterspin**, Sunday 1 - 1:30 pm.

Alternative Radio, Mondays 9 am. Boulder-based award-winning weekly series with David Barsamian.

Animal Advocate, 2nd Thursday, 7 - 8 pm. Animal welfare issues. Info: Barbara Shultz at 986-7835, animaladvocate4@yahoo.com.

A World of Possibilities locally produced syndicated public affairs program. 9 am Tuesdays. Info: 826-9111 ext. 18.

Democracy Now! with Amy Goodman; noon, Mon. - Fri. Also 4 pm Access Humboldt Channel 12. Also 11 am on KIDE 91.3 fm. Also on Free Speech TV (FSTV) Mon. - Fri. midnight, 8 am, noon, or 7 pm.

Civil Liberties Monitoring Project Report; 1st Wednesday, 7 - 8 pm. 923-4646.

Politically Correct Week in Review, call-in radio show, 2nd, 4th, & 5th Mondays at 7 pm 923-3911.

All Things Reconsidered with Eric Kirk. 3rd Thursday at 7 pm.

Global Stuff call-in talk show with Jimmy Durchslag, last Friday, 7 - 8 pm.

PROTECT THE EARTH & ITS LIVING CREATURES

Adopt-the-Bay. Participate in a number of tasks aimed at maintaining a healthy Humboldt Bay. All welcome. Info: 443-0801.

Audubon Society Field Trips; Free field trips through the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary every Saturday at 8:30 am at the Klopp Lake parking lot (foot of I St. in Arcata). Bring your binoculars. Rain or shine. Info: 268-8052 or 822-3613.

Campus Center for Appropriate Technology; info: 826-3551.

Friends of the Dunes; Restoration workdays the first 3 Saturdays every month, 9 am - 1 pm. Info: 444-1397 or info@friendsofthedunes.org. Complete calendar: www.friendsofthedunes.org.

Friends of the Marsh guided interpretive walks every Saturday 2 pm at the Interpretive Center on South G St., Arcata. Info: 826-2359.

Wild Urban Gardeners! Meets Wednesdays at 7 pm, 1552 Spear Ave. in Arcata. Promoting food & native plant species, information about compost, greenhouses, seed banks, and community gardens. Info: 822-5861.

ARTS

Arcata Artisans Cooperative Gallery; H St. on the Plaza. Mon. - Sat. 10 - 6, Sun. 12 - 5. Info: 825-9133, www.arcataartisans.com.

Arts Alive! Eureka; first Saturday of the month at venues around town. Art, music, dance, refreshments. Info: 442-9054.

Arts! Arcata; second Friday of the month at venues around town and at HSU. Art, music, dance, refreshments. Info: 822-4500.

Clarke Historical Museum; 240 E St., Eureka. Info: 443-1947 or www.clarkemuseum.org.

First Street Gallery; 422 First Street, Eureka. Tuesday - Sunday from noon - 5 pm. Info: 443-6363 or www.humboldt.edu/~first.

Morris Graves Museum; 636 F St., Eureka. Wed. - Sun. 12 - 5 pm. www.humboldtarts.org

The Ink People; 411 12th St, Eureka. Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 11 am - 4 pm. Info: 442-8413 www.inkpeople.org.

Westhaven Center for the Arts; 501 S. Westhaven Dr. Info: 677-0860, www.westhavenarts.org.

MEETINGS

Arcata's Committee on Democracy & Corporations meets the third Tuesday of each month and was established in response to Arcata's Measure F. Info: 822-5951 or www.cityofarcata.org.

Arcata's Nuclear Weapons Free Zone and Peace Commission. On indefinite hiatus due to lack of a quorum. Applications available at www.cityofarcata.org or at city hall. Info: 822-5951.

Commission on Status of Women meets 3d Tuesday at 6 pm. Call for place: 822-2502 or www.co.humboldt.ca.us/commissions/csw/.

Eureka Greens meet 3rd Saturday of every month. 3:30-5pm. 321 Coffee (321 Third St. in Old Town). Info: www.EurekaGreens.com.

Green Wheels; Mondays 6:30 pm at the Northcoast Environmental Center. Info: mail@green-wheels.org or www.green-wheels.org.

Humboldt County Human Rights Commission meets 1st Thurs. City Courthouse, Rm. B, Eureka, 6 pm. Info: 268-2548.

Humboldt Democratic Central Committee; 2nd Wednesday at 7 pm. 129 Fifth St. Info: 445-3366 or www.humboltdemocrats.org.

Humboldt Watershed Council at NEC, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 7 - 9 pm. Info: sheds@humboldt1.com.

Mother Jones Club & Humboldt Communist Alliance. Call for meeting times: ncalview@igc.org or 839-3824.

NAACP; Monthly meetings: 3rd Sunday at 3:30 pm, Boys & Girls Club, 3015 J St., Eureka. Info: 268-8287.

North Coast IWW, the Wobblies meets every 3rd Wed. 6:30 - 8 pm at the Labor Temple, 840 E St., Eureka. Info: 725-8090.

Northern Humboldt Greens meet 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7 - 8 pm. Info: Shaye, 237-2790 or email arcata@greens.org.

Redwood Chapter ACLU meets 3rd Tuesday at noon at 917 Third St. in Eureka. Info: 336-2258, redwoodaclu@hotmail.com.

Sequoia Greens of southern Humboldt. Call for meetings: 923-4488 or encimer@hotmail.com.

Veterans for Peace (SoHum Chapter); 1st Tuesday of Each Month at 7 pm at Haynes Vets Hall, Garberville.

Vets for Peace (Humboldt Chapter 56); 550 Union St. Arcata in the Common Room (next door to Equinox) first Thursday of the month. Info: 826-7124.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF); date and location varies. Info: Sue at 822-3405 or suejh@humboldt1.com.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Arts in the Afternoon; a free art studio for teens (6th - 12th grade). Open week days during the school year, 3 - 6 pm at Arcata Community Center. Sponsored by City of Arcata's Recreation Division. Info: 825-2028.

HSU's Natural History Museum, 1315 G St. Arcata. Tues. – Sat, 10 – 5. Available for classroom visits. Info: 826-4478.

Humboldt County Library in Eureka Story Hour: 10 am Fridays & other programs. Info: Jo Ann Bauer, 269-1900.

Humboldt County Teen Court is looking for teen volunteers. Info: 444-0153.

Mondays, Fridays, & Saturdays: PULSE, new Teen Recreation Center; regular programming from 6 - 9 pm at the John Ryan Youth Center, 1653 J St, Eureka. Info: 268-1858.

Raven Project Queer Coffee House for Youth; Tuesday, 6:30 - 9 pm. Also, girls & women 10 - 24 years meet Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8:30 pm, 523 T St., Eureka, 443-7099.

COMMUNITY & WELL-BEING SERVICES

Buddhist Queers (lesbian, gay, bi, transsexual) Vipassana, Zen, etc. Beginners welcome. phone 269-7044.

Eureka Mindfulness Buddhist Meditation & Discussion. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. 7:15 pm First Christian Church 730 K St. Wheelchair accessible, fragrance free, beginners welcome. Info: 269-7044.

Fridays, Ongoing: Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance: Arcata Support Groups; free, voluntary, and open peer-support groups for those experiencing depression (seasonal, situational, or chronic) and/or mood swings. Open to the public. Family and friends are also welcome. 6 pm at the Arcata Library Conference Room. Info: 443-9659 or dbsahumb@sbcglobal.net.

Health Insurance and Advocacy Program (HICAP) provides objective information, help, and advocacy for people relying on Medicare. Info and appointments: 444-3000.

Healthy Kids Humboldt Enrollment Headquarters offers health care insurance by assisting with Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, and Cal Kids applications for children. 517 3rd Street, Eureka. 442.6066.

Humboldt Community Switchboard can direct anyone to services in Humboldt County. Info: 441-1001 or www.theswitchboard.org.

Humboldt Domestic Violence Services Support Groups; all services are free. Support groups Thurs. eves and Fri. afternoons, with therapeutic childcare offered. Info & child care: 444-9255. 24-hour crisis line: 443-6042 or toll free 866-668-6543.

Humboldt Literacy Project, to improve adult reading skills necessary to function on the job, in the family, & in the community. Free & confidential. Info: 445-3655 or www.humlit.org.

Nature-Based Spiritual Queers (GLBT) pagan, Native American traditions, etc. Newcomers welcome. phone 269-7044.

North Coast Rape Crisis Team; 24 hour crisis line: 445-2881. Business phone: 443-2737.

Ongoing: Drop-in Grief Support Groups. Hospice offers free, drop-in grief support groups in Arcata, Eureka, Fortuna and McKinleyville. These groups are open to anyone in the community experiencing grief and loss of a loved one. Info and schedules: 445-8443.

Ongoing: Volunteer Center of the Redwoods (VCOR): The Drop of a Hat Brigade connects volunteers of all ages with one time and short-term events. RSVP provides benefits such as limited mileage reimbursement for volunteers ages 55 and older. Info on these and other volunteer opportunities: 442-3711 or www.a1aa.org/VCOR/.

The Area 1 Agency on Aging sponsors many senior programs. Info: 442-9591 or www.a1aa.org.

The Emma Center Advocacy, support, referral services, library, and classes for trauma and abuse survivors. 920 Samoa Blvd. Suite 207, Arcata. Info: 825-6680 or info@emmacenter.org or www.emmacenter.org.

Vision Loss Services; Lighthouse of the North Coast, solutions for living with vision loss. Info: 268-5646 or www.lighthouse-sf.org.