



- **Stars and Stripes date set!** See below
- **Guest column: What to do about nanny-state,** page 3
- **Principles outlast pragmatism,** page 4

**Mark your calendar**

- **April 15:** SVARW regular meeting, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave., San Jose.
- **May 20:** SVARW regular meeting, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Three Flames Restaurant.
- **Saturday, Aug. 15: Stars and Stripes Gala,** Three Flames Restaurant.

**SVARW meetings**

SVARW monthly meetings now take place at The Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave., San Jose. We meet on the third Wednesday of the month with check-in between 9 and 9:30 a.m. The price is unchanged at \$15.

**Membership:**

Contact Gail Desmet with membership questions. Email Gail at [membership@svarw.com](mailto:membership@svarw.com).

**Newsletter Editor**

Joyce Swanson-Hall  
[jswanhall@yahoo.com](mailto:jswanhall@yahoo.com)  
408-564-6726

## Upcoming Events at SVARW

### Asking permission for our rights?

**SVARW Monthly Meeting**

**Who:** Timothy Sandefur, attorney with Pacific Legal Foundation  
**When:** 9:30 to 11 a.m., Wednesday, April 15  
**Where:** Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave., San Jose  
**Time:** Check in between 9 and 9:30 a.m. Meeting begins at 9:30 a.m.  
**Cost:** \$15 includes full breakfast. Purchase tickets online or at the door.  
**Web site:** For more information and to purchase tickets: [www.SVARW.com](http://www.SVARW.com)

**Rights? Wrong** ... or so it seems according to the government these days.

America's founding fathers had one central revolutionary idea: that our rights belong to us, not to the government. They are not just *permissions* that the government gives to us when it sees fit. Yet today, Americans are increasingly forced to ask the government for permission to exercise their basic rights—to build a home, to own a gun, to start a business, to get a job, and even to express their political opinions. **Timothy Sandefur**, principle attorney at the Pacific Legal Foundation and author of *The Conscience of The Constitution*, joins us to explain why America is becoming “the permission society” and what we can do about it.

As the head the Foundation's Economic Liberty Project, which protects entrepreneurs against intrusive government regulation, Timothy has won important legal victories for free enterprise in California, Oregon, Missouri, Kentucky. He is an adjunct scholar with the Cato Institute and the author of some 45 scholarly articles on



**Timothy Sandefur**

subjects ranging from eminent domain and economic liberty to copyright, evolution and creationism. His work has appeared in the Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy, the National Review, the San Francisco Chronicle and the Washington Times among

other places. He is frequent guest on radio and television programs, including John Stossel, the Armstrong and Getty Show, and the Jim Lehrer News Hour.

Check out his webpage at the Cato Institute: [www.cato.org/people/timothy-sandefur](http://www.cato.org/people/timothy-sandefur)

**Stars and Stripes on Aug. 15**

We are happy to announce that the SVARW Stars and Stripes Summer Gala is scheduled for Saturday evening, Aug. 15 at the Three Flames Restaurant. Save the date, for an evening of fine dining and celebration of all things patriotic and festive. We'll have more details in next few weeks as we settle details of pricing, and entertainment. And please, volunteer your ideas and suggestions, and especially, your time and talent to make our gala the most successful ever. To volunteer, contact events chair Lisa Marshik: 408-348-5238 or [lmarshik@comcast.net](mailto:lmarshik@comcast.net).

## Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women

P.O. Box 3194  
Saratoga, CA 95070

### Executive Board

**Debra Janssen-Martinez, President; Jane Kearney, First Vice-President; Jan Soule, Second Vice-President; Sherrill Martinez, Recording Secretary; Kirsten Williams, Corresponding Secretary; Lisa Seago, Treasurer; Diane Owen, Parliamentarian**

The board meets at 9:30 a.m. typically on the last Wednesday of each month. All members are welcome to attend board meetings. Contact Debra Janssen-Martinez at [President@svarw.com](mailto:President@svarw.com) and she can provide details.

## SVARW sunshine

Norine Bacon is SVARW's official ray of sunshine. When a member is ill or has lost a loved one, Norine reaches out to them with a card and a personal call. Please don't hesitate to call her if you know someone in need. Her number is 408-377-7111.

### Contact your officials

**Gov. Jerry Brown,**  
Mail to: State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: 916-445-2841  
FAX: 916-445-4633  
Email: [www.govmail.ca.gov](http://www.govmail.ca.gov)  
**Assemblyman Rich Gordon,**  
650-691-2121  
**Assemblyman Evan Low,**  
408-371-2802  
**State Sen. Maj. Ldr. Ellen Corbett,**  
510-794-3900  
**State Senator Jerry Hill**  
650-212-3313  
**State Senator Jim Beall**  
408-558-1295

### President's message

## *Hate campaign revs up ahead of 2016 presidential election*

Far ahead of the 2016 elections, the Democrat hate machine is in full operation. Aided by a leftist media, the Democrat machine attacks conservatives with far more ferocity than Islamic terrorists, or totalitarian communists. As Christians and Jews observe Easter and Passover, the ugly viciousness is especially pervasive, and partisan.

Manufactured hysteria over Indiana's Religious Freedom Restoration law is a prime example. Similar laws in 23 states, and at the federal level, it provides those of *any* faith with an avenue of legal redress against being coerced to violate core beliefs. In practice, it has been used by Catholic orders to protect them from having to perform abortions or provide abortifacients. It protects Native American children's long hair and Sikhs' ceremonial knives. It does not protect businesses' illegal discrimination.

Ironically, Muslim-owned businesses that refuse to serve gays, Christians, Jews or women are not singled out for "electronic lynching" or prosecution, even as they defy federal and state laws.

The Clinton Global Initiative Foundation, joined by iconic local companies including Google, Apple and Facebook, passionately portray Christians as homophobic, racist haters, even as they trade with and take donations from countries whose governments repress women and execute homosexuals and non-Muslims. Obama trumpets a deeply dangerous "framework" with Iran even as a U.S. citizen and Christian pastor rots in a Teheran prison. Obama illegally frees five Taliban terrorists in exchange for a traitorous deserter, but blithely ignores large scale slaughter of innocent Christians in Africa and the Middle East. Anti-Christian rhetoric and anti-

Semitism are ubiquitous on American college campuses and in the public square in Europe. Can people of good character fight such hysteria and lies? Absolutely, and it is our principles that will prevail against the evil-minded.

Rush Limbaugh mentioned a tiny pizza parlor run by a young, Christian woman who, when interviewed by liberal media, said that she'd never been asked to cater a gay wedding, but wouldn't, on personal religious grounds. A deluge of hate emails, Twitter and Facebook posts combined with a flood of people phoning in fake pizza orders forced the business to close its doors last week. For just speaking out, she was media bombed. A "GoFundMe" online account opened to help her pay her employees for their lost pay, had raised \$800,000 by Saturday, April 4, from people all over the country who gave, if only to support her right to free speech.

Conservatives must be strategic while projecting our principles, which stand in bold contrast to the Democrat machine; speak the truth, informed by faith. We prevail when we leverage our strengths. National polls show large majorities of Americans identify as conservative. High percentages are people of faith. Democrats are terrified by those numbers.

People intuitively know the leftwing bullies will never cease unless decisively opposed. Their drive to control each and every area of our lives will only stop when the people push back in unexpected and principled fashion. The battle will be won on our terms, for the right reasons by candidates of character and deep principles. Can Hillary Clinton beat that?

— Debra Janssen-Martinez  
President, SVARW

Guest column: And What About Me?

## *Risk-averse generation turns to nanny-state for protection*

*SVARW member Betty Sakai shares her views on America's nanny state and what we can do to counter-act its influence on our children.*

**By Betty Sakai**  
SVARW Member

Children are born with or without a risk gene. Those who aren't born with a desire to risk and achieve rewards learn from their parents how to risk and when not to risk. Learning how to risk within reasonable parameters while respecting others is achievable.

Children who developed into risk-adverse adults dominate today's nanny-state — protecting, nurturing, providing. Lazy, fear-layered risk-adverse adults dominate every aspect of American society from education, to the media, to social programs, to politics, to the legal system. Every facet of society gets pulled into protecting, nurturing, and providing from childhood through to graduation from high school and college.

The pain of loss, the shame of not winning, the fear of being bullied, the mantle of not being considered special or cherished are all eliminated in the big-brother nanny state. What feels nice is encouraged and applauded. What feels unfair or unequal is considered anti-social, is chastised and punished. But is this natural? Man is an animal that can construct and justify unnatural relationships. But is this natural?

The problem is that in the natural world, outside of the big-brother nanny state, risk, occasional failure, achievement and reward in various degrees and levels happens. Children who are not enshrouded in unnatural encapsulation learn

to confront adversity backed by a loving family, and they find ways to trust themselves to figure out how to win in the real world. Self-esteem, the discipline of hard work and self-denial, of learning to save and invest, happens as parents become guides instead of protectors. By extension, risk and reward are made into what this country is, what it has been since its founding.

America's founders gave us a Christian-based, self-endowed, moral, God-fearing country like no other country in this world. The political persuasion of lies persist, but this is a Christian-based country. One never reads the truth in the media because media employees are determined to transform America in a one-world, big-brother nanny state of a corrupt United Nations. America can be, as Ronald Reagan so elegantly put it, a shining city on the hill. All we need to do is to believe we are special. We must teach our children they are special. We need to show our children by example how to risk. Our children need to see that failure happens only until one learns how to win. The problem today is that there are more protectors and nurturers, more of those who provide with other people's money, than those who are financially independent, tough, and comfortable with risk.

Pain is part of living. Injury happens occasionally when one is living — even when every thoughtful precaution is taken. Injury never happens when one lives a life encapsulated in a bubble.

So many are so involved in comparing themselves to others, in measuring what they have against what others have. Good people forget their role as

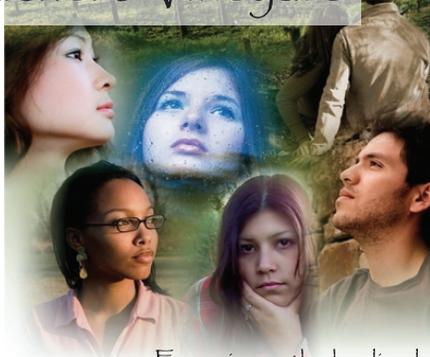
citizens in this special Republic. Each of us make up a part of what makes this Republic special...or not special.

It's easy to measure life by the good fortune of getting paid, of satisfying the needs of an employer, a client, a spouse, our children, friends, and silently judging others by whether they have more or less than we have. It's hard to place the responsibility for making things happen squarely on our own shoulders. It's easy to say that what others have is because they have been more privileged, got a bigger salary, inherited money, were lucky, were white, etc.

Excuses are as plentiful as hail stones in a thunderstorm. But excuses don't pass muster. Yes, it would be easier had the family stayed intact, had parent(s) taken their children to church, had teachers taught U.S. history, had we learned about the U.S. Constitution, had we been taught how to risk, had someone else taught us how to be successful.

It would have all been so much easier.

### Rachel's Vineyard



Experience the healing love  
of Jesus Christ

Healing the trauma of abortion -  
one weekend at a time.

Register today for  
the next retreat:  
April 17-19, 2015  
Space is limited!

Sponsored by  
**RealOptions**  
Pregnancy Medical Clinics

Participation is completely  
confidential & free of charge.

[hope@realoptions.net](mailto:hope@realoptions.net)  
[www.realoptions.net/hope](http://www.realoptions.net/hope)  
 Call 1-408-837-0990  
 for more information




March speaker: Kevin McGary  
**GOP pragmatism endangers party's future, speaker says**

By Joyce Hall  
 Newsletter Editor

Pragmatism and moderation will kill the Republican Party's relevance, Kevin McGary told the audience at March's regular meeting at Three Flames Restaurant. Republican candidates and party members must be willing to stand for social issues such as the right to life and traditional marriage, he said.

McGary, chairman of the Frederick Douglass Foundation of California, provided an historical perspective on the party's rich background in standing up for justice. The party was founded on a social issue: abolition of slavery. Principles of justice should remain the bedrock of the GOP, he said.

But many Republicans want to leave social issues out of the party's platform. That is a mistake, he warned.

"We have real issues about what holds us together as a party," McGary said. "The survival of our party requires principles. Pragmatism will absolutely kill our party. ... If we say that homosexual marriage is the law of the land, the Republican Party goes away in regards to its relevance."

Those who don't want to deal with social issues, but are fiscal hawks, are really conservative Democrats, in the model of JFK, McGary said.

Today's progressives often talk about "economic justice" and "social justice." This is an opening for conservatives to educate them about the founding fathers' views of justice.

"Fundamentally justice begins in the womb. Our founders were brilliant. The first principle was life," he said. The Constitution is a contract between citizens and their elected officials, who must be held accountable to that contract, McGary concluded.

**Frederick Douglass Foundation of California:** [www.fdfca.org](http://www.fdfca.org)

## Call, write officials to halt plan that adds tolls on Highway 85

*Legislative chair Trish Cypher researches pending legislation to help SVARW members direct their letters and calls on issues affecting our community. This month she examines a proposal to add toll lanes to Highway 85, a move that SVARW members can oppose by contacting elected officials and the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority*

By Trish Cypher  
 Legislative Chair

It seems like a good time to revisit the regional road pricing plan, which SVARW introduced in the October 2014 newsletter. We mentioned that there would be updates on these issue in future newsletters. This issue of regional road pricing is still developing. The more you know, the better able you are to make informed decisions on these types of issues.

You may never have heard of HOT lanes, vehicle miles traveled, green house gas emissions, Plan Bay Area or sustainable development, but these plans put your car in the cross hairs of state legislators and regional government entities who want to price you out of your car and off of your roads.

Locally, the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) has proposed building express lanes (HOT) for Highway 85 and other highways. These lanes are toll lanes that are part of regional congestion pricing for Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano and Sonoma counties.

Will this road pricing relieve congestion on Highway 85? Not likely, as improvements to choke points on Highway 85 are not part of this regional road pricing project.

This road pricing plan will incur



unnecessary public debt, turn taxpayers into rate payers and grow unelected, unaccountable regional government, likely doing little to solve our traffic congestion problems.

Please consider learning more about this issue and consider contacting the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) board of directors and your state assembly member and state senator, county supervisor and city council members and tell them you want real solutions to our transportation issues.

VTA Board correspondence can be sent to [board.secretary@vta.org](mailto:board.secretary@vta.org)

The following quotes taken from a recent news article on road pricing in Southern California reveal the true intent of this revenue collection plan:

- *The real solution, they say, is to keep raising prices to reduce demand.*
- *There's no such thing as a price ceiling.*
- *However, Metro's board of directors will probably consider an increase in the per-mile toll ceiling sometime this fall, McCune said, once staff has "tweaked the algorithm" as much as possible.*

MTA's toll-lane project may be a victim of its own success: <http://www.latimes.com/local/california/la-me-california-commute-20150324-story.html>