

Pizarro: I bet they've never juggled an iPad

By Sal Pizarro

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Silicon Valley residents have a chance to show how innovative they can be when the Flying Karamazov Brothers bring their juggling prowess to the San Jose Rep with "4Play," which opens Wednesday.

In one of the numbers, "The Gambler," one of the brothers will juggle three items presented to him by audience members. Success merits a standing ovation, and failure brings a pie in the face (wouldn't it be great if elections worked like that?).

When the show played in New York, the audience brought some outrageous items to be juggled, including potted plants and dead fish. Surely, we can do better than that – maybe an iPad, a Blackberry and a laptop. Of course, leave the chain saws and other potentially lethal objects at home.

As a reward for their creativity, audience members who bring unique items will get a free glass of wine at the Rep's wine bar. Visit www.sjrep.com for showtimes.

GIANT POSTSCRIPT: San Jose's Bellarmine College Prep has produced a lot of good athletes, but Giants slugger Pat Burrell is the only graduate with two World Series rings. His first came in 2008 with the Phillies.

Two other Bells have been on World Series winners: Marv Owen from the class of 1926 earned a ring with the 1935 Detroit Tigers, and 1987 grad Ed Giovanola got one with the 1995 Atlanta Braves.

ACTORVIST IN TOWN: There should be quite a crowd at Stanford University's Cubberly Auditorium Monday night, when George Clooney joins Enough Project co-founder John Prendergast at a student forum on the situation in Sudan.

The main topic at the 7 p.m. forum for Stanford's School of Education will be the proposed secession of Southern Sudan, which will be decided at a Jan. 9 referendum in the African nation.

VETERAN VOLUNTEERS: The science education nonprofit Environmental Volunteers is honoring nine people who have each logged at least 30 years of service at a 1:30 p.m. celebration today in Palo Alto.

The well-tenured volunteers are Mary Paine of Portola Valley (38 years); Christy Holloway of Stanford (37 years); Anne Page of Palo Alto (35 years); Joan Coston of Sunnyvale (35 years); Jan Fenwick of Los Altos Hills (34 years); Irene Estelle of Los Altos (33 years); Louise Levy of Cupertino (33 years); Jan Whitmer of Palo Alto (31 years); and Bob McIntyre of Palo Alto (30 years).

You can get more information about Environmental Volunteers and its programs at www.evols.org.

ON THE LOOKOUT: Project Cornerstone is accepting nominations for outstanding individuals, schools and organizations that value Silicon Valley's youth. All nominees are recognized – and one individual or group is honored in each category – at the annual Asset Champions Breakfast in March.

Nominations are due by Wednesday. Download the forms at www.projectcornerstone.org.

POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE: Harker School in San Jose had a special visit Oct. 29, as the former Lord Mayor of Westminster, Lady Catherine Longworth, officially invited the school's orchestra to play at the 2012 New Year's Day parade celebration in London.

DINING OUT: You can eat out in Silicon Valley for a good cause or a good deal this week.

The first Bay Area Dine Out for Meals on Wheels is Tuesday, and many restaurants across Santa Clara County will be donating 10 percent of their proceeds that day to support the program for seniors.

A list of participating restaurants is at www.dineoutnow.org.

And Silicon Valley Restaurant Week continues through Wednesday, with almost 90 eateries in the region offering special prix fixe menus. Take a look at www.siliconvalleyrestaurantweek.com.

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