

## What's happening

### Saturday

■ **Patwin Elementary School** students will walk with their "Feet to the Beat" at the school's annual walkathon from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 2222 Shasta Drive. The walkathon — which features performances, activities and the popular cake walk — is one of the school's largest events and fundraisers. While it is primarily for Patwin students and their families, anyone can come walk and enjoy the festivities.

■ Celebrate **Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros** at the Stephens Branch Library, 315 E. 14th St., from 10 a.m. to noon. Children will receive a free book and participate in various activities, watch a special performance and listen to a story time program. No reservations are required and the event is free. Learn more at <http://www.yolocountylibrary.org>.

■ A **children's concert** with Ed Lewis is planned from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at the Odd Fellows Hall, 415 Second St. in downtown Davis. Children ages 2-10 will enjoy an interactive performance featuring storytelling, puppetry, singing and dancing. A light snack will be served. Admission is free but donations will be accepted with gratitude.

### Wednesday

■ Join the **4-H Norwood Chapter** at its monthly meeting from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Harper Junior High School cafeteria, 4000 E. Covell Blvd. Youths from elementary school through high school are welcome to attend to learn more about 4-H.

### Friday, May 5

■ **Yolo County 4-H Farm Connection Day** will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Yolo County Fairgrounds, 1250 Gum Ave. in Woodland. Fun and educational hands-on activities related to agriculture will be provided for all Yolo County children in grades K-6. Bring a lunch and drink. Register by April 21 at <http://www.yolofarmbureau.org>.

### May 5-7

■ Yolo County 4-H will hold its annual **Spring Show Art & Science Fair** at the Yolo County Fairgrounds, 1250 Gum Ave. in Woodland. Stop by to see all of the projects 4-H members have been working on all year, including photography, baking, engineering, rabbits, sheep, swine and more. There will even be an archery competition and rocketry flight show. Learn more at <http://yolo4h.ucanr.edu/Events>.

### Saturday, May 6

■ Come build with Legos at the Stephens Branch Library's **Lego Block Party** beginning at 2 p.m. The fun happens at 315 E. 14th St.

### May 6-7

■ Youths ages 11 to 15 can learn skills and information to be **responsible babysitters** at an American Red Cross training course that meets from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Davis Senior Center, 646 A St. Students will learn Child & Infant CPR, rescue breathing, choking rescue, preventing disease transmission and first aid. This course includes hands-on activities, videos, role-plays and lively discussions. The cost is \$150 and pre-registration is required, at the city of Davis Parks and Community Services office, 23 Russell Blvd., or online at [www.cityofdavis.org](http://www.cityofdavis.org). For more information, call 530-757-5626.

### Sunday, May 7

■ It's the return of **Loopalooza**, the family-oriented bike ride showcasing the Davis Bike Loop. Ride the loop with family and friends from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and discover nine fun and educational stations along the way. Learn more at <https://bike.davis.us/Loopalooza>.



SUE COCKRELL/ENTERPRISE PHOTO

Stanford professor and civil rights pioneer Clarence Jones speaks to Davis High students on April 21 at the Brunelle Performance Hall on campus.

## Civil rights hero shares his experience with DHS students

Enterprise staff

Civil rights hero Clarence Jones spoke to Davis High School students last week during a special lunchtime appearance.

Jones was a colleague of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., serving as his attorney and helping to

write many of his speeches in the early 1960s, including the "I Have A Dream" speech given in Washington, D.C., in 1963.

A professor at Stanford University, the 85-year-old Jones talked about his relationship with King as well as the importance of voting in achieving change and progress.

Among those attending Thursday's event was John Bowes, superintendent of the Davis Joint Unified School District, who said he was thrilled to be there.

"It was a rare opportunity for our students to hear someone who directly influenced that time in our country's



JONES  
"Extraordinary"

history," Bowes said. "It was really special."

Will Alpers, a student representative on the Davis school board, concurred.

"I thought Clarence Jones was extraordinary," Alpers said. "It was incredible to hear someone who was so closely connected with the civil rights movement five decades ago."

"Hearing Clarence Jones was probably my top highlight during the last month at Davis High," he added.

# Save money — graduate in 3 years

Time is money, right? Never more true than when considering college costs since each year of college may cost anywhere from several thousand to upwards of \$70,000 per year (estimated tuition, room and board at New York University).

With such a price tag, it should come as no surprise that students, families and colleges are looking at ways to reduce the cost of college; and they have zeroed in on reducing time spent to earn a degree. I mean, really, there is no underlying logic as to why college has to take four years.

The fact is that graduating in less time can lead to significant costs savings not just in tuition, but in room and board and fees. Finally, I get to write a column about college and costs *savings!*

Here's what you need to know if you want to follow this approach.

First, there are basically three different methods to reducing time spent to earn a degree, and some schools are using a combination of the three.

■ **Maximizing extensive prior learning credits** such as Advanced Placement and dual enrollment courses.

■ **Assessing student knowledge and skills** (as opposed to seat time) to decrease time to earn degree.

■ **Compressing the bachelor's degree requirements** into three years through the integration of summer and inter-term.

A policy brief by the American



Association of State Colleges and Universities explains this in more detail at <http://bit.ly/2q16P6D>.

Second, learn which schools offer which types of programs. You may be aware that many programs in Great Britain, with the exception of Scotland, award bachelor's degrees after three years.

Although three-year degrees in the United States are still rare, more private and public schools are joining the trend. About five years ago, Wesleyan University enacted a formalized three-year track. Others schools that offer this option are University of North Carolina at Greensboro; University of South Carolina, Bates; Purdue University; University of San Francisco; and Southern Oregon.

Within the past few months, New York University — one of the most expensive schools in the nation — enacted measures to make it easier to graduate in less than four years. For example, the university will increase the number of two-credit courses offered to enable students to achieve 18 credits per semester (at no

additional charge) rather than the 16 many take.

Additionally, some public higher education systems (Wisconsin and Ohio) have been directed by state government to develop accelerated options. Clearly, this is a trend that is gaining momentum.

Next, make sure to understand the details. Which majors at the school allow for this option? Is a separate application required like with the Global Scholars Programs (a three-year program) at American University? Is there a required pre-planned course sequence?

There are some programs that require full-time enrollment and a certain number of units per semester including summer, such as at the University of San Francisco. Its three-year graduation program requires "an academically rigorous schedule," as its website states, but advantages are entering the workforce sooner and not paying for costly San Francisco housing for more than three years.

Read more about USF's three-year program at <http://bit.ly/2pwxUSk>.

Other programs, such as one at Northern Arizona University, allow students to meet requirements with online classes. Described as "personalized learning," this online degree program is a "self-paced, competency-based approach reimagines the college experience by focusing on developing key skills and knowledge

areas called competencies."

Learn more about NAU's program at <http://pl.nau.edu/WhyPL.aspx>.

Lastly, analyze the pros and cons carefully because these types of programs may not be the right fit for everyone. Some of the disadvantages are that it may create additional stress due to the accelerated timeframe. Also, students who choose this route may miss out on extracurriculars and social opportunities. Additionally, the condensed timeframe may make it hard to double-major, minor or change majors.

The advantages include that it is more affordable and cheaper than the traditional four-year degree, which can enable students to save money for later purposes such as graduate school and/or minimize student debt.

Also, students can enter the workforce and/or graduate school earlier and begin to earn an income sooner. Finally, selecting and completing a three-year program shows initiative and may help students stand out.

So, as if there weren't enough options out there already, just know you have one more — finishing a bachelor's degree in three.

— Jennifer Borenstein is an independent college adviser in Davis and owner of *The Right College For You*. Her column is published monthly. Reach her at [jenniferborenstein@therightcollegeforyou.org](mailto:jenniferborenstein@therightcollegeforyou.org), or visit [www.therightcollegeforyou.org](http://www.therightcollegeforyou.org)

# Cyclists gearing up for another Bike Month

By ANNE TERNUS-BELLAMY  
Enterprise staff writer

Get ready, kids: Bike Month is about to get underway.

From bike auctions to biking to school, Loopalooza and more, the city and its Street Smarts program has lots of fun planned. Look for more events on next Friday's Next Generation page:

■ **Saturday, May 6, Biking With Confidence:** Whether your riding is rusty or you're proficient on your pedals, this class will teach you how to ride your bike in traffic, the rules of the road and tips to become a more predictable rider. It will meet from 9 a.m. to noon in the Activity Room at the Davis Senior Center, 646 A St. This course combines

classroom and on-street instruction. Participants age 12 and older must bring a bike in good working condition, a helmet and water. Sign up at through the city of Davis Parks and Community Services Department. The cost is \$19.

■ **Saturday, May 6, UC Davis Bike Auction:** More than 400 bikes will be available for sale to the highest bidder at this biannual auction. Bicycles may be viewed from 7:30 to 9 a.m. in the UCD Pavilion parking structure. Bidding starts at 9 a.m. and lasts until all items are sold. For more information, call the UC Davis Transportation Services Bicycle Program coordinator at 530-752-BIKE (752-2453) or visit [taps.ucdavis.edu/bicycle](http://taps.ucdavis.edu/bicycle).

■ **Sunday, May 7, Bike Davis Loopalooza:** This family-oriented bike ride

showcases the Davis Bike Loop's proximity to schools. Ride the loop with friends and family from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and discover the nine fun and educational stations along the way. Learn more about this event and the Davis Bike Loop at [bikedavis.us/Loopalooza](http://bikedavis.us/Loopalooza).

■ **Wednesday, May 10, Bike-to-School Day:** Ride your bike to school and celebrate biking with your friends. Check with your school to learn more about bike safety assemblies, contests and more. Who will win the coveted Golden Wheel trophy this year? Find out more at <http://cityofdavis.org/city-hall/public-works/bike-pedestrian-program/street-smarts>.

■ **Thursday, May 18, Celebrate Davis!** Ride your bike to Celebrate Davis! at Community Park from 4:30 to 9:15

p.m. and let bicycle advocates with the city of Davis, UC Davis and the U.S. Bicycling Hall of Fame watch your bike while you party. Be sure to bring your bike lights and stay for the fireworks.

■ **Friday, May 19, Street Food Rodeo:** Ride your bike to the Street Food Rodeo at Westlake Plaza, 1260 Lake Blvd., from 5 to 9 p.m. and let bike advocates from the city of Davis and the Davis Bike Collective watch your wheels while you enjoy food and entertainment. Find out more about the Street Food Rodeo at <http://www.thedavisdirt.com/street-food-rodeo-2>.

■ **Friday, May 26, Bike Party Davis:** Let's bike party! This is a fun-for-all-ages bike ride around Davis. Decorate your bike with lights and meet at Ken's Bike-Ski-Board, 650



Darth Vader greets Avery Berger at Willett Elementary on May 4, 2015. Darth was in the welcoming party for Bike to School Day, part of Bike Month festivities.

SUE COCKRELL/  
ENTERPRISE FILE PHOTO

G St. The ride leaves at 8 p.m. Find out more on the Bike Party Davis Facebook page.

■ **Saturday, May 27, pathway cleanup and velo party:** Let's celebrate biking one last time this month! Everyone is invited to meet at noon at Sudwerk Brewing, 2001 Second St., for a pathway cleanup. The group will clean up a section of

shared-use pathway from noon to 2 p.m. All volunteers will receive pizza donated by Woodstock's Pizza.

The velo party starts at 2 p.m. Find out more at [sudwerkbrew.com/events](http://sudwerkbrew.com/events). Find out more about Davis Bike Month events at <http://cityofdavis.org/city-hall/public-works/bike-pedestrian-program/bike-month>.