



**SONORA AREA FOUNDATION**  
For **good.** For **ever.**

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## **April 2019 Newsletter**

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*You are invited to the*  
**Senior Family Forum**  
Sponsored by the Sonora Area Foundation

**Wednesday, May 15**

Sierra Bible Church  
8:45am until noon  
No reservation required

*A free community event  
with important information  
for seniors and their families*

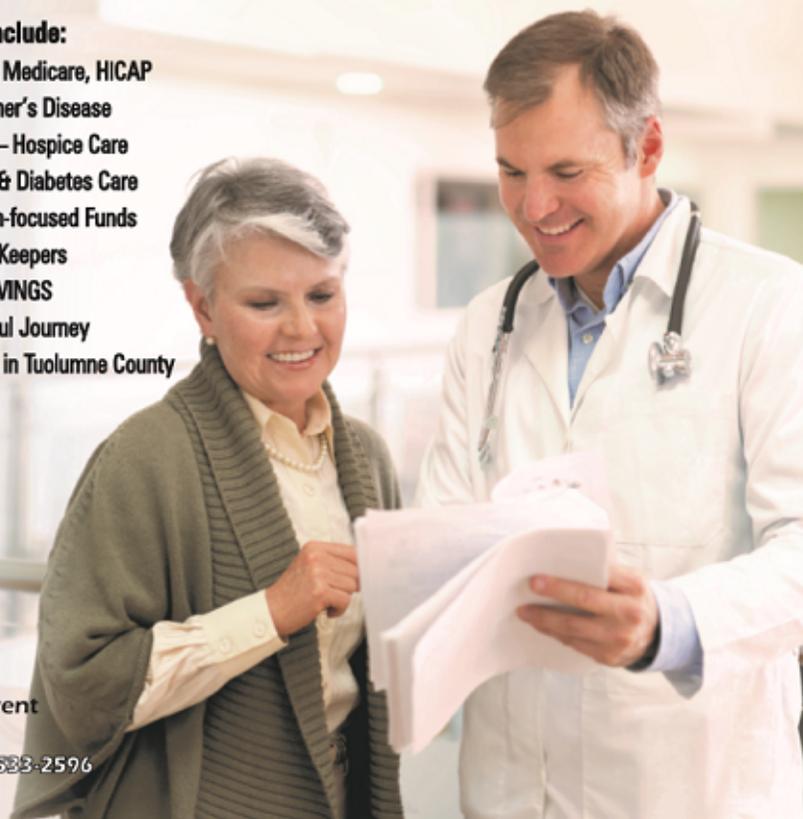
## *Health Matters*

**Guest speakers include:**

**Gina Fox** – Caregiver Support, Medicare, HICAP  
**Cheryl Schrock** – Alzheimer's Disease  
**Nancy Corsi & Cathy Ruiz** – Hospice Care  
**Jodie Rodriguez** – Nutrition & Diabetes Care  
**Darrell Slocum** – SAF Health-focused Funds  
**Erika Dossi** – Smile Keepers  
**Dave Urquhart** – WINGS  
**Ron Hamilton** – Peaceful Journey  
**Dr. James Mosson** – Healthcare in Tuolumne County



There will be no sales  
or solicitation at this event  
Information at the  
Sonora Area Foundation 533-2596



## **Senior Family Forum - Health Matters is coming soon!**

Learn from local health, wellness and resource experts at Sonora Area Foundation's upcoming Senior Family Forum - Health Matters.

This free event will be held Wednesday, May 15 from 8:45 a.m. to noon at Sierra Bible Church, 15171 Tuolumne Road, Sonora. No products or services

will be sold at the event. The forum is presented as a community service.

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*Gereon Rios at work*

## **Gereon Rios Memorial Scholarship Fund established by artist's three sons**

Gereon Rios, the late painter, sculptor and art professor, has been honored by his children with the establishment of the Gereon Rios Memorial Scholarship Fund at Sonora Area Foundation. The fund, which grants scholarships to Sonora High School students pursuing art, is a fitting tribute to a man whose professional life was a blending of art and academia.

“My father was a strong believer in the role and importance of a higher education for his children and his students,” notes Eon Rios, one of Gereon’s three sons, all of whom graduated from Sonora High. “He was an academic at

heart, always interested in the theory behind his art, the sciences, and the world around him.”

Gereon is perhaps best known for two public sculptures in Sonora: the bronze Vietnam veterans memorial at the Tuolumne County Library’s main branch and the veterans memorial at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs clinic. These pieces and others reflect a theme that was often at the heart of his art: individual sacrifice for the benefit of others.



*Section of Vietnam veterans memorial at Tuolumne County Library*

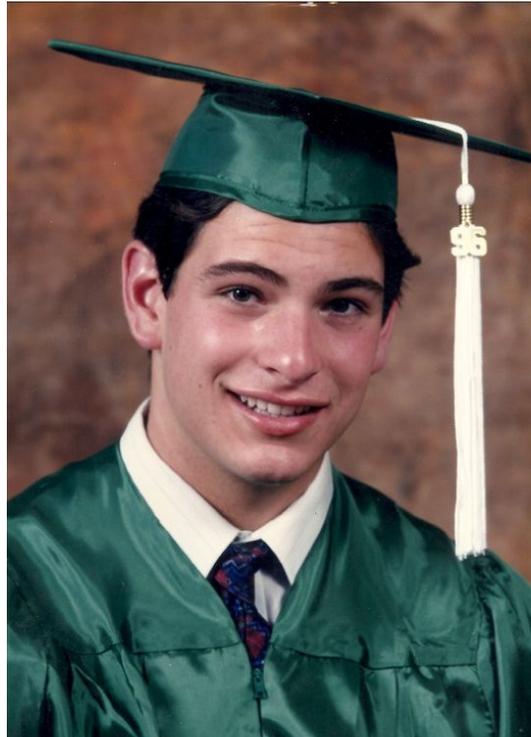
Gereon passed away on April 23, 2018. Creating a scholarship fund to honor their father, an artist with a passion for higher education, was a natural choice for Eon and his brothers Temoc and Andro Rios. All three brothers excelled academically, earning advanced degrees and going on to careers in medicine, engineering and research, respectively.

Eon hopes that the Gereon Rios Memorial Scholarship Fund will help “students who are interested in pursuing higher education in the arts,” a field which he believes “is often neglected with respect to scholarships.”

This newly established fund bridges that gap, giving talented youth the opportunity to carry their artistic dreams into their academic futures.



*Eon Rios (above) and brothers (below, left to right) Temoc and Andro on their Sonora High graduation days*



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**Senior project funds memorial**

Summerville High School senior Candace Olsen established the Project Saluting Freedom Fund at Sonora Area Foundation to raise money for the construction of the 9/11 Global War on Terrorism Memorial in Tuolumne. Read the full story here:

<https://www.mymotherlode.com/news/local/598716/stalled-veterans-memorial-project-becomes-a-reality.html>

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## For Good. For Ever. For Free.

You may be familiar with Sonora Area Foundation's slogan: "For good. For ever." Maybe we should add: "For free."

That's right, Sonora Area Foundation (SAF) doesn't charge any fees to administer any of its funds: Cost for individuals, nonprofits and businesses to set up a fund? Zero. Cost for SAF to research nonprofits and community needs that align with funds' goals? Zero. Cost for SAF to process grants, issue checks and report to the IRS? Zero!

Tuolumne County businesses looking to expand their charitable outreach should consider the benefits of establishing a fund with SAF. Businesses can save time and money by letting SAF do the work of identifying deserving organizations, projects and programs, and administering grants. With SAF doing the legwork involved with charitable giving, businesses are free to focus on business.

Is your business looking to maximize its charitable giving? Would you like to free yourself from the time required to diligently research and process charitable requests? Consider partnering with Sonora Area Foundation — for good, for ever (for free!).

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**For information on starting a fund with Sonora Area Foundation or contributing to an existing**

**one, contact Executive Director Darrell Slocum at  
(209) 533-2596, [darrell@sonora-area.org](mailto:darrell@sonora-area.org)**



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