



COURTESY OF SANTANA ROW

## Events Around the Bay

By Lina Broydo

### Halloween Family Fest

Oct. 28, 10 a.m. to noon

Mommy & Me, and daddies, too. No tricks, just treats around Santana Row's shopping and dining centers. Enjoy pumpkin decorating, music, games, arts and crafts, balloon animals, and other activities during this popular fall event for children. Dress in your favorite Halloween costume for this spook-tacular celebration and have lots of fun. Boo! No admission charge. For more information, visit [SantanaRow.com](http://SantanaRow.com) and don't forget to become a member of the Kid's Club.

### 2014 Silicon Valley Jewish Film Festival

Oct. 18 through Nov. 16

"When Comedy Went to School" is one of the extraordinary selections of 22 international movies featured in this year's film festival in the heart of Silicon Valley. It's also the closing night's film, honoring the venerable talk show host Larry King, who will be attending this screening and receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award. The price of the ticket includes a dessert reception and the opportunity to meet Larry King after the film on Nov. 16 at 4:00 p.m. [www.svjff.org](http://www.svjff.org) or 1-800-838-3006.



INTERNATIONAL FILM CIRCUIT

### Jon Nakamatsu Soloist With Peninsula Orchestra

Oct. 25 and 26

Peninsula Orchestra with Jon Nakamatsu, a Van Cliburn Competition Gold Medal winner and the Bay Area's own brilliant pianist, will play Tchaikovsky No. 1 Piano Concerto on Oct. 25 at 8 p.m. at Flint Center in Cupertino and again on Oct. 26 at 2:30 p.m. at Capuchino High School in San Bruno. Also on the program are Musorgsky/Ravel: Pictures at an Exhibition and Debussy's Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun. Nakamatsu's virtuoso musicianship and his eclectic repertoire make him a favorite pianist throughout the world. This is a concert not to be missed. [www.peninsulasymphony.org](http://www.peninsulasymphony.org) or 650-941-5291.



JON NAKAMATSU

### Cheers for Coastside Brewfest

Oct. 25, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Celebrate Oktoberfest in the magical coastside setting of Half Moon Bay. Sample from some of the best Bay Area breweries, including Hop Dogma, Highway 1, Drakes, Marin Brewing Company, Moylans, Faction, Cellarmaker, and others. Off the Grid food trucks will be there to offer guests a chance to nosh on local gourmet specialties. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to Coastside Hope. [www.hmbrewingco.com](http://www.hmbrewingco.com)



THE BREWING COMPANY

For Events Around the Bay submissions please email: [sfbay@epochtimes.com](mailto:sfbay@epochtimes.com)

# Founder of Falun Gong Speaks at Conference in San Francisco

Falun Gong practitioners gather from across the world to exchange insights

By Ben Bendig and Albert Roman  
Epoch Times Staff

Mr. Li Hongzhi, the founder of the spiritual discipline of Falun Gong, spoke at an international conference in San Francisco on Thursday.

Mr. Li addressed the approximately 3800 who participated in the conference and then answered questions related to the cultivation practice. The general theme was for practitioners to elevate their moral character by acting in accordance with the principles of the practice and through introspection.

Falun Gong, also known as Falun Dafa, is a spiritual practice that teaches the principles of truthfulness, compassion, and forbearance, and involves five meditative exercises.

The purpose of the conferences was to share insights and experiences among people who practice Falun Gong. The conference lasted the whole day.

Practitioners' speeches, such as that of Deborah Yun, a salesperson in New York, focused on the process of self-improvement. Ms. Yun shared about how her sales team overcame a major tribulation through cooperation and support. Ms. Yun's sales partner, who was also the sales team manager and a significant contributor for the team, had declining health and needed to take time away from work.

His absence left a large void for the sales team to fill. Ms. Yun and her colleagues responded by undergoing intensive professional development, accepting increased individual accountability, and showing unconditional support for each other. As a result, they achieved record sales.



DAI BING/EPOCH TIMES

Mr. Li Hongzhi speaks at the international conference in San Francisco on Oct. 16.

### Attendees From Around the World

Pirjo Svensson, a manager, came from Sweden to attend the conference. "First and foremost, I think it's a very precious opportunity to be here. It's given me a lot of insights," she said.

She said that she realized she should not have had notions about others. "I have let things like that seep into my mind, and I have been aware of it, but I haven't been able to eradicate it." She also explained that the heavens are watching all of our thoughts, "so we need to be pure in the mind; our hearts have to be pure."

Coming from Calgary, Canada, Carrie Gilkison, who is in sales, said she found the confer-

ence "grounding."

"The conference gives me an opportunity to really reflect on things. Day to day there are a lot of distractions, so here is a perfect opportunity to try to do better."

"The nature of one's heart is the main [focus]," she added.



DAI BING/EPOCH TIMES

Mr. Li Hongzhi speaks at the international conference in San Francisco on Oct. 16.

## The Top 20 US Cities for Tech Startup Funding

When you think of tech startups, you probably think Northern California. Companies there receive the largest share of funding from venture capitalists, but there are several other notable pockets around the country.

In the first nine months of the year, venture capitalists poured \$24 billion into tech startups around the country. About half of that funding went to San Francisco and Silicon Valley, according to the National Venture Capital Association.

Here are the top 20 metropolitan areas receiving such funding through Sept. 30, ranked by funding amount. The figures include tech startups for software, business services, networking, and telecom, but exclude some categories such as biotech, energy, medical devices, and retail.

1. San Francisco, \$9.32 billion, 506 deals
2. San Jose, California (Silicon Valley), \$3.78 billion, 237 deals
3. New York, \$3.05 billion, 272 deals
4. Boston, \$1.05 billion, 158 deals
5. Los Angeles-Long Beach, California (Silicon Beach), \$768 million, 105 deals
6. Oakland, California, \$510 million, 41 deals
7. Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, Washington, \$471 million, 56 deals
8. Provo-Orem, Utah, \$462 million, nine deals
9. Washington D.C., \$456 million, 77 deals
10. Chicago, \$402 million, 57 deals
11. Austin-San Marcos, Texas, \$315 million, 58 deals
12. Salt Lake City-Ogden, Utah, \$275 million, 16 deals
13. Denver, \$240 million, 26 deals
14. Atlanta, \$233 million, 32 deals
15. Orange County, California,

16. San Diego, \$140 million, 31 deals
17. Phoenix, \$136 million, 12 deals
18. Dallas, \$132 million, 21 deals
19. Philadelphia, \$125 million, 32 deals
20. Pittsburgh, \$124 million, 35 deals

From The Associated Press



AP PHOTO/JAE C. HONG

Employees of Rivalry Games work on their computers at technology incubator MuckerLab, in Santa Monica on Aug. 12. The relocation of tech companies to southern California is part of a growing movement of U.S. cities seeking to duplicate the formula that turned northern California's Silicon Valley, slightly south of San Francisco, into a mecca of society-shifting innovation and immense wealth.

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From The Associated Press

## Two SF Restaurants are City's First to Earn Three Stars

SAN FRANCISCO—Two San Francisco restaurants have become the city's first to earn three stars in the Michelin Guide.

Benu (BEN'-ooh) and Saison (say-ZAHN') earned the legendary designation from the highbrow restaurant guide in its 2015 Bay Area edition.

The San Francisco Chronicle reports Tuesday that Chefs Corey Lee at Benu and Joshua Skenes (SKAINS) at Saison are both French-trained, but each use Asian influences in their cooking.

The restaurants join the French Laundry in Yountville and the Restaurant at Meadowood in St. Helena as Northern California's three-star outlets.

Michelin guides are considered among the premier ratings of the restaurant world. Anonymous inspectors award one, two, or three stars for quality of ingredients, mastery of technique, how the chef's personality is expressed in food, and consistency among other criteria.

From The Associated Press

## Golden Gate Officials Consider Sidewalk Toll

SAN FRANCISCO—Golden Gate Bridge officials are again floating the idea of charging bicyclists and pedestrians to use the famed span's sidewalks.

The bridge district released

a plan on Monday to keep the agency solvent that includes the sidewalk toll. District spokeswoman Priya Clemens tells the Marin Independent Journal the proposal is just in the concept stage right now

and not set in stone.

Public comment will be sought if it moves forward.

The bridge, which is facing a \$33 million deficit, had a 10-cent sidewalk toll from May 1937 to December 1970.

Officials considered re-establishing a toll about 10 years ago but abandoned the effort in the face of opposition from bike groups.

From The Associated Press