Twelfth Night, in the Campolindo Performing

Arts Center on Nov 1, 2007 at 8 pm, Nov 3,

2007 at 2 pm and 7:30 pm and Sunday Nov 4,

Then meet some live birds!

Fee: \$5 (non-res. \$7) Reg. Required:

The Environmental Education Center is open

Tue.-Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The Little Farm is

open daily. For information call 1-888-

EBPARKS (1-888-327-2757) or email

Wed., Nov. 14 at 7 p.m., the Friends of the

Orinda Library and the Orinda Library present

"The Ghost of Mark Twain." For twenty years,

McAvoy Layne (Miramonte High School

class of '61) has presented Twain's humor and

social commentary, to people all over the

world. Layne describes himself not as an actor

but as "a self-taught scholar, impersonator, and

professor of Twain." Free and open to every-

one. The Orinda Library auditorium, 26

Miramonte Players present Charles Dickens'

"The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nick-

leby" Nov 14, 15 and 16 at 7:30 p.m. Mira-

monte High School Theatre, 750 Moraga Way

OrindaTickets: Available online at the Mira-

monte High School website, click on Webstore

and then "tickets." Students: \$8.00 and Adults:

\$10.00. "Who knew Dickens could be this

bawdy, silly, and ridiculous? Luckily, Mira-

monte High School's advanced drama stu-

dents are up to the task." Simon Kaplan,

Do It Yourself' Christmas Carol by Charles

Dickens & your family Sat Nov. 17th 2-3pm

Fun-filled hands-on workshop that will give

you the script and the know-how to stage this

heartwarming play in your family room with

family & friends. Recapture the time when fun

Reservations & information: Gail Kamerer

Location: Mt. Diablo Room, Danville Library,

Beyond Blastoff: Surviving in Space -New

Exhibit Opens Saturday, Nov 10: Get a

glimpse into the life of an astronaut, and expe-

rience the mixture of exhilaration, adventure,

and confinement that is living and working in

space. Learn how astronauts cope with the

physical and mental challenges of weightless-

ness, isolation, and a grueling workload.

Chabot Space & Science Center, 10000 Sky-

line Blvd. just off Highway 13 in the Oakland

hills Box Office (510) 336-7373, Online tick-

New Moraga Art Gallery Show through Jan-

uary 6th. "Texture and Light" by local Bay

Area and Lamorinda artists and featuring the

work of Pat Smith, who likes to experiment

with different art forms: watercolor, acrylic

painting, printmaking, photography and fiber

arts. The public is invited to the Opening Re-

Moraga Art Gallery, 570 Center St, Rheem

Valley Shopping Center/next to Longs Drugs

Open Tuesday through Sunday, 12-5 pm.

Paintings of Jo Ann Hanna & Robert Becker

accompanied by Papier-Mache Sculpture by

students of M. J. Schuppert Wilson on exhibi-

tion. Orinda Library Gallery October 27 - Nov

17th, 2007. Orinda Library Gallery 24 Orinda

The artists of Lafayette Gallery have created a

special show that captures the spirit and the

glow of the holiday season - open through De-

cember 23, 2007. On Nov 19, the Gallery will

be decorated with ornaments made by the

artists. A holiday reception will be held at the

"Capturing the Light: a Retrospective"

solo exhibit by Bay Area photographer Wenda

Pyman . Her body of work shown here are

Landscapes, Scenics and Nature, mostly con-

centrating on the local Diablo area and beyond.

Moraga Public Library, 1500 St. Mary's Road,

Moraga, 925.376.8294 Open Tuesday

Mt. Diablo A Personal View - The Photog-

raphy of Sue Reynolds Through February

28, 2008. Lindsay Wildlife Museum, 1931

First Ave, Walnut Creek. (See story on page 6)

At Big Art Morning on Wednesday, Nov 14,

10 am join Leaded curator, Elizabeth Schlatter

in discussing different approaches to making

contemporary art. This event is FREE and

open to the public. Coffee and pastries will be

hosted by the gallery Guild. Bedford Gallery

is located in the Lesher Center for the Arts at 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek, four blocks south of the Walnut Creek BART station.

cember 29, 2007. Contact the Town Hall Theatre Company Box Office for exact dates and

Town Hall Theatre Company, 3535 School

The Commonwealth Club offers an Evening

with Anthony Bourdain. Mon, Nov 19th, 6 pm Check in | 6:30 pm Program. From Brazil, to

China, to Las Vegas, Anthony Bourdain has

sat down to eat at some of the world's most fa-

mous and infamous tables. Join us as the con-

troversial, yet likable, rebel chef stops by and

shares experiences of his many travels. No

reservations needed. The Bentley School, Student Performing Arts Center, 1000 Upper

Happy Valley Rd., Lafavette Cost; \$15 for

Members, \$30 for Non-members, www.com-

The St. Stephen's Annual Messiah Sing is Fri-

day, Nov 30th at 7:30pm. If you wish to sing in the Festival Choir for this event, join us for

one rehearsal on Wednesday, Nov 28th at 7pm

in the Church at 66 St. Stephen's Drive,

Orinda, Contact: Brenda Free, St. Stephen's of-

28th Annual Community Thanksgiving

Breakfast, Presented by the Lafavette Cham-

ber of Commerce. Friday, Nov 16 - 7:30 am

Church, 955 Moraga Rd., Lafayette \$15.00

per person or Tables of 8 for \$120.00. Speakers

& Entertainment, breakfast provided by:

Dave's Cuisine Catering. Reservations are re-

quired and guaranteed, deadline Wed, Nov 14.

www.lafayettechamber.org, call 925-284-7404

Friday, Nov 9, 7-8pm Dance Lesson 8-10pm

Dancing. Tickets are available at the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce 100 Lafavette Circle

4th Annual Big Band Ballroom Dance

Lafayette Veteran's Memorial Building

#103. The cost is \$10 per person.

9:00am. Lafayette United Methodist

fice: 254-3770

monwealthclub.org or call (800) 847-7730

Are you Alto, tenor, soprano, bass?

times Rating - Appropriate for all Ages.

Street at Moraga Road, Lafayette 925-283-1557 or www.thtc.org

Website: http://www.bedfordgallery.org Lafayette Town Hall Theatre Company Presents Miracle on 34th Street, Nov 17 - De-

Gallery (50 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette)

ception on Saturday, Nov 3, from 3-5 pm.

ets www.chabotspace.org

925.376 5407

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Way, (925) 254-2184

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Orinda Way, Orinda

Not to be missed

Campolindo High School Drama Department presents Shakespeare's magical play, 2007 at 2 pm. Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased at the door. For more information call

Moraga Library—"When Parents Hurt: Compassionate Strategies When You and Your Grown Child Don't Get Along" by Dr. Joshua Coleman—7 p.m. Nov 1

A unique book for parents whose relationships with their adolescent or adult children have not turned out as they expected. Parenting and relationship expert, Dr. Coleman addresses the fact that parents who have and those who haven't made mistakes can be involved in a hurtful relationship with an older child and how to cope and carry on.

Saint Mary's Road, Moraga, 925-376-6852

Norcal Golden Retriever Rescue-2007 Art and Wine Auction Sat, Nov. 3, 3pm-6pm Lafayette Veteran's Memorial Building 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette, CA 94549

Getting Started on Genealogy Workshop Lafayette Library, Saturday, Nov 3rd, at 11am. Get started in the fun and fascinating quest for your family's history. Diane Brenum, Genealogy Enthusiast, will present a workshop on the use of the Internet and other resources to help you discover your roots. Lafayette Library, 952 Moraga Road, Lafayette. 925-283-4592.

Lafayette Juniors' Annual Rummage Sale Sunday, Nov 4, 2007 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Lafayette Community Center. The rummage sale features great babies' and kids' clothing, toys and equipment (as well as loads of other gently used items). Proceeds to benefit local charitable organizations.

Get Creative with Moraga Parks and Rec: Make a lovely card portfolio for that special handmade gift for the holidays, birthdays or any special occasion. The class is for ages 16 and up. No experience necessary. Nov 6 or 15 from 10am-12. Fees are \$28 with a \$10 materials. For more information or to register, contact the Town of Moraga, Recreation Department at (925)376-2520, register-on-line at www.moraga.ca.us, or go in person to 2100 Donald Drive, between the hours of 8am-12noon and 1-5pm.

Gene Yang, Winner of the Highest Awards for Young Adult Literature to visit the Lafavette Library:

The Friends of the Lafayette Library are pleased to announce the celebration of the work of Gene Luen Yang, award-winning author and artist of American Born Chinese. In partnership with the Oakland Museum of California, the Friends have mounted an exhibit of Yang's work at The Lafayette Library through Nov and Yang himself will come to the library on Tuesday Nov 6 at 7 pm for an interview and book signing. The exhibit will hang until the end of Nov, and books will be available in local bookstores. Lafayette Library, 952 Moraga Road, Lafayette, 925-283-3872

Happy Valley Elementary School, in partnership with the Lafayette Book Store, will be holding its annual book fair from Tuesday,

open to the community daily from 8 am to 3:30 pm in the library. We will have a wide selection of both children and adult books, gift books, calendars, and notions. Proceeds benefit Happy Valley School, so please stop by and get a head start on your holiday shopping!

Sustainable Moraga's monthly meeting Wednesday, Nov 7th at 7pm

Hacienda de las Flores, 2100 Donald Drive. Kathryn Lyddan from Brentwood Land Trust will talk about Green Landscaping. The group will review ongoing and upcoming projects such as the CFL project, the Spring Sustainability Faire, Green Bags sale, etc. Come hear about the projects and become active in making Moraga a more sustainable place.

State of the Town Address

Speaker: Mayor Michael Metcalf Thursday, Nov 8, 2007 7 pm – 9 pm Hacienda de las Flores - 2100 Donald Drive -Moraga. Food & Refreshments to be provided

Understanding the Competitive UC Admissions Process Sponsored by the Moraga Asian American Club Thursday, Nov 8, 2007 7 pm - 8:30 pm Michael F. Dang, Associate Director, Undergraduate Admissions at University of California at Davis, and Dennis Lieu, Professor of Mechanical Engineering at UC Berkeley, will discuss the UC admissions process for undergraduate, transfer, and graduate programs. Moraga Public Library,1500 St. Mary's Road Space is limited: For Reservations RSVP to Janice Lieu 631-0322

The Lamorinda Moms Club welcomes local parents to its 10th Annual Preschool Fair. Thursday, Nov 15, 2007, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Oakwood Athletic Club, located at 4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd. in Lafayette. The fair is free and open to the general community. Representatives from more than 30 preschools will be on hand. In conjunction with the fair, the LMC Community Outreach Committee will be gathering donations for the Bay Area Crisis Nursery (BACN). The purpose of BACN is to prevent abuse and neglect of children by providing support to families who are in crisis. BACN is in need of new and gently used children's clothes, Pull Ups (L & XL), vent hair brushes, hair accessories, size 5 and 6 diapers, baby oil, A & D ointment, unscented baby wipes, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Cash donations are also accepted and greatly appreciated.

"Maximizing Small Garden Areas"

Moraga Garden Club - Nov 15th, 9:30 a.m. Speaker Bobbi Feyerabend of Feyerabend and Madden Landscaping. Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School Street, Moraga. Membership Information, Mardi Potts, 376-2004.

MINI FARMERS

10-11:30am, Sat, Nov 17 #16651, Dec 8 #16660 A farm exploration program for kids ages 4-6 years. We'll explore the Little Farm, care for animals, do crafts and try some farm chores. Wear boots and dress to get dirty! Tilden Nature Area

Fee: \$6 (non-res. \$8) Reg. Required: RAPTORS LIVE! 10-11am, Tue, Nov 6 #16616

Join "Native Bird Connection" for an interactive presentation about regional birds of prey.

Campus Happenings



Photo by Ken C. Young, Moraga; www.kcyoungfineartimages.com

Lectures/Performances: Christopher Sindt Lecture: "The Crowd, the Hills and the Wild:

Jack London in Piedmont"

Preview Footloose in Arcadia: Artists and Authors of Piedmont from 1890 to 1930, the new exhibition in the Hearst Art Gallery, before or after the lecture. Learn more about the high iinks of these bohemian friends, many of whom left San Francisco following the earthquake for the balmy, beautiful East Bay hills. Christopher Sindt holds a Ph.D. in English and a master's degree in creative writing from the University of California, Davis, He has received the James D. Phelan Award from the San Francisco Foundation and residencies at the MacDowell Colony, Mesa Refuge, and the Blue Mountain Center. Formerly the Program Director of the Art of the Wild Writing Conference, he serves on the Board of Directors of the Squaw Valley Community of Writers. Sindt directed the MFA Program in Creative Writing from 2000-2007 and is currently Associate Dean of the School of Liberal Arts. After the lecture, enjoy a beverage at the wine and non-alcoholic beverage bar, hors d'oeuvre, cheese and great conversation! Friday, Nov. 2, 5 - 7 p.m.

Claeys Lounge Soda Activity Center

Author Russ Rymer

Russ Rymer, the current Saint Mary's College writer-in-residence for nonfiction, is the author

Letters to the Editor

We're a community newspaper, and we welcome your input. Max. 200 words for a letters. email: letters@lamorindaweekly.com Regular mail:

Letters to the Editor Lamorinda Weekly P.O.Box 6133 Moraga, CA 94556

Dear Editor, Lafayette voters will soon vote on Measure J, a renewal of the parcel tax that is not a renewal at all but is instead a significant increase with a 3% yearly adjustment thrown on top, bringing the cost of the 7th year alone to \$374. This even though public funding per student is already over \$9000, as much as an expensive private school tuition and despite an 11% drop in enrollment. In order to dull opposition from the large community of elderly Lafayette citizens who have no children in school, the measure includes an exemption for all senior citizens but not for lower-income residents. There is also no difference in the parcel tax for someone with a mansion sitting on 10 acres or someone with a small house and a nominal backyard. Surely education is important to support, but to what extent and at what cost? Lafayette's current parcel tax has helped to support class sizes of under 20 students per classroom. How much more money is needed and when will the increases stop? I understand that the Measure's supporters want to guarantee the highest quality education for Lafayette's youth but they have gone about in the wrong manner, forcing us voters to choose between an unreasonable tax or none at all. The tax could have been reduced significantly were a senior exemption not included. Of course, then it would be much more difficult to pass this over-inflated tax. I urge your readers to vote 'no' to Measure J.

Dear Editor,

Gabriel Froymovich

As a lifetime educator, and as Superintendent of the Lafayette School District, it is my responsibility to ensure that students continue to receive an exemplary educational program. The passage of Measure J is critical in maintaining our current level of education excelof two books: "Genie—A Scientific Tragedy," which received a Whiting Writers Award and was a finalist for a National Book Critics Circle Award, and "American Beach-A Saga of Race, Wealth, and Memory," which was nominated for a Los Angeles Times Book of the Year Award. He is the former editor-in-chief of Mother Jones magazine and has contributed articles to the New Yorker, Harper's, Atlantic, Smithsonian, Vogue, Los Angeles Magazine, and The New York Times Magazine. Wednesday, Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m.

Soda Center, For more info: (925) 631-4457

"Twelfth Night" by William Shakespeare The SMC Performing Arts Department's fall mainstage production will be Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," which has been called Shakespeare's most perfect comedy - an intoxicating musical romance set on a mythical island paradise. Directed by award-winning faculty member Reid Davis ("Urinetown" at SMC, faculty at ACT and Cal Shakes, and company member of Shotgun Players), the play explores themes of gender, identity, romantic delusion and love. November 8, 9, 10, and 15, 16, 17 at 8:00 p.m.; November 18 at 2 p.m. LeFevre Theater

Sponsored by: Performing Arts: Dance, Music & Theater. For tickets, contact: Performing Arts Office, (925) 631-4670

Art Exhibitions:

"Footloose in Arcadia: Artists and Authors of Piedmont from 1890 to 1930" Nov. 3 - Dec. 16.

In celebration of the centennial of the City of Piedmont, the Hearst Art Gallery has organized this exhibition of the region's early artists and writers. Turn of the century Piedmont was home to Jack London, who wrote the Sea Wolf and Call of the Wild while living in Piedmont. He was part of the local artistic and literary bohemians that included George Sterling, Herman Whitaker, and Xavier Timateo Martinez. The Reverend Joseph Worcester, the first Swedenborgian minister in San Francisco, designed and built his own home and was one of the first to design a structure that was harmonious with nature - he influenced architects Bernard Maybeck and Willis Polk. In 1901 Jack London moved into Worchester's cottage. William Keith painted several versions of the Worchester cottage; three are included in the exhibition. Hearst Art Gallery

"William Keith: The 1880s Paintings" Works from the 1880s, which marked a decade of great changes in William Keith's life. On view in the William Keith Room Hearst Art Gallery

Exhibition hours:

Wednesdays - Sundays, 11 am - 4:30 pm Admission: \$3 adult; children 12 and under free; free parking Web site: http://gallery.stmarys-ca.edu. Telephone: 925-631-4379

For more information about upcoming events at Saint Mary's College, visit the college website at http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/news-and-events/events.html



Lafayette schools are already among the most lean and efficient. Only 14.5 cents of your property tax dollar goes to our schools. State funding for Lafayette schools ranks 16th lowest of the 18 school districts in Contra Costa County. Our starting salary for a 1st year teacher is the 6th lowest of 7 neighboring school districts.

Declining enrollment has resulted in a loss of state funding far in excess of cost reductions associated with have fewer students. State funding is declining, unfunded mandates are increasing, and the cost of education children in increasing. This has created a dilemma where program costs exceed current program funding. As a result, our schools face a \$70,000 deficit. Such a severe funding reduction will result in laying-off teachers and support staff, increasing class sizes, and reducing students' access to high quality educational program.

The decision to renew our parcel tax was the result of a deliberate and public process by the School Board. Many communities, subjected to similar financial pressures, and similarly high expectations for education, rely on parcel taxes for stable local funding. Parcel taxes are the only means for school districts to generate stable local funding to maintain high quality educational programs.

The exemplary support our schools receive from parents, community-based organizations, city agencies, and the citizens of Lafayette, makes it possible for students to receive a high quality education that results in high performing students and schools. Please remember to vote on Nov. 6 Dr. Frank Tom, Superintendent Lafavette School District

Dear Editor, Lafayette's Measure J, a 2 1/2 times increased school parcel tax, shamelessly and unfairly panders to seniors, our most asset-rich group. School parcel taxes in Orinda and Moraga, for example, provide for a "senior opt-out" requiring some showing of financial need. The current "expiring" school tax provides for no age-based "free pass". A blanket senior opt-out panders to senior

property owners to "buy off" their no vote.

While seniors as a (wiser, mature) group cir-

cumspectly view new taxes, few Lamorinda retirees are charity cases - especially with homes mostly debt-free and enjoying artificially low property taxes under Prop 13. Who could possibly argue that seniors are less able to "afford" proposed \$313/yr payment toward teachers salaries/benefits, etc., than the legions of double-income families hustling to

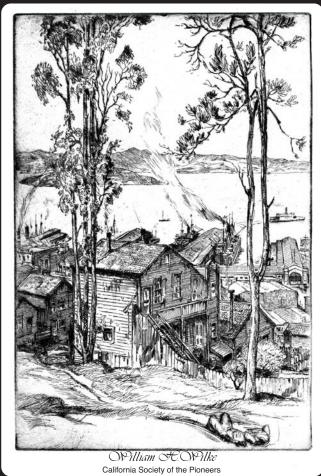
much higher Prop 13 taxes to boot? To the extent that we "need" this grossly enlarged parcel tax in the face of 11% fewer students and declining enrollment, we are all responsible for educating the next generation. Good schools enhance all real property val-

make ends meeting with huge mortgages and

ues – irrespective of the owner's age. Giving a blanket age-based exemption is hardly different than making this tax apply only to brown-eyed owners over blue-eyed ones. This 8th separate school-related tax/bond on our County tax bills was set at an arbitrarily high renewal amount based upon what our District's hired consultant said Lafayette voters would stomach - not based

Vote no on Measure J. Lafavette needs a smaller and fairer school tax. Larry Pines

THE HEARST ART GALLERY of Saint Mary's College presents



Footloose in Arcadia: Artists & Authors of Piedmont, 1890 to 1930

- Friday, Nov. 2nd -

Lecture: 5 - 6 p.m.

Soda Activity Center, Saint Mary's College "The Crowd, the Hills, and the Wild: Jack London in Piedmont"

by Christopher Sindt, Ph.D.

••• Reception following •••

Exhibition Preview: 3 to 5, 6 to 8 p.m.

In celebration of the Centennial of the City of Piedmont, paintings, early photographs, books and letters by artists and writers including Jack London, George Sterling, Xavier Martinez, Guisseppi Cadenasso, William Hahn and Christian Jorgensen.

Three William Keith paintings of Joseph Worchester's eco-harmonious cottage that influenced young architects Bernard Maybeck and Willis Polk are on view.

Gallery Admission: \$3 adult; children 12 & under free; free parking

Wednesdays - Sundays, 11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Exhibition Hours: http://gallery.stmarys-ca.edu 925.631.4379

The Hearst Art Gallery, celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2007, is accredited by the American Association of Museums.

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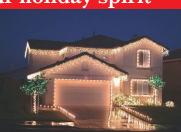


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