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MUSIC

Moraga Commons- free summer concerts- Thursday evenings, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. Provided by the Moraga Park Foundation. Thursday, June 4: Rossmoor Big Band Swing & Jazz; Thursday, June 11: Stone Soup (a local band playing rock & roll).

Orinda Community Church will host a Jazz Cabaret Evening in its Fellowship Hall on Friday, June 5, at 7:30 p.m. People of all ages are invited to this event, which will feature a professional jazz combo together with singers performing standards from the Great American Song Book. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be provided. Dancing is optional- but may prove irresistible! This is a fundraiser benefitting O.C.C. Tickets are \$10.00. Come and join the fun!

Lafayette's annual Jazz Café will be held Friday, June 5, 2009 at 6:00

p.m. in the Stanley Middle School Auditorium. General Admission is available at the door for \$8.00 per person, children under 6 are free. There is a fabulous line-up featuring Stanley Middle School: Jazz Crusaders, Double Take, The Thundering Herd and The Jazz Messengers. The Jazz Café will also be featuring The Acalanes Jazz Ensemble. If that's not enough, Chef's Touch will be selling scrumptious food from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Jim and Jean Strathdee, internationally honored concert artists, worship, and song leaders, will perform at the Lafayette Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) at 7:30 p.m., Friday, June 5. Writers of "I Am the Light of the World" and hundreds of other hymns, songs and anthems, their concert will take place in the church sanctuary at 584 Glenside Drive, Lafayette. There is no admission charge, but attendees may make a donation. Dessert and coffee will be served afterward.



Coming Soon
 Friday May 29st
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Coming Soon
 Friday May 29st
UP
 Disney Pixar

Still playing
 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM
 ANGELS AND DEMONS

The Orinda Theatre is under new management.
 Please visit the new owners website at:
 www.rheemtheatre.com

Not to be missed

Overflow parking is available across the street at Las Trampas Pool. For additional information, call (925) 283-8304.

Try Lafayette First Community Celebration at Plaza Park on Friday, June 5th from 5pm-8pm. Free BBQ and music by THE BUZZTONES. See article page 1.

THEATER

Cal Shakes presents "Romeo and Juliet" by William Shakespeare and directed by Jonathan Moscone, May 27-Jun 21. Shakespeare's passionate tale of young lovers caught in a dangerous and threatening world. See story to the right. For details see: <http://www.calshakes.org>

Town Hall Theatre Company presents the world premiere of the musical comedy, *One Night at the Hotel Grand*, the latest work by award winning author and actor, Joel Roster May 28 - June 27. Contact the Town Hall Theatre Company Box Office for exact dates and times. Rating - PG. Town Hall Theatre Company, 3535 School Street at Moraga Road in Lafayette. For Tickets call 925-283-1557 or visit www.townhalltheatre.com.

Diablo Actors' Ensemble presents Neil Simon's comedy "The Prisoner of Second Avenue" June 5 - 27. WHERE: Diablo Actors' Ensemble Theatre, 1345 Locust Street, Walnut Creek. TICKETS: \$10 - 25. PUBLIC INFO: 925-482-5110, www.diabloactors.com. See press release on next page.

Orinda Starlight Village Players present Agatha Christie's "Spider's Web" June 5 - June 27, Fridays & Saturdays, at 8:30PM; Sunday, June 14th at 4PM; and Thursday, June 25th at 8PM. No reservations needed. Tickets are always available at the box office adjacent to the theater which opens a half hour before show time. Adult \$15, \$35 for three plays; senior/student \$7.50, \$21 for three plays; group rates are available. The Orinda Community Center Outside Amphitheater is located across the street from Rite Aid and the Orinda Post Office at 26 Orinda Way: Telephone (925)254-5530.

ART

The Hearst Art Gallery's exhibition- Sacred Mountain: Images of Mt. Diablo and Mt. Fuji, on view through July 3. Uncounted artists have been drawn to both of these mountains, sometimes because of their sheer beauty, other times to inspire and energize historical, spiritual or environmental messages.

Julie Armistead, guest curator and Hearst Art Gallery Registrar/Collections Manager, has selected approximately 90 works that date from contemporary pieces of both Fuji and Diablo to works from more than 150 years ago. Exhibition hours: Wednesdays through Sundays, 11 am until 4:30 pm. Admission: \$3 adult; children 12 and under free; free parking. Web site: <http://gallery.stmarys-ca.edu>. Telephone: 925-631-4379.

The Moraga Art Gallery presents a new group show "Transparent Emotion" featuring the work of Monet Foster and introducing new members starting June 2 and running through August 15th. There will be an Artists' reception on Sat. June 6th from 3-5pm. Music to be provided by Carol Alban. Moraga Art Gallery, 570 Center St, Rheem Valley Shopping Center- next to Longs Drugs. Open Tuesday through Sunday, 12-5 pm. 925.376.5407. www.moragaartgallery.com.

"Feathers, Fur and Fins," the new exhibition at the Lafayette Gallery, honors the creatures large and small that enrich our lives. The show is open from June 1 to August 15th. As a special feature during the show, the community is invited to bring in pet photos and related quips to be posted on the gallery's bulletin board. On Sat. July 11th, an animal caricature artist will be available to draw your beloved pet. On Sat. August 8th, a drawing will take place for bulletin board entrants. Two winners may choose a portrait of their pet as a prize. During the exhibition, a portion of the gallery sales will be donated to the Animal Rescue Foundation. Gallery Hours are Tuesday to Saturday, 11am to 5pm- 50 Lafayette Circle in downtown Lafayette.

Martinez Art Gallery's new show "Red, White and Blue" will open May 30th. This exhibit features the work of 26 artists in a variety of media and will run through July. A reception, 3-6 pm, May 30, will kick off the event. Exhibited work includes water, oil and acrylic paintings; photographs; prints; sculpture, pottery; glass; and textiles. Open: 11 am - 3 pm, Mon and Wed - Fri, as well as 9 am - 1 pm on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. Martinez Art Gallery is located at 630 Court St, downtown Martinez.

Phil Simon will be exhibiting his original oil paintings at Fastframe of Lafayette through June 30, 2009. Phil enjoys painting contemporary landscapes and he compares his painting process to being an improvisational jazz musician. He considers his work successful if it as-

Not to be missed

pires toward and approaches music. "If the viewer feels a sense of something musical in the air when looking at one of my pieces, then I think I've done my job." Fastframe is located at 3571 Mt. Diablo Blvd., next to Postino's. Call owner Anthony Ruiz at 283-7620 for more information.

East Bay Women Artists, Art Exhibit at the Orinda Library "Summer Show" with original



Life is an Experiment Art provided

paintings, photography and baskets June 2 - June 29. This exhibit is free, open to the public and wheelchair accessible to all. Orinda Library, 24 Orinda Way in Orinda; Hours: Monday - Thursday 10am-8pm; Friday and Saturday 10 am - 6pm, Sunday 1-5pm Info: 510/531 1404. EBWA is a 20-year old art group comprised of award-winning artists from Contra Costa and Alameda Counties.

The first "Art Talks at Knox" event will feature artists from the Lafayette Gallery. The ongoing series begins on Wednesday, June 10 from 4:30 - 6:30pm. Featured artists are Sharon Essex, oil painting, Julee Hermann, mixed media collage and reliquaries, Margaret Lucas-Hill, silk painting and Pat Prosek, etchings. Visit the Lafayette Gallery web site to preview their work www.lafayette-gallery.net. Meet Gallery artists and listen to them present their history, work and processes. Mingle with other art lovers and enjoy complementary appetizers. Knox Restaurant and Bar is located at 3576 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, tel: 925-284-5225.

LITERATURE & LECTURES

Tuesday, June 2, 7 p.m. "The Unreleased Beatles: Music and Film" at the Moraga Library. Author Richie Unterberger to speak from his book, covering rare recordings and filmclips throughout the Beatles' career. The book won the Award for Excellence in Historical Recorded Sound Research from the Association for Recorded Sound Collections in 2007.

First Friday Forum presents John Muir Law, author of newly published *The Law's Guide to the Sierra Nevada*, on June 5 at 1:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary of Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette. Naturalist, educator and artist, Mr. Law will offer a visual presentation containing some of his 2,710 watercolors of the Sierra. Trained as a wildlife biologist, he is an associate of the California Academy of Sciences. Refreshments will be served at 1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Questions call 925-283-8722 or visit the website, www.LOPC.org.

Overstock Book Sale at the Moraga Library on Saturday, June 6, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Great bargains for summer reading to be found at the annual overstock book sale held in the parking lot behind the library. Sponsored by the Friends of the Moraga Library.

Dr. Elliot Wagner, board-certified acupuncturist and herbalist in practice for 25 years, will speak on the benefits of acupuncture, Chinese herbal medicine and other wellness methods for treating pain including headaches and migraines, back pain and sciatica, post-surgical pain etc. Tuesday June 16, 7 p.m at the Moraga Library.

Summer reading recommendations submitted by the Lafayette Book Store, 3579 Mt. Diablo Blvd in Lafayette: *Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Alberto Urrea: the novel starts off as Nayeli, a young mexican woman, takes off with her quirky trio of misfits to find her own 'magnificent seven' for their small village which has become mostly women. Their mishaps and adventures along the way, including a daring and somewhat humorous border crossing, as well as the brilliantly painted landscapes of the countryside make for a superb storyline. *Etta* by Gerald Kolpan: Filled with adventure and romance, Etta is a dazzling picture of life in the Wild West. Using diary entries, newspaper articles and letters, Kolpan gives the reader a complete and compelling portrait of the mysterious woman who fell in love with the Sundance Kid. A fun read for the summer! Check out the author's website <http://geraldkolpan.com> for more info.

KIDS, TEENS & PARENTS

Free movie night in the Moraga Commons! The Moraga Youth Involvement Committee will show "Madagascar" on May 29th at 8 pm. Refreshments will be sold out of the band shell to fund future MYIC events.

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