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Three Lamorinda Women Honored

By Sophie Braccini



(L to R) Ellen Beans (Moraga), Carrie Dern (Orinda), Assemblymember Nancy Skinner, Anne Grodin (Lafayette) Photo Sophie Braccini

(Dern)," added Ellis, "she has been an exceptional volunteer for our group, always performing beyond expectation and giving back to communities far and near, looking to help beyond her own needs."

"I am one of several people who nominated Anne (Grodin)," said Lafayette Council Member Don Tatzin, "and I am delighted that she was chosen." Both Tatzin and City Manager Steve Falk came to the luncheon to support the woman who was so instrumental in raising funds for the Lafayette Library and Learning Center.

Moraga Vice-Mayor Karen Mendonca was among those who nominated Ellen Beans. "Ellen Beans' coordination of the Moraga Citizen's Network is an example of community service at its finest," said Mendonca, "she is committed to providing factual and objective information to town residents so that they, in turn, can more effectively participate in local discussions and deliberations."

Honorees from other east bay cities came from all avenues of life, reflecting the diversity of our region. For example, Susie Medak, the Managing Director of the Berkeley Repertory Theater, was recognized for her educational outreach. Eileen Hadidian of Albany was acknowledged for founding the Healing Muses, an organization that uses music to create a peaceful sound environment to support patients in hospitals. Rosa Acosta, the Executive Director of 'Morada de Mujeres del Milenio', an association that provides support for bicultural women affected by domestic violence, was also recognized.

"Assemblymember Nancy Skinner has created a memorable way to honor women of the district," commented Grodin. "It is wonderful to participate in such an inspiring event," added Beans, "it consolidates my belief that we can bring about positive change."

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