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Community Service

We are pleased to make space available whenever possible for some of Lamorinda's dedicated community service organizations to submit news and information about their activities. Submissions can be sent to storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com with the subject header In Service to the Community.

Orinda Girl Scouts Make Blankets for Needy Children

Submitted by Mary Friese



Girl Scouts hold the blankets they made (from left): Chloe, Makenna, Ariana, Andrea, Jamie, Sophie, Emma, Brigette, Zoe, Chantal, Carly, Emily, Emma, Lindsay, Stephanie, Tuki, Kylie, Ava, and Sophia (not pictured: Lola, Teveen and Clare). On the right is Jeanne Akin, Project Linus Chapter Coordinator for east Contra Costa County. Photo Sarah Lee

The 22 juniors of Girl Scout Troop 32300 (at Del Rey School in Orinda) recently made and donated two dozen fleece blankets to Project Linus, a national organization that accepts

new handmade blankets for children who are in need.

"The girls were very moved by the fact that there are children their own age who are in the hospital, or living in a foster home,

and who would be comforted by something as simple as a blanket," said Sarah Lee, the parent who organized the project for the troop.

"This was an extremely pos-

itive community service project for our troop," said troop leader Mary Friese. "The girls were able to do it all themselves -- including budgeting, shopping and actually creating the blankets. It was very rewarding for them!"

The girls voted to use some of their earnings from cookie sales to buy the material for the blankets, collectively deciding to forego the usual sales incentives in favor of having more money to spend on the project. They then selected the material, and each girl made her 'own' blanket that was given to a Project Linus volunteer to be distributed to a child in need.

"That was the hard part," laughed Lee. "Many of the girls did not want to let go of 'their' blanket when it was done!" But let go they did... and now the blankets are on their way to children in need across Contra Costa County.

AAUW Enjoys the Dance

Submitted by Evelyn Westlye



Lois Ann Flood Photo K. DeGroot

In her interpretive dancing Lois Flood combined Duncan's lyrical, dramatic and heroic dances with poetry narrated by Karen Elise. Flood wore costumes reminiscent of the classical Greek style, typical of Duncan's performances, which were flowing and sensuous without being overtly sexual -- a point Flood made in her comments to convey the philosophy that Duncan extolled. In describing the origins of her philosophy

Duncan was quoted as stating that art and music are as necessary to people as the air or bread because art is the spiritual bread of mankind.

The dancing, the poetry and the music each contributed to produce a powerful stimulus to heighten the sheer beauty of the performance, to the delighted and appreciative audience.

For more information about the OML Branch of AAUW go to www.aauwoml.org or call Judy Hammon at (925) 253-4972.

An audience of members and guests was wowed at the January 18th meeting of the Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette (OML) Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Dancer Lois Flood did a reprise of the dancing of Isadora Duncan, who is conceded to be the most famous dancer of the 20th century in the aesthetics of modern dance and who impacted the world of dance like no other while making a great impression on many of the famous artists of her time.

SAFE Smashes the Record

Submitted by Brian South



From left: Volunteer CSO Scott Inouye, volunteer Cadet Claire Damon and Officer Bob Ortiz were among the many volunteers helping with the SAFE collection. Photo provided

The Moraga Police Officers Association's 2010 Stuffed Animals for Emergencies (S.A.F.E.) program collected a total of 1578 stuffed animals over the holiday season, more than doubling the previous record! Our community really got into it this year, and we'd like to thank the cit-

izens for their generosity and assistance.

S.A.F.E. distributes stuffed animals to children in need -- for example, donated stuffed animals are stored in police cars so officers can give them to children they may encounter in any type of traumatic or tragic situation.

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Open Houses	Lafayette	January 27, 2010	February 10, 2010	at 6:30 p.m.	Adults only, please!	984 Moraga Rd.	(925) 284-4321
	Walnut Creek	January 25, 2010	February 24, 2010	at 6:30 p.m.	Adults only, please!	55 Eckley Lane	(925) 934-1507

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Man's wedding ring @Moraga Commons upper playground. Call 415.596.9147.

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