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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.

Silver Award for Troop #32790

Submitted by Heidi Felt



Photo provided

The girls of Lafayette Girl Scout Troop #32790 just completed their Silver Award project by collecting enough donated items to create over 40 gift baskets that were raffled off at the annual International Refugee Committee (IRC) Feast in Oakland.

The troop's 11 Girl Scouts collected donations from family members, neighbors, classrooms and a variety of other techniques. They took their school holiday on November 11 to assemble and wrap the baskets, and on November

17 brought 40 baskets to the IRC event so that every family left with a gift basket.

The girls also were responsible for coordinating an art/craft table for children ages 2-20. They brought supplies for coloring, making friendship bracelets, and the assembly of turkey fridge magnets.

It was an amazing experience for the troop. The families and children looked so happy and thrilled. For the Girl Scouts, the experience was life changing and memorable.

Hacienda Accomplishments and Launch of Vehicle Donation Program

Submitted by Sharron Sue



From left: Outgoing president Claire Roth and board member Sharron Sue

Photo provided

Claire Roth, the outgoing President of The Hacienda Foundation of Moraga, recently received an award in recognition of her service. 2011 was a tremendous year for Hacienda de las Flores, both through building community and improvements to the facility itself. The Foundation hosted Cinco de Mayo, Oktoberfest and the Wine and Art Social to bring our community together. Through funds generated through such events, the Park Foundation, and individual donations, the Fireside Room was completely updated, the single bath has a sparkling new period look, and visitors are thrilled with progress-to-date on the Ladies Lounge. Much has been accomplished, but there is much to do.

Towards that end, the Hacienda Founda-

tion of Moraga is launching its vehicle donation program. Vehicles are picked up free of charge at your home, office, or even repair shop. By donating your vehicle, running or not, you can help the Hacienda Foundation continue to make improvements to the Hacienda. You will receive documentation of the price for which your vehicle sold at auction (or \$500, whichever is greater) for tax deduction purposes; you provide money to the Hacienda even if your vehicle has mechanical problems.

The Hacienda Foundation's vehicle donation program is in partnership with Donate For Charity. More information is available at <http://haciendafoundation.org/donate.php> or call toll free at (866) 392-4483.

See's Success

Submitted by Karen Reed



From left: Kiwanis president Karen Reed; Tim Freeman, past president and chairman of the See's project; former Moraga mayor Cherie Grant
Photo Andy Schreck

Dale Walwark of the Moraga Kiwanis Club is delighted to report that the success of the Moraga Kiwanis Club's sales of See's Candy this season will produce more money than last year for its charitable contributions. All of the net proceeds go to the many good causes Kiwanis supports, from the three Lamorinda education foundations to the Food Bank, and from the Crisis Nursery to scholarships. The money raised flows through the organization to meet community needs.

Kiwanis offers many thanks to its customers, to Kimco for use of the space in the Rheem Center, and to CVS for permitting the See's sale at its Rheem store.

Cleaning up the Res

Cigarette butts, bottle caps and diapers, oh my!

Submitted by Kim Jinnett



From left, front: Josie, Kendall, Jessie; back: Ranger Greg, Kiera, Kyra, Lola, Kenna, Maria, Emilie, Juliet, and Clare

Photo provided

As part of a series of community service projects, Girl Scout Cadette Troop 30072 from Moraga helped beautify the Lafayette Reservoir by picking up litter around the edges of the water, on the docks and near the picnic areas. Their efforts have made the environment more pleasant for the ducks, birds, squirrels, rats, fish, dogs and other animals (including humans) that enjoy the Reservoir.

Some treasures found included fishing lures, bottles and bottle caps, tennis balls,

cigarette butts, plates and utensils, broken glass, a dirty diaper and lots of other items that are harmful to the environment. Ranger Greg Francek provided terrific instruction and support throughout the day and helped the girls identify the best spots to do their work and avoid poison oak.

Ranger Supervisor Rod Tripp exclaimed, "Thanks for your help keeping the park clean!" The Girl Scouts hope to be back in the spring to continue their clean-up efforts.

Baskets for the Lafayette Nursing Home

Submitted by Mary Beeler



Photo provided

The Suburban Woman's Club of Lafayette has been making Christmas baskets for residents at convalescent hospitals in Lafayette since 1998 and this year are delivering them to the Lafayette Nursing Home. Betsey Young is chairman of the craft group that meets at her home once a month to put sequins on baskets and

beards on Santas. Residents are delighted to receive the baskets filled with cookies.

If you would like to join us in the making of the Easter and Christmas baskets and also get more information regarding the club and our other community activities please call Jean Cappa at (925) 283-2759.