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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](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com) with the subject header In Service to the Community.

### Ambassadorial Scholar Speaks to Moraga Rotary

Submitted by Gary Irwin



L to R: Moraga Rotary President Nora Avelar and Sophie Dowse, Ambassadorial Scholar after her program at Moraga Rotary, her sponsor. Photo provided

Sophie Dowse, a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar sponsored by Rotary Club of Moraga in 2009, recently spoke to the Club about her experiences at the University of Melbourne (Australia) where she completed work for her Master of Social Work degree. Sophie also related her encouraging experiences to two groups at Campolindo High School, from which she graduated in 2005. She is also a 2009 graduate of Pomona College with a BA in Psychology. Sophie's intent, developed through the work and experiences in the Masters program, is to make her career in Child and Family social work.

with people affected by adoption. Her goals revolved around reuniting families and creating new relationships as well as listening to her clients to acknowledge their past experiences. She also worked with families providing requested services and child protection activities, and she taught parenting strategies to immigrant families and aboriginal groups.

Sophie described her involvement with several local Rotary Clubs in Australia and highlighted a special 4th of July celebration that was organized for her. She described the other Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars that she met and was amazed at the breadth of study opportunities that were represented in the group. She also showed a picture of the Clifford Dochterman tree planted while Cliff (now a Moraga resident) was the head of Rotary International.

Since 1947, Ambassadorial Scholarships from The Rotary Foundation have given more than 41,000 men and women the opportunity to study abroad.

At University of Melbourne, Sophie performed both academic classwork and field work with various agencies. For the latter, she worked at the Adoption and Family Records group in the nearby city of Yarra, where she was involved in ward-of-the-court programs and also dealt

Moraga Rotary is a local service club within Rotary International that meets most Tuesdays at noon at St. Mary's College. For information, please call Gary Irwin of Moraga Rotary at (925) 376-7688.

### Moraga Royale Supports Rescue One

Submitted by Michael Mentink



Left to right: Jared Costanza, Matt Epperson, Jacob Airola, Greg Reams, Dianne Wilson, Julie Fischer, Mark DeWeese, Mike Rattary Photo provided

On Tuesday, January 24, Dianne Wilson of Moraga Royale presented Rescue One Foundation President, Greg Reams, with a donation of \$2,000, the proceeds of their annual "Festival of Trees" silent auction fundraiser.

Each year, Moraga Royale sponsors the Festival of Trees

event to benefit Rescue One, a non-profit organization dedicated to the Moraga-Orinda Fire District and emergency medical services in the Moraga and Orinda area. The trees are provided by Moraga Royale and decorated by local businesses, organizations and residents. The themed trees and accompanying gift packages

were purchased through a silent auction that ended on December 15, 2011.

"The Rescue One Foundation has been an invaluable benefit to the District and has donated funds for the District to purchase life-saving equipment for use by our firefighters" Said MOFD Fire Chief Randall Bradley, "and support of the community and organizations like Moraga Royale helps Rescue One continue their good works."

In the past year, the Rescue One Foundation donated the funds for the District to purchase a new Lucas 2 Chest Compression Device used in administering CPR and a LifePack 15 Defibrillator. Both of these devices are carried on the District's advanced life support ambulances.

The Moraga-Orinda Fire District would like to thank Moraga Royale and our community for their continued support of the Rescue One Foundation.

### Juniors or Mad Men?

Submitted by Rosylyn Stenzel



Photo Gina Hageboeck

Lafayette Juniors hosted a Mad Men/1960s era fundraiser at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center on February 4. Pictured in costume (with faux cigarettes) are Gina Hageboeck, Veronique Kuhner,

Michelle Muller, Lisa McCauley, Carolyn Kahler, Amy Friedli, Rosylyn Stenzel and Tiffany Yates. Proceeds will benefit five local charities: CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), Lafayette Library and

Learning Center Foundation, New Day for Children, Shelter Inc., and SEED (Special Education Enrichment and Development Foundation).

### Spreading Holiday Cheer and Filling Hungry Tummys

Submitted by Kim Jinnett



Seated: Jessie; L-R Front: Kenna, Josie, Juliet, Clare, Maria L-R Back: Kyra, Jesse, Chloe, Emilie Photo provided

Continuing their commitment to community service, Girl Scout Cadette Troop 30072 added some cheer over the holidays at Moraga Royale. Armed with wrapping paper, ribbons, tape, scissors and smiles, the girls decorated many residents' doors and brightened the hallways.

The Troop also helped-out at Sacred Hearts Food Bank and Thrift Store in San Jose. The girls

rotated in two shifts, helping to sort cans of food and organize various items of clothing. The girls learned that they had to separate the cans based on food that could be eaten directly out of the cans versus those that needed additional preparation or equipment. They discovered that many individuals, particularly the homeless, often have no access to can openers or ways to heat their food.

### As Seen in Moraga...



Susan Captain, of Captain Vineyards, discussed the various wineries in the Lamorinda area at a recent meeting of the St. Monica's Men's Club. Photo Bob Johnson