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Theater View Veterinary Clinic is a brand new facility owned by "Dr. Laurie" Langford who has been caring for animals in Orinda for 15 years.

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Community Service

SMC Rowing Team Holds Run/Walk to Fight Lung Cancer

Submitted by Christina Bennett



The Saint Mary's College Rowing Team

Photo Provided

The Saint Mary's Rowing Team is sponsoring a Jog for Jill 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, October 13 (10:30 check in and 11 a.m. start) at the Saint Mary's campus to benefit lung cancer research. "The idea came about to host this event at the end of last year," said Saint Mary's Rowing Team member Christina Bennett. "The rowing WCC championships always has a community service event following the racing. This last year they partnered with Jill's Legacy and asked teams to compete or put to-

gether a Jog for Jill event to raise money for lung cancer research."

Jill Costello (who the event is named after) was diagnosed with lung cancer at the age of 22. She attended UC Berkeley and participated on the Cal Rowing team. A year after her diagnosis she passed away. Jill's story has been introduced to many schools and areas around the United States and has helped make many strides in the fight against lung cancer. Jill's Legacy is an all-volunteer based branch of the Bonnie J. Addario Lung

Cancer Foundation. "Lung cancer is one of the most misunderstood cancers, and in some instances society believes that this form of cancer is 'deserved,'" said Bennett. "It has this stigma because of the correlation between lung cancer and smoking, when, in fact, around 80 percent of the people diagnosed with lung cancer have not smoked or have quit smoking a long time ago."

The run/walk is open to the public. To register, visit www.jogforjill-smarys.com.

Scout Loves Wood Ducks, Installs 10 Nesting Boxes at Lafayette Reservoir

Submitted by Tyler Higgins



Justin Higgins (right) with his nesting boxes and some Troop 219 Scouts at the Lafayette Reservoir. Photo Greg Francek

Last April, Justin Higgins led 26 of his fellow Scouts from Lafayette's Troop 219 to install 10 nesting boxes for Wood Ducks at the Lafayette Reservoir. The service project not only satisfied Higgins' service hour requirements for his Eagle rank, but also offered him a chance to earn the coveted Hornaday Award - Scouting's highest conservation award - by selecting a project category focused on fish and wildlife management that would help return Wood Ducks to the Lafayette Reservoir.

The Wood Duck is considered by many bird watchers to be one of the most colorful and beautiful ducks, but the species has had many challenges regarding breeding and available habitat. The absence of adequate nesting areas for Wood Ducks at the Lafayette Reservoir is the primary

reason for the significant decline in the local population over the last few decades.

"I worked with park rangers, Rod Tripp and Greg Francek, from EBMUD, and Sandy Ferreira, District Manager of the California Waterfowl Association (CWA)," said Higgins. He chose to collaborate with CWA as it sponsors many habitat projects benefitting waterfowl throughout the state, and specifically, monitors Wood Duck populations and funds programs to help encourage this species of duck.

According one wildlife biologist at the CWA, 10 Wood Duck nesting boxes have the potential to add 50-60 ducklings each year. Unfortunately, as a result of the installation date occurring later than expected, none of these boxes have attracted mating Wood Ducks yet. However, a repre-

sentative of CWA has offered to donate mature Wood Ducks for introduction to the area in time for the next mating season.

Visitors looking to locate the Wood Duck nesting boxes can view them most easily by boat as they are generally within 20 to 30 feet from the shore. A wildlife biologist helped to establish each location as Wood Ducks tend to be somewhat territorial and prefer privacy - hence the reason for their distance from the walking paths. Onlookers should be sure to keep their distance from the nesting boxes and not disturb the areas.

Higgins collected more than \$1,500 of individual donations to fund the materials cost of his service project, and gives additional thanks to Dolan's Lumber Company for its "Eagle Scout" discount and Jeff Cronk, owner of Lloyd's Custom Woodwork, for providing access to his wood shop in Concord.

"[Higgins] has done an excellent job of learning about the issue of Wood Duck population decline, working to reverse that decline through provision of optimal nesting sites, dealing constructively with disappointing results, arranging for on-going box maintenance, and sharing what he has learned with his community," said Lillian Remer, the conservation director of the Mt. Diablo Silverado Council of the Boy Scouts of America. "In addition, because most of the members of his unit, Troop 219, provided assistance in building and installing the nesting boxes his Troop will receive the Hornaday Unit Award."

"Grandparent's Day" Helps Rescue One

Submitted by Jessica McCormick



From left, Loto Rickman, Katy Himsl, Al Pyne, Dan Johanson, Greg Reams, Jessica McCormick and Chris Davies. Photo provided

On Thursday, September 27 staff from Moraga Royale presented Rescue One Foundation President Greg Reams with a donation of \$1,000, the proceeds of Moraga Royale's annual

"Grandparent's Day" celebration. Moraga Royale's Grandparent's Day, which was held on September 8, provided food, drinks, sno-cones, pony rides, a petting zoo, and a dunk tank that benefited the

Rescue One Foundation. Al Pyne, Loto Rickman, and Jessica McCormick, all staff of Moraga Royale, braved the cold water to raise money for this great cause. In two hours they raised \$500 and Moraga Royale matched that donation amount, giving Rescue One \$1,000 in total. Rescue One is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to the Moraga-Orinda Fire District and emergency medical services in the Moraga and Orinda area. Donors like Moraga Royale have made possible the purchase of vital items such as CPR training equipment, heavy rescue equipment, and cardiac monitors/defibrillators. Reams thanked Moraga Royale for its kind donation and for always remembering Rescue One.

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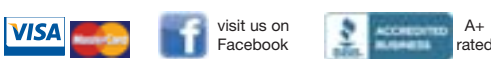
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