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## Two Trees, One Ceremony

By Cathy Tyson



Lafayette's 2011 Hospice Tree Photo Doug Kohen

While the stately oak near the Round Up Saloon in Lafayette will still be sparkling with lights, the former site of the Hospice of the East Bay Tree of Lights in the Moraga Commons is being relocated to a tree at the Moraga Country Club. There will be one celebration for both trees at 5:30 p. m. Sunday, Dec. 9 at 1600 St. Andrews Drive. For 26 years the Tree of Lights has been a fundraiser for this non-profit organization. Purchasing a symbolic light for \$25 honors a loved one and directly supports end-of-life patient care.

Located near a pond that will reflect the twinkling lights, the Moraga tree will be quite visible from Moraga Way, the gateway to town. The new Moraga tree is dedicated to well-known Lamorinda resident Michael Vukelich, founder, chairman and CEO of Color Sport Nurseries, who recently passed away at age 61 after being diagnosed with brain cancer. The family used the services of Hospice of the East Bay. In addition to hospice and palliative care services, they offer support and comfort for the patient and family along with social workers, volunteers to assist as needed, massage therapists and more. Low income families never receive a bill for service, that's why fundraisers like the Tree of Lights events are so important.

The Orinda Tree ceremony will be held as usual in Orinda Village by the Bank of America - part of Orinda's community holiday celebration at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1 (see additional listing). C. Tyson

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