



Hear Cheryl Strayed in Conversation with Lynn Carey

Appearing Sunday, January 6, 2013
 Acalanes Performing Arts Center
 1200 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette

Time.....2:00-4:00 PM
 General Seating.....\$35
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Community Service

Moraga Resident Takes Top Spot at American Heart Association's Western States Affiliate Board

Submitted by Katherine Conrad



Janice Murphy Photo provided

Moraga resident Janice Murphy, vice president of finance at Kaiser Permanente, has been named chairman of the board of directors for the American Heart Association Western States Affiliate (WSA). The Affiliate serves the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington. "Thousands of lives are saved every year because of the organization's work on research, prevention and awareness," Murphy said. The American Heart Association commits more than \$500 million to research each

year to fight the No. 1 and No. 4 killers of Americans, cardiovascular disease and stroke. As Chairman of the Affiliate Board, Murphy will help steer the regional activities of the non-profit organization. "The American Heart Association is second only to the federal government in terms of funding heart disease and stroke research; countless lives are saved every day because of this work," said Murphy. "You would be hard pressed to meet someone who has not been affected by heart disease or stroke—either directly or through a loved one."

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Kiwanis, Flowers and Chocolates



Kiwanians plant bulbs along Moraga Road, from left: Kirpal Khanna, Supervisor Dale Walwark, Tom Westhoff, Karen Reed, Tim Freeman, Francis Wong, Rich Holden and his grandchildren, and Sam Sperry. Photo Sophie Braccini

About 50 happy Kiwanians were spotted on the streets of Moraga Dec. 8 with a mission to plant 1,000 daffodil bulbs along Moraga Road, between St. Mary's Road and Moraga Way. Approximately 17 members spent two and a half hours digging holes and setting bulbs that Saturday morning. This was all after manning the Kiwanis' chocolate store in the Rheem Valley Shopping Center,

which is projected to sell more than two tons of the candy this year. "As of Dec. 7 we sold over 2,200 pounds of See's Candies in our Rheem Center shop," said Kiwanian Tim Freeman. "With the usual flurry of activity as we approach Dec. 25 we should finish somewhere around last year's total that exceeded 2.7 tons, which was a substantial increase over the 1.7 tons of candy sold in 2010."

All of the proceeds from the candy sales go back to the community, benefiting organizations including the Moraga Education Foundation, Education Foundation of Orinda, Lafayette Partners in Education, Hacienda Foundation, Contra Costa Food Bank, AAUW Sister to Sister, Lindsay Wildlife Museum, and Center for Early Intervention in Treating Deafness. S. Braccini

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East Bay Eclipse Soccer Club Helps Kids Half a World Away

Submitted by Diane Sharp



Kids near Nairobi play with the "virtually indestructible" soccer ball. Photos provided

Through the month of December, the East Bay Eclipse Soccer Club (EBESC) players and their families will be raising money to help donate the only soccer balls in the world said to be virtually indestructible to several villages in Kenya.

"Although Lamorinda is a fantastic place to live, it is very easy to get lost in the bubble and forget what else is happening out in the world," said Shane Carney, director of East Bay Eclipse. "This fundraiser will hopefully serve as a reminder to everyone that there are kids around the world from ours playing and loving the same game of soccer who we can easily help. Something as simple as providing them with a ball can have a huge positive impact on the lives of these children."

There are approximately 425 kids in the Eclipse Soccer Club in Lamorinda, and Carney is hoping they all get involved in this first major, club-wide donation drive.

"The indestructible soccer ball (One World Futbol) is important because in places like Africa the fields are often dirt, with glass or rock, so

the balls pop very easily," said Blake Sharp, the 13-year-old campaign coordinator.

"Kids playing on the streets or in the fields of Africa typically make balls out of anything they can - rolled up paper, rolled up yam and even animal bladders," added Carney. "An indestructible ball ensures that they always have something to play with and can spend their time playing instead of having to piece together another makeshift ball."

The One World Futbol can survive the harshest conditions, and never needs a pump, never goes flat, even when punctured. Sharp has played with the balls, and said they look and feel like a regular soccer ball - same weight and dimensions. "They are super fun to play with in my room (though my mom doesn't like that much) and outside," she said.

The Eclipse Soccer Club's goal is to donate 420 soccer balls by the end of this holiday season to children in Kenya. "The ultimate goal of the donation drive is to show that the game of soccer is something that transcends geographical, social, cultural and

class lines," said Carney. "One ball can serve as a reason for joy and positivity for a large number of kids halfway around the world. As people who are blessed to live where we do, this is something we can all easily do to help bring joy."

The One World Futbols will be distributed to the Hilde Back Education Fund based in Nairobi (www.hildebackeducationfund.com). For more information about the project, visit www.oneworldfutbol.com/campaigns/eclipse/.



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