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Care. Comfort. Compassion.  
*When you need it most.*

**Your Lamorinda Senior Checklist ...**

- Find cook for better nutrition ✓
- Get driver to appointments, groceries ✓
- Get help with laundry & changing sheets ✓
- Find somebody for companionship, exercise, puzzles ✓

**CALL SENIOR HELPERS ✓✓✓✓**

We can assist with these activities and more.  
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Senior Helpers locations are independently owned and operated. ©2011 SH Franchising, LLC

**Senior Helpers**  
Care and comfort at a moment's notice

## Crab Feed & Dance

Saturday, February 2, 6:00 – 11:00 p.m.  
Bring your appetites & dancing shoes.  
Music provided by popular DJ.  
Dinner & Dance \$40, Dance only \$10.

For tickets & reservations  
call (925) 672-6799.

Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School Street, Moraga.

For non-crab lovers:  
Chicken available by special  
advance order request.  
Dinner tickets **MUST** be  
purchased in advance.

Soroptimist International of 24-680 & Soroptimist International of Martinez invite you to our annual

# CRAB FEED & silent auction

**Saturday February 9 2013**

**\$45 per person tickets must be purchased in advance**

**oakwood athletic club lower court**

**5:30 PM casual dress**

For tickets and information contact:  
Toni Pera (925) 283-2279 or Terry Enns (925) 285-4693  
siof24.680@gmail.com

## THE ALL-NEW BMW 6 SERIES GRAN COUPE

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ALVIN PINEL REALTORS  
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RECENT HOME SALES

75 VAN SMOUL LANE - ORINDA	\$1,300,000
18 DEER PINES - MORAGA	\$1,200,000
9148 VANDER RD - ORINDA	\$1,175,000
2708 WOODS RD - ORINDA	\$1,100,000
187 KIMBER RD - ORINDA	\$1,075,000
1001 LANEY TRL - ORINDA	\$1,050,000
1144 LAMONT RD - LAFAYETTE	\$1,000,000
1144 LAMONT DR - LAFAYETTE	\$950,000
1 NEWELL LANE - ORINDA	\$1,000,000
1 HUNTER HILL LN - ORINDA	\$1,000,000
118 6TH FLORENCE - ORINDA	\$1,000,000
1027 WARDEN RD - WALNUT CREEK	\$1,000,000
1025 SWEET BRIDGE - LAFAYETTE	\$1,000,000

TOTAL HOME SALES \$18.5M

I've been fortunate to help these families buy and sell homes in Lamorinda. To me, it's all about finding **the right fit.**

**AMYROSESMITH**  
amyrosmith@apr.com | 925.212.3897

## Community Service

### Over 700 Trees Planted by Local Suburban Farming Group

Organization helps community care for and harvest trees for charity

Submitted by Ashley Hagin



Lamorinda residents prepare to harvest pears during a family day. Photo Siamack Sioshansi

Three years ago, The Urban Farmers – the Lafayette suburban farming group – challenged the Lamorinda community to plant 1,000 fruit trees within five years. Since then, the group has succeeded in planting 720 trees around the county, the majority of which are in Lamorinda. As word of the organization's goal has spread, trees have been popping up in Danville, Alamo, Walnut Creek, and Concord as well.

The planting of fruit trees in local backyards is an important step on the path to hunger relief in the community. "If you plant an apple tree in your backyard, in a few years it will start producing fruit in large volume. An apple tree can put out 200 to 300 apples a year," says Siamack Sioshansi, executive director of The Urban Farmers. "After your family eats, cans, and gives away all that you want, in most cases you will still have fruit to donate."

To enable both novice and experienced residents to grow fresh, flavorful fruit, the organization provides free workshops on how to plant trees bought through their program. After teaching homeowners how to plant the trees, the organization services them on a communal basis, pruning and spraying to save busy homeowners from having to become tree experts. The organization also harvests the excess fruit to donate to local food banks – in a typical day, volunteers visit four to five homes and harvest between 500 and 1,000 pounds of fruit.

Still, for those who want to learn how to care for their own trees, The Urban Farmers also offers pruning classes and workshops. "A few people can learn enough at a workshop to get out there and prune their trees," says Sioshansi. "Most others, including the most confident gardeners, don't feel comfortable pruning a tree. One of my friends said pruning is like swimming: You can't learn by talking about it."

To raise that comfort level, the organization is in the final stages of planning two orchards – 125 trees in Danville and 27 trees in Lafayette – for training purposes. "This way, homeowners who want to learn can come out and make as many cuts, under supervision, as they need until they feel they can swim to the other end, at home," Sioshansi says. The orchards will be planted in early February; families and individuals are invited to participate.

The Urban Farmers' group fruit tree purchase is now open and will run through Feb. 6. Visit [www.theurbanfarmers.org](http://www.theurbanfarmers.org) or [www.facebook.com/theurbanfarmers.org](http://www.facebook.com/theurbanfarmers.org) for more information about upcoming events.

## Saint Mary's College Museum of Art Honored with Arts Recognition Award

Submitted by Dyana Bhandari



Photo Andy Scheck

The Saint Mary's College Museum of Art was one of three honored with a 2012 Arts Recognition Award by the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County (AC5) and the County Board of Supervisors yesterday at the County Administration Building in Martinez. For the past 17 years the Arts Recognition Award has honored artists and arts organizations that have made significant contributions to the arts and culture of Contra Costa County over a sustained period of time.

"Saint Mary's College Museum of Art is a jewel in both Contra Costa County and the Bay Area for the vision, leadership, commitment and creativity in bringing visual culture to both the college and larger communities," said Darwin Marable, AC5 chair. "The Arts and Culture Commission and the Board of Supervisors are honored to recognize the Museum's many contributions to our community."

Museum director Carrie Brewster said she was thrilled by the latest honor for the institution.

"As a museum that has been accredited by the America Alliance of Museums for more than 25 years, we take pride in bringing a world of art to Saint Mary's College and the surrounding communities," said Brewster.

Brewster added that "the expansion of our exhibit space by 50 per cent in 2011 enables the Saint Mary's Museum of Art to present four exhibitions at once, offering with an even more diverse range of the visual arts to our region."

According to Marable, AC5, in conjunction with the Board of Supervisors, has granted 78 annual awards since 1996 to artists, art educators, arts organizations and many others who have made significant contributions to the arts.

"The Saint Mary's Art Museum was honored for its permanent collection, including its William Keith Collection, and noteworthy one-person exhibitions which bring local, national and international known artist to Moraga and Contra Costa County," Marable said.

The two other recipients were Michele Seville, arts and culture manager for the City of Richmond and Hershell West, artist, muralist and community organization leader. The Board of Supervisors presented a resolution honoring these county leaders at yesterday's event. Each honoree received a commemorative glass sculpture created by artist Randy Strong of the R. Strong Glass studio in Berkeley.