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Free Movie Thursdays in July

By Cathy Tyson

Designed to tie into the county-wide library "Reading is So Delicious" theme, both the Lafayette and the Moraga libraries will be hosting free movie events every Thursday evening after the Fourth of July from 6 to 8 p.m. With air conditioning and complimentary refreshments, the series is fun for the whole family.

Looking to "celebrate food on film," librarian Emily Koster of the Lafayette Library and Learning Center wanted to spread the word that the Moraga, Orinda and Lafayette libraries are co-hosting this new event. In addition to the movies, the Lafayette Library is offering a free chocolate tasting event on July 9 at 6:30 p.m. featuring local chocolatier Loyd Auerbach. Please call to sign up at (925) 385-2280, since seating is limited.

Kicking off the movie series is culinary comedy "Julie and Julia" based on true stories of Julia Child and Julie Powell, a young New Yorker who attempts to recreate all of Julia Child's 524 recipes noted in "Mastering the Art of French Cooking" and describe it on her blog. The story seamlessly weaves between Julia's time in France in the 1950s and Julie's cooking adventures and work struggles in the early 2000s. Meryl Streep is very believable as Julia Child and Amy Adams portrays the ambitious New Yorker. Enjoy the film screening in the Arts and Science Discovery Center on the lower level of the Lafayette Library and Learning Center.

"Chocolat" - about a woman who opens a chocolate shop in rural France that shakes up the stodgy community, with Juliette Binoche and a young Johnny Depp - will be shown at 6 p.m. the following Thursday, July 18 at the Moraga Library.

Finishing off the movie series is the darling, kid-friendly "Ratatouille" on July 25 back at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center. This Pixar film tells the story of a sweet rat named Remy who dreams of becoming a chef and tries to achieve his goal by forming an alliance with a Parisian restaurant's helper, Linguini. This film will be shown at 6 p.m. in the Community Hall of the Lafayette Library.

In related movie news, Sustainable Lafayette also has a summer film series that kicks off with compelling documentary "Trashed - No Place for Waste" featuring Jeremy Irons on July 18 that looks at the risks to the food chain and the environment through the pollution of air, land and sea by waste, and explores the immediate dangers to public health. The film will be screened at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Hall. There's a \$5 suggested donation, no reservations necessary.

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[back](#)

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