

Lamorinda Weekly

Independent, locally owned and operated!

See's

**In Moraga
Rheem Center
Next to Starbucks
10 AM - 5 PM
Kiwanis Fundraiser**

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Photo Andy Scheck

Tree Lighting Rings in the Season

By Sophie Braccini

There is nothing quite like seeing a large triangle of colorful lights glimmering on a hilltop to get you in the holiday spirit. Whether adorning window sills, rooftops, lampposts or tree branches, the pinpricks of purple, red, green and blue can capture the imagination of both young and old.

Last Sunday members of the Refuge Community

Church gathered to celebrate the magic of the season at their new Moraga Road location, joining in a sing-along of traditional Christmas carols, serving hot cocoa, cider and appetizers alongside a 25-foot-high blue spruce tree that sparkled merrily in the cool, clear night. The tree will serve as a beacon to all who travel between Moraga and Lafayette throughout December; the event was the first of many hol-

iday celebrations scheduled this month in Lamorinda (see the Holiday Events listing on pages B8-B9).

For Pastor Ron Johnson, who started the church four years ago, the tree lighting ceremony served as a celebration of a community embracing his project and getting together to honor the gift of Christmas.

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Quote of the Week:

"I for one like to continue to look stylish while not ruining my clothes with spatters of gravy ... So, I own and sport an array of aprons." Read Looking Good in Lamorinda - page B4.

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*With gratitude for wonderful clients and another successful year.
Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy 2014 to you and yours!*

Lamorinda

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World AIDS Day Spreading awareness at Saint Mary's College and beyond

By Amanda Kuehn

The mission of the Women's Resource Center at Saint Mary's College is to be "a locus of women's empowerment, an inclusive space where every member of the SMC community, all genders, bodies, sexual orientations, racial, spiritual, and ethnic identities can seek education, support, dialogue and engagement around issues of gender equity, identity, and equality," according to documents carefully crafted by director Sharon Sobotta and coordinator Gillian Cutshaw. It may seem like a lot to bite off, but the WRC is up to the challenge.

An office within SMC's Student Life, the WRC is dedicated to addressing and educating the campus community about a wide variety of issues

... ranging from relationships to self-esteem, identity to dating violence. They also raise awareness on societal issues like racism, sexism, classism and oppression. Much of this education comes in the form of small and large-scale monthly and annual events, many of which are open to the public.

One such event is the World AIDS Day coffee house, which will be hosted in the WRC from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4. The coffee house has become an annual event for the WRC and is open to any and all who wish to share their stories and increase their awareness, especially those who have been directly or indirectly affected by HIV or AIDS.

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WORLD AIDS DAY DECEMBER 1
JOIN THE MOVEMENT [f/greaterthan aids](https://www.facebook.com/greaterthan aids)

Life in Lamorinda B1-B12

Holiday Hilarity at THT

Liven up your holidays with good cheer from Town Hall Theatre - page B1.



Sports C1-C4

Mats to Play for NCS Title

Catch up on NCS football action as Miramonte prepares for the championship game - page C1.



Our Homes D1-D8

Amid the Acorns

A first look at the new Orinda Oaks - page D1.

