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THE APP RAP

By Alex Pawlakos

App: MyCar Locator Free by Nomadrobot
My Car Locator by Jean Charles Anger
For: Android phones and iPhones
Price: Free

Most everyone who has ever parked a car in a large lot, a city street, or any unfamiliar location, has probably had the unnerving experience of forgetting where they left their vehicle. Luckily, there is an amazing app, called 'MyCar Locator Free,' that makes sure that one can always locate their car. It is remarkably simple to use. As soon as you have parked your car, call up the app on your smartphone and your current location will appear on the screen. Then, double-tap the screen, select the box that is labeled "PARK," and your current location is instantly committed to memory using Google's GPS satellites. That is all you have to do to ensure you can find your car when you need to. A neat side feature is that you can record the exact time that you parked, which is useful to avoid getting a ticket for expired meters or parking too long in a lot designated for a specified hour limit. When you are ready to head back to your car, simply tap the app and press the "Find Me" key. MyCar Locator will then map

out the shortest distance back to your car with detailed walking directions complete with a map with directional arrows. The GPS feature is so accurate it gets you within 10 to 12 feet of the auto. As you might imagine, this app can also be used to get you back to any location you choose, not just your car's location. It is great for hiking, biking, or finding your way back to a hotel when traveling. Perhaps it would be most useful to find lost keys!



Alex Pawlakos enjoys biking, weightlifting, and tutoring in his spare time. He is a reporter on Express Yourself™ Teen Radio and an economics major at UC Berkeley.

Share Your Celebrations and Remembrances

If you would like to share an announcement about a special event or achievement, such as a wedding, engagement, scholarship or graduation of a local resident, or about a special person from Lamorinda who has passed, send a photo along with your text (up to 250 words) to storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com, and include "Celebrations and Remembrances" in the subject line.

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TEEN SCENE

Girl Scouts is about more than just selling cookies!

By Jane Fessenden

Though many girls begin scouting in elementary school, few continue into middle school, and fewer participate in high school. The large drop out of girls in the organization is largely impacted by the misconception that Girl Scouts is a child-oriented program.

Like many others across the nation, Lily, a student at Campolindo High School, claims that she stopped participating in Girl Scouts because she was too old.

"When I tell people I'm still in Girl Scouts, they give me this weird look and say, 'really?'" says Linden B., a Girl Scout at Campolindo.

Often Girl Scouts is mislabeled as an organization purely for young elementary school girls, consumed only by arts, crafts, and selling cookies. The most public activity is the springtime cookie sales, when Girl Scouts seemingly line every grocery store entrance and street to sell their cookies. "People just seem to know us for our cookies. I'm always asked when cookie sales will begin, if there are any new flavors, and why they are so expensive," Girl Scout Emma P. laments. In reality, Girl Scouts strives to prepare girls for success by exposing them to different experiences and adventures.

Since the beginning of the organization, Juliette "Daisy" Low believed that all young ladies should be

provided with an opportunity to develop mentally and physically, hoping to bring girls out of their isolated home environments into the fresh air while encouraging them to become involved in community service. Girl Scouts hiked, camped, marched, played basketball, and participated in numerous other activities considered "groundbreaking for girls" in the early 1900s.

Today, Low's dream has manifested into a reality with Girl Scouts numbering over 3.2 million girls and adults across America; it is a dedicated community of young girls striving to make a difference in the world for the betterment of society. This goal is met by troops of young ladies across the nation completing their Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards. The rigorous process of completing these awards is challenging and those who do complete the requirements represent the best objectives of the Girl Scout community.

Having witnessed his female friends go through the award process, Jonathan M., a student at Miramonte High School, says that his perspectives of Girl Scouts has changed. "It's an outstanding organization that instills great life skills in young women."

Margot Odell, a Girl Scout at Miramonte, admits that there were

crafts in the earlier years, but insists that the organization stands for more robust ideals. "Girl Scouts grows with age, it does not simply remain stagnant. My troop participates in food drives and helps out at homeless shelters. For teens, Girl Scouts is no longer about arts, crafts, and singing but expands its mission to help where needed in the greater community."

Although little girls still sell cookies, Girl Scouts benefits female teens, giving us a head start to being successful adult women.



Jane Fessenden, a senior at Miramonte High School is a reporter on Express Yourself™ Teen Radio. She is a soccer player for the Lamorinda Soccer Club and a Gold Award winning Girl Scout in a local Orinda troop.

Teen Scene is YOUR voice. If you have something to say or have writing skills and want to be part of our Teen Scene team, email our Teen Coach, Cynthia Brian, Cynthia@CynthiaBrian.com.

The opinions expressed in Teen Scene are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly.

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WANTED: Group Exercise Instructors for ORINDA COUNTRY CLUB

Orinda Country Club is currently undergoing a renovation which will add a new group Fitness Studio. This studio will offer an average of 25 classes per week to accommodate the high demand for a balanced group exercise program.

We are looking for qualified **Indoor Cycle, TRX, Muscle Conditioning, Pilates, and Yoga Instructors.** Instructors must provide a positive, appropriate and safe fitness experience for all class participants.

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