

◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆

OTHER

Photographer and naturalist Becky Jaffe will discuss the Bay Area's seasonal wildlife migrations and offer tips on the best local observation sites at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 23 at the Moraga Library. Jaffe's presentation is illustrated with photographs that unite a biologist's curiosity with an artist's sensibility. For more info, visit cclib.org or call (925) 376-6852.

For the second year in a row, the Lafayette city staff is sponsoring the "Back to School Backpack Drive," inspiring folks to lend a helping hand through the purchase of a new backpack and fresh school supplies – two of the most powerful tools in boosting a child's self-esteem as they head off to school. Collect a backpack shopping list from the Lafayette city offices or download one from the website, have fun picking out a backpack and filling it with supplies and bring the items to City Offices, 3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 210, no later than July 25. For more information about the Family Giving Tree, please visit the Family Giving Tree website. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Martin, lmartin@lovelafayette.org or Michael Cass, mcass@lovelafayette.org.

Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda are celebrating National Night Out from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 5. Join other Lamorindans and plan a potluck, an ice cream social, a happy hour, a block party or a barbecue. Any event that brings neighbors together is great and helps build a stronger community. September is National Emergency Preparedness Month – a good time to get together, help your neighborhood get ready and have fun. Contact your neighbors— plan an event for your neighborhood. Keep it simple and fun, whatever works for you. For info

about how to get started, Orindans can email or call Patti Young: pattyyoung1@comcast.net or (510) 910-0311. For Lafayette residents, contact Carol Yates at lepccarol@gmail.com and for Moraga email Diana Graham at diana.graham@comcast.net.

Diablo Ballet and Walnut Creek Magazine's Gourmet Gallop food and wine walk returns to downtown Walnut Creek for the fourth consecutive year from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 7. The public is invited to sip, sample and stroll their way through 15 downtown Walnut Creek locations as they experience a one-of-a-kind culinary adventure. This self-paced, self-guided stroll offers the opportunity to savor amazing food and wine while being joined by the Diablo Ballet dancers. Check-in location: Massimo Ristorante, 1604 Locust Street, downtown Walnut Creek. Purchase tickets online at www.diabloballet.org/events or by calling (925) 943-1775.

The Concord Diablo Japanese Summer Festival this year is scheduled for Aug. 9 and 10. The Festival will be held at the Concord Japanese Cultural Center at 3165 Treat Blvd. with free parking at Ygnacio Valley High School, 755 Oak Grove Road, with a free shuttle to the Festival. Free. The Festival features Japanese food, bonsai exhibits, Japanese flower arrangements, Kendo and Judo demonstrations, Taiko drum performances by four different groups, Japanese classical and folk dance performances, and calligraphy demonstrations. More information is available at http://www.diablojaclub.com or via email at jsummerfestival@yahoo.com.

Backpack Drive for foster children! For his Eagle Scout Project, Nicholai Martinsen is collecting gently used backpacks and brand new school sup-

plies such as pens, pencils, colored pencils, erasers, glue sticks, scissors, binders, binder paper, and calculators. The backpacks will be filled with the school supplies and given to the foster children of the Youth Homes organization before the next school year. Drop your donations off at 4025 Mario Way in Lafayette through Aug. 9. Email nicfox77@gmail.com for more information.

For the fourth year in a row Sustainable Lafayette will be hosting a summer film series at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center's Community Hall, continuing in July, and August. See website for movie descriptions and event info at http://www.sustainablelafayette.org/our-events/summer-film-series/. Free snacks, cookies, coffee, and refreshments will be served at each movie and special guest speakers will be included when possible. Cost: \$10 donation requested; \$5 for students. (See story page B7)

SENIORS

Sons In Retirement - Las Trampas Branch 116 – The July luncheon meeting will feature Mr. Wayne Korsinen, who will be unfolding the story of how the small town of Port Chicago was badly damaged by, but survived, a wartime explosion at an ammunition pier just two miles away. The presentation will also uncover how the United States Navy launched a 13 year campaign (1955-1968) against Port Chicago and finally succeeded in uprooting the town from the county. Today Port Chicago is a ghost town. Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m., July 21, at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Dr. Guests are welcome and can make reservations by calling (925) 322-1160 by Wednesday, July 16. Cost: \$15.

Please submit events to: calendar@lamorindaweekly.com

'Dawn of the Planet of the Apes'

By Derek Zemrak



Image provided

How many times have you heard people say "sequels are never better than the original movie"? The unexpected quality of "Dawn of the Planet of the Apes" surpasses the 2011 "Rise of the Planet of the Apes."

"Dawn of the Planet of the Apes" goes to a whole new level of filmmaking. In this installment, Caesar, portrayed by Golden Globe nominee Andy Serkis ("Longford," "Lord of the Rings"), leads the genetically evolved nation of apes against the human survivors of a devastating 10-year-old virus. Peace between the two groups is temporarily achieved but a war breaks out that will determine which species will dominate the world. Oscar nominee Gary Oldman ("Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy"), Golden Globe recipient Keri Russell ("Felicity") and Jason Clarke ("Zero Dark Thirty," "The Great Gatsby") each deliver solid performances but it is

Serkis' portrayal of Caesar that is amazing.

"Dawn of the Planet the Apes" is superbly directed by Matt Reeves ("Cloverfield"), creator of the television series "Felicity." Reeves takes the audience on an emotional roller-coaster ride. Be prepared to scream and remember to breathe.

"Dawn of the Planet of the Apes" is not only a great summer blockbuster but also a superior science-fiction movie. I would say it is one of the best films so far and it will receive several award nominations in the upcoming award season.

The movie is rated PG13, due to violent war scenes and some strong language. It has a TRT (Total Running Time) of 2 hours and 10 minutes.

Don't miss it on the big screen!

Listen to Derek every Saturday morning at 8 a.m. on Real to Reel, 1450AM KEST.

Service Clubs Announcements

Explore Lamorinda Rotary clubs The heart of Rotary is our clubs- dedicated people who share a passion for both community service and friendship. Learn about Lamorinda's Rotary clubs.

Please join us at our new location **THE LAFAYETTE PARK HOTEL** on Friday mornings at 7am. For more info, please email us at lamorindasunrise@gmail.com

July 18:	July 25:
Gabriel Angelo MasterBlaster G, a 15-year-old entertainer, trumpeteer & tap dancer seeks to bring healing to the world through the arts	Come learn more about Lamorinda Sunrise and Rotary as one of our members "Exposes Themselves"!

Please join us for breakfast and a great speaker!

Operation Swingtime

Special event offers music and a thank you to service members

By Cathy Tyson



The Big Band of Rossmoor will be playing at "Operation Swingtime" July 19 at the Lafayette Reservoir. Photo Steve Hobbs

In a unique, first of its kind collaboration, five local Rotary clubs are partnering with the USO to share a musical evening with the community to honor service members, past and present.

The famous Big Band of Rossmoor and the very talented Swing Blue Stars, a quartet of ladies who sound amazingly like the Andrew Sisters – think "Don't sit under the apple tree" – will be treating active duty men and women from Travis Air Force Base and Camp Roberts along with Lamorinda residents to a free evening of swing. The USO will be providing transportation for hard working troops for this special show.

"It's rare that troops are invited off-base to be entertained," said director of the Bay Area USO, Jeff Herndon. Rotary groups are organizing the festivities and generously providing dinner for the service members.

Veterans from conflicts across the globe are invited to meet with active duty personnel prior to the show by the 32-member strong Big Band of Rossmoor and the special harmonizing vocal guests. Military vehicles will also be on display at the new stage and picnic area overlooking the Lafayette Reservoir,

just up from the eastern edge of the parking lot, near the kids' playground.

For those unfamiliar with the organization, the non-profit, non-political USO has provided a tangible way for Americans to say thank you to our troops for the last 70 years by offering a home away from home for service members and support for those deployed overseas, here at home or those transitioning from service. The very first USO show featuring Bob Hope in 1941 from Camp Roberts, Calif.

Organizers would like to encourage veterans to attend. In order to recognize those who served our country, please email band director Mo Levich at gto@67goat.com with the veteran's name, rank, branch and years served. A golf cart shuttle is available for those who may need some assistance. Uniforms are optional but encouraged.

Bring your own blanket, lawn chairs and picnic goodies to Operation Swingtime to celebrate troops past and present and enjoy a fine summer evening of Glenn Miller and George Gershwin melodies from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, July 19 at the Lafayette Reservoir.

Lamorinda Weekly

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