

# 55 Years of Fun on the Slopes ... And Counting

By Bobbie Dodson



Orinda skier George Jedenoff 97, on the slopes at Alta Ski Area.



George Jedenoff Photos provided

With skis perfectly parallel, Orindan George Jedenoff glides down the run at Alta in graceful 'S' curves, impressing all who are watching as a video is being made of him by Ski Utah to promote skiing for seniors. And he's truly a senior. He'll turn 98 in July.

Jedenoff has been invited to shoot a video in Utah for the past three years. The first two videos had over 100,000 viewers and the new one, only made a month ago, has already had 10,000 hits. To watch this nonagenarian enjoying his time on Wasatch Mountain, simply Google his name and all his videos will show up.

Listening to Jedenoff, his love of life and the joy skiing gives him is apparent. "It's wonderful to be in the out of doors, enjoying the mountain air, the beautiful vistas – and searching out the powder for a really good run," he remarks.

Jedenoff receives large numbers of letters from fans praising

him for his prowess and asking for advice on how to stay on the slopes. "First and foremost, keep in good condition," he says. "I exercise before breakfast 365 days a year for 30 to 60 minutes, doing mostly stretching and limbering (activities). Eat a healthy diet. I like meat, and also include some starch, vegetables and a big salad every day – plain food, nothing fancy."

It was 1960 when Jedenoff took a job with U.S. Steel and moved with his family to Utah. "I asked people, 'What do you do in the winter?' And they suggested bowling, bridge and skiing. I thought skiing sounded pretty good but was advised, 'Don't do that; you might get hooked on it.' But I tried it and indeed I did get hooked on it. I've skied Alta and Snowbird every year since."

Jedenoff says he's had the benefit of being taught by the best. Among them, Al Engen, who was the first American to earn a gold medal in winter sports, and Earl Miller, who made the first really safe ski binding and also invented the "ski stop" – a device that did away with the leather strap that kept you from losing your ski if you came out of your bindings. "Junior Bounous is still living, and I had the good fortune to ski with him for a couple of hours this year," Jedenoff says. "I always learn something new like weight shifting, balance, or getting the skis in the right position. All three of these men are in the Ski Hall of

Fame."

For those who haven't skied in a while and want to try again, Jedenoff says to get out and do it. "You may not be the accomplished skier you once were, but that's all right. Do what you can and enjoy. I was a bit surprised at how well I held up this year as I only skied four days last year and three this time. I guess it's rather like riding a bicycle; you get on and just start going."

Buying some new equipment is a good idea because there continue to be improvements made that make skiing easier and easier. "I still play golf and certainly can't hit the ball as far as I once did, but being out on the course with good friends is still great fun," Jedenoff explains.

Since Barbara, his wife of 72 years, has health issues, she can't join him at Snowbird where they have a condo. He served as head of the management committee there for 10 years and this year again enjoyed being there for the board meeting with longtime friends. His son, Nick, joined him for the trip.

"I do get leg cramps sometimes, or a bit winded a little more quickly, but I don't fight it. I just take advantage of what I can do and am grateful," Jedenoff concludes. "At least I'm not in the stands watching, but still participating."

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## Benefit Concert for Afghanistan



Tanya Gabrielian, pianist

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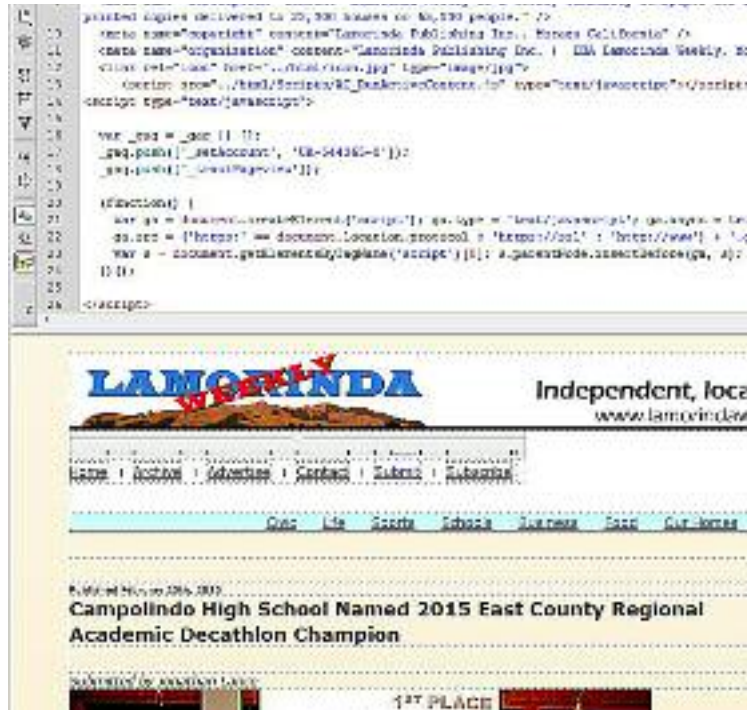
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## Local Schools Teach Programming Skills One Hour at a Time

By Zoe Portnoff



JavaScript is used for "Google Analytics" on many websites, including Lamorinda Weekly's.

Learning how to write computer code sounds like a daunting task, even to most adults. But at local schools such as Burton Valley Elementary School and Campolindo High School, students are being offered an opportunity to learn computer science using the new Hour of Code program.

Hour of Code is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing the opportunity for every student in every school to learn computer science. Launched two years ago this program has enjoyed tremendous international success, with courses available in over 30 languages. Some of the program's goals include improving diversity in the field of computer science, introducing computer science to a greater number of schools and setting up policies to support this field.

Carol Paymer is the instructor of the AP Computer Science class at Campolindo High School. She organized the Hour of Code event, hoping to show students that computer programming is far from impossible.

"My goal in implementing the program was to demystify programming," Paymer explains. "I don't necessarily want to turn everyone into a programmer, but I want everyone to know that they could be one if they wanted to. I want everyone to have a chance to find out if it is something they might love to do."

The program's website, Code.org, states, "We believe computer science and computer programming should be part of the core curriculum in education, alongside other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) courses, such as biology, physics, chemistry and algebra." According to the website, tens of millions of students have tried Hour of Code. And more than 60 school districts in the United States have added computer science classes using Code.org's curriculum, including the seven largest districts in the nation.

At Burton Valley Elementary School's computer lab, along with various computer games that focus on improving the students' typing skills

and logical reasoning, young students learn the basic steps of coding. Hour of Code presents new concepts using programs featuring familiar characters from popular games and media, such as Elsa and Anna from Disney's animated film "Frozen."


Other programs on Code.org allow the user to create stories or even downloadable games that can be played on smartphones. The website also features links to more advanced tutorials that teach JavaScript and tutorial apps for phones and tablets. Using drag-and-drop programming, these game-like tutorials help students to learn various elements of coding such as repeat loops, conditionals, and basic algorithms. The program presents concepts in a simple, fun way that anyone can understand, regardless of age or previous experience.

Valerie Rockwell, a sophomore currently enrolled in Campolindo's Intro to Computer Science class, believes this program will lead to an increase in popularity for the subject.

"I thought it was a great way to learn the thought process used when coding. It helps build the basic skills needed in more complex programming. By introducing it in a fun and simple way, people who enjoy it will become more curious about programming and challenge themselves to learn more in a computer science or programming class," Paymer said. "Many students had a really good time participating in the Hour of Code, and some, who had never before considered programming, found out that they are good at it and want to learn more about it. I am hoping that those students will continue studying programming next year in one of our computer science classes. But even students who do not choose to continue have learned a little about how programming works, and that's really important right now in our society."

As the program's website declares, "Anyone can learn."

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## '25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee' Comes to Miramonte

Submitted by Heather Cousins



Miramonte High School cast rehearse for "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," which opens with a special show tomorrow at 4 p.m. Photo provided

The Miramonte Drama and Music Departments present this year's musical, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." This zany, hilarious production is never the same show twice due to actor improvisation and volunteer spellers from the audience. It also has some poignant moments showing the pressures young children often face to compete

and succeed. The all-star ensemble cast of quirky characters features Lauren Bond, Jesse Epstein, Martiza Grillo, Henry Hodder, Max Hunt, Tosca Maltzman, Eleanor Roeder, Sam Shain, Andy Tobin as well as a live band that plays on stage. So don't miss this fun opportunity to see Miramonte's talented performers and to test your spelling. Show times are

Thursday, March 12 at 4 p.m. (\$5 special), Friday, March 13 at 7 p.m., Saturday, March 14 at 7 p.m., and Sunday, March 15 at 2 p.m. Tickets are available on the web store at <https://miramonte.revtrak.net/tek9.aspx?pg=products&grp=141> and at the door. General admission: \$8 students/\$10 adults.

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## Renowned Pianist to Perform Benefit Concert for Trust In Education

By Sophie Braccini



Tanya Gabrielian Photo provided

Pianist Tanya Gabrielian is no stranger to those who love classical music. Since winning victories in the Aram Khachaturian International Piano Competition and the Scottish International Piano Competition at age 20, she has performed on major musical stages all over the world. Gabrielian will be performing at Acalanes High School on March 20.

What transformed the Lafayette high school into an annex of Carnegie Hall is the young pianist's desire to support causes greater than herself. One such organization is Trust in Education (TIE), Budd MacKenzie's nonprofit that has been providing Afghanistan villages with educa-

tional, economic and health care assistance for the past 11 years.

"I met Budd last summer in Montana after a concert, and he came up to me and told me about his organization," remembers Gabrielian. "I told him that the next time I came to California, I would put on a benefit concert for TIE." Since the beginning of her career, Gabrielian has been giving back, reaching out beyond the typical classic concertgoers and trying to show that classical music is not just for the elite. "Music shows how much we have in common," she says. "Music is about joy, about our connection to each other, and why we exist. The love of art is something that makes us human."

Another of Gabrielian's motivations is education, another reason she was touched by TIE. While in Lamorinda, she will perform for students at local middle and high schools and share her passion for music with them. A Bay Area native, Gabrielian was raised in Mountain View by her Armenian father, from Iran, and her Korean mother, from Japan. Because of these historical ties and after seeing how wars hurt these different regions, Gabrielian feels the need to engage in something greater than herself. "Being involved in the music industry is a pur-

suit that can be selfish," she says. "I need to link music and activism."

MacKenzie is thrilled that Gabrielian will play for TIE. Not only does he think she's a great talent, he loves the fact that she is funny and self-effacing. Steinway of Walnut Creek is loaning a piano for the concert and Jessica Winn, an Acalanes graduate and soprano who is performing throughout the Bay Area, will also perform. Winn is currently singing La Madre in Golden Gate Opera's production of Puccini's "Madame Butterfly."

The money collected at the concert will benefit current TIE programs. Over the past 11 years, TIE has provided the means to teach over 1,000 children - more than half who are girls - and built and delivered 5,000 solar cookers for refugee camps, impacting 25,000 people. "Our most recent program is the translation of educational videos loaded on computers or tablets that children will be able to rent from our libraries," says an ever-enthusiastic MacKenzie. "It will provide them with the ability to learn offline in their homes."

Gabrielian hopes to be able to visit Afghanistan and perform there some day. In the meantime, for the concert on the March 20 she chose a piano adaptation of a viola and violin Bach sonata and a very vibrant piece by Spanish composer Manuel de Falla.

Tickets for the performance can be purchased online at <http://www.trustineducation.org/>.

### Another Not-to-be-Missed Concert Planned in Lamorinda

'Czech Mix'

Lamorinda music lovers have another classical music opportunity March 14 with the Gold Coast Chamber Players concert, "Czech Mix." The performance will feature three of the most famous 19th century Czech composers Antonin Dvorak, Leos Janacek and Josef Suk. Dvorak's pieces for string trio and harmonium were created for the composer's family and friends and are quite accessible, says Artistic Director Pamela Freund-Striplen. "Josef Suk's Piano Quartet is at times dramatic, lyrical, triumphant, and deeply expressive. It is the perfect keystone to this Bohemian program," she adds. Chicago-based pianist Yana Reznik will perform with the Chamber Players, playing the harmonium, a rather rare instrument that took some research to locate. The concert will be held at the Lafayette Library Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd. in Lafayette. A pre-concert talk with musicologist Kai Christiansen will start the evening at 7 p.m. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.gcplayers.org](http://www.gcplayers.org) or call (925) 283-3728. S. Braccini

## Oscar Nominated Film, 'Timbuktu,' in Orinda for One-Week Engagement

By Sophie Braccini

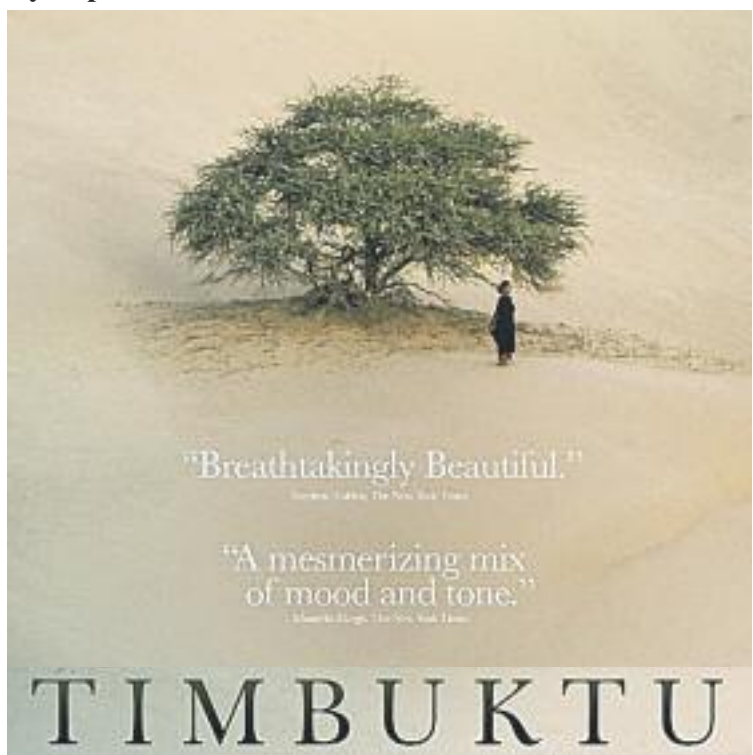


Image provided

The idea for the film, "Timbuktu," started in 2012 when Director Abderrahmane Sissako heard about the death by stoning of a couple in Aguelhok, Mali, who were accused of having children outside of marriage. A revolt ensued, and the relevant, fictional movie was born.

The film develops like an impressionist painting, with small incremental brush strokes. Set in the Northern Mali town of Timbuktu and its surroundings, over the course of a few days we follow a few characters and learn about the life of the town.

... continued on page B12



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## St. Paddy's Day Treasure Hunt



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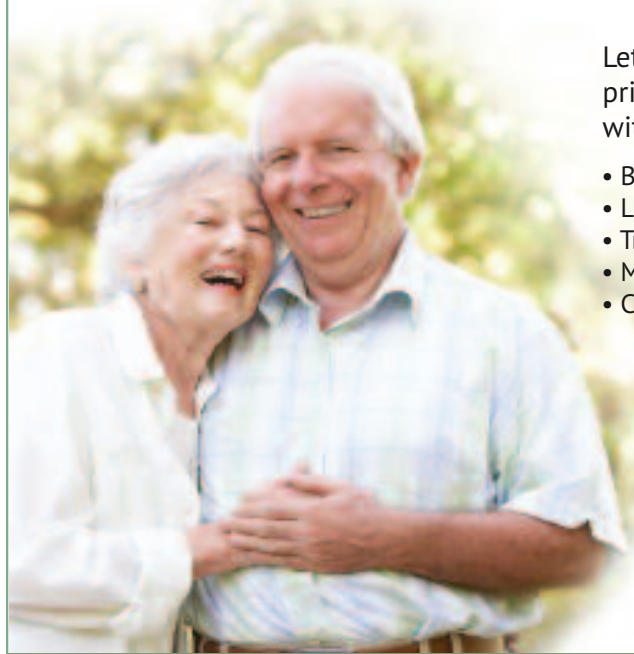
Join Paddy at Leigh Creekside Park in Lafayette on Sunday, March 15th from 11am to 2pm. We will provide your kids with a map & clues that takes them through the Trail Neighborhood. Treasure at the end! We look forward to seeing you there.

**What:** St. Paddy's Day Treasure Hunt  
**When:** Sunday, March 15, 2015  
**Where:** Leigh Creekside Park  
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## French Jewish Spy to Take Lamorindans Behind Nazi Enemy Lines March 15

By Laurie Snyder



Image Chabad of Contra Costa

*"When you have reached the bottom of your fear, you have to go up."* – Marthe Cohn

Her sister perished in the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz. Her fiancé was executed for helping the French Resistance. By the time she was in her mid-20s, she was carrying forged identification papers enabling her to move back and forth into Gestapo-controlled Germany.

And on March 15, Lamorindans will have a rare opportunity to hear Marthe Cohn give firsthand testimony about what life was like in Nazi-occupied France and how she coolly convinced Nazi soldiers that she was a simple German nurse looking for her lost love – all while ferrying key bits of information to Allied forces that helped them

break the Nazis' vaunted Siegfried Line and turn the tide of World War II in the Allies' favor.

For her heroism, the 94-year-old Cohn was awarded France's highest military honor – the Médaille Militaire. Now a Palos Verdes, Calif., resident and making her first Bay Area tour, Cohn will share several of her exploits presented in the book, "Behind Enemy Lines: The True Story of a French Jewish Spy in Nazi Germany" at the Orinda Theatre, beginning at 7 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30.)

Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door, but are expected to go quickly for this very special event. For information, visit [www.JewishContraCosta.com](http://www.JewishContraCosta.com) or call (925) 937-4101.

## Community Service

We are pleased to make space available whenever possible for some of Lamorinda's dedicated community service organizations to submit news and information about their activities. Submissions may be sent to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com) with the subject header In Service to the Community.

### Community Benefits from ONE Sunday Event

Submitted by Robin Freeburg



Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church members helped out at several community nonprofits during the ONE Sunday event on Feb. 22. Photos Larry Rickson

Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church held its eighth annual ONE Sunday, a day of service on Feb. 22. Over 400 people of all ages participated throughout Contra Costa County. The day of service included painting, cleaning, assembling toiletry kits for the homeless, deep cleaning a commercial kitchen, construction and much more. Fourteen non-profit agencies including ANKA, Bay Area Rescue Mission, CALICO, Contra Costa Food Bank, Creek

Kids, Foster A Dream, Habitat for Humanity, Las Trampas, Loaves and Fishes and Loved Twice, Monument Crisis Center, Primera Iglesia, Shelter Inc. and STAND were the recipients of the labor force that allowed them to accomplish things that might otherwise not have been addressed due to limited resources. For more information on how you can become involved in next year's event, contact [robin@lopc.org](mailto:robin@lopc.org).



## Local Students Receive Good Citizen Award

Submitted by Nira Horeis



From left, back row: Barbara Snyder, chairman, Louise Diracles, chapter regent, Susan McGill, assistant chairman; front row: Caroline Newman (Acalanes High School), Brihgid Leach (Campolindo High School), Piper Kruggel (Las Lomas High School) and Vaneet Sandhu (Contra Costa Christian High School). Not pictured, Vanessa Tang, from Miramonte High School. Photo provided

## Happy Heart Walk for Henry Raises Awareness of Rare Disorder

Submitted by Molly Devinger



Friends and family gathered for the third annual event.

Photos Provided

Approximately 275 people took to the pavement at Lafayette Reservoir Feb. 28 as part of the third annual Happy Heart Walk for Henry, established by Megan and John Branagh to support the Barth Syndrome Foundation and to help find a cure for their 2-and-a-half-year-old son Henry, who is fighting a lifelong battle with the rare genetic disorder.

Barth syndrome primarily affects males, with fewer than 500 cases reported worldwide; many more cases probably exist but are undiagnosed, according to the Foundation. The cardinal characteristics of this multi-system disorder include cardiomyopathy, neutropenia (low white blood cells that can make one prone to infection), muscle weakness, exercise intolerance, growth delay, and energy deficiency.

"Historically, boys died of heart failure or infection before three years of age," said Megan Branagh, "but today with improved diagnosis and management, hopefully Henry's survival rate will be much brighter. The Foundation has been extremely helpful to us since Henry's diagnosis. And since Barth syndrome is so rare, we feel that it is even more important that we do all that we can do to help the Foundation."

Last year's Happy Heart Walk helped to raise more than \$10,000 for the Foundation. This year's walk raised over \$15,000. Local sponsors included Whole Foods, Diablo Foods, Costco, Susie Cakes, Bakesale Betty, Peet's Coffee, Be Real Foods, Chow, Family Style Photography and Chickfila.

"The past two and a half years have been quite a journey, definitely the most trying time in our lives, but also a time of feeling very loved and supported by our family, friends, and community," said Branagh. "Without this support

group, I'm not sure how our family would be surviving! Community is very important to us, as is Henry, so putting together some kind of event bringing these two together has been heavy on my heart."

Branagh says Henry is doing well right now. He still takes several medications daily and has a couple hours of therapy per week. She says her family is excited to see what this year has coming with the research for treatment and eventually a cure for Barth syndrome. "This is something Henry will battle with daily for the rest of his life and to think that our community is directly affecting the advancements in Barth syndrome is quite a feeling."

For more information about Barth syndrome and the Barth Syndrome Foundation, visit [www.barthsyndrome.org](http://www.barthsyndrome.org). For additional information, visit [www.HappyHeartWalk.com](http://www.HappyHeartWalk.com).



Grady, John, Henry and Megan Branagh during the Happy Heart Walk for Henry at Lafayette Reservoir.

The Acalanes Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution recently announced the 2015 winners of the Good Citizen Award. These remarkable young women have distinguished themselves academically, through leadership, community service, sports and art.

Caroline Newman attends Acalanes High School where she served in student government, earned AP and CSF academic honors and participated in Mock Trial. She played Lacrosse year-round for four years and received both Silver and Gold Awards from Girl Scouts. Campolindo High School student Brihgid Leach was a four-year Varsity runner, winning the Division 3 State Cross Country Championship and named Bay Area Cross Country Runner of the Year. She has participated in choir, Model U.N. and Project Open Hands. Piper Kruggel attends Las Lomas High School where she received the Make Las Lomas a Better School award. Kruggel arrived in the U.S. about five years ago from China, knowing little English and, through

hard work, has achieved success in academics as well as serving her community as a volunteer. Vaneet Sabdhu attends Contra Costa Christian High School where she has served in student government, played varsity basketball and varsity volleyball. She is a life member of CSF and performed in two theater productions. Miramonte High School student Vanessa Tang is an AP scholar with distinction, played varsity volleyball for four years, was founder and president of Miramonte BuildOn and is an active community volunteer. She has done clinical research at the Alta Bates Radiology Department. Tang is also a second-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do.

The winners and their families were honored at a luncheon hosted by the Acalanes Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and given a scholarship check, a pin, a certificate and an American flag that was once flown over the U.S. Capitol.

# SUMMER CAMPS 2015

## 9th Annual Summer Camp Guide

Part 1, Full Day and Overnight Camps (Part 2, half-day camps, April 8 2015)

**23** camps listed

### Making Life Better for Young Adults with Asperger's Syndrome

*Wilderness camp helps teens overcome social challenges*

By Sophie Braccini



Photo provided by Aspen Network

Many teens and young adults with Asperger's syndrome or non-verbal learning disorder find it difficult to transition from their parents' home to a productive, independent life. Too bright to find a stimulating environment in state-provided housing, these individuals can struggle with deficient executive functions that can affect how they can interact with others and understand language in context—a few things that can make living on their own difficult.

Orinda residents Meg and Michael Fields' son, Darin, was diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome. They created two unique programs to help young people on the spectrum or who are affected by non-verbal learning disorder learn the skills they need to lead meaningful and independent lives. Team Living is a pod pilot where a group of eight individuals on the spectrum live together and learn organizational and social skills. Aspen Network is a residential summer wilderness camp where teens with the same challenges, safely and successfully participate in a camp away from home.

"It all started with the idea that there is no reason why children with Asperger's should be deprived of the fun of going to overnight wilderness camps," says Michael Fields. Of course, it helped that the family owns a large property in the Lake Tahoe area. That's where they took the first group of adolescents five years ago.

"The value for the teens is enormous," says Meg Fields. "When you have to pitch your tent, you have to have help and engage in a collaborative process."

"We found that when these kids came to our camp and left their fam-

ily for two weeks, there was some kind of magic that happened," says Michael Fields. "It was not necessarily just our program, the river rafting or the backpacking; it was being away from (their usual) dynamic, being able to experience their own feelings. After two weeks, some parents did not recognize their own kids. It was startling."

Meg Fields thinks offering a safe space where the kids are accepted exactly how they are makes the difference. She adds that a shift happened for her as well. She realized that things were never going to be how she originally thought, and she accepted it. The Fields work with other professionals such as education specialist Kathy Allen and Nancy Sperry, Ph.D. The camp staff ratio is 2 to 1.

Meg and Michael Fields are both nurses. Michael Fields is an E.R. nurse and knows everything about emergency situations. Meg Fields added a doctorate in psychology to her initial training. Her dissertation was on Asperger's syndrome.

"The teens who come to the camp have different diagnoses that make them more fragile," says Meg Fields, who wanted to welcome a mix of kids. "It creates a family because everyone is accepting of everyone else."

A few years after the camp started, parents began to ask for more regular interaction between the teens. They formed weekly activity groups that meet in Orinda to learn the art of communication, listening, and being able to relate well with others.

Recently the Fields recognized other needs for the group. "When Asperger's teens go to college they are often confronted with difficult

other roommates, but he was not talking to anyone," she remembers. "Eventually, he failed." All too often these young adults end up still living with their parents and employed far below their ability levels, Meg Fields says.

"Being alone with no peer group of their own is not fair," says Michael Fields.

The Fields came up with the idea of a pod, what they call Team Living. "The program is for young people who cannot live outside of their parents' home without assistance," explains Meg Fields. "We bring them together in a home and teach them over a couple of years the tools they need to become independent. Then they will move to offshoot satellite houses with much less supervision."

Practitioners regularly conduct cooking lessons, weekly community meetings, offer tutoring, coordi-

nate outings on Saturdays, and work with each resident's ability to handle daily routines, such as laundry or other chores.

"We have eight young adults living in the first pilot pod in Orinda," says Meg Fields. "Some of them go to college, and/or have a job. The pod works really well for them." Another pod should open this summer in Lafayette. The plan is to create a community of homes.

"Society needs to change," adds Meg Fields. She hopes society will create "social-cognitive-ramps" for this population. "We have adapted the workspace for people with disabilities. Now we need to be able to accommodate those who have social difficulties. Education has to change; jobs have to change to accommodate them."

For more information about the Aspen Network, visit [aspennetwork.net](http://aspennetwork.net).

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July 6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> (Intermediate\* 10:30am - 1:30pm)  
July 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> (Intermediate\* 10:30am - 1:30pm)  
July 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> (Intermediate\* 10:30am - 1:30pm)  
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### Adventure Day Camp (Walnut Creek)

A traditional summer day camp for children ages 3-15. In a relaxed atmosphere, children gain confidence and skills in a wide range of camp activities including: swimming, horseback riding, sailing, skateboarding, woodworking, science, arts, sports, archery, drama, music, rock climbing, hiking, overnight camping and camp games. Home transportation is available from most areas.  
Dates: June 8 - Aug. 14  
www.adventuredaycamp.com  
(925) 937-6500

### The Artist Voyage Art Room Summer Day Camp (Lafayette)

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www.theart-room.com | (925) 299-1515

### Aspen Network (Sierra Nevada Mountains)

Teens and young adults with social differences which include anxiety, spectrum behaviors; OCD, ADHD, or Non Verbal Learning Disorder have discovered a safe space at our camp located in the beautiful Sierra Nevada Mountains of Northern California. Activities include: river rafting, sailing on Lake Tahoe, backpacking, hiking and campfires.  
Dates: July 5-10  
www.aspennetwork.net or  
www.aspergersteam.com | 925-262-3135

### Bay Area Adventure Summer Day Camps (Orinda & Walnut Creek)

Film, Photo, Skateboard or Sports - Plus Adventure Day Camp: Campers enjoy a morning of photography education, movie making, skateboard/scooter fun or classic sports camp activities and then head off to an afternoon of adventure fun such as Six Flags, horseback riding, Sky High Sports, bowling, movies, swimming and more.  
Date: June 15 - Aug. 14  
www.bayareaadventurecamp.com  
925-276-2325

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### Berkeley Rep School of Theatre (Berkeley)

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www.berkeleyrep.org/summerintensive  
(510) 647-2972

### Cal Athletic Camps (Berkeley)

Cal Camps offers a wide variety of recreational and sport activities for kids of all ages. We believe our staff is second to none. We design our programs to provide kids with a spring and summer session full of adventure, friendship, confidence building and fun. Go Bears!! Email: calcamps@berkeley.edu.  
Dates: Various dates and times available.  
www.calbears.com/camps/cal-camps.html

### Cal Shakes (Orinda)

Summer Shakespeare Conservatories: four- and two-week Conservatories offer classes (for grades 3-12) including acting, improvisation, stage combat, voice and movement. Afternoons are spent in rehearsals for an abridged Shakespeare play performed on the final day. Financial aid is available.  
Dates: June 22-July 17; July 20-July 31  
www.SummerShakespeareCamp.org  
(510) 809-3293

### Camp Brainy Bunch (Orinda)

It's a summer of awesome, with amazing instructors, hands-on creativity, small group sizes, single-subject learning and organized outdoor fun. Convenience with catered lunches, extended-care options. Weeks include: public speaking, creative writing, DIY engineering, leadership.  
Dates: Weekly June 29-July 24  
www.CampBrainyBunch.com  
(510) 548-4800

### Camp Kefli (Lafayette)

Camp Kefli offers a wide range of programs that are appropriate to each age group (K-8), filling our two one-week sessions with fun. Some programs utilize the wonderful Temple Isaiah facility while others take place off site. We offer creative theme days and adventures that enrich and delight our campers!  
Dates: Aug. 10-21  
www.temple-isaiah.org/kefli  
(925) 284-9191

### Camp Hacienda (Moraga)

Moraga Parks and Recreation presents Camp Hacienda, a day camp for children ages 5-10 that will incorporate sports, games, crafts and lots of other fun activities in the safe, secluded environment of the Hacienda de las Flores! Full-day and half-day options. Extended care and daily rates also available.  
Dates: June 22 - Aug. 14, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
www.moragarec.com | (925) 888-7045

### Camp Orinda (Orinda)

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www.cityoforinda.org | (925) 254-2445

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925-262-3135

Aspennetwork.net

The Lamorinda Weekly Summer Camp listings are not paid advertising. Our intent is to provide a useful reference guide. In the event we have inadvertently printed misinformation, please let us know. LW is not liable for errors or omissions.

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## SUMMER CAMPS 2015



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www.lafsmw.org

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Dates: June-August  
www.sewnow.com | (925) 283-7396

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Dates: LSL UOI: June 28 - July 2  
LSL UOI: July 12-16  
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www.lornesmithlacrosse.com

### Sienna Ranch (Lafayette)

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www.siennaranch.net | (925) 283-6311

### SMC Summer Camps (Moraga)

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Dates: various dates and times available  
www.smcgaels.com, click "camps"  
(925) 631-4FUN (4386)

### Orion Academy Summer Adventures for Teens with Asperger's (Moraga)

Orion's popular summer sessions were developed and are run by Orion faculty to improve the social skills of teens with Asperger's in a fun and supportive environment for ages 13-18. (July 13-16): Students find a common interest through film. (July 20-23): Geocache, hike in the redwoods, ride horses and hike with llamas.  
www.orionacademy.org/curriculum  
(925) 377-0789

### Roughing It Day Camp (Lafayette)

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Dates: June 22 - Aug. 21  
www.roughingit.com | (925) 283-3795

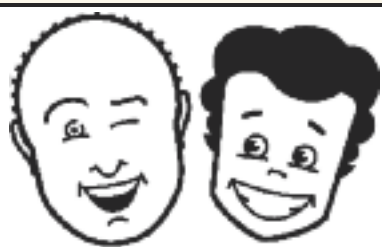
### Saklan School (Moraga)

Summer at Saklan provides culture, language and summer fun for ages 3-11. Mornings on campus are filled with enrichment in Mandarin, French, Japanese, Spanish and Italian. Afternoons are packed with summer fun, including field trips, swimming, art and music. Three-week sessions 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Extended care available. Early enrollment discount through April 1.  
Dates: June 8 - Aug. 7  
www.saklan.org | (925) 376-7900

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# New LLLC Series Presents Authors of Note in Conversation

By Lou Fancher



Bestselling author Joyce Maynard chats with fellow author Joe Loya at Lafayette Library and Learning Center. Photo provided

Folks at the Lafayette Library may have found a book world equivalent to illusionists Penn & Teller or NPR's "Car Talk" hosts, brothers Ray and (the late) Tom Magliozzi.

A new pilot program pairs New York Times bestselling author Joyce Maynard and San Leandro author Joe Loya in conversation with authors-of-note.

Launching the series on Feb. 27 and flying duo without a guest author, Maynard and Loya provided exactly what a "talk show" requires: hosts with heft, good humor, and a touch of scandal.

Of course, any Lamorinda literary program worth its salt must serve up substantial material from speakers whose authority comes from their work, not from sensationalism. Readers in the area are generally well-read, intellectual, and scrupulous about detecting shadow

puppetry when it comes to literature – and lectures in general.

Maynard has authored 15 books, including "At Home in the World," her well-known memoir about her relationship with J.D. Salinger, and "Labor Day," a best-selling novel that in 2014 became a Paramount film starring Kate Winslet and Josh Brolin. For the legions of readers who discovered her 42 years ago through a cover story she wrote for the New York Times at age 19 – or at any time thereafter – Maynard's magazine columns, articles, essay collections and a blog opened the window on her turbulent, torrid, tender life. A mother of three adult children, long-divorced from a first husband, married to estate lawyer Jim Barringer and a teacher of popular writing workshops (and pie baking) at her home in the Oakland Hills, Maynard has taken temporary hiatus from writing

to care for Barringer, who was recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

"It's an uncomfortable sensation," Maynard said. "I was raised to believe I didn't exist if I didn't create. I've been writing for 43 years. I'm taking (time) off for cancer. I'm talking about it because there's no way I can separate my life and my work."

Loya's dramatic life as a bank robber-turned-writer could, if it were to become a play, be cleanly divided into Act I (criminal) and Act II (journalist and author). Growing up in Southern California, the first "half" of his life see-sawed from highs – happy years before his mother died, crime sprees amounting to 24 bank robberies – to lows: stabbing his father, seven years of incarceration and violent behavior that landed him in solitary confinement for two years. Act II is mostly

highs: corresponding from prison with Mexican American writer Richard Rodriguez, writing for The Pacific News Service upon his release from prison, forgiving his father for past abuse, completing his biography, "The Man Who Outgrew His Prison Cell: Confessions of a Bank Robber," published by Harper Collins in 2005. Now married and a father, Loya is working on a book inspired by his young daughter, tentatively titled, "Tell Me a Zombie Story."

Contributing organizer and Lafayette Library Foundation board member Karen Mulvaney said the idea for a series presenting authors in conversation about their craft and their lives arose from a positive kind of group-think consensus.

"It just emerged," she said. "It's time to utilize technology. If it develops, the program will be broadcast, put on YouTube, live-streamed and generate a digital library of the series."

Foundation Executive Director Beth Needel said the conversations are a natural extension of the library's programming and partnerships.

Maynard's and Loya's connections in literary circles are indeed vast and already attracting "authors-of-note." David Ewing Duncan (author of "When I'm 164" and "The Experimental Man," writer for The

New York Times, Fortune, Wired, Atlantic Monthly, and other publications) will appear with the two hosts on March 27. Kevin Sessums, the former Vanity Fair contributing editor for 15 years recently named editor-in-chief of 429Magazine, an LGBT print publication in San Francisco, is tentatively scheduled for April.

But aside from best-selling authors with awesome biographies, the element that is sure to delight listeners—either in person, or online when the planned podcasts are up and running—is the boisterous energy and bold honesty of Maynard and Loya.

Unperturbed by each other's interruptions, they appeared to thrive on verbal competition: one-upping a partner's story with an equal, or even more outrageous tale, the atmosphere was good-natured and lively. Sometimes picking up their counterparts' trail and racing off in a seemingly opposite direction, it was like an auditory NASCAR on a shape-shifting track.

Thematically, there are overlaps more than separations between them. Unafraid to tell "naked" stories, stripping pretense and pride from their narratives, revealing their vulnerable, flawed, compassionate characters during an audience question period, "Joyce and Joe" might well be headed for syndication.

## Upcoming 'Sweet Thursday' Lectures at LLLC

Novelist and poet Elizabeth Rosner will discuss her recently published works, "Electric City" and "Gravity" from 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 19 in the Community Hall. Lecture for adults, 18 and older. To register, visit Register at [tinyurl.com/elizrosner](http://tinyurl.com/elizrosner).

Author Betsy Streeter will discuss her book "Silverwood" as well as provide insight into the writer's process for science and speculative fiction from 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 16 in the Community Hall. Register at [tinyurl.com/betsystreeter](http://tinyurl.com/betsystreeter).

## Several Lamorinda Teams Head to Odyssey of the Mind State Tournament

Rookie team from Del Rey surprises everyone, even the coach  
Submitted by Nicole Reader



From left: Diego Aguilar, Cameron Berg, Sam Laudy, Isaac Reader-Taatzes and Paul Stephan Photo provided

A team of third-graders from Del Rey Elementary School in Orinda took first place at the San Francisco Bay Region Odyssey of the Mind tournament on Feb. 28. They will advance to compete in the California State Tournament on March 28. Team members are Diego Aguilar, Cameron Berg, Sam Laudy, Isaac Reader-Taatzes, and Paul Stephan. Their coaches are parent Nicole Reader and teacher Marta Wallace.

Three other teams from Orinda will advance to the state tournament: two from Orinda Intermediate School, and one from Glorietta Elementary School, as well as four teams sponsored by Moraga Rotary, and two teams by Lafayette Rotary.

The team of five boys from Del Rey was at a double disadvantage: It was their first year participating in Odyssey of the Mind, and they were at the bottom of their age group, as they competed in Division I, the category for third through fifth graders. Despite this, they outstripped their closest competitor by nearly 30 points.

According to Lynn Larsen, state director of California Odyssey of the

Mind, the program is "a combination of theater and problem solving with a creative twist." Teams of students choose one of five possible problems assigned each year by Odyssey of the Mind, then work together for four months to create a "solution" comprised of a story, costumes, props, scenery, and technical elements. Although the team is guided by an adult coach, everything must be entirely devised and created by the students. At the tournament, the team presents the solution to this "long-term" problem in the form of an eight-minute skit. Another aspect of Odyssey of the Mind is a "spontaneous" problem, solved at the tournament with no prior preparation.

The Del Rey team tackled a long-term problem entitled "Experiencing Technical Difficulties," which required practical engineering skills in addition to creative thinking. According to the Odyssey of the Mind, "the problem is to design, build, and demonstrate various devices that complete specific tasks. The team will create a theme where technical failures must be resolved through com-

pleting the tasks. There will be a list of tasks to choose from including ring a bell, change the wording on something, sound an alarm, move an object, etc. There will also be a mysterious engineer character. Of course, there's a twist - all of the devices must be powered by rubber bands!"

As Larsen points out, in Odyssey of the Mind "students with talents in many areas find a unique opportunity to showcase their gifts in script writing, costume creation, music, dance, visual arts, props and scenery construction, engineering, problem solving, leadership, critical thinking, and more."

Whenever the Del Rey team asked coach Nicole Reader if she thought they would win the tournament, she told them two things: First, working hard was more important than winning, and second, it would be highly unusual for a team of third-grade rookies to make it to the state finals. At the award ceremony, blue ribbons around their necks, the team turned to Reader and gleefully reminded her of these words.

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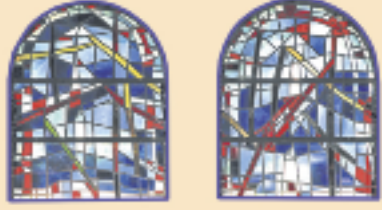
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**Wednesdays:** 10:00am Community Bible Study  
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 www.willowspringchurch.net

### Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church 433 Moraga Way, Orinda, 254-3422 www.holyshepherd.org



8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship  
 9:40 a.m. Education for all ages  
 10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
 Coffee Fellowship at 9:30 and 11:45 a.m.  
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 254-3770. www.ststephensorinda.org  
 Sunday 8am, 10am

### The Orinda Community Church

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 10 Irwin Way, Orinda | 925.254.4906 | www.orindachurch.org  
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**Sunday School 10:00 a.m.**

### St. Anselm's Episcopal Church A Loving Community

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 284-4765, office@thelumc.org, thelumc.org

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<b>Teen Fellowship</b>	Sunday	6 pm

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## ◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆

### ART

**Orinda Library Art Gallery Exhibitors 2015 - March:** High School Art Competition. For info, contact Natalie Wheeler at ns.wheeler@gmail.com.

**Bedford Gallery's next exhibition, "The Object and the Void: West Coast Metal Sculpture,"** will run through April 12. This show gathers works from renowned artists Bella Feldman, Linda Fleming, Yoshitomo Saito and Clay Jensen. The exhibition will feature both large and small scale works, made using techniques from cast bronze to cut steel, demonstrating the artists' masterful command of their media.

**Jennifer Perlmutter Gallery will present a special, one-day-only exhibit** entitled "Exploring Tibet through Photographs and Paintings" from 2 to 7 p.m. Saturday, March 14. This event will feature photographs by Martin Newman and paintings by Marcella Adamski alongside traditional Tibetan thangka paintings. All proceeds from the sale of their artwork at this event will be donated to the Tibet Oral History Project in order to sponsor the videotaping of 50 elderly Tibetan refugees' oral histories in Nepal. For more info, call (925) 284-1485 or email jp@jenniferperlmuttergallery.com.

**The exhibit "Lamorinda Under Glass,"** featuring watercolor landscapes by Moraga resident George Ehrenhaft, opened at the Moraga Library on March 3. Painted on location in Lamorinda, Ehrenhaft's works depict local sites, including Saint Mary's College, Mt. Diablo, the Lafayette Reservoir, Orinda's Lake Cascade, scenes along the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail, and several surprising lesser-known local places. The exhibit will be open during library hours through March 31. For details, call (925) 376-6852.

**Saint Mary's College Gallery 160 breakaway exhibition** featuring internationally recognized artist Ron Hutt opens March 18 for a week, with an Artist Talk and Creativity Workshop. As an artist, therapist and educator, Hutt engages concepts of causality (past), synchronicity (present), and teleology (future) through the triadic themes of Folly-Fate-Freedom.

### MUSIC

**Tanya Gabrielian Benefit Concert for TIE from 7 to 9:30 p.m.** on March 20 at Acalanes High School Theatre. Lauded by the Washington Post for her "strikingly poised nobility" and "commanding presence," the brilliant young pianist has risen to international acclaim. Donation: \$35 adult, \$20 student. For tickets go to www.trustededucation.org or call (925) 299-2010 ext.4. (See story page B3)

**Diablo Choral Artists (formerly Voices of Musica Sacra),** directed by Mark Tuning, presents "Vespers: Music for Evening Prayers," featuring Stanford's and Byrd's Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, Pergolesi's Magnificat and Handel's Dixit Dominus with string ensemble at 8 p.m. Friday, March 13 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1924 Trinity Ave., Walnut Creek, at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 15 at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 1650 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek. For info, visit www.vmschorus.org or email info@dcachorus.org. Tickets: adults \$25; seniors 60+ \$18; students \$5.

**The Gold Coast Chamber Players** are proud to present their fourth concert of the 2014-15 Season, "Czech Mix." The concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 14 at the Lafayette Library Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd. in Lafayette. A pre-concert talk with musicologist Kai Christiansen will start the evening at 7 p.m. Tickets: \$37.50 general; \$32.50 senior; \$10 student. Tickets are available at www.gcplayers.org and by phone at (925) 283-3728. Limited seating, please reserve early.

**Houston Jones and special guests Stevie Coyle and Joe Pomianek** will perform a blend of folk, bluegrass, blues and gospel at 8 p.m. Saturday,

March 14 at Mighty Fine Guitars, 81 Lafayette Circle in Lafayette. For info and reservations, email stevie@mightyfineguitars.com.

### THEATER

**DVC Drama presents the Steve Martin comedy, "Picasso"** at the Lapin Agile from March 13-29. On an October evening in 1904, Albert Einstein and Pablo Picasso end up at the same small bar in Paris—the Lapin Agile. The two young geniuses, joined by an eccentric cast of characters, spar over art and science, their respective libidos, where inspiration comes from, and the promise and dreams of the 20th century. For tickets and show times call (925) 969-2358 or visit www.dvc-drama.net. Free parking for all performances.

**A side-splitting one-hour musical comedy for the entire family,** "There's No Business Like Shoe Business" puts a new twist on the classic Grimm Brothers' fairy tale, "The Shoemaker and The Elves." In addition to a six-week tour of area elementary schools, East Bay Children's Theatre will be presenting public performances at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 15 at The Jewish Community Center of the East Bay in Berkeley, and March 22 at Town Hall Theatre in Lafayette. Tickets: \$15 adults; \$12 children 12 and under. Purchase online at: www.EBCTonline.org.

### LECTURE & LITERATURE

**Science and Religion: A Cosmic Perspective on Matter, Life, Mind and Spirit** – a talk by Ron Olowin, Saint Mary's College professor of astronomy and physics at 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, March 11 at St. Anselm's Church, 682 Michael Lane, Lafayette. He discusses divine creation, the Big Bang, evolution, and how faith and belief systems respond to scientific and technological advances. Free.

**Saint Mary's College Creative Writing Reading Series** features Cedar Sigo at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 11 in the Soda Center. Sigo was raised on the Suquamish Reservation in the Pacific Northwest and studied at The Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics at the Naropa Institute. He is the author of eight books and pamphlets of poetry.

**Orinda Community Church Theological Book Club:** "My Bright Abyss, by Christian Wiman," at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, March 15 at the Orinda Community Church (Fireside Room), 10 Irwin Way, Orinda. Wine and snacks provided. For info, call (925) 254-4906, email office@orindachurch.org or visit www.orindachurch.org.

**"Behind Enemy Lines: The True Story of a French Jewish Spy** in Nazi Germany, A Historic Evening with Marthe Cohn." Cohn will be sharing her story at 7 p.m. Sunday, March 15 in the Orinda Theatre as part of her first Bay Area tour. For more information and to RSVP, visit www.JewishContra-Costa.com or call (925) 937-4101.

**Human Trafficking in the greater Bay Area speaker luncheon,** starting at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 18 at Contra Costa County Club in Pleasant Hill. The three speakers include Catie Hart (Victim/Survivor, Trainer and Advocate), Cynthia Peterson (Director, Rape Crisis Center of Contra Costa & Marin) and Betty Ann Boeving (Founder & Executive Director of Bay Area Anti-Trafficking Coalition). Lunch will be from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and the presenters will each talk for 30 minutes afterward. The cost of \$25 per person includes an honorarium for the speakers. Contact Tracy Walklet to make a reservation at twalklet@comcast.net or (925) 299-6833.

**Nutrition-Revitalize Your Menu** – a free community lecture with Cynthia Allen, RN, from 7 - 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 31 at Lafayette Physical Therapy, 3468 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite B110, Lafayette. Seating is limited so please call (925) 284-6150 to RSVP and reserve your seat. For info, visit www.LafayettePT.com.

### KIDS, PARENTS & TEENS

**St. Paddy's Day Treasure Hunt for Kids from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Sunday,

March 15 at Leigh Creekside Park in Lafayette (Moraga Blvd. and 4th Street). Kids will be provided with a map and clues and a treasure at the end. To register in advance, email paddyrealtor@gmail.com. Space is limited.

**Spring Egg Hunt hosted by Moraga Juniors Women's Club** and the Town of Moraga from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 21 (rain or shine) at Moraga Commons Park. Admission: \$10-children 8 and under. Admission includes one Egg Hunt promptly at 10 a.m. or 11 a.m., games, face painting, crafts, and pictures with the Bunny! Tickets can be purchased online at http://www.moragajuniors.org/events/spring-egg-hunt/, or at Hacienda de las Flores, 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga.

**The Friends of the Lafayette Library Bookmark Contest** is happening again! The contest is open to all Lafayette students, grades K-8. Entry forms will be available at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center, at Friends Corner Book Shop, and at school libraries for Lafayette School District and St. Perpetua School students. The entry deadline is Friday, March 27. Winners will receive a gift certificate from The Storyteller Bookstore and complimentary framing of their bookmarks at Fastframe of Lafayette. For more information, contact Mary Ransdell at mbransdell@comcast.net.

**2015 Poul Anderson Writing Contest - open to all students** who reside and/or attend high school in Orinda. Entry categories are science fiction, essay/memoir, poetry and short story. Students may submit one entry in any of the four categories for a total of not more than three entries. Submission deadline is noon on Friday, April 17. If you have any questions about the contest, email contest@friendsoftheorindalibrary.com.

### OTHER

**The Friends of the Moraga Library will hold their semi-annual book sale** at the Moraga Library from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 14. There will be a \$5 Bag Sale from 1 to 2 p.m. when a large paper grocery bag can be purchased and filled with as many books as the bag will hold. The money raised goes to fund library material and programs, and to staff Sunday hours at the library.

**Orinda Rotary Club Supports Hospice Thrift Shoppes** Donation Drive through April 1. Support Rotary Club of Orinda and Hospice Thrift Shoppes by donating new or gently used items. No electronics please. Items can be dropped off in Orinda at: Mechanics Bank, 77 Moraga Way or Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante Road. For info, call Sue Breedlove at (925) 254-6262 or Steve Paddock (925) 254-0393.

**The American Red Cross and Be The Match** encourage eligible donors to become hometown heroes and answer the call of patients in need by donating blood and registering to be a potential bone marrow donor. Together these two organizations are hosting a blood drive and bone marrow registry from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 14 at Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, 10 Moraga Valley Lane. To register, visit redcross.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to make an appointment or for more information.

**Community Concern for Cats March adoption event** from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, March 14 and 15 at Pet Food Express in Lafayette and Pleasant Hill, and Petco in Walnut Creek. For more information see www.communityconcernforcats.org.

**Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center is hosting** an evening with a world-class magician. Bring Back the Magic with renowned cabaret magician TJ Shoemith is a fundraiser for the education programs of the Center. The show is from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday, March 15 at Bortin Hall at 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek. Tickets: Adults \$15 advance or \$20 at the door; ages 5 to 18 \$10; and under 4 free. Purchase tickets online and rsvp at http://ourpeacecenter.org or call the Center office (925) 933-7850.

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OTHER ... continued

**St. Patrick's Evening of Dinner, Music and Show with Silent Auction** emceed by Dick Callahan, 5:30 to 10 p.m., Sunday, March 15 at the Soda Center at Saint Mary's College. Traditional corned beef and cabbage (chicken fettuccine) dinner. Wine included at dinner. Cost: \$45 per person - inclusive. Musical review: Beach Blanket Babylon. Sponsored by Saint Mary's College Guild. Call Cynthia Kelly (925) 388-0437 for reservations.

**We Walk for Noah** benefitting **George Mark Children's House** and in memory of Noah, who was 4 1/2 months old when he passed away from complications from Biliary Atresia, a rare childhood liver disease. The walk begins at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, March 15 at the Lafayette Reservoir. Registration available online at [www.FierceLittleWarrior.com](http://www.FierceLittleWarrior.com).

**Moraga Women's Society will feature a speaker from Eldercare Services**, who will discuss "Safety in the Home" at 10:45 a.m. Monday, March 16. All are welcome to attend this free event. The Society is also holding an Antique Appraisal Event by Michaan's Auctions from 3 to 7 p.m. Friday, March 20 at Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga. Hours by appointment. Cost: \$20 for two appraisals or \$25 for three. Receive a verbal appraisal by certified appraisers for fine art, Asian art, coins and stamps, furniture and decorative arts, and miscellaneous. For info, call Jean Glaser at (925) 376-7961. Appraisers donate their services. All proceeds benefit Moraga schools.

"The Old Yellow House" **Historical Society Fundraiser** - Join us at 7 p.m.

## Not to be missed

Thursday, March 19 for an evening to learn more about Orinda's history, the making of Net Zero Homes, and harnessing natural energy from the sun, earth, and rain, Orinda Theatre, 4 Orinda Theatre Square. James Phillip Wright has resurrected the Old Yellow House to showcase green architectural construction and natural energy systems. Cost: \$12. (See related story page D1)

**"Timbuktu" - Award winner and Oscar nominee** is making its Contra Costa premiere at the Orinda Theatre March 20. Not far from Timbuktu, now ruled by religious fundamentalists, Kidane lives peacefully in the dunes with his wife Satima, his daughter Toya, and Issan, their 12-year-old shepherd, spared from the chaos of Timbuktu. But their destiny changes when Kidane accidentally kills Amadou, the fisherman who slaughtered "GPS," his beloved cow. "Timbuktu" is Mauritania's first entry for the Best Foreign Language Film Academy Award.

**Lafayette Hiking Group will hike the George Miller Trail**, Martinez. The group meets at 8:30 a.m. in the parking lot of Lafayette BART's main entrance on Saturday, March 21 before carpooling to the trailhead. Bring lunch or snacks, water, layered clothing, good walking shoes, sun protection and money to contribute toward gas, bridge tolls and parking (\$3). Distance: six miles, moderate. Leader: Michael Johnson. For info, email [LafayetteHiking@comcast.net](mailto:LafayetteHiking@comcast.net). Another hike from Bear Valley to Arch Rock, Point Reyes National Seashore is scheduled for Saturday, March 28.

**The Elfenworks Center for Responsible Business** at Saint Mary's College of California is hosting a half-day conference on Business and the Challenges of Inequality from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 27 to bring together people in academe, business, government and the general public to engage in a thoughtful dialog on this topic. Tickets: \$20 for general public; \$10 Saint Mary's alumni; free for current faculty and students. For more details and to RSVP, visit <http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/business-and-the-challenges-of-inequality>.

**USA Synchro will host the 2015 U.S. National Synchronized Swimming Championships** April 1-4 at SODA Aquatic Center in Moraga. Around 30 teams from all over the country, including two international teams, Canada and Puerto Rico, will travel to Moraga to compete. The championship will consist of solo, duet, team and combination events. The championship will also feature the 2015 U.S. Senior National Team. Find out more, including a schedule, at [www.usasynchro.org](http://www.usasynchro.org).

**Registrations are being accepted for the Moraga Classic Car Show**. Area residents who own classic cars are invited to participate in the 7th annual Moraga Classic Car Show, which takes

place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 9 as part of the 2015 Moraga Community Faire. The \$30 registration fee includes an entry ribbon, lunch for two, a commemorative photo, and a chance for owners to display their restoration work to the public. Prizes will be awarded. The registration deadline is May 1. To register, go to [www.moragachamber.org/faire](http://www.moragachamber.org/faire) or call Gloria at (925) 247-4473 or Jason at (925) 788-3889.

### SENIORS

**Sons In Retirement - Branch 116** welcomes guests to socialize at monthly luncheon beginning at 11 a.m. Monday, March 16 at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. The speaker will be Bernat Rosner, author of "An Uncommon Friendship," which tells the unique story of two youths trapped on opposite sides of the Holocaust. For lunch reservations, call (925) 322-1160. Cost: \$15.

**Art of Balance presentation by physical therapist Anne Randolph**. If you are worried about falling or are at risk of falling, you should know about activities that improve balance. Learn how to gain increased balance and avoid the risk of falling from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 25 in the Elderberry Room, Lafayette Community Center. Cost: free for members; \$10 non-Members.

### GARDEN

**Get Your Garden Growing from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday**, March 15 at the Lafayette Community Garden and Outdoor Learning Center, 3932 Mt Diablo Blvd. Topics include building raised beds and prepping your edible garden for spring. This class is free; however, a \$5 donation is appreciated to support education programs. To register for classes or for more info, visit [www.lafayettecommunitygarden.org](http://www.lafayettecommunitygarden.org).

**Moraga Garden Club will meet at 9:30 a.m. Thursday**, March 19 at the Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga. Social hour at 9:30 a.m., meeting at 10 a.m. featuring speaker Johanna Silver, associate editor/gardening of Sunset Magazine, who will discuss "Behind the Scenes in the Sunset Test Gardens." Non members are welcome.

**Montelindo Garden Club will meet at 9 a.m. Friday**, March 20 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 66 St. Stephens Drive, Orinda, featuring Howard Arendtson, owner of H. Julien Designs, Berkeley. Visitors welcome. For info, visit [www.montelindogarden.com](http://www.montelindogarden.com).

**Spring into Spring at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 21** at the Lafayette Community Garden. As the earth turns to spring, the garden plants all curl toward the sun. Enjoy story time, discovery and crafty curls.

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## 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.

A global volunteer organization working to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.

		Please join us at our new location <b>THE LAFAYETTE PARK HOTEL</b> on Friday mornings at 7am. For more info, please email us at <a href="mailto:lamorindasunrise@gmail.com">lamorindasunrise@gmail.com</a>
<b>March 13:</b> Come and learn more about what's going on in Lafayette from our speaker Lafayette Police Chief Eric Christensen.	<b>March 20:</b> Theresa Harrington, education reporter for the CC Times, will speak to us about linked learning and best educational practices.	
Please join us for a great speaker and breakfast!!		

 <h2>Lafayette Rotary Club</h2> 	
<b>Step in on a Thursday.</b> If you are interested in joining Rotary we welcome you to join one of our lunch meetings. Thursday at noon Oakwood Athletic Club, 4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette.	
<b>March 19:</b> Mo Levich and Frank Como will present "King David Suite", a song written by Lionel Hampton and arranged by Frank Como.	<b>March 26:</b> Troy Feddersen will present the craft of brewing beer. "Beer is proof that God wants us to be happy" Benjamin Franklin
<a href="http://www.rotarylafayette.org">www.rotarylafayette.org</a>	

# MOVIE REVIEW

## 'Chappie'

By Derek Zembrak



Image provided

Chappie is not a kid's film. It is not "Short Circuit" or "ET." "Chappie" is rated R for violence, language and nudity. The story, if you can call it that, takes place in the near future where a man-made mechanical police force patrols for crime. Gangster thugs steal Chappie (Sharlto Copley) - one of the robots - and reprogram him to become a criminal gang member.

Neill Blomkamp, a South African native who previously directed "Elysium" (2013), "District 9" (2009) and "Stargate G5-1," directs "Chappie." All I can say is his films have been deteriorating over the years. "Chappie" is a movie with totally unlikeable characters. It is sad to see quality actors such as Oscar nominees Hugh Jackman ("Les Misérables"), Sigourney Weaver ("Gorillas in the Mist,"

"Working Girl," "Aliens") and talented young actor Dev Patel ("Slumdog Millionaire," "The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel") take acting jobs just for a paycheck. They could not have read the script and said, "This is a great project; sign me up."

The following is an example of how low this film takes us. In the opening scene the thugs are running away from the police and their street thug language is so bad, vulgar and difficult to understand that even though they are speaking English, Blomkamp tries to help the audience relate by adding subtitles to the dialogue.

Jackman is so miscast that you can see his discomfort on the screen. In one scene, while staking out the gang members, he is running around in his "Reno 911" shorts as the audience giggles. This is an embarrassment for him and his career.

I gave up during the pit bull dog-fighting scene and decided to leave the theater. I only wasted one hour of my life that I will never get back, instead of two. "Chappie" should have been destroyed at the script stage and never seen the light of day. Don't say I didn't warn you about this pile of scrap metal junk!

Be sure to watch, Real to Reel every Sunday at 2:30 p.m. on KOFY TV20, the Bay Area's only talk show about "Everything Entertainment in the Bay Area," hosted by Derek Zembrak and Leonard Pirkle.

## NEED HELP AT HOME?

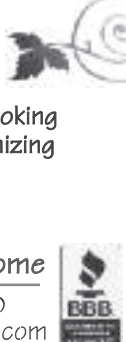
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# A Perfect Minty Treat for the Little Leprechaun in All of Us

By Susie Iventosch



Girl Scout Thin Mint-crust St. Patty's Day Brownies

Photo Susie Iventosch

I finished my grocery shopping at Safeway last week, and lo and behold, there were the Girl Scouts, situated right outside the door, ready for another big cookie-selling season! Naturally, being a Girl Scout alum who earned a cooking badge back in the third grade, I wanted to support the cause and picked up a box of our favorite Thin Mints and a box of the new Rah Rah Raisins. (You never want to buy too many boxes on the first go-around, because you will probably run into another Girl Scout you want to support on your very next errand!)

The Rah Rahs appear to be new and a bit lower in calories and fat, but they also taste lower in calories and fat. The Thin Mints, on the other hand, are as good as ever! I thought it would be fun to try to make a new dessert using the Thin Mints as one of the key ingredients. So, I took my mom's brownie recipe and added a Thin Mint crust and a fudgy frosting. What resulted was amazing ... and the perfect treat to leave for the wee Leprechauns who visit your house on St. Patty's Day!

### INGREDIENTS

#### Brownies

1 sleeve of Girl Scout Thin Mint cookies (about 17 or 18), pulverized in food processor  
2 tablespoons butter, melted  
4 ounces bittersweet chocolate  
2 tablespoons cocoa powder  
1 cube (1/2 cup or 1/4 pound) unsalted butter  
Dash of salt  
1/2 cup granulated sugar  
2 eggs  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
1/2 cup unbleached flour

#### Frosting

6 tablespoons butter, room temperature  
6 tablespoons cocoa powder  
1 1/2 to 2 cups powdered sugar  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1-2 tablespoons milk

### DIRECTIONS

#### Brownies

Grease an 8 by 8 inch baking dish with cooking spray or butter. Mix cookie crumbs with melted butter and pat into the bottom of the baking dish, making a thin layer to cover the entire bottom of the pan. Set aside. In a saucepan, melt butter and chocolate, along with cocoa powder over medium heat, until butter and chocolate are melted. Stir well to blend. (Can melt in the microwave, too.) Remove from heat. Add sugar and salt, and stir until dissolved into chocolate mixture. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each. (I just used a wooden spoon for this ... no beaters necessary.) Add vanilla and flour and mix well. Pour batter over cookie crust and smooth out evenly. Bake for approximately 18-22 minutes, depending upon your oven. Brownies will still be very moist, but set in the center and will firm up as they cool. Cool completely before frosting.

#### Frosting

In a large mixing bowl, beat butter with cocoa powder until smooth. Add powdered sugar alternately with milk, a little bit at a time, until well integrated and just the right spreading consistency. Stir in vanilla. Spread on cooled brownies. Chill before cutting.  
\*These are very rich, so you can cut them quite small.

Susie Iventosch is the author of Tax Bites and Tasty Morsels, which can be found at Across the Way in Moraga, www.amazon.com, and www.taxbites.net. Susie can be reached at suziventosch@gmail.com. **This recipe can be found on our website:** www.lamorindaweekly.com. If you would like to share your favorite recipe with Susie please contact her by email or call our office at (925) 377-0977.



## Does Your 11th Grader Really Need a Resume?

By Elizabeth LaScala, PhD

“Does my 11th grader really need a resume?” is a question I sometimes hear from parents in my counseling sessions. Parents, quite reasonably, wonder why a young student would need a resume, what benefits it could serve, and whether this is just one more contrivance to make college admissions more stressful and competitive. Many of the same parents also tell me they do not know how to help their students focus and identify a major or a program of interest in college. The resume is a remarkably good tool that supports this process!

High schools often require that students complete a ‘brag sheet’ on which they record their activities and accomplishments over their high school careers. So, too, do college applications have sections in which to list academic awards, honors and extracurricular activities. I encourage high school juniors to go beyond the mere listing of activities and develop an early version of a resume, so that the student can organize and communicate their competencies in an authentic way unique to their skills and experiences. Over time, the resume can be used to organize a student's strengths so that common themes can be identified. Let's take a concrete example: A student may take Introduction to Computer Science as an 11th grader, enroll in a JAVA coding class at community college the following summer, and then register for AP Computer Science in 12th grade. The same student may identify the need for a computer science club for those with similar interests and head one up for her high school community. She may even volunteer to peer tutor underclassmen taking the introductory class she took in 11th grade. By recording this information in a resume over time, a strong and consistent theme will appear. A counselor or teacher who has a copy, and is writing a recommendation letter, would be hard pressed to miss it! And an admissions reader at a college the student sends an application would surely make note of it as well. If the student was applying to a department where a computer science background was considered an advantage (e.g. engineering, mathematics, statistics, economics or computer science itself) it would, no doubt, strengthen the student's admission chances.

I am not suggesting a student be pressed into performing activities for the benefit of supporting their college applications.

I am suggesting that students follow their passions and develop successive resume drafts that summarize their academic and extracurricular activities in order to be able to document the emergence of common threads over time. If the effort to develop a resume is systematic, a cohesive picture of their interests will emerge. As the computer science example above illustrates, a resume is a far more effective approach to highlighting one's competencies than a mere listing of activities on a form. Development of a resume encourages the student to summarize her activities and accomplishments—in effect, a snapshot of one or more important aspects of her world. And a resume often can help get more effective counselor and teacher letters of recommendation. This is certainly an advantage to students in larger public high schools where the student to counselor ratio is a few hundred to one; but it is also an asset in smaller, private settings. While it is not polite or ethical to put words into a counselor's or teacher's mouth, a clear and concise resume can accomplish much the same objective. It can help the recommender to clearly recognize a student's special strengths, and these may well be incorporated into the letter. In addition, many selective summer programs for high school students request a resume, such as NYU's Tisch School Summer Arts Program. When an application deadline looms large in the second week of February for an 11th grader, having a well-developed resume will be a lifesaver. And, later next fall, when a senior is looking at a blank admissions application with no idea where to start, having a resume handy will help kick start the process with confidence. For part-time jobs, internships and as a foundation for the many resumes to come in a young person's future, a high school student with an effective resume is off to a good start.



Elizabeth LaScala, Ph.D. is an independent college advisor who draws upon 25 years of higher education experience to help guide and support the college admissions process for students and their families. Dr. LaScala is a member of NACAC, WACAC and HECA. She can be contacted at (925) 891-4491 or elizabeth@doingcollege.com. Visit www.doingcollege.com for more information about her services.

## Oscar Nominated Film, 'Timbuktu,' in Orinda for One-Week Engagement

... continued from page B9

The movie opens with the destruction of local artifacts by a group of Jihadists. It's reminiscent of Daesh recently destroying ancient relics at a museum in the Iraqi city of Mosul or the Taliban's destruction of Bamiyan Buddhas. Sissako aims to show that the Jihadists' first victims are the local Muslim population and their original civilization. In an interview with French media, he said, “The movie is called ‘Timbuktu’ – a mythical city that's a thousand years old, a city of commerce, gathering and exchange that holds monuments and manuscripts as important as the giant Afghani Buddhas. In Timbuktu, the human values were threatened; it had to be passed on.”

The movie centers on the Touareg family who lives near town in their tent, raising their cattle. All they want is a peaceful life, but the rising frustrations and tensions lead them to conflict and to their demise. Many other stories are intertwined in the film: The woman who sells fish in the market and is ordered to cover her hands, the boys who

play soccer with a phantom ball, the man who gets 20 lashes because he owns a football, the young people caught playing music and who are punished in front of everybody, the girl who is abducted against her parents' will and is forcefully “married.” The local Imam tries to protect the population, appealing to the religious fundamentalists' faith, but he is often powerless.

The movie is esthetically well mastered and worthy of a large screen. Many of the actors were amateurs, some of them coming from the refugee camp of M'bera in Mauritania where 70,000 people live, including the very touching 12-year-old Layla Walet Mohamed. Sissako compares her in the movie to a gazelle – a graceful creature, vulnerable, and a perfect target for collateral damage.

“Timbuktu” will play at the Orinda Theatre during its Contra Costa premiere for one week starting March 20. It was one of the four nominees for Best Foreign Film at the 2015 Academy Awards.

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# LAMORINDA SPORTS

## Two in a Row

### Miramonte Edges Bishop O'Dowd to Win NCS Title

By Karl Buscheck



Sabrina Ionescu had 26 points in the game.

Photos Gint Federas

Miramonte held off a furious charge from Bishop O'Dowd to claim the squad's second consecutive NCS Division III crown on March 7. After building up a 22-point lead early, the Mats emerged with a 72-66 win over the Dragons in Moraga at a packed McKeon Pavilion, the home of the Saint Mary's Gaels.

Junior Sabrina Ionescu snagged the Player of the Game honors as she rained in 26 points, but it was her freshman teammate Clair Steele who saved the day. Steele racked up 20 points and hit a critical second-half three pointer, which gave the Mats some much needed breathing room after O'Dowd had cut the lead to a single point with just under three minutes to go.

"She's one of the toughest kids on our team," said head coach Kelly Sopak. "I've been fortunate to coach her since she was in the first grade so what she did today doesn't surprise me. She's a warrior."

Steele gave all the credit to her teammates: "It was a team effort and we played (great). We played as a team and we won as a team."

Early on, it was almost too easy for Miramonte. The Mats ripped off a 16-4 run to start the game and took a commanding 44-24 lead into the half. Once the teams emerged from the locker rooms, O'Dowd immediately began to climb back into the contest, reeling off a 10-0 run after the break.

As Sopak explained, his team didn't know whether to keep its foot on the gas or to play it safe after opening up a 20-point advantage.

"It's just a tough thing against a team like that because you don't want to play too aggressive and give them the ammunition to come back, but you don't want to play passive," said Sopak. "And I think we got caught

not really understanding what we wanted to do."

The Dragons continued to bridge the gap, getting the score to 58-57 late in the fourth before Steele drained the game-changing three pointer. After the final buzzer went off and the fans stormed the court, Steele was at a loss for words.

"I can't really describe it. It's just great. I've never felt like this before. It's the greatest feeling."

According to Sopak, it was

extra special to win the title against O'Dowd.

"We wanted to play last year, and circumstances were that we couldn't," said Sopak. After winning five consecutive NCS trophies, O'Dowd was disqualified from the 2014 postseason for playing an extra regular season game.

"So, our kids wanted it last year. We wanted it this year. Now that we won, I'm kind of glad that it ended the way it did."



Clair Steele had a key three pointer to help the Mats win.

## Mats, Dons Earn CIF Playoff Berths

By Conrad Bassett



Roni Marrone Photos Gint Federas



Julia Lyons

ified for the Open Division playoffs as the No. 2 seed. The Open Division boasts the top teams from across all divisions. Miramonte is the only public school in the Open Division.

Head coach Kelly Sopak emphasized the Mats' accomplishment. "I told our kids that when CIF set this Open Division concept up it was not designed for a small public school like Miramonte, but due to their hard work and resolve, we are a big part of it now."

The Mats begin their quest for the state title at home on March 13 against Pinewood (Los Altos Hills). Pinewood (24-2) won the Central Coast Section Division IV championship. Pinewood looks to avenge a 73-60 Jan. 3 loss at Miramonte.

"We had a tough game against them in January and both teams have improved so it is going to be exciting," said Sopak. "I am excited that our sixth man and fans will get the opportunity to experience an Open Division playoff game." ... continued on page C3

After a grueling run through the NCS playoffs, two of Lamorinda's girls' basketball teams have qualified for the upcoming California Interscholastic Federation tourna-

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## Mats Beat Cougars for NCS Title

By Spencer Silva



Gina Crosetti scored the winning goal for the Mats. Photos Gint Federas

Miramonte junior Gina Crosetti found the goal she had been looking for all afternoon in the 80th minute of the NCS Division II title. With Crosetti's last-minute goal, No. 5 Miramonte defeated No. 3 seed, defending champion, Campolindo 1-0, securing their first title since 2009.

The winning play started with a deflected ball on the left wing. Moments later, Crosetti was gliding to her right, into the box while sending a game-winning shot past Campo goalkeeper Emily Parish.

Crosetti and teammate Cecilia Gee worked as a tandem all afternoon, nearly creating goals in the 67th and 71st minutes. The first opportunity was a shot from just outside the box that sailed over the crossbar. The second effort was a cross from Gee that nearly

found a limb on the far side of the goal.

What was it about that final minute?

"I think it was our drive to finish, looking at the clock and knowing what needed to get done," Crosetti explained gleefully after the match.

It's fair to say the Matadors (12-3-6) were an underdog heading into the tournament. To reach the final, they had to secure road victories against No. 4 seed Alhambra and No. 1 seed Acalanes.

Their semifinal win in Lafayette over the Dons may have been the most thrilling match of the tournament. Miramonte came from two goals down to force overtime before eventually winning on penalty kicks.

But don't count Miramonte coach Mohamed Mohamed

among those surprised by his team's accomplishment.

"The signs were there. We felt we were the most dangerous team coming into the playoffs," he said after the match.

Campolindo (14-6-3) defeated No. 7 seed St. Mary's 2-1 to reach the final. They defeated Las Lomas the year before to win the Division II title and Saturday was their chance to repeat.

The Cougars' best opportunity came in the 47th minute, but forward Annie Midthun's goal was called back after a defensive foul. The Cougars were unable to convert on the set piece.

The "advantage rule" states that a referee should allow play to continue if it's likely to benefit the team being fouled. Therefore, the decision to whistle the play dead was quite controversial. In fact, it may have shifted the momentum of the game.

Campo coach Ernesto Silva expressed his disappointment with the call. "I knew that this would be a game where the difference would maybe be one goal," he said. "That play, if called properly, changes the game."

The Cougars played tough defense throughout, consistently thwarting their opponent in the final third until the game's final minute.

Miramonte graduates just two seniors and they hope to contend for another championship in 2016. For now, however, the Mats will be content to ride the current wave of joy.

Crosetti may have put it best: "It's kind of a dream; I don't feel like it's real. Tomorrow hopefully it will kick in, but right now I'm just really excited."



Cecilia Gee was a force for the Mats.



Katharine Nerone celebrating Crosetti's goal.

## Saint Mary's Loses in WCC Quarterfinals

By Michael Sakoda



Carli Rosenthal Photos Tod Fierner



Brad Waldow

Like the fate of those in casinos around Orleans Arena in Las Vegas, the basketball teams of Saint Mary's College seemed to have had the odds stacked against them for a shot at the NCAA tournament.

The women's team wrapped up their season with a 20-9 record (13-5 WCC) earning the No. 4 seed in the WCC tournament. The Gaels drew a tough quarterfinal showdown with BYU on March 5.

It was a thriller, featuring 18 lead changes, several within the last two minutes, but BYU's Lexi Eaton dropped in the game winner with two seconds left, sealing a 65-64 heartbreaker for the Gaels.

"We really tried, and sometimes that just happens," said senior Carli Rosenthal, who finished with 14 points (4-4 FG; 6-6 FT), 12 rebounds.

Trailing 63-62 with under a minute to go, Rosenthal came up with a steal, and scored a put-back on the ensuing possession, giving Saint Mary's a 64-63 lead with 19 seconds left, but Eaton would get the final shot.

"Carli makes a play ... and the bench is going crazy. Seconds later, they make a play. That's what college basketball is all about," said head coach Paul Thomas. "Unfortunately, one team had to go home."

The Gaels turned heads this season, and Thomas was one of three coaches to be named WCC Co-Head Coach of the Year, while freshman Stella Beck was named WCC Newcomer of the Year, juniors Lauren Nicholson and Shannon Mauldin

were named to the all-WCC first and second teams, and Rosenthal was named honorable mention all-league.

The men's team rounded out the regular season with a 21-8 record (13-5 WCC), good enough for the No. 3 seed in the WCC tournament, but a hungry Portland team proved to be too much for the Gaels on March 7.

The Pilots took a 32-26 lead into the locker room at the half, and it only got worse from there, as the Gaels squad was routed 69-52.

"I didn't push the right buttons to have them play well," said head coach Randy Bennett. "No excuses."

Portland beat Saint Mary's in just about every way, outshooting SMC 50 percent to 30 percent, out rebounding the Gaels 31-30 despite a considerable size disadvantage, and handing out 11 assists to the Gaels' four.

"We didn't come out with the normal energy and passion," said senior Brad Waldow, the only Gael to put up strong numbers (25 points, 8 rebounds).

Waldow's hard work didn't go unnoticed this season, as he and Kerry Carter were named to the WCC's first team, with senior Aaron Bright earning an all-league honorable mention, and Emmett Naar being selected to the WCC's Freshman Team. Accolades aside, this loss could cost the Gaels a shot at the NCAA Tournament, a disappointing end to an incredible season.

For now, Bennett, Thomas, and their teams will have to keep their fingers crossed, waiting to find out if the cards hold a postseason berth.

### Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified

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# Campolindo No. 2 Seed in NorCal Playoffs

By Karl Buscheck



Austin Clarke (24) and Chris Hansen (44) Photo Gint Federas

Campolindo is headed back to the Northern California Division III regional playoffs and the team has some unfinished business.

The squad will be looking to avenge an overtime loss in the NorCal semifinals a season ago and an overtime exit in the finals the year before that.

"They've been on the cusp," said head coach Matt Watson. "Some of these kids have been on varsity since sophomore year. So, they kind of know what this is all about and what all this means. So, they're pretty focused right now."

The Cougars landed the No. 2 seed in this year's edition of the tour-

namment and will have a bye in the opening round of the playoffs. Campolindo will take the floor on March 14 when the team will host the winner of the No. 7 Sacred Heart Cathedral and No. 10 Vanden game.

Campolindo enters the NorCals after losing to Bishop O'Dowd in the NCS semifinals 70-48 on March 4 at Laney College.

"We got the shots that we wanted to. We got good looks and all that, the ball just didn't go in the basket," said Watson of the Cougars' showing against the Oakland powerhouse that checks in as the No. 2 team in the state and the No. 11 team in the nation, per MaxPreps.com. "Some nights the ball goes in the basket and some nights it doesn't."

Senior Chris Hansen, whom Watson described as a "workhorse," led the Cougars with 13 points, while junior Austin Clarke chipped in 10. Before bowing out to the Dragons, Campolindo had stormed through the opening two rounds of NCS.

On Feb. 24, the team topped De Anza 83-55 at home to begin its playoff run after securing the top spot in DFAL with a perfect 12-0 regular season. On Feb. 27, Campolindo beat Albany 65-50 at in Moraga.

With the NCS playoffs now in the rear-view mirror and the NorCals looming, Watson likes the way his team is continuing to battle.

"I feel like the guys are doing a great job because there's quite a few bumps and bruises, but none of them are complaining about it and all of them are ready to go to work when they show up in the gym every day for practice."

# Mats, Dons Earn CIF Playoff Berths

... continued from page C1

Miramonte swept the NCS playoffs blasting Del Norte (Crescent City) 80-33 in the first round and followed that up with strong wins over Campolindo 89-36 in the quarterfinals and Moreau Catholic 80-33 in the semifinals before defeating Bishop O'Dowd (Oakland) 72-66 for the title.

Sopak has challenged his team all year with a grueling schedule, and the team is playing well headed into NorCals.

Acalanes (22-7) also qualified for the CIF playoffs after advancing to the semifinals of the NCS Division III playoffs.

"This is pretty awesome. I am proud of the girls, and it is going to be exciting," said head coach Chad Wellon.

In the NCS tournament, the Dons

crushed San Rafael 65-21 in their first round match. In the quarterfinals, they whipped Encinal 78-61, before falling in the semifinals to O'Dowd 74-35.

With such a strong showing in the NCS playoffs, the Dons were awarded a No. 4 seed in a 12-team division and a first-round bye. Acalanes will host the winner of the Shasta/Florin matchup played on March 11.

"After seeing both Miramonte and Dublin win sectional championships, I realized how tough the DFAL is," Wellon explained. "Hopefully playing against both of those teams twice along with a high caliber team like Bishop O'Dowd will be good preparation for the state tournament."

The Dons' CIF run tips off at 6 p.m. on March 14

# Lamorinda Wins Tourney

Submitted by Matt Delaney



Front row, from left: Trevor Haskins, Stefan Foley, Zach White, bat girl Shannon Keighran, D. Orta, Sam Heyman, Davis Diaz, Carson Newman; back row: coach Adrian Diaz, Jake Delaney, Patrick Keigran, Tommy Splaine, Arthur Soto, coach Jim Keighran,

The Lamorinda Knight's 12 year old team won the 13U Open Division at the NCTB Winter Showdown in Twin Creeks on Feb. 28-March 1.

Lamorinda finished with a record of 4-0 and outscored opponents 48-22. Lamorinda had to beat the SC

Rebels from Gilroy in both pool play and in the championship game. They won 12-8 in both games.

Arthur Soto and Jake Delaney were both awarded co-MVPs of the tournament. Davis Diaz and Tommy Splaine led the team nine hits each.

# Runners Club Wins Medal

Submitted by Diane Bachelor



From left: coach Diane Bachelor, Jaiirus Blaj, Isaac Brent, Derek Kotarba, Aubriana Musha, Andrew Owens, Harrison Seymour, Ian Ho, Ellie Guthrie and coach David Kohls Photo provided

A team of eight Stanley Middle School students representing the Rain or Sunshine Running Club were presented with the Team Competition trophy at the annual Napa Valley 5K Race held on March 1. The award was given to the team with the fastest four runners and included adult and youth teams.

The Rain or Sunshine Running Club is coached by Diane Bachelor and David Kohls of Lafayette. The club of 20 Stanley students trained for eight weeks building their speed,

strength and endurance. "Coach David and I are extremely proud of our team," said Bachelor. "Their results were outstanding and demonstrates that hard work and dedication has its rewards!"

Seventh grader Andrew Owens was Rain or Sunshine's top scorer, placing 12th overall out of over 430 runners with a time of 20:55. Other top finishers were sixth grader Derek Kotarba, seventh grader Harrison Seymour, and eighth grader Isaac Brent.

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