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Free Film Screening Focuses on Anti-Bullying Movement

Submitted by Eric Andresen



Image provided

The Moraga iKind Project, a community-based anti-bullying program that is an extension of the Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School iKind program, is sponsoring the movie "A Brave Heart, the Lizzie Velasquez Story." The documentary, which chronicles the inspiring journey of 26-year-old, 58-pound Velasquez, as she goes from

cyber-bullying victim to anti-bullying activist, will be shown at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 11 at the Campolindo High School Performing Arts Center. Following the free screening – which is open to parents and students in fourth to 12th grades, as well as teachers and local leaders – a student panel will respond to the film and to audience questions. The goal of the Mor-

aga iKind Project is to promote kindness and courtesy, and to foster courage, bravery and inclusion beyond the schools. The Campolindo Leadership Committee and the Acalanes High School Diversity Committee are also sponsoring this event. To RSVP, visit moragaikind.org.

**Submit stories and story ideas to
storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com**

'Facing Life and Death'

A film and discussion at the Orinda Library

Submitted by Beth Girshman



Dr. Michelle Peticolas Photo provided

Garden Room.

Peticolas is a sociologist and longtime student of Sufism. She teaches seminars on end-of-life and leads loss support groups around the Bay Area. She has been working in the field of death and loss for over 17 years. Producer of the award-winning documentary "Secret of Life and Death," she also presents at hospitals, hospices and community groups around northern California.

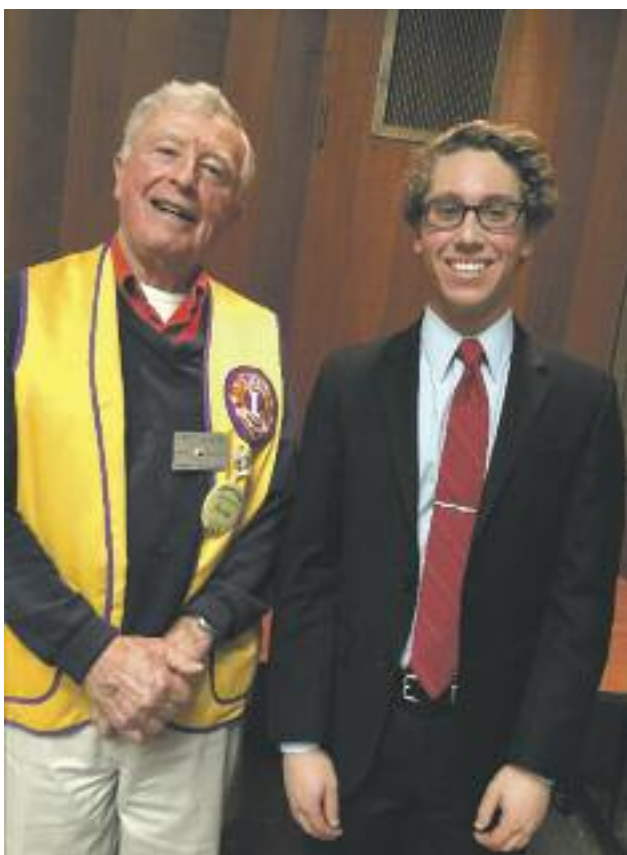
Death is a subject that much of modern western society prefers to avoid. Following the 26-minute film screening Peticolas will lead a moderated discussion where participants may share stories and listen to the stories of others. For information, visit www.secretsoflifeanddeath.com or call the Orinda Library at (925) 254-2184.

The Orinda library is hosting a free screening of the film, "Facing Life and Death," by East Bay filmmaker, Michelle Peticolas at 6: 30 p.m. in the Orinda Library

Community Service

Miramonte Student Wins Lions' Speakers Contest

Submitted by Fred George



Winning contestant, Aaron Baum, from Miramonte High School, and Fred George, chair of the contest Photo provided

The Lamorinda Lions Club Student Speakers Contest was held Feb. 2 at the Moraga Public Library. Miramonte High School student Aaron Baum won this year's contest, speaking on the topic: "Liberty and Justice for All – what does it mean to you?" Baum will go on to compete at the Zone level contest to be held at 7 p.m. March 9 at the Peacock Theatre in Rossmore. The contest has a number of levels, but the winner of all can win up to \$22,000 in scholarship money. The Lamorinda Lions Club has done very well in the past with its contestants, getting one to the finals and two to the semi-finals. Much of this credit belongs to the Miramonte High School Speech teacher Kristen Plant who does a wonderful job of preparing these young people for the contest. The public is invited to the March 9 event.

Senior Girl Scout Troop 30072 Helps Feed Those in Need

Submitted by Kim Jinnett



Photo provided

Continuing in their long tradition of community service, Campolindo High School Girl Scouts from Troop 30072 in Moraga organized and packed food supplies on Jan. 31 at the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano for needy individuals. Every year thousands of seniors, families, children and adults need food assistance and the Food Bank provides just such a resource with help from community volun-

teers. The Girl Scouts sorted donated bread, tossing out the moldy and the mushed, and boxed up fresh pears to be distributed to schools with children in need throughout Contra Costa County. As always, the girls felt very satisfied after helping and look forward to assisting more in the community. Look for information about Troop 30072 annual Spring Garage Sale coming soon.

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 with the subject header In Service to the Community.

CAPA Fundraiser for Special Camp

Submitted by Rebecca Oczkus

California Academy of Performing Arts
Senior Ensemble

Team GLADIATOR

Proudly Presents A Benefit Dance Performance for Camp Okizu

Gladiator in a Tutu

February 26, 2016
7:30-8:15 pm

All proceeds benefit Camp Okizu, a camp for children with cancer and their families!

Bentley School
1000 Upper Happy Valley Rd
Lafayette, CA 94549

Inspired by our own brave dancer, 6 year old Finley Brown!

Tickets available at the door
\$15.00 adults, \$12.00 students
Cash or Check

For more information or to donate go to
www.facebook.com/gladiatorinatutu

The senior ensemble at the California Academy of Performing Arts in Moraga is holding a benefit dance show at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 26 at Bentley school. Proceeds go to raise money for Camp Okizu, a camp for kids with cancer.

A featured guest will be Finley Brown, a 6-year-old CAPA dancer who gained international fame thanks to the kindness and generosity of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District, which escorted Finley to her final chemotherapy treatment in December, and raised money to send her and the Brown family to Disneyland later this year.

The benefit hopes to raise \$5,000 to send the kids and their families to the camp. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for children. Search "Gladiator in a Tutu" on Facebook for more information.

Lamorinda Village Receives Generous Donation for Orinda Membership Subsidies

Submitted by Anne Ornelas

To start off the New Year, Lamorinda Village received a welcome gift from the Orinda Community Foundation – a \$2,000 donation.

The Foundation's mission – "Enhancing the Quality of Life in Orinda" – correlates with the Village mission of supporting Lamorinda residents who wish to remain safe and independent in their homes. From its earliest months of development, the Village has aimed to provide membership opportunities to all, including those who may not be able to afford the standard membership fees. The OCF funding will support Orinda residents who meet the criteria for subsidies.

"We are delighted to receive this grant from the Foundation," said Village founder and president Ruth McCahan. "As we approach the end of our first year in operation, we want to be sure that all members of our community have the opportunity to benefit from the connections and services we offer."

The Subsidized Membership Program is confidential and offered to individuals and couples with an income less than 60 percent of the Average Median Income of Contra Costa County. Without the support that the Village provides, seniors with low income or without local family support are at risk of isolation, lack of medical care, and other assistance.

Lamorinda Village membership is open to residents over age 55 who are living in Lafayette, Moraga, or Orinda. The Village is pursuing grants for subsidized membership for residents of all three communities, in addition to funding to support the growing portfolio of programs and services offered to members. In December the Village was fortunate to receive matching funds from two generous donors, so that donations received in that period were doubled.

For more information about membership to the Village, visit www.lamorindavillage.org or contact the office at (925) 253-2300.

Share Your Celebrations and Remembrances

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