

MOVIE REVIEW

Film Clips

Lamorinda Theatres Celebrate the Season with Unique Films and Fun

By Derek Zemrak



Jan Wahl will co-host a lecture on holiday movies on Dec. 10. Photo provided

The Rheem Theatre will get people into the holiday spirit at 7 p.m. on Dec. 2 with the Psychotronic Christmas Film Festival. This crazy, fun-filled evening will include some of the weirdest, wildest and wackiest Christmas short subjects all projected on 16MM film. The shorts will include vintage cartoons, TV commercials, stop-motion animation and oddball clips. Amazing Melanie will host these wild short films, commercials, TV promos and movie trailers.

The modern-day Christmas classic, "Home Alone" will be the FREE movie of the month at the Orinda Theatre at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 8. "Home Alone" is now 26 years old and tells the tale of an 8-year-old troublemaker who must protect his home from a pair of burglars when he is accidentally left at home when his entire family flies off for their Christmas vacation. Bay Area resident Chris Columbus directed the film that stars Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern. Did you know that "Home Alone" was nominated for two Academy Awards in 1991 for Best Music, Original Song, "Somewhere in My Memory" and Best Music Original Score? "Home Alone" is one of my favorite holiday movies.

Speaking of holiday movies, KCBS Entertainment Editor Jan Wahl and I will be presenting a lecture at 4 p.m. on Dec. 10, at the Orinda Theatre entitled "Hollywood Does the Holidays." Learn how Hollywood has portrayed the holidays throughout the years, from the Fourth of July, Halloween, Thanksgiving, to Christmas and Hanukkah, Jan and I will cover it all. The lecture will include film clips, behind-the-

scenes stories, a whole lot of laughs and holiday refreshments. Tickets are \$20 and proceeds will benefit the Moraga Community Foundation.

Do you miss the good ole holiday television specials with Dean Martin, Andy Williams, Perry Como or The Osmonds? Well wish no more! Adam Reeves and Patti Liedecker will be recreating that feeling in the best holiday musical special ever at 7 p.m. on Saturday Dec. 10 at the Rheem Theatre. The evening will include amazing performers, singers, live music, sing-alongs and comedy. Wear your zaniest holiday sweater and win a prize; bring an unwrapped toy for the Toy for Tots program. Come join the fun with Patti, Adam and friends for the warmest holiday special ever. Tickets are \$20

The Silent Movie Night series at the Rheem continues at 7 p.m. Dec. 17 with two delightful versions of the Charles Dickens classic novel, "A Christmas Carol." The first short will be from 1913, a 40-minute film entitled "Old Scrooge," followed by the 30-minute, 1922 version, "Christmas Carol." Pianist Liedecker will be performing the live musical score and I will be doing a lecture on the history for the Dickens classic on the big screen, from the silent period to 2009's Robert Zemeckis version. Santa Claus will also be in attendance for the youngsters and the young at heart! Tickets are \$15.

Tickets for all shows at the Orinda and Rheem Theaters can be purchased online at www.lamorindatheatres.com or the theaters' box office.

I would like to wish everyone the happiest of holiday season. See you at the movies!

Hacienda Holiday Faire

Dec. 2, Noon - 8:00pm Dec. 3 & 4, 11am to 6pm

At the Hacienda de las Flores

2100 Donald Drive, Moraga

One-of-a-kind hand-crafted gifts & gourmet foods

Over 45 local artisans

Complimentary wine tasting with Captain Vineyards

6:00 - 8:00 pm Fri., Dec. 2nd 4:00 - 6:00 Sat., Dec. 3rd

This event is sponsored by and is a fundraiser for the Hacienda Foundation

Service Clubs Announcements



We meet Friday mornings at 7:00 am at The Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa, Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette. For more info, please email us at lamorindasunrise@gmail.com

December 2

Nutritionist Jill West discusses Breakthrough Nutrition At Any Age.

December 9

Tom Clement, Executive Director, Save Mt. Diablo

The Teardrop Trailer is emerging anew. With shining skin that will dazzle you!

Lafayette Rotary Club

Step in on a Thursday and join us for our lunch meeting. Thursday at noon Oakwood Athletic Club, 4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette.

December 1:
Mary Jo Marggraff
Far and Away: Leaving Earth without going nuts.

December 8:
Club Assembly

www.rotarylafayette.org
www.facebook.com/Rotary-Club-of-Lafayette-Ca-197392963631366

SOROPTIMIST OF 24/680



Please join us for our next meeting:

WHEN: Wednesday, December 7th
Social 5:30-6:00 p.m.
Meeting 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: The Buttercup Grill
660 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek.

Contact us about our Crab Feed Feb 11th at Lafayette Community Center

For more information, contact:
Regina Englehart @925-876-9076
or go to: soroptimist24-680.org

Not to be missed

MUSIC ... continued

Joyous holiday inspired music performed by the Piano Composers chapter of the Contra Costa Performing Arts Society will be featured at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1924 Trinity Avenue in Walnut Creek (a block from the Dean Leshner Center for the Arts) at 7:30 p.m. on Friday Dec. 9. The event is free. Parking is plentiful and light refreshments will be served. Visit www.ccpas.org for more information.

"How Can I Keep From Singing," WomenSing's holiday concert is from 8 to 10 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 14 at Church of Santa Maria, 40 Santa Maria Way, Orinda. WomenSing's holiday concert offers an eclectic mix of carols, classical favorites, and new works, for a joyful and comforting holiday musical event. Cost: \$28 general admission; \$10 for students. For more info see www.womensing.org/content/how-can-i-keep-singing or call (925) 798-4875 or email info@womensing.org.

THEATER

DVC presents the powerful play "The Laramie Project" at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday from Dec. 2 to Dec. 11 at DVC Drama, located at 321 Golf Club Rd, Pleasant Hill. The Laramie Project is a breathtaking theatrical collage that explores the depths to which humanity can sink and the heights of compassion of

which we are capable. For tickets, call (925) 969-2358 or go to our website at www.dvcdrama.net

LECTURE & LITERATURE

"Rise & Shine: Better Breakfasts for Busy Mornings" with cookbook author, registered dietitian, mother and blogger Katie Sullivan Morford. Enjoy an evening out as Morford samples delicious recipes from her latest cookbook, a great gift for busy parents, at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1 at the Lafayette Library. \$15, includes food samples and sparkling cocktail. To purchase tickets: tinyurl.com/DSSMorford.

Science Café: Engineering Eden with author Jordan Fisher Smith. A former wilderness ranger, Smith discusses his latest book and the scientific dispute over controlling nature. 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 6, at the Lafayette Library & Learning Center. Tickets \$10, Students FREE with ID. To register: tinyurl.com/SciCafeNature.

"A Child's Christmas in Wales" — An illustrated history and reading is at 6 p.m. on Dec 15 in the Lafayette Library Community Hall. Explore the wonder, nostalgia, and Welsh charm of Dylan Thomas's holiday poem in this special celebration and reading by guest presenter Dulais Rhys. Please register for this free event at tinyurl.com/LAFwales.

Not to be missed

SENIORS

Let's Do Lunch! - Discover and explore the various dining experiences in the Lamorinda area. Lunch starts at 11 a.m. on the first Tuesday of the month. Relax, dine, meet new people, socialize and enjoy lively conversation. Space is limited. Contact Lafayette Senior Services for the schedule of restaurants and to make your reservations: Seniors@LoveLafayette.org or 284-5050. Individuals will pay for their own lunches.

Welcome to Medicare is a free class presented by the Contra Costa Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP). You will learn when and how to enroll, about Medicare costs and benefits, prescription coverage, Medicare Advantage plans (HMOs), Medicare Supplements and how Medicare coordinates with other coverage. 7 to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 14 at John Muir Medical Center, Walnut Creek. See www.cchicap.org or call (925) 602-4163 for more information

OTHER

Peyo Love Fest, a celebration and fund raiser will be held 12 to 5 p.m. on Dec. 3 at the Miramonte High School Cafeteria. The celebration will honor Coach Peyovich and his contributions on and off the field for our community. The fundraiser will give the Peyovich family a critical financial boost to help

with expenses such as his medical treatments, home costs and help with his children's educations. All the funds raised will go directly to Coach Peyo and his family.

Daughters of the Goddess, a Bay Area women-only Goddess Temple, will be holding our yearly Winter Solstice Ritual starting at 7:30 p.m. on Wednes-

day, Dec. 21. Location: East Bay address given upon RSVP. New-comers \$15.

Please submit events to:
calendar@lamorindaweekly.com

Lamorinda Weekly

is an independent publication, produced by and for the residents of Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda, CA 26,600 printed copies; delivered to homes & businesses in Lamorinda.

Contact us:

Letters to the editor (max 350 words): letters@lamorindaweekly.com
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Sport events/stories/pictures: sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com

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