

Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church - 1700 School Street; Moraga, CA 94556

Are you ready for some fun? Join us at our...



14th Annual Crab Feed & Dance Saturday, February 2nd, 2019

Cocktail Hour ~ 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Dinner ~ 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Dancing ~ music provided by a popular DJ ~ 8:30 - 11:00 p.m.

Dinner & Dance - \$50 ~ Dinner tickets **MUST** be purchased in advance.
No admission to dinner without a ticket!

You asked for it, You got it! The Dessert Silent Auction Is Returning!

For non-crab lovers: Chicken available by special advance order request.
For tickets and reservations, please complete the reservation form, and send with your check made payable to "Holy Trinity SOC" to Crab Feed, c/o Thea Zakula Pratte, 1346 Louisiana Drive, Concord, CA 94521-4620

For questions, please call or text Thea at (925)890-0918.

'Becoming Astrid' (Unga Astrid) opens at Rheem and Orinda theatres



Image provided

By Sophie Braccini

Movie releases at the beginning of the year bring to Lamorinda their load of glossy big productions, heroic tales, bold Sci-Fi releases, all more or less reproducing an expected Hollywoodish format where the storyline could be guessed within a few minutes. Not so with "Becoming Astrid," a breath of fresh cinematic air that will blow into Lamorinda theaters Jan. 11, based on Astrid Lindgren, the 20th century writer, best known for her creation of Pippi Longstocking and other still popular child heroes.

The film shows 10 crucial years in the life of the Swedish author in the 1920s, where her character was put to the test and where she followed her heart and prevailed. There is

nothing very heroic in her story; it is that of an ordinary country girl, raised in a quite rigid and prudish social environment, but animated from the start by an unconventional free spirit, fighting to create a life for herself in her own terms.

Lindgren is not particularly pretty and she does not try to please, but she possesses a wild energy and a talent for writing. Several times during these years where she took risks, she could have sided with convention or chosen an easier path, but she did not, preserving her authenticity and self-worth.

The movie is beautifully shot by Pernille Fischer Christensen, from a script she co-wrote with Kim Fupz Aakeson, which has a strong feminist streak. It was not easy to be a

woman in that time period. In an interview with NPR, Christensen said that her film is also a women's history story, and that a lot of similar stories have not been told because of shame. Lindgren is shown as a feminist precursor, but with no societal or political creed, just a desire to break free with no regard for what is considered "appropriate."

In that same interview Christensen said that later in life Lindgren told about this period of her life that "she might have been an author if this had not happened, but ... she might not have been as great an author." It is the difficulties that forced her to fight and become a unique and stronger person.

It is not necessary to be a fan of, or even know, the mischievous character Pippi Longstocking that Lindgren created in her early 40s, or to relate to Lindgren and enjoy the movie. Though looking at young Lindgren there was a lot of that same mischief in her. Alba August, who plays Lindgren, gives a beautiful and very touching performance. She has no fear of being quite unattractive at the beginning of the movie to becoming pretty by the end.

"Becoming Astrid" will play at the Rheem Theatre in Moraga on Jan. 11 for one week, followed by a week at the Orinda Theatre starting on Jan. 18.

Info: www.lamorindatheatres.com

◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆

OTHER.. continued

Many Faces of Leukemia, Lymphoma and Myeloma from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Jan. 23 in the Lafayette Library Community Room. Patients and caregivers are invited to attend this free educational program focusing on the unique issues of blood cancer patients. A panel of medical experts will discuss current treatments and emerging, exciting breakthrough therapies to treat CLL, ALL, Lymphoma and Multiple Myeloma. Please register by calling (925) 677-5041 x272 or send email to sjung@dvothmg.com

Join Campolindo's Academic Decathlon team's "Through the Decades" Trivia and FUNdraising Night from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Jan. 24 in the Campo cafeteria. The evening will feature trivia, raffles, a bake sale, performances by the student music group The Cooks, and free babysitting/activities for young children. Cost: \$10 at the door for raffle and trivia to support the team to make it to the state championship. Please contact CampoAcademicDecathlon@gmail.com for more info.

Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church's annual Crab Feed and Dance, 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 2 at 1700 School Street in Moraga. Dinner and Dance

tickets are \$50 and must be purchased in advance. Please call or text Thea at (925) 890-0918. The Dessert Silent Auction is back. Chicken dinner choice available by special advance order request.

Free Tax preparation for the 2019 tax season is available starting February 2019 from AARP's Tax-Aide and United Way's Earn It, Keep It, Save It (EKS) programs. Service is provided by volunteer tax preparers who are IRS trained and certified. EKS service is limited to those with incomes below \$54,000, while Tax-Aide does not have an income limit. For Tax-Aide site information or appointments in Walnut Creek call: (925) 943-5851 for the Walnut Creek Senior Center site; (925) 405-6278 for the Walnut Creek Grace Presbyterian Church site; or (925) 979-5013 for the Walnut Creek St. Paul's Episcopal Church site. For information on other Tax-Aide sites, call: (925) 726-3199. For information on EKS sites, call 2-1-1 or visit www.earnitkeepsaveit.org.

GARDEN

The Lafayette Garden Club's first meeting of the new year will be at 10 a.m. on Jan. 10 at the Lafayette Veteran's Hall. We welcome guests to come and hear Nyna Dolby present "What to do with a Safeway Bouquet?"

Nyna is the House Floral Arranger at Filoli and has many years experience. She will demonstrate the basics of flower arranging highlighting the importance of proper mechanics, the role of foliage, and the basic art elements in this ephemeral art form.

The Walnut Creek Garden Club meeting begins at 9:45 a.m. Monday, Jan. 14 at Heather Farm, 1540 Marchbanks Road, Walnut Creek. David Rust, an expert on mushrooms and president of the Mycological Society, with his slide show, "Know Your Mushrooms," will help us identify the good and the bad and we will come away with a new appreciation of fungi's significant benefits to our ecosystems and human health. Times: 9:45 a.m. - Business Meeting; 10:30 a.m. - Social; 11 a.m. Program. We invite you to attend a meeting. Questions: mslittle44@gmail.com.

The Moraga Garden Club will hold its next meeting at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 17, at the Holy Trinity Church, 1700 School Street, Moraga. The guest speaker will be Gail Emmons, author of "A Beginner's Guide to Working with Leaves in a Contemporary Way." She will speak on "Leaf Manipulation." Emmons started her flower arranging journey more than 30 years ago while living in Hong Kong

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Service Clubs Announcements

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.

January 10: Diana Benton Contra Costa District Attorney	January 17: Mike Anderson Lafayette City Councilmember
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www.rotarylafayette.org
www.facebook.com/Rotary-Club-of-Lafayette-CA

LAMORINDA SUNRISE Rotary
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Breakfast, Friday 7:00 a.m.
The Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa,
3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, CA
www.lamorindasunrise.com

JANUARY MEETINGS

- 11:** Common Hope – Members share their recent experience in Guatemala
- 18:** Paul Grinberg, having dined at 99 of the top 100 restaurants in the worlds delights with stories of his culinary adventures.
- 25:** Member Exposé, Fred Steingraf on his life.

Lamorinda Weekly
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and taking classes in Sogetsu Ikebana. Emmons' trademark in flower arranging has been the development of a dynamic sculptural style that mixes the traditions of both East and West in new and daring ways. This event is free and open to all interested parties. Refreshments will be served. For more information, visit moragagardenclub.com.

The Montelindo Garden Club will be holding its January meeting at 9:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 18 at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center's Community Hall. Presentation: Pruning Tips with speaker Scott Paris. In South Placer County, Scott Paris

started as a Landscape Designer and opened the High Hand Nursery in 2003 to acquire plants for his landscaping business. More recently he became the owner of Maple Rock Gardens, a landscaping gem and year-round farm which is opened to the public a few times a year. Paris will give tips on pruning plants in your landscape. www.montelindogarden.com.

Winter Rose Care Workshop at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 26 at McDonnell Nursery, 196 Moraga Way, Orinda. Email info@mc-donnellnursery.com or call (925) 254-3713 to reserve a seat.