

Moraga School District completes installation of security cameras donated by Moraga Rotary



Photo provided

Moraga School District Info Tech Manager Jim Bilafer (left) and Superintendent Bruce Burns discuss with Moraga Police Lt. Brian South (right) the capabilities of the recently installed external security cameras at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate school.

Submitted by Gary Irwin

Bruce Burns, superintendent of Moraga School District, met recently with Lt. Brian South of Moraga Police Department to inspect and discuss the eight newly installed external security cameras on the Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School campus. This camera system allows authorized people to use the internet to see a view from any of the cameras on their computer, cell phone or other device, and to extract and save photos and video views as necessary, or export them to police or fire responders. Cameras can be remotely zoomed in for closer view.

The \$23,000 installation was funded by Moraga Rotary from funds donated specifically for this purpose by many participants at "A Nite at the Races" – a dinner/auction fundraiser held by Moraga Rotary in early March. Remaining designated funds from this event will be applied to similar camera installations at MSD

elementary schools, but still needs about \$13,000 to complete an expandable camera system at all three schools.

Moraga Rotary has also scheduled a second "Dinner with Rotary" for Thursday, Nov. 12, featuring a half-rack of smoked pork ribs, mashed potatoes, salad, and house-made cookie from Town Bakery & Café in Rheem. The cost per order is \$35, which includes a \$10 donation to Moraga Rotary, and orders of \$70 or more will receive a complimentary bottle of wine. For additional information and ordering instructions, contact moragarotary.org.

Moraga Rotary meets regularly at noon on most Tuesdays online via Zoom due to the pandemic. If you are interested in information about Rotary, or would like to donate to their worthy causes, please visit the website at moragarotary.org, or call Brian South, president, at (925) 888-7052.

DAR sponsors Wreaths for Veterans in Lafayette



Photo provided

Acalanes DAR Chapter Regent Mary Carillo, District Manager of the Alamo-Lafayette Cemetery Patty Howard, Historian Mary McCosker, and Acalanes DAR Vice Regent and event coordinator Terry Lucido

Submitted by Louise Diracles

The Acalanes Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will sponsor Wreaths for Veterans at the Lafayette Cemetery with Wreaths

Across America in December. At its Oct. 3 meeting at the cemetery, Mary McCosker spoke about the history of Lafayette, while Patty Howard, the District Manager of the Alamo-Lafayette Cemetery, showed the group some of the oldest tombstones.

AAUW-OML Announces Girls4STEM Webinars

Submitted by Lynda Leonard

The American Association of University Women Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette Branch (AAUW-OML) is offering a new webinar series specifically for high school girls called Girls4STEM. This series introduces women working in STEM fields to girls who at this stage of their lives are making choices about what courses to take in high school and considering potential careers.

Finding opportunities to learn from working professionals can be challenging, however this program is a wonderful, accessible way to learn about a STEM career and to ask questions of real women, telling the story of their journeys to their careers. They share insights on their specific area of study as well as their experiences in pursuit of a career in historically male-dominated fields.

These webinars are a wonderful way to maintain interest in STEM fields and boost girls' confidence in pursuing these careers.

The first webinar, "Refinery 101," will be at 3 p.m. Nov. 8 featuring Christy Tormey, BSE in mechanical engineering from Duke. After an internship at Chevron oil refinery, she was hired by them and is now an operations specialist. Find out what a day in the life of a refinery engineer is like. Her favorite part of the day? "Suiting up in Tyvek and a respirator

and climbing through columns and furnaces."

The next webinar is "Engineering with a Purpose" with Adrienne Johnson on Nov. 22 at 3 p.m. Johnson is a civil engineer who earned an award in 2017 for designing a "Net Zero Building," and was named one of the "Top 20 Women to Watch" by Engineering Systems Magazine. On Dec. 8, Deb Martin, BS in microbiology and a Certified Industrial Hygienist, will present a webinar on her career from the lab to taking safe and sustainable consumer products to market. She will be followed on Jan. 13 by Dr. Rosalie McGurk, astrophysicist, who will talk about her education and career path and how to make a spectroscope.

The webinars are free. This series is made possible through a grant from the Bettelheim Family Foundation. To learn about the specifics of this new program for girls, including the profiles of the presenters, and to register for a webinar, visit the AAUW-OML website at oml-ca.aauw.net. You can also go to Girls4STEM Instagram page. The American Association of University Women advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. The Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette Branch sponsors STEM-related community outreach projects, including Tech Trek and the STEM Conference at Saint Mary's College for middle school girls and Girls4STEM for high school girls.

JMIS student earns black belt in Karate



McKenzie Grace Kahn

Photo provided

Submitted by Colleen Kahn

After six and a half years of hard-work, McKenzie Grace Kahn (a 12-year-old from Joaquin Moraga) was awarded her black belt in Karate. The ceremony took place on Oct. 14 at the Karate and Fitness Place. For the past six years, McKenzie has been training 5-6 days a week. She continued to stay positive and excel through the pandemic and fires. McKenzie has been leading classes in the dojo for three years. She inspires younger and older students to push through even when times get tough. She is an excellent example of persistence and perseverance.

In Memory

Patricia J. Oas

June 1923 - October 2020



Pat Oas passed away peacefully in the early morning hours of Oct. 7. She was 97. She will be greatly missed by her daughters Jan Woods and husband Gene of Corvallis, Ore., and Karen Stockbridge and husband Kurt of Palos Verdes Estates, Calif. She is also survived by her grandchildren Katie Woods, Mark Woods (Sarra), Kyle Stockbridge and Phil Stockbridge and several nieces and nephews.

Pat was born and raised in Berkeley, Calif., the youngest daughter of Edith and Vincent Cooley. She attended business school, as her parents did not allow her to

attend college. After graduating, she went on to work for the railroad in San Francisco.

After the death of Jan's father, mother and daughter were blessed when Pat married Einar Oas Jr. (Hank) and after Karen was born they moved from Piedmont to Orinda where they raised their girls in a spotless home filled with love and happiness.

Pat was a member of Tilden Golf Course, Eastern Star, Newcomers and the Mercedes Club. She volunteered with PTA, as a Scout leader and at local hospitals. She played golf and liked nothing more than a good game of bridge. They both enjoyed the many friendships they developed in Orinda and Salem, Ore. She and Hank loved their annual trips to Twain Harte, Calif., and their travels around the globe.

After raising her girls, she spent quite a few years as a successful real estate broker with John M. Grubb until retiring in 1991 so she and Hank could move to Oregon to be close to Jan, Karen and her grandchildren.

Pat was beautiful and kind, a loving mother and wife. She was predeceased by her husband Hank of 41 years, her parents, brother Bob Cooley and sister Evelyn Traxler and Jan's father Weldon Cedarholm. She will be dearly missed and never forgotten.

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 with the subject header In Service to the Community.

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.