

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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WELCOME BACK LAFAYETTE

CITYWIDE SIDEWALK SALE

SATURDAY, JULY 31, 10:30 - 2:30

DOWNTOWN LAFAYETTE

FREE Peef's Coffee & Local Kitchens breakfast treats in Plaza Park 10 AM - 11 AM

LAFAYETTECHAMBER.ORG/SIDEWALK-SALE



Goalie Drew Holland

Photo provided

Local water polo player takes the Olympic world stage

By Jon Kingdon

When Drew Holland made this year's United States Olympic Water Polo team as their goalie, he continued a much venerated tradition for Miramonte High School. Following in the footsteps of Drew McDonald, Rick McNair, Kirk Everest (Cal's Water Polo coach), John Stenson, Heather Petri and Peter Schnugg, Holland became the seventh Miramonte graduate to be a member of the United States water polo team at the Olympics.

"I got a nice congratulatory text from Kirk Everest that was along those lines of carrying on the tradition and I'm happy to be able to do so," Holland said. "When I was young, I remember former play-

ers coming back to Miramonte and helping Coach James Lathrop with the team and I'm looking forward to helping with the next wave of Miramonte players, so it all comes full circle."

When the Olympics were suspended, Holland was flying back to the United States after playing professionally for Chios in Greece. "By the time we landed, they had canceled our training and things were locking down," Holland said. "We had to be separated from each other and were reduced to doing Zoom calls."

When the quarantines lifted in late June, the U.S. team made it to the finals of the FINA World League championships, though coming up short against Montenegro. Still, Holland was named the

top goalkeeper at the tournament. "That was a special award and I'm feeling confident about the Olympics coming off that tournament," Holland said.

Prior to departing for Japan on July 18, the water polo team was staying in Honolulu in a rented house, up in the hills, to avoid any chance of catching a COVID-19 infection. "It's been an interesting team bonding experience with a little work thrown in to keep the house clean with 13 guys," Holland said.

The team has been training twice a day on their own and then having practice scrimmage games in the evening with the Australian team.

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The food trucks are back for Hacienda Nights



Revelers enjoy Hacienda Nights food truck event July 15.

Photo Vera Kochan

By Vera Kochan

It was a breezy evening with a slight chill in the air, but that didn't stop

folks from coming out to the first of two Hacienda Nights on July 15.

The popular food truck event is held between 5 and 9 p.m. at Hacienda de las Flores located at 2100 Donald Drive in Moraga. It was canceled last summer due to the pandemic's social distancing restrictions, but it was clear that Lamorinda was more than ready for an outdoor party by the amount of attendees that showed up.

Parks and Recreation Director Breyana Brandt expected a good crowd. "It's the first post-COVID event we've had, and in the past we've gotten 400-600 people for this," she said.

Savvy Hacienda Nights-goers came prepared with ground blankets, just in case the picnic tables filled up - which they did, in record time. Games were set up on the lawn adding to the festive atmosphere, while the cooks fired up their grills in preparation for the main reason why everyone was there. Diners of all ages socialized be-

fore, during and after partaking in a variety of food truck offerings.

Five food trucks were on site along with Canyon Club Brewery beer and T-shirts. "We curated the event ourselves and contracted with each individual truck," explained Brandt. There was a mouth-watering selection of choices to appeal to anyone's taste buds. Ofie's Kitchen served various types of burgers with a side of fries or onion rings; Golden Gate Gyro (Middle Eastern comfort food) served lamb, chicken or rice gyros, along with chicken or lamb salads; Cousins Maine Lobster served lobster rolls or lobster tacos, tails & tots and clam chowder; Senor Sisig (Filipino fusion food) served tacos, burritos, nachos and rice. Last but not least, Daisy's Desserts served their signature donuts, brownies, ice cream and more.

The next Hacienda Nights food truck event is scheduled from 5 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 12.

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