

Campolindo girls basketball team takes Season of Giving to a whole new level



Campolindo girls basketball team

Photo provided

Submitted by Jon Wood

This holiday season, Moraga is proud to support Campolindo girls basketball and its Soles4Souls shoe drive, which demonstrates the character of these young women and the integrity of the program beyond the court.

Soles4Souls aims to turn unwanted shoes into opportunities, by keeping shoes from going to waste and putting them to good use – providing relief, creating jobs, and empowering people to break the cycle of poverty.

“Research shows that with good shoes, kids are more

healthy, attend school more often, and are more confident,” says Campolindo girls basketball head coach Bill Flitter. “Having a good pair of shoes that fit right and look good not only boosts a child’s confidence, it also removes one of the most visible signs of poverty.”

Soles4Souls creates sustainable jobs and provides relief through the distribution of shoes and clothing around the world.

Coach Flitter adds, “Most of us can’t imagine what it’s like not to have something as basic as a pair of shoes, but millions of people around the world face this every day. Our goal is 500 pairs of shoes.”

Shoe drop-off is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 7 from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Campolindo High School Gym, 300 Moraga Road.

Soles4Souls partners with women’s shelters, veterans’ organizations, children’s programs, and schools to get shoes and clothing to those who need it most. Please join this incredible group of women and bring the shoes you no longer wear. The greatest ‘feet’ you can do today is give new life to those lonely shoes in your closet!

For more information visit: Campogirlsbasketball.com

AAUW Virtual Tech Trek Camps a huge Success



Photo Sandy Fox-Sohner

Submitted by Jan Cushman

The 17 enthusiastic eighth- and ninth-grade Lamorinda girls who received scholarships and attended one of three American Association of University Women (AAUW) Virtual Tech Trek camps were honored at a reception in Orinda on Sept. 18. The girls were enthusiastic about their camp experience, which included many hands-on workshops and exposure to women in STEM fields.

If you had two sheets of poster board and a set of equipment including an Arduino UNO microcontroller

and a breadboard, could you design and program a hat to turn on LED lights, use positional and continuous servos to move things and include your values, strengths and interests as well as your team’s sustainable goal in your decorations?? This is what each of the Tech Trek girls learned to do during the mornings of camp.

After lunch, there were inspirational talks by women in astrophysics, neuroscience, engineering, food/agriculture and climate activism, followed by two hands-on workshops each day, such as “Exploring Water at Its Surface,” and “Lights, Waves, and Plasma, Oh My!”

Evenings were spent with presentations including how to prepare yourself in high school to be ready for a STEM major in college and a tour of a Tokamak device being developed to produce thermonuclear fusion power.

Overall, more than 600 girls from 60 AAUW branches in California participated in three separate camps. Over 6,000 different kits were prepared and assembled into nearly 1,000 bags with the workshop supplies. The camps were made possible by volunteers from branches across the state with the support of Qualcomm and donations from branch and community members.

From left, top row: Sophia Bitton, Camille Bradley, Deya Murthy, Helena Linnen; middle row: Isabelle Culinco, Arianna Bustamante, Christophe Davis, Kodie Zundel, Abigail Hui, Emma Wong; bottom row: Beatrice Dean, Audrey Spears, Maryam Kermani, Georgia Stankus, Rebecca Tanner, Claire Casado (Not shown: Sofia Gomes)

Kiwanis See’s Candy fundraiser offers sweet way to support the community



Photo provided

Submitted by Marty Brinckerhoff

The Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley’s See’s Candy Holiday Fundraiser is back. After a one-year hiatus due to the pandemic, Moraga Vice Mayor Steve Woehleke, County Supervisor District 2 Candace Andersen, Club president Leslie Engler and Moraga Police Chief Jon King celebrated the store opening Nov. 18 at the store in the Rheem Shopping Center near CVS.

Together the local community has made great strides

in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic and the Kiwanis See’s store is open once again from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Dec. 24. They offer the same delicious and premium assortment of See’s candies for your family, friends and work associates at See’s retail prices, with 100% of net proceeds going to worthy local charities and organizations that benefit our community. There are easy parking, wrapping and delivery options, and credit cards are accepted.

Many have suffered hardships and your purchases go a long way to help those in

need get back on their feet. Thanks to the generous support of community and club members, over the last two years during the pandemic the Kiwanis Club of MV has donated over \$150,000 to worthy local charities and organizations that benefit the community. Please join Kiwanis once again, to both give to our community and share the magic of See’s candies during the holidays. What could be sweeter?

For more information about the fundraiser and who Kiwanis serves, visit moragavalleykiwanis.org.

Moraga Vice Mayor Steve Woehleke, County Supervisor District 2 Candace Andersen, Club President Leslie Engler and Moraga Police Chief Jon King help open the Kiwanis See’s Candy shop for the 2021 season.

Santa, wreaths and poinsettia sales at the historic Scout cabin

Submitted by Katie Bidstrup

Together with Lafayette Juniors, Scout Troop 204 will be hosting a wreath and poinsettia sale at the historic Scout cabin (3502 School Street) located on the corner of

Lafayette Elementary, at School and First Streets Dec. 4 and 5. This feel-good, family event will be outside, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on both days. Scouts will be on hand to provide masked tours of the cabin interior and to help Santa hand out treats.

As a boy-led Troop, 204

member activities are entirely self-funded through their efforts in the annual wreath sale. Profits from Poinsettia sales will go to support this year’s 2021-22 Juniors beneficiaries: White Pony Express, Futures Explored and Lamorinda Village. While the Troop 204 wreath sale has been on-

going for 25 years, this will be the first time holding the event at the cabin, and in combination with Lafayette Juniors.

Wreaths are 22 inches in diameter and boast a hand-tied bow in traditional red, holiday green/red plaid or festive blue/red tartan. Poin-

settia options are red or white and arrive in 6-inch, foil-wrapped pots. Wreaths are \$30 each. Poinsettias are \$25 each. Pre-sale is available at Troop204.com and LafayetteJuniors.com.

For more information, call (415) 596-7065 or email KatieBidstrup@gmail.com.

Celebrate the season at these special holiday events

Opportunities abound to gather with friends and community members over the upcoming holidays. Here are a few offerings in the Lamorinda area on Thanksgiving Day and beyond:

Looking for a way to work up an appetite on Thanksgiving Day? Join the Fourth Annual Turkey Trot at Moraga Country Club on Thanksgiving Day. The 5K run/walk starts at 8:15 a.m. with the 1.5-mile run/walk beginning at 8:30 a.m. Proceeds from the event fees will benefit the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano. For information, visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/CA/Moraga/MoragaTurkeyTrot>

Searching for a more musical experience? “I Sing Because ...” will feature the prize-winning Saint Mary’s College choirs, joined by the Baroque Chamber Ensemble “Magnificat,” during this free performance of two choral-orchestral selections by J.S. Bach as well as many holiday favorites and a carol sing-along at 8 p.m. Dec. 2 and 4 at the SMC Chapel. Proof of vaccination or negative COVID PCR test and wearing of masks is required. For information, visit <https://www.stmarys-ca.edu/choir-concert-FA21>

Rather sing your own songs? Join local community members for hot cocoa, cookies and caroling at the annual Tree

Lighting Ceremony at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 2 at Moraga Commons Park. Santa is scheduled to make an appearance at 7 p.m.

And the holidays wouldn’t be the same without George Bailey – and Town Hall Theatre’s Main Stage! THT will be featuring “It’s a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play” where five actors will bring Bedford Falls to life as they tell the story of George Bailey and his fateful Christmas. The play runs from Dec. 2 to Dec. 19. For information, visit <https://ci.ovationtix.com/36010/production/1086217>

Want more Wonderful? The free annual “It’s a Wonderful Life in Lafayette” holiday event returns this year from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5 will include a tree lighting, food, drinks, music and entertainment, children’s activities and Santa in downtown Lafayette at Plaza Park. Presented by the Lafayette Chamber, and sponsored by local Lafayette Realtor The Dana Green Team and Branagh Development, the festivities will begin at 4 p.m. with Santa parading along Golden Gate Way starting at the Lafayette Historical Society and arriving at Lafayette Plaza Park (corner of Mt. Diablo Boulevard and Moraga Road) at 4:30 p.m. A must-not-miss for the little ones! – J. Wake

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