

Santa Day a Huge Hit

Submitted by Cynthia Brian



Photo provided

On Dec. 2, 5 A-Rent-A-Space, in collaboration with Be the Star You Are!@ 501 c3 charity volunteers held their free annual Santa Day for the local community at 5A in Moraga. Children and their families arrived in

droves to write letters to Santa, make Christmas ornaments, decorate stockings, and enjoy hot cocoa, cider, and treats. The highlight was meeting Santa Claus and his elf and taking a souvenir photo with the North

Pole celebrities. Donations benefited Operation Disaster Relief. Be the Star You Are!@ is making a list for next year! www.bethestaryouare.org/events-1/santa-day-at-5a.

Lamorinda students making a difference by serving seniors with heart

Submitted by Tony Chow



Photo provided

Local students, from left: Chris Bei, Anthony Chow, Adeeb Khan, Ace Chow, Kean Vo, Andrew Bei.

In the Lamorinda community, young hearts are making a significant impact on the lives of our senior citizens by offering their talents, skills, and acts of kindness. Local students are demonstrating the power of

compassion and service on a monthly basis for seniors at MonteVerde Belle Terre in Lafayette, where they bring joy with their musical performances, martial arts, baked goods, chess playing, performance poetry,

and show & tell. Their dedication and kindness are truly inspiring and remind us of the importance of giving back to our community, especially during the Holiday Season.

Local residents call for DeSaulnier to stop funding weapons for Gaza war

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There was a stark contrast from outside the plaza, where empty pairs of shoes representing the thousands of children who've been killed in the war so far were displayed, to the interior where DeSaulnier's 200th Town Hall meeting began with the presentation of a cake. As the Congressman presented slides about what he'd accomplished in Contra Costa County, some members of the diverse crowd grew impatient. It became clear that many had gathered with hopes of talking about the unfolding situation in Israel/Palestine, a topic which DeSaulnier did not lean into during his town hall.

Bissan Abusharar and her husband listened patiently as their children played. Abusharar says patience, along with persistence, are the key ingredients for inspiring the hearts, minds and eventually the votes of political leaders.

"If we look back at history, we know that we have to be persistent. This is not going to stop if we just give up and stop showing up. We need to keep showing up for the children of Gaza and for

the people of Gaza. They don't have a voice right now," Bissan Abusharar says. "We need to keep calling and pressuring our congress members and representatives to do the right thing – call for a ceasefire and stop funding weapons that are killing thousands of people."

Rena Meyers-Dahlkamp lives in the Canyon area near Moraga and is part of an interfaith coalition of women. "We can't keep going like this with this many children and families being killed daily with our tax dollars. That's not self defense."

Meyers-Dahlkamp is clinging tightly to the hope that DeSaulnier will make good on his promise to children and families. Like the Abusharar family, Meyers-Dahlkamp noted what was missing from DeSaulnier's commitment. "He listened to a 15-year-old who presented him with the scroll of names [of those killed in Gaza] who described how painful it was to go through and highlight the names of the children. The Congressman said it was horrible and shouldn't be happening, but he didn't make the commitment to stop funding the Israeli military which is what our big ask is today and so

we'll keep pushing." Lafayette resident Lynn MacMichael, who is in her mid-80s, appeared with her bright orange vest to work security. She's been showing up for racial justice and inclusivity both in Lamorinda and in the world at large for her whole life, and she can't wait for this war to end. "The U.S. voted against the ceasefire in the Security Council (last week) and we have to live with that. I've been to Israel, Palestine and Gaza several times. The situation has never been fair. We need a viable two-state solution with both people protected. Many of us have even offered to go and stand right on the border to make sure there's no problem," MacMichael said. "I do not justify violence at all ever and I don't justify what Hamas did nor do I justify what the Israeli government has done since then. And when there's an unfair situation going on – with people in Gaza being in open-air prisons – people [will] resist. The U.S. has allowed and funded this with our tax dollars for decades with a \$3.9 billion blank [annual] check. This has to stop."

Letters to the editor

Speed control

This is Mason from Acalanes High School. I was just reaching out to express how I liked the addition of the speed/radar signs posted outside of Aclanes and Springhill Elementary

School! Since their addition, I have noticed a decline in cars traveling at unsafe speeds and I believe that this is a great change to keep kids safe when going to school or leaving school. This change is really good and the more of them we add

to busy streets near popular schools, the better it will be for the students who don't have to worry about vehicles traveling at unsafe speeds on their way to school. Thanks! Mason Lane

Opinions in Letters to the Editor are the express views of the writer and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly. All published letters will include the writer's name and city/town of residence — we will only accept letters from those who live in, or own a business in, the communities comprising Lamorinda (please give us your phone number for verification purposes only). Letters must be factually accurate. Lamorinda Weekly reserves the right to refuse publishing a letter submission. Visit www.lamorindaweekly.com for submission guidelines. Email: letters@lamorindaweekly.com; Regular mail: Lamorinda Weekly, 1480 Moraga Road STE C #202, Moraga, CA 94556

Lamorinda CERT Upcoming Events

Winter CERT Basic Class Series

January 11th until March 7th

CERT is about the emergency preparedness education and training of community members so they will be better equipped to aid family, neighbors, and responders in case of disaster. CERT is a positive and realistic approach to emergency and disaster situations where citizens will be initially on their own and their actions can make a difference. Register now at: <https://classes.lamorindacert.org>

Lamorinda CERT Monthly Meetings are open to all.

To get a Zoom link, go to <https://meetings.lamorindacert.org>

January 8, 7:00 pm – EARTHQUAKES

Keith Knudsen, PhD, USGS, will speak about earthquakes, the current technologies and the future probabilities, and the hazards that we face near the Hayward fault.

Public Safety

<p>Emergency response: Emergency: 24 Hours 911 Police Dispatch: 24 Hours 925-284-5010</p> <p>Nixle: Text your zip code to 888777 or www.nixle.com</p> <p>Lafayette Police Department: 3471 Mt. Diablo Blvd. 925-283-3680</p> <p>Chief of Police, Ben Alldritt 925-299-3221</p> <p>Police Department Tip Line 94549Tip@gmail.com</p> <p>Police Department Traffic Issues 94549Traffic@gmail.com</p> <p>Moraga Police Department: 329 Rheem Blvd., 925-888-7055 Chief of Police, Jon King ext. 7049</p> <p>Orinda Police Department: 22 Orinda Way 925-254-6820 Chief of Police, Ryan Sullivan 925-254-6820</p> <p>Orindatip@cityoforinda.org</p> <p>Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report Dec. 3 - Dec. 9</p> <p>Alarms 12 911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 6</p>	<p>Traffic 48 Suspicious Circumstances 4 Suspicious Subject 7 Suspicious Vehicle 3 Service to Citizen 12 Patrol Req./Security Check 12 Public/School Assembly Check 8 Supplemental Report 11 Vacation House Check 14 Welfare Check 20 Ordinance Violation 0</p> <p>Vehicle violations Hit And Run Misdemeanor 800 Block Las Trampas Rd. 1000 Block Carol Ln. Police Department 3600 Block Mosswood Dr.</p> <p>Reckless Driving Taylor Blvd./Withers Ave. Eb Sr 24 At Pleasant Hill Rd. Pleasant Hill Rd./Wb Sr 24</p> <p>Road Rage Mt. Diablo Blvd./Happy Valley Rd. Tc - Property Damage Camino Pablo/Eb Sr 24, Ori</p> <p>Vehicle Theft 4000 Block Happy Valley Rd.</p> <p>Other criminal activity Identity Theft 3400 Block Springhill Ct. Panhandling Mt. Diablo Blvd./Happy Valley Rd. Petty Theft Bicycle Police Department</p> <p>Shoplift 3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (3)</p> <p>Nuisance to the Community Disturbing The Peace 200 Block Happy Hollow Ct. 3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. Acalanes Rd./Mt. Diablo Blvd.</p> <p>Loud Music 10 Block Via Magnalena Upper Happy Valley Rd./S Peardale Dr.</p> <p>Loud Noise 1400 Block Rancho View Dr.</p> <p>Loud Party 300 Block Shire Oaks Ct. 900 Block Paulson Ct.</p> <p>Public Nuisance El Curtola Blvd./Eb Sr 24 3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2) 3900 Block S Peardale Dr. 50 Block Lafayette Cir. 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.</p> <p>Vandalism 500 Block Merriewood</p> <p>Other Brandishing Weapon Oak Hill Rd./Mt. Diablo Blvd. 300 Block Shire Oaks Ct.</p> <p>Illegal Entry 900 Block Moraga Rd.</p> <p>Loitering 3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.</p> <p>Threats 4100 Block Canyon Rd. 3500 Block School St.</p> <p>Unwanted Guest 3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3200 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. 1100 Block Upper Happy Valley Rd.</p>	<p>Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report Nov. 28 - Dec. 11</p> <p>Alarms 9 911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 6 Traffic 39 Suspicious Circumstances 3 Suspicious Subject 5 Suspicious Vehicle 8 Service to Citizen 28 Patrol Req./Security Check 16 Public/School Assembly Check 4 Supplemental Report 7 Vacation House Check 0 Welfare Check 4 Ordinance Violation 0</p> <p>Vehicle violations Excessive Speed Pinehursts Ifo The School Moraga Rd./Buckingham Dr. St Marys Rd./Bolinger Canyon Rd. (3) Chalda Way./Rheem Blvd. Canyon Rd./Constance Pl. Rheem Blvd./Fernwood Dr. St Marys College Corliss Dr./Crossbrook Ct. Moraga Way/Villa Ln. 400 Block Woodminster Dr.</p> <p>Hit And Run Misdemeanor Taco Bell</p> <p>Reckless Driving Corliss Dr./Camino Ricardo St Marys College</p> <p>Other criminal activity Fraud Credit Card Dollar Tree</p> <p>Fraud False Pretenses 1400 Block Camino Peral 100 Block Miramonte Dr.</p> <p>Grand Theft 30 Block Miramonte Dr.</p> <p>Identity Theft 1400 Block Camino Pablo</p> <p>Residential Burglary 1000 Block Sanders Dr. 10 Block Huff Ct. 1200 Block Rimer Dr.</p> <p>Shoplift Homegoods</p> <p>Nuisance to the Community Disturbing The Peace Moraga Rd./Corliss Dr. Hacienda 1800 Block Ascot Dr.</p> <p>Loud Party 70 Block Miramonte Dr. 2000 Block Ascot Dr.</p> <p>Public Nuisance 400 Block Center St.</p> <p>Other Mentally Ill Commit 300 Block Rheem Blvd.</p> <p>Suicide Attempt 300 Block Rheem Blvd.</p>
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2024 Holiday Tree Collection Schedule

PF606

Christmas and New Year's Day are on Mondays this year; therefore everyone's regular service day will be pushed one day later both weeks to accommodate the holiday for drivers. **Monday customers will be serviced Tuesday, etc. Friday customers will be serviced Saturday Dec 30 and Jan 6.**

Your tree pickup will be on the same day as your regular garbage service but by a separate truck.

Week of Jan 2-6	Customers in Walnut Creek, Danville, Alamo, Diablo, and Blackhawk (including unincorporated areas).
Week of Jan 8-12	Customers in Lafayette, Orinda, and Moraga (including unincorporated areas).
Week of Jan 15-19	Any customers who missed prior tree collection.
AFTER Jan 20	If possible, cut tree and place in organics cart with lid closed, or call (925) 685-4711 to schedule a pick-up for a fee.

Tree Pickup Reminders

- Remove lights, ornaments, tinsel, and stands (whether plastic, metal, or wood) before placing tree curbside.
- Trees over 6' must be cut in half.
- Flocked trees should be cut to place inside your black landfill cart, or call (925) 685-4711 to schedule a curbside pick-up in advance.

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Sustainability in Action

Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority

Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report

will be back next time