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## Giving Opportunities this Holiday Season



Cycle Recycle, 'til the end of November. Every year, Bobbie and Tom Preston collect repairable bikes for refurbishing by Trips for Kids, the Bicycle Hut, and by the inmates at Marsh Canyon Detention Facility. The repaired bikes are given at Christmas to under-privileged children. Most needed are tricycles and junior bikes; please no skateboards. The Prestons have been doing the Cycle Recycle for 14 years, and over 1500 bikes have been gifted to kids. New and/or used, repairable bikes may be delivered to the side driveway of the Preston's home, only through the month of November, at 1307 Larch Avenue, Moraga.

The Moraga Police Officers Association along with S.A.F.E. (Stuffed Animals For Emergencies) is collecting new or gently used stuffed animals to help children through traumatic experiences. The stuffed animals are given to local police and fire departments, which distribute them to children they encounter who have been affected by traumatic events. S.A.F.E also facilitates the distribution of donated stuffed animals for a variety of charitable purposes to help children. This year's annual holiday collection drive begins on 11/23 and ends on 12/27. New or gently used stuffed animals can be dropped off in the collection area located in the lobby of the Moraga Police Department, 329 Rheem Blvd. Thank you for your support!

The wonderful people of Handlebar Toys of Lafayette have kindly offered to host Lamorinda Girl Scout Troop #31983's "2nd annual Toy Drive Event" again this year, from November 25th until December 20th! There are several thousand homeless and needy children that will be served by the Mission this holiday. When purchasing a special gift for a child in your life, please consider choosing something to put a smile on another less fortunate child's face. Thank you so much from Troop #31983!

Make a difference in the lives of women, families, and teens by making a tax-deductible donation to Be the Star You Are!(r) charity in Moraga. New books are being shipped to groups and families across the US who have suffered in recent natural disasters. Checks of any amount may be sent to Be the Star You Are!(r) 501c3, PO Box 376, Moraga, Ca. 94556. Or make donations online via PAYPAL at <http://www.bethestaryouare.org/donate.htm>. \$25 provides 5 books, \$50 provides 12 books, and \$100 provides 28 books. Thanks for caring. Everyone counts!

Please support the new Lafayette Community Stage at the Reservoir. The new permanent stage, initiated by the Lafayette Rotary, will be used for community events like the annual "Concert at the Res," which help fund music programs at our local schools and many other outdoor performing events. Send your check to Lafayette Community Foundation, "Rotary Stage", PO Box 221, Lafayette, CA 94549-0221.

Tree of Lights ceremonies are meant to comfort members of the community who have lost a loved one and to raise funds to support Hospice of the East Bay services. By purchasing a light for \$25, you can honor someone you love while supporting patient care. To sponsor a tree or to make a suggested donation of \$25 per light visit [www.hospiceeastbay.org](http://www.hospiceeastbay.org) or send a tax-deductible check to Hospice of the East Bay, at 3470 Buskirk Avenue, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. For further information, call (925) 887-5678.

The Town of Moraga reminds residents that they can help light the Town tree at the Moraga Commons Park by donating to the Buy-a-Bulb Fundraiser - send checks payable to the Town of Moraga to: Town of Moraga, Attn: Buy-a-Bulb, 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga, CA 94556.

Safeway: Help Us End Hunger Holiday Food Drive from November 16 - December 24. Purchase a \$10 prepacked bag of groceries which will be donated to the Food Bank. In store barrels will be available to drop off the donation, it's quick and easy.

Whole Foods: From Now until December 31, donate non-perishable items while shopping at the Lafayette Whole Foods store to support the Food Bank, or make a cash donation at the register while checking out. Look for pallets of healthy items on display. You can't miss the bins to collect donated non-perishable items.

"Beadforlife" Workshop And Bead Sale, November 27 after worship at 11:15 at Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, Orinda 94563. The Women Helping Women Group of Orinda Community Church will sponsor another handmade beaded jewelry sale to help Ugandan women to leave poverty. The event will also feature a Workshop on Empowerment of Girls through Education. All net profits from BeadforLife sales are invested in projects that fight extreme poverty, primarily in three key areas: health, affordable housing, and vocational training for impoverished youth, and entrepreneurial development through micro credit for small businesses.

Company C Contemporary Ballet is partnering with the non-profit Educational Foundation of Orinda to offer tickets to select performances of the 10th Anniversary Season Winter Program that benefit EFO and the Orinda schools. For every full priced benefit ticket sold to an EFO supporter, the Company will donate \$10 of the ticket price to EFO. Benefit tickets are priced \$45 orchestra seating, available for the following Winter Program performances: Leshner Center for the Arts, January 20-21 and the Novellus Theater at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, February 17 and 19. For the matinee performance at the Leshner Center for the Arts at 3 p.m. on January 21, children 12 and under come for free with purchase of one full priced benefit ticket. Maximum of 4 children per ticket sold. Most appropriate for children 7 and older. Benefit ticket buyers must use the code "ENRICH" when ordering tickets to ensure their discount and support for every full priced benefit ticket sold. Details of programs, dates and venues may be found at [www.companycballet.org](http://www.companycballet.org).

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