

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 can be sent to storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com with the subject header In Service to the Community.

Local Moraga Charity Named Top-Rated Nonprofit Organization

Submitted by Cynthia Brian

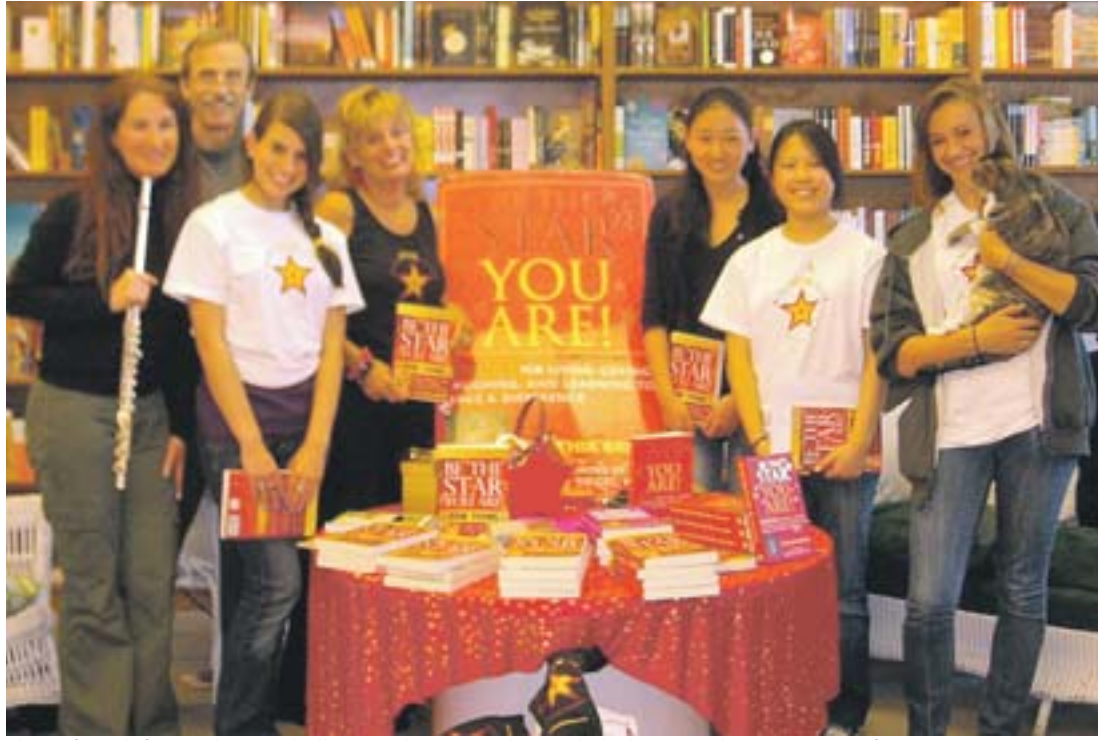


Photo from left to right: Carol Albans, Arlyn Van Dyke, Rachel Glass, Cynthia Brian, Jennifer Tao, Courtney Cheng, Gaby Gryko, Orinda Books Resident Kitty. Photo submitted

Supporters have spoken! BE THE STAR YOU ARE!®, 501 c3 has been named to a new list of top-rated nonprofits by GreatNonprofits, the leading provider of user reviews for nonprofit organizations. During May, 2010, over 46,000 people read and wrote reviews about 368 nonprofits serving and empowering women. Of those 368, 154 charities were selected to be honored as a top-rated charity.

Reviews for BE THE STAR YOU ARE!®, 501c3 are available at <http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/be-the-star-you-are-inc>. The reviews were posted as part of the Women's Empowerment campaign conducted by GreatNonprofits, in partnership with Guidestar and a coalition of nonprofit organizations. "We are gratified to be able to honor BE THE STAR YOU ARE!®, 501 c3 for its work on empowerment, education, improved literacy and positive media issues," said Perla Ni, CEO of GreatNonprofits. "They deserve to be recognized for the support they have from their community of stakeholders."

The Mission of BE THE STAR YOU ARE!®, a 501 c-3 not-for-profit corporation, is to provide, promote, and distribute books and positive media to em-

power women, families, and youth-at-risk to increase literacy, decrease violence, and improve daily life.

The Vision of BE THE STAR YOU ARE!® is to help all women, families, and youth-at-risk, regardless of ethnicity, religion, sex, vocation and avocation overcome obstacles, increase self-esteem while offering a head start to beat the odds.

Since the founding in 1999 by philanthropist Cynthia Brian, BE THE STAR YOU ARE!®, a Moraga-based non profit, has served approximately 209,800 individuals and families within 71 organizations and has logged more than 229,880 volunteer hours, while distributing over \$1.6 million in resources. BE THE STAR YOU ARE!® was nominated for the California Governor's and First Lady's Service Awards and touted with five star ratings by Guidestar and Great Non Profits in the Women's Empowerment Campaign. The Starstyle®-BE THE STAR YOU ARE!® radio program broadcasts to 5.5 million listeners in 82 countries. (<http://www.voiceamerica.com/worldtalkradio/vshow.aspx?sid=764>) More than 1500 authors, experts, and professionals have been interviewed on the radio show. Over 475 books have

been read and reviewed by the Star Teen Book Review Team and published by publishers, The Reading Tub, and on the web site at <http://www.bethestaryouare.org>. Be the Star You Are!® fosters numerous outreach programs to support community and communications.

On May 22, several of the volunteers and Lamorinda teen contributors to the new book, Be the Star You Are!® for TEENS hosted readings at Orinda Books. A musical concert was provided by flutist Carol Albans who has performed at Carnegie Hall and is the principal flute with the Bay Area Chamber Symphony. Participants at the event included New York Times best selling author and Executive Director of the charity, Cynthia Brian, Gaby Gryko, Jacqueline Tao, Rachel Glass, Courtney Cheng, and Arlyn Van Dyke.

Be the Star You Are!® volunteers are very thrilled with this nod of confidence for their work and thank Lamorinda businesses and individuals for their ongoing support of giving, volunteering, and patronage. More information is available at <http://www.bethestaryouare.or>. Contact information is info@bethestaryouare.org or 925-376-7126.

EFO Thanks Orinda

Submitted by Sandra McGonigle, EFO



It was another great year for the Orinda schools as EFO supporters generously contributed over \$1.5 million for the 2009-2010 school year to fund the multitude of arts, music and elective programs offered at the six Orinda schools: Miramonte High School, Orinda Intermediate School, plus the four elementary schools: Del Rey, Glorieta, Sleepy Hollow and Wagner Ranch. Students and community members gather to add the Thank You Orinda banner to the EFO sign in celebration. Thank you, Orinda, for all your support this year and over the past 30 years!

Photo Sheila Eversole

Rotary Club of Moraga Hosts 19th Annual Moraga Field Day

Submitted by Gary Irwin



Sack race Photo Ohlen Alexander

On June 2nd, Rotary Club of Moraga held a fun Field Day for third, fourth, and fifth graders in the Moraga School District at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School. 222 boys and girls participated in this Field Day, held for the 19th straight year, in events such as sprints, relays, sack races, long jumps, and football/softball throws. Medals were awarded to the top three contestants in each event.

Los Perales School was recognized for having the most participants, and Donald Rheem School won the plaque for the most points



Sprint Photo Ohlen Alexander

scored, and will display the winner's plaque at its campus. The high point girl and boy were Caroline Coates, a third grader at Donald Rheem School, and Daniel Nelson (for the second year in a row), a fourth grader at Donald Rheem School. They, their parents, and their teacher will be guests at a future Rotary meeting, where they will be presented with a plaque honoring their achievement. The teacher whose students accumulated the most points was Mrs. Culleton, who teaches fourth grade at Donald Rheem School.

Field Day was originated by Moraga Rotary's Past President Al Simonsen, who continues to chair the event. Simonsen is a retired Captain for American Airlines who also substitute-teaches in intermediate and high schools in Lamorinda.

Another community service project of Rotary Club of Moraga is to give a dictionary to every third grade student in the Moraga schools, including Saklan and Canyon schools. This project has continued for more than a decade.

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Jack London Kitchen & Bath Gallery Summer Sidewalk Sale. When: Sat. June 12th 10am-4pm. Where: 2500 Embarcadero Rd, Oakland. Save up to 70% on Samples, Display models, Overstock, Discontinued. Faucets, Toilets, sinks, whirlpools, Vanities, Towel Warmers, Accessories, Mirrors and More.

Puppies

3 Yorkshire Terrier puppies, boys, DOB 5/28/2010, 1 week old, parents multiple champions, can go at 12 weeks, beautiful character, AKC, \$1,500.00. please call 510.604.4845

Volunteers needed

Contra Costa Animal Services, Mrtz, urgently needs foster kitten & cat families for temp. housing. Cindy Smith 925-335-8335.

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Men's Navy Jacket. Vicinity Olympic Blvd trail head-Lafayette. (5/28) Call: 925-932-3153

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