Film Clips

Helen Hunt to be honored at the 20th Annual California Independent Film Festival

www.lamorindaweekly.com

By Derek Zemrak



Photo provided

he California Independent Film Festival will be celebrating its 20th year Sept. 7 – 13 at the Rheem and Orinda Theatres. Oscar Recipient, four-time Golden Globe winner and four-time Emmy recipient, Helen Hunt, will be the honored guest and will receive the 2017 Diamond Award, given each year to a woman for her contribution to the entertainment industry.

A VIP reception for Hunt will be held at Cine Cuvée Wine Bar and Café at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10. The VIP reception is limited to 25 attendees. "A Conversation with Helen Hunt" will follow the reception at 6:30 p.m. at the Orinda Theatre.

Hunt, an Academy Award-winning actress, has become an accomplished filmmaker as well. She wrote, directed, produced and stars in two films: "Ride" and "Then She Found Me," which garnered critical acclaim, financial success, and won the Palm Springs Film Festival's Audience Award. It stars Hunt along with Colin Firth, Matthew Broderick and Bette Midler.

As an actress, Hunt's extensive and diverse body of work includes roles in film, theater and television. In 2011, she completed two independent film projects - Steven Bernstein's "Decoding Annie Parker" with Samantha Morton, and Ben Lewin's "The Sessions" opposite John Hawkes and William H. Macy. "The Sessions" premiered in competition at the 2012 Sundance Film Festival and took home the Audience Award, the jury prize for Best Ensemble. Hunt also received a Supporting Actress Oscar nomination and won the Independent Spirit Award for her performance.

Other film credits include: "Soul Surfer," "Every Day," "Bobby," "As Good As It Gets," "What Women Want," "Castaway," "Good Woman," "The Curse of the Jade Scorpion," "Dr. T & the Women," "Pay It Forward" and "Twister." Early career film credits include: "The Waterdance," "Kiss of Death," "Mr. Saturday Night," "Peggy Sue Got Married," "Next of Kin," "Girls Just Want to Have Fun," "Project X" and "Miles from Home."

Some of Hunt's recent TV work includes "Mad About You" and the critically acclaimed HBO Miniseries "Empire Falls." For her role as Jamie Buchman in "Mad About You," Hunt garnered four Emmy Awards, four Golden Globe Awards (three as lead actress and one as Producer for Best Comedy), and a Screen Actors Guild Award. She was also named Best Actress for her role in the film "As Good As It Gets" for which Hunt won a Golden Globe Award, a Screen Actors Guild Award, and an Oscar.

She has also directed television episodes of ABC's "Revenge," "Mad About You," "The Paul Reiser Show," Showtime's "Californication" and FX Network "Feud."

Hunt is equally accomplished as a stage actress who recently reprised the role of 'Stage Manager' in David Cromer's latest production of "Our Town" at the Broad Stage in Santa Monica January and February, 2015. Hunt first played the role of 'Stage Manager' in the 2010 New York production of "Our Town" at the Barrow Street Theater. Additional theater credits include "Twelfth Night (Viola)" at Lincoln Center and Life Xs Three at Circle in the Square Theater. Other theater credits are "Taming of the Shrew" at NYSF-Shakespeare in the Park, "Been Taken" at EST, "Much Ado About Nothing (Beatrice)" at the Shakespeare Center L.A, 'Methusalem" with the Actor's Gang, "The Value of Names" at the Skylight Theatre; and "Love Letters" in Los Angeles, San Francisco

A Los Angeles native, Hunt grew up in an artistic environment. Her father, Gordon Hunt, is a director and respected acting coach. Hunt currently lives in Los Angeles with her partner, Matthew Carnahan, her daughter Makena Lei and her stepson Emmett.

The California Independent Film Festival is seeking sponsorship for the Helen Hunt event in Orinda. For more information, email derek@ caiff.org.





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Service Clubs Announcements

LAMORINDA SUNRISE Friends, Fun, Service Above Self

We meet Friday mornings at 7:00 am at The Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa, Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette. For more info, please email us at lamorindasunrise@gmail.com

July 28

Our newly installed President, Walter Nelson, will give you a peek through the window of his life with some entertaining stories.

Learn about Camp Venture from the firsthand experience of, Ross Ney, a graduate of the program.

August 4

Whoever would have thought the 2017 June/July AARP edition would feature "older buyers trying to simplify travel desires" by scaling back to "head-turning" Teardrop Trailers? We did!

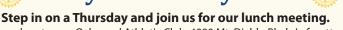
Not to be missed



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Lafayette Rotary Club



Thursday at noon Oakwood Athletic Club, 4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette.

July 27:

August 3:

Christoph Nauer Working Smarter not Harder

Andy & Wendy Scheck Honey "honey"?

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SENIORS

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call (925) 284-8214. (See story noon second Tuesday monthly. page A3.)

The ninth annual Senior Sym- Free Peer Counseling: Contra Please call Lafayette Senior **posium**, "Aging By Design," is **Costa Health** Services offers Services to sign up for one of from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Satur- free one-to-one counseling with the 60-minute appointments: day, Aug. 5 at Lafayette Elementrained senior counselors who 284-5050. Check in at Lafayette tary School, 950 Moraga Road, use their life experiences to help Community Center front office. Lafayette. Presentations by lo- other older adults (55-plus) cope cal aging experts. Free. Register with life changes, problems, cri-

Confidentiality is strictly observed. Appointment required.

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Free concerts to rock Lamorinda this summer

Moraga

Thursday evenings at the Commons are for relaxing with friends and enjoying the bands. Bring a blanket or lawn chairs to the grassy hillside in front of the band shell. The volunteers of MPF will cook dinner for you with the Snack Bar opening at 6 p.m.

July 27 Mixed Nuts - Jazz, soul, blues and rock

Aug. 3 House Rockers - Rock and soul

Aug. 10 Apple Z - Rock and roll

Aug. 17 Fundamentals - Red-hot rockin' soul

The County Food Bank will have collection bins near parking lots each Thursday. Concerts start at 6:30 p.m. and end at 8:30 p.m.

Orinda

It's time to sit back and unwind at the free summer concerts at the park series on Tuesday nights.

Aug. 1, JetBlacq — Jazz

Food Truck: Rebel Dog Hotdogs

Aug. 8, West Grand Blvd — Motown Food Truck: An the Go (Asian Fusion)

Aug. 15, Big Band Jazz

Food Truck: Kenny's Heart & Soul (Soul Food)

The concerts run 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Also coming up in Orinda this summer: The Orinda Village Starlight Players have three plays at the

Orinda Community Park this summer: Malcolm Cowler's adaptation of L. Frank Baum's "The Wizard

of Oz" runs July 21 through Aug. 12

Robert Merrill's "Five-Door Farce," Sept. 1 through Sept. 30