925-377-0977

Wednesday, October 13, 2010

• Community Service • Two Local Teens Create Diaper Drive

Submitted by Kristin Rasmussen



for Newborn Connections

Conor Bean (left) and Sam Larsen

Photo provided



C am Larsen and Conor Bean, **D**both seniors at Miramonte High School in Orinda, have created a community service project to serve families in need in Contra Costa County. The boys will be collecting diapers for Newborn Connections, a division of the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Contra Costa County. Newborn Connections provides in-home visits and supplies to struggling families with new babies throughout the county. "Most of these families are facing hardships and diapers are expensive," says Bean. Both boys have collected diapers for Newborn Connections in the past, but adds Larsen, "We wanted to come up with a way to provide diapers to Newborn Connections on a regular basis."

The first participant in the new program is The Orinda Preschool (TOPS). The school's families will be able to donate diapers through the Newborn Connections donation bin located on site.

For more information on placing a diaper collection bin in your school or place of business, please contact Conor Bean and Sam Larsen at 925-376-9156. For more information on Newborn Connections, please contact Rose Marie Wallace, Project Coordinator, at 925-798-0546.



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

Submitted by Jynane Wheeler



Photo Jynane Wheeler

Colle Lauritzen (10), Drew Lauritzen (8), and Michael Wheeler (10) have more than a few things in common. They all live in Lafayette. They all like to swim. Unfortunately, they all have lost a grandfather to cancer, and have grandmothers who are currently fighting cancer. And earlier this month, they all swam a mile to raise money for the Women's Cancer Research Center. Together they raised over \$1200 for the charity. The Swim A Mile For Women With Cancer annual event was held October 2nd and 3rd at Mills College in Oakland. It meant a lot to the boys to be able to swim in honor of their grandparents. This is the second time Cole has participated and the first time for Drew and Michael. The three of them are already looking forward to participating next year.

Kiwanis Installs Officers for 2010-11

Submitted by Stan Holcenberg



(From left) Past Kiwanis Lt. Governor Ray Horton, incoming President John Haffner, and outgoing President Tim Freeman (receiving the William Dunlap award) Phot

The Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley held their annual Installation Dinner at the Orinda Country Club on September 23. The Club was formed in 1974, and the first President, Lafayette resident Charlie Toll, attended the event.

Dick Ayres was awarded the 2009-10 Kiwaniian of the Year award from 2008-09 winner Stan Holcenberg. The award is presented to an individual that is very active in the Club's fundraising and service projects, and fosters the efforts of Kiwanis in the community. Dick is also a Board member of the Moraga Park Foundation. Outgoing 2009-10 President Tim Freeman received two awards, the Distinguished Kiwanian Award as well as the very prestigious William Dunlap Award presented by the Kiwanis California-Nevada-Hawaii District Foundation. Members of the Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley recently worked on the re-furbishing of the Hacienda de Las Flores. Many are very involved in Town activities, and the local Kiwanis Club contributes a significant amount of money each year for scholarships

Photo provided and with local agencies that focus on improving the lives of children.

A good example of this support of the children of Lamorinda – and the dedicated teachers that



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The Master of Ceremonies for the event was Moraga Chief of Police, Bob Priebe. Past President and Moraga Council-Member Howard Harpham, and past Kiwanis Lt. Governor Ray Horton, conducted the installation of the officers and board members.

John Haffner, Moraga Citizen of the Year in 2008 and head of the Moraga Pear Festival for years, was installed as President. Other officers include 1st Vice President Karen Reed, 2nd Vice President Graig Crossley, Secretary Mike Metcalf (member of Moraga Town Council), and Treasurer Barbara Van Sickle. serve them – Kiwanis has given library books to the students of all of our elementary schools. To make sure the libraries get the books they want and need, teachers and librarians make their selections from The Storyteller in Lafayette, a great children's book store. This school library support program is especially important at this time of economic stress and tight budgets. The children and the teachers loved a similar gift a year ago.

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time. To learn more about Kiwanis, visit the local website – www.moragavalleykiwanis.org.

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