

## 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 may be sent to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com) with the subject header In Service to the Community.

### Orinda Boy Scout Troop 237 Honors Four New Eagle Scouts

Submitted by Lisa Hoskins



New Troop 237 Eagle Scouts, from left: Jack O'Melveny, Drew Barber, Callan Hoskins, Tim Tague  
Photo provided

Boy Scout Troop 237 of Orinda members Drew Barber, Callan Hoskins, Jack O'Melveny, and Tim Tague, all juniors at Miramonte High School, achieved Scouting's highest rank of Eagle Scout and will celebrate their Eagle Court of Honor at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15 at the Orinda Community Church. Scoutmaster Eric Jorgensen will present the awards.

Troop 237, chartered by the Orinda Community Church, has served Orinda for 60 years and has seen over 200 of its young men achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. To become an Eagle, the candidate must earn a minimum of 21 merit badges, including 13 Eagle-required badges, demonstrate leadership and scout spirit, and successfully complete an Eagle service project that benefits the community.

Being an avid reader, Barber wanted to make sure all the children at Shelter Inc., a local organization which helps homeless people get back on their feet, have books at their disposal. With the help of many other Troop 237 Scouts, Barber collected over 1,000 books, sorted them by age and gender, and distributed a personalized stack to each of the 26 kids currently living at Shelter Inc.'s Martinez facility.

Hoskins, an active public speaker, built a display case for the award-winning Miramonte

High School Public Speaking program. Callan, worked with teacher and head coach, Kristen Plant, to assess her needs to house trophies, plaques and a news bulletin, and with support from his troop, he built the wooden and glass case entirely from scratch and installed it in front of the Public Speaking classroom.

O'Melveny wanted to give back to the school's campus community. Seeking to add to both school spirit and to the beautification of the grounds, O'Melveny supervised and worked along with 15 fellow Scouts to resurrect a long-abandoned garden fronting the Aquatic Center. The troops cleared deep-rooted old plants, constructed a large "M" and applied 15 yards of decorative bark and rock over the course of two days.

Tague wanted to do a project that would benefit an important organization to him, so he chose to do a project for Xenophon, a therapeutic horseback riding center in Orinda. Tim's youngest sister, Nicole, has ridden at Xenophon for five years. Tim built a water feature for their sensory trail that enables the riders to reach into the water while on horseback.

For more information about Troop 237, visit [troop237orinda.com](http://troop237orinda.com).

### Lafayette Juniors Announce Beneficiaries, Host Annual Rummage Sale

Submitted by Elizabeth Siamas



From left: Teli Thayer and Amy Anderson at last year's Rummage Sale.



Katy Abrahams Photos provided

The Lafayette Juniors, continuing its long tradition of service to others in need, recently selected Diablo Ballet's PEEK Outreach Program, the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, the Lamorinda Spirit Van, and Youth Homes as their 2015-2016 beneficiaries. The Juniors' first fundraising event for these four local nonprofits will be the 22nd Annual Rummage Sale on Saturday, Nov. 7.

"We are thrilled to be able to help children, young adults and seniors in Contra Costa and Solano counties through our 2015 - 2016 nonprofit beneficiaries," said Christy Mack, president of the Lafayette Juniors. "These nonprofit organizations will use the proceeds from our fundraising events, beginning with our Fall Rummage Sale, to provide subsidized school meal programs for disadvantaged students, transportation for seniors who can no longer drive, and education programs for at-risk youth in juvenile detention as well as young adults aging out of the foster care system. We are continually grateful to everyone who comes to-

gether to support us so that we can continue to serve those who need it the most."

The Rummage Sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nov. 7 at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Lafayette with a special early bird entrance fee of \$5 per adult from 7 to 8 a.m. The Juniors invite you to shop for pre-loved designer clothes, baby and kid clothes, gear, toys, and books, furniture, household goods, and much more. To find out more about the Lafayette Juniors and this year's Rummage Sale, visit [www.lafayettejuniors.org](http://www.lafayettejuniors.org).

Founded in 1953 by Lafayette resident Betty Young, the Lafayette Juniors is a nonprofit organization made up of local women who come together to raise funds and offer service in support of other non-profits that serve children, families and seniors as well as other people in need throughout Contra Costa and neighboring counties in the San Francisco area. Over the past 16 years, Lafayette Juniors have raised more than \$600,000 for Bay Area nonprofit groups.

### Dance for Kindness Flashmob Event in Lafayette Nov. 8

Submitted by Sonya Grover



As part of Dance for Kindness, a worldwide event in celebration of World Kindness Day facilitated by nonprofit Life Vest Inside, groups from across the globe are joining together to perform a Kindness Freezemob-Flashmob to the same song, with the same dance, all happening on the same day. Local nonprofit dance studio, Joy in Motion, is leading the Lafayette event, which will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 8 at Elam and Margaret Brown Plaza, across the street from Safeway at the corner of Moraga Road and Mt. Diablo Boulevard in Lafayette. "Everyone can participate," said Joy in Motion co-founders Justin Cole and Linda Craig. "If you are a parent of a dancer, or have friends who might be interested, you can participate, too! You don't have to be a dancer, but if you simply want to spread kindness out into the world and have the desire to be a part of something bigger than yourself, you should register." A rehearsal video is available online for those who register through the LVI website at [lifestinside.com](http://lifestinside.com). For more information, visit [www.joymotiondance.org](http://www.joymotiondance.org).

## In Memory

### John (Jack) Minott Wuerth March 29, 1920-Sept. 29, 2015



John (Jack) Minott Wuerth of Moraga slipped peacefully into eternity at the age of precisely 95 and a half on Tuesday evening, Sept. 29, 2015. He was born in Montclair, New Jersey, on March 29, 1920, to Gustav and Elsie Wuerth.

Jack graduated Magna Cum Laude with a B.S. in physics from Princeton University in 1942. During the second World War, he served as a Lieutenant A(L) and project officer in the U.S. Navy Department in Washington D.C. He used his physics to improve the accuracy of shooting moving targets from airplanes. After the war, Jack moved west to California where he became a nationally recognized expert on space navigation, exciting the nation in 1951 by describing how to get to Venus. He also developed and managed systems of inertial navigation for aircraft, submarine, and guided missile navigation. Jack was issued seven navigation-related patents, related to aircraft, submarines, and the Minuteman II's guidance control system and reliability during his 35-plus-year tenure as an engineer at Autonetics (which later became Rockwell International). He also served as president of the North American Institute of Navigation. Yes, he was truly a rocket scientist!

Jack was married to Joan Alling on June 11, 1948 after a whirlwind courtship of only two weeks, and they enjoyed 65 wonderful years of marriage. They raised four daughters together in Southern California, but retired to Oak Bluffs on Martha's Vineyard in 1986 and spent many active years there before returning to California in 2008 to be closer to their youngest daughter in Moraga.

Jack was well known for his keen mind and great sense of humor. In his youth he was an accomplished practical jokester, for example arranging for cherry bombs to go off while chatting with local police officers. He matured to become an active problem solver, and took on various leadership roles in community organizations, commissions and church boards, and battled in local politics. To relax, he greatly enjoyed gardening, sailing and music.

Jack is survived by his four daughters: Vicky Sigworth and her husband, Fred, of Hamden, Connecticut; Shelley Rice and her husband, Craig, of San José, Costa Rica; Kelsey Ambrose and her husband, Tom, of Rumney, New Hampshire; and Wendy Scheck and her husband, Andy, of Moraga, California, as well as 10 grandchildren and four great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his loving wife, Joan (Alling) Wuerth.

A memorial service is scheduled for 11 a.m. Nov. 21 at the Edgartown Federated Church in Massachusetts.

### Share Your Celebrations and Remembrances

If you would like to share an announcement about a special event or achievement, such as a wedding, engagement, scholarship or graduation of a local resident, or about a special person from Lamorinda who has passed, send a photo along with your text (up to 250 words) to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com), and include "Celebrations and Remembrances" in the subject line.