

# ~ Life in LAMORINDA ~

## Turkey Trot returns to MCC

By John T. Miller



Last year's run

Photo Wendy Scheck

Over 560 runners and walkers of all age groups, along with infants in strollers and pets, participated in the Turkey Trot Fun Run on Thanksgiving morning last year at the Moraga Country Club. This year is shaping up to be another re-sounding success, with a 5K Run/Walk scheduled to begin at 8:15 a.m., and a 1.5-mile race starting at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 22.

Ron Haas, general manager and chief operating officer of the club, says, "After a successful start last year introducing the event to the Moraga Community we are excited to host this year's run."

The event is open to runners – and walkers – of all ability levels. Family and friends of MCC mem-

bers, along with anyone else in the community are encouraged and welcome to attend.

The event benefits the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano. "So in addition to working up an appetite for your own Thanksgiving feast with all the fixings, you will know that you are helping others less fortunate," adds Haas.

Last year's inaugural event raised over \$5,000 for the Food Banks.

The course offers participants an opportunity to run and/or walk the paved roads and paths of the beautiful Moraga Country Club.

The organizers made some slight changes this year to the routes so both the 1.5-mile and 5K races will

now be on the back nine of the golf course. "These new routes will be slightly more challenging due to the hills, but the scenery will more than make up for it," says Haas.

Overall male and female winners in each run will receive a special award along with runners in the following age groups in both distances: 10 & under, 11-20 years, 21-50 years, 51-65 years and 65 and older.

Haas created the event last year, with the support of the Moraga Chamber of Commerce, as part of the club's goal to "launch a new tradition of family friendly community connectivity."

He urges people to sign up soon: "This event will fill up quickly and there is no better way to start the family festivities than with a fun morning out on Moraga Country Club's Golf Course."

The 5K fee is \$30 plus a \$4.50 signup fee, while the 1.5-mile race costs \$20 plus a \$3.45 signup fee.

Once again, participants will get bibs with automatic timers provided by Ford Timing, along with a Turkey Trot race bag including a T-shirt, discount vouchers, GU energy gel, and more. Beverage stations will be available along the way.

More information, along with an opportunity to donate, can be found on the MCC website at [www.runsignup.com/moragaturkeytrot](http://www.runsignup.com/moragaturkeytrot). Registration ends Wednesday, Nov. 21 at 10:30 p.m. Moraga Country Club is located in Moraga at 1600 St. Stevens Drive.

STEPS AWAY FROM WORLD-CLASS SHOPPING, DINING, AND ENTERTAINMENT.



WALNUT CREEK'S PREMIER ACTIVE SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY IN THE HEART OF THE CITY



(925) 943-7427 | 1785 Shuey Avenue, Walnut Creek  
[theheritagedowntown.com](http://theheritagedowntown.com)

## Hip-hop musician and filmmaker discusses his film, as well as issues of race and activism at SMC

By Lou Fancher

When people in the Bay Area think of Saint Mary's College, a small private catholic college tucked away in the quiet cul de sac town of Moraga, funk-punk hip-hop musician and politically engaged independent filmmaker Boots Riley isn't the first person who springs to mind.

If outsiders know of the college at all, it's likely to be because of the strong national profile of the Gaels men's basketball team. Dig a layer deeper, perhaps there's familiarity with SMC's innovative Jan Term that has students in Moraga and all over the world stepping outside of their traditional course of study to learn among other topics about dog behavior, good deeds, horror films, social justice playlists, or to travel to Australia to study endangered species or to Puerto Rico to provide hurricane rebuilding assistance. A near-scholar or historian of the school might know of its five-point Lassalian mission related to social justice, community, faith, respect for the poor and education.

Importantly, it is on this political, ethical, often radically countercultural foundation of kindness and consideration for all people that an organic connection was forged between SMC and Riley. The Oakland-based artist ap-

peared Nov. 7 on the campus in an interactive discussion presented by the Ethnic Studies Department. Riley's music and recent film, "Sorry to Bother You," touches on themes that prove cultural expression is political expression, according to Michael Viola, an assistant professor in the Justice, Community and Leadership program. "How can we use film to critique power and society? It's important in this moment of division, of folks not interested in dialogue, to have Boots here to talk to us," said Viola.

Introducing Riley to the audience of approximately 200 people, Viola centered an account of the filmmaker's accomplishments within the context of the Black Radical Cultural movement. Like a hymn, spiritual, or folk song, he suggested, Riley's film includes pain, beauty, protest, articulated hope and revolution – all grounded in ethical, collective calls to action.

The film that has received considerable critical attention features Cassius Green, a character of color whose ability to master a "white voice" shoots him to the top of a telemarketing company's capitalistic stack – whereupon everything goes haywire, to say the least. ... continued on Page B7

## A Taste of Kindergarten and TK

Bring your little ones for a taste of fun and excitement as they experience what a day in our TK or Kindergarten is like.

\*\* For TK or K eligible in 2019.

Friday, November 30, 2018  
8:45am - 10:00am

St. Perpetua School  
3445 Hamlin Road • Lafayette

RSVP 925-284-1640



# GATHER WITH US

Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church

# mvpcc

Your Full Service Lafayette Shop For Flowers, Plants & Gifts



**Shop Local**

*Floral Arts*  
FLORIST  
(925) 284-5765  
3584 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette  
[www.floralartsflorist.com](http://www.floralartsflorist.com)