Budd MacKenzie:

St. Perpetua community breaks ground on new social center

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By Pippa Fisher

Members of the St. Perpetua community at the Nov. 12 groundbreaking ceremony kick off the new construction, from left: Pat Fela, Kelly Daggs, Ruben Galindo, Kathleen Radecke, the Rev. John Kasper, Bruce Brady, Rick Bruzzone, Karen Goodshaw, Peter Heiskell and Jim Hogan. Photo Pippa Fisher

realizing its dream of a beautiful new 10,500 square foot community center, roughly three times the size ing.' of the old one.

old church hall, witnessed a couple of weeks earlier by about 260 enthralled students of the school that shares the same premises, the St. Perpetua community broke ground many parish ministries. on Nov. 12 with much anticipation.

The new expanded facility will provide many benefits for the church and school and will be able to host many new events that had previously been impossible to consider in the old hall.

"The Catholic community of St. Perpetua is comprised of many wonderful people - those who have been members for decades and young families who are new to Hamlin Road in Lafayette. our area. Over the past 65 years the old hall had been the site of many responsible for the design, so too is community-building events. However, we were limited by the small ed \$7 million in cost for construcsize and outdated condition of the tion through a capital campaign facility," commented the Rev. John supported significantly with nearly Kasper, St. Perpetua pastor.

Chappell says that she and her fam- continue to raise funds. Kasper says ily are excited to see St. Perpetua that while the Diocese of Oakland

fter 65 years St. Perpetua's Parish expand their facilities to in- supports their efforts and provides A Church in Lafayette will be clude a much-needed social hall. "The sense of community a project must raise all funds locally. of this size requires is truly inspir-

And this is indeed a commu-Following the demolition of the nity effort. The design is the result of feedback and input over the past two and a half years from parishioners, parish and school staff, religious education leaders and all the

> Led by Kasper, a team of architects worked with the Parish Design Committee to plan the new facility which includes a great hall, a religious resource center, a commercial kitchen, storage areas, ADA bathrooms, a reception atrium and corridors and an outdoor patio. The new construction will adjoin the existing church, which is hidden away, nestled into the hillside on

Just as the community is largely the community raising the estimat-400 pledges and gifts from both more with and for our members to Longtime parishioner Monica parish and school families. They

a loan, the St. Perpetua community

St. Perpetua School Principal Karen Goodshaw is looking forward to the new center too. "Our school community is thrilled to be partnering with our parish to make this community center a reality. We know that we will be able to improve the programs that we offer to our students in both the school and our faith formation programs with the addition of this new community center."

This particular project is the second phase of the St. Perpetua Master Plan inaugurated by the community over 15 years ago. The first phase was the renovation of the parish school about 12 years ago, a facility used both for St. Perpetua Catholic School (260+ students, K-8) and the faith formation program (350+ students, K-12). Construction is expected to take around 15 months to complete so Kasper says they are looking for a dedication date in late 2018 or early 2019.

"We'll be able to do so much sustain and increase the great spirit that is the heart of our St. Perpetua community," says Kasper.

Dakota. "I read the enclosed letter which said some of the funds they

raise go to buying reading books for the school children. I called the school, and they said they would be

most appreciative of books for kin-

boarding school for Lakota (Sioux)

students, founded in 1927 by a Ro-

beneath the Lafayette Library and Learning Center, which primarily

supports the library, continues its

long-standing tradition of outreach.

St. Joseph's Indian School is a

The bookshop, tucked away

dergarten through 12th grade."

man Catholic priest.

Thousands of book donations benefit many causes over 2017

By Pippa Fisher



From left: Kathy Coleman, Mary McCosker, Sue Nurock and Robin Holt pack over 300 books for donation. Photo provided

Indian School in South Dakota. the spirit of the season, this is not a more.

once-a-year effort by any means.

small but hard-working schools affected by the hurricanes Agroup of four volunteers in Texas, a shelter in Napa, a school from the Friends Corner Book in Sonoma, the Contra Costa Re-Shop spent a recent Saturday gional Medical Center, a free clinic packing over 300 books into six in San Francisco, schools in Richcartons to ship to the St. Joseph's mond, jail libraries in Contra Costa County, Foster Home Services and Although this is certainly in the Veteran's Hospital in Liver-

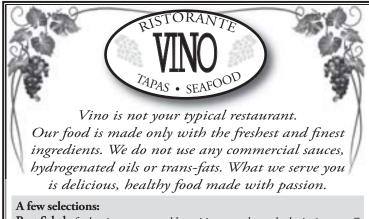
Longtime Friends of the Li-The Friends Corner Book shop brary volunteer Robin Holt said that has given very generously all year she received a solicitation packet in sending thousands of books to the mail from the school in South "It's time we all got off the couch"

Local Hero Budd MacKenzie will speak at the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco about his work with women, children and refugees in war-torn Afghanistan.

Monday Dec. 4th, 6 PM Commonwealth Club, 110 Embarcadero, San Francisco

Getting there: Travel by BART to the Embarcadero stop and take a four minute walk to their new headquarters located at 110 Embarcadero. Tickets available online or at the door.

www.commonwealthclub.org/events/2017-12-04/couch-war-hearts-and-minds



Beet Salad: fresh mint, tomato, golden raisins, goat cheese, herb vinaigrette....7 Sardines Insalata: calamata olives, green beans, potato, feta cheese, balsamic olive oil ...

Niman Flat Iron Steak: potato gratin, green beans, chimichurri sauce.......18 Fresh Seafood Cioppino: in a rich tomato-basil sauce, parmesan, garlic toast..19 Roasted Scallops: spinach, salciccia sugo Roasted Wild Salmon: white wine, capers, braised greens, and potato gratin...17

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