

# Bookmark Contest winners announced

<p><b>Kindergarten - Grade 2</b></p> <p>Left to right: Annabelle Jois Oakley Gupta Norah Taylor</p> 			<p><b>Grades 3 - 5</b></p> <p>Left to right: Audrey McCall Phaley Kim Ileana Gasquy</p> 		
<p><b>Grades 6 - 8</b></p> <p>Left to right: Phil Liao Emme Cain Jill Seeter</p> 			<p><b>Hall of Fame</b></p> <p>Left to right: Matt Roberts Jonah Mateo Sela Sarbiewski Carrie Zhang</p> 		

Submitted by Kay Pekrul

The 2020 winners of the Friends of the Lafayette Library Bookmark Contest received their awards quietly this year without a gathering at an Awards Ceremony. The public can view the winning bookmarks in the Friends Corner Book Shop or the Lafayette Library and Learning Center when the Book Shop and all libraries open. Complimentary framing was done by Anthony's Custom Framing.

## Lacrosse Against Hunger: Two Acalanes sophomores making a difference



Photos provided

Two Acalanes Varsity Lacrosse players, Zach Appel and Owen Estee, have launched Lacrosse Against Hunger, to offer lacrosse coaching sessions to 7-14 year olds in exchange for a charitable donation to White Pony Express during the COVID-19 pandemic. The mission of White Pony Express is to "help eliminate hunger and poverty by delivering the abundance all around us to those in need - with love." Over the past six years, White Pony Express has provided more than 9 million fresh, high-quality meals to Contra Costa residents in need.

So far, the two rising sophomores have raised more than \$1,000 to support White Pony Express. This funding will provide meals to more than 1,600 individuals. "When COVID-19 started spreading through Contra Costa County, I wanted to do something to help people in need. Through Lacrosse Against Hunger, I am able to share a sport I love with other kids, while making a difference," said Zach. Lacrosse Against Hunger is a creative, non-traditional youth-led approach to raising money to help those served by White Pony Express. "I love lacrosse and being able to share it with others, especially playing for a good cause and helping others during this strange



time," said Owen. All money raised goes directly to White Pony Express through Lacrosse Against Hunger's GoFundMe page. Requested donation per session is \$25 or more. To make a donation to White Pony Express through Lacrosse Against Hunger, visit [www.gofundme.com/f/lacrosse-against-hunger](http://www.gofundme.com/f/lacrosse-against-hunger).

## DAR awards Linus Eukel with conservation award

Submitted by Brenna Shafizadeh

The Acalanes Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution has awarded Linus Eukel with the Conservation Award for 2020. The criteria for this award include: outstanding volunteer record in educational work; distinguished teaching; major re-planting efforts by an individual; wildlife and nature center work; resource management; youth leadership; conservation related media work; and park establishments.

Eukel has over 30 years of work in conservation, and currently serves as the executive director for the John Muir Land Trust. The JMLT was founded in 1989. It protects 3,100 acres of local land, with over 2,000 acres having been protected under Eukel's guidance. He is especially

noted for his strategic planning and for his gift in identifying properties that will benefit the surrounding communities. He works enthusiastically to build community coalitions, to educate the public, and to preserve the area's natural splendor. With the Conservation Award, the Acalanes Chapter recognizes Eukel and his important work.



**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.

### 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.

## Galleries revived: 'Domesticated' and 'Dark and Light' open



"Domesticated" exhibition at Jennifer Perlmutter gallery Photo Sophie Braccini

By Sophie Braccini

All is not scarcity in the world of art. Two local art galleries are opening their doors to patrons so they can enjoy new exhibits: Jennifer Perlmutter Gallery in Lafayette and Moraga Art Gallery in Rheem. The large well-ventilated spaces surrounded by art where everyone wears a mask offer patrons, if only for a few minutes, the deep serenity and joy that creativity and beauty bestow on onlookers.

Jennifer Perlmutter is showcasing two artists, Dana DeKalb and Jane Fisher, through Aug. 15 who have been friends and co-inspirators since the early '90s. The two have produced several themed exhibitions together. "Domesticated" was Fisher's idea. The painter explains that she rescued an unusual dog in Indonesia that looked like a wild Australian dingo. She was then drawn to doing research on the domestication of dogs through the ages and started a reflection through her art on the human influence on animals.

DeKalb, who Fisher calls her kindred spirit, loved the idea and started painting animals as well. She says that her own art is about concept, control and lack of it, and metaphors. One of her loveliest paintings in the exhibition portrays a man holding a bird house to a flock of birds. She also shows dyptichs representing animals and the contraptions humans have invented for them.

Fisher's technique is remarkable and the dogs' renditions she presents in the exhibit are both descriptive and strikingly modern, self-confident and almost ascetic.

Both women say they have been immersed in their art during this difficult period, with some challenges due to the fact they had to move their studios to their East Bay homes. They think that during confinement the line between what is wild and domesticated was breaking down. We saw foxes in London, coyotes in San Fran-

cisco; while humans, caged in their residents, were super domesticated.

In the Rheem Shopping Center the Moraga Art Gallery, "Dark and Light, A Delicate Balance" will run through Sept. 12. Mary Leigh Miller, one of the three artists in the exhibition, explains that the title refers to the play of the colors in the artwork presented, but also to the artists' expression of their inner and outer takes on life.

Miller is a ceramist who has been a part of the art collective for many years and her work has evolved from ceramic objects that can be used in everyday life to more abstract art. This tireless explorer of art forms through ceramics is seeking surprises given by her media. It can mean exploring new forms, playing with texture or with the different colors that the various cooking processes produce. The masks, totems, and wall art she is presenting have been created with use of the raku technique, a low-firing process that creates crackling and interesting colors.

Miller is joined in the exhibition at Rheem by another MAG member, Irene Needoba. The artist displays an attractive and feminine style, using vibrant colors. For this exhibition she wants to attract viewers' attention to the environment, climate change and the effect it has on ocean pollution and on forests fires.

The two painters are welcoming guest artist Claudette McDermott who is featuring jewelry and encaustic paintings. McDermott creates mixed-metal modern jewelry crimping colorful stones, such as earrings, bracelets or necklaces. Her encaustic paintings are lively and highly decorative.

The Moraga Art Gallery is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from noon to 3 p.m. The Jennifer Perlmutter gallery is open Wednesday to Friday from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from noon to 6 p.m. Both locations require their patrons to wear a mask.

## Sunflower dwarfs two Lafayette brothers



Lafayette brothers Joshua and Joseph Sanchez pose with a prize-sized sunflower that towers between them.