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DO GOOD

Community Events

Falkirk gallery calls for artists

Falkirk Art Gallery in San Rafael is accepting proposals for the 2024 calendar year. Individual artists along with groups and organizations are encouraged to submit their artwork. All mediums are welcome and will be accepted until Oct. 2. For more information, visit cityofsanrafael.org/falkirk-art-galleries.

Fundraiser benefits under-resourced schools

Join Bay Area Urban Debate League's debut Marin fundraiser dinner, bringing together donors, community leaders, students and parents for a night of celebration and recognition and to raise funds to support BAUDL's programming across under-resourced Bay Area schools. Tickets to this year's event will help support BAUDL programming. Enjoy dinner and an open bar on Oct. 19 at Perry's Larkspur. The evening will include a cocktail reception, dinner, presentation and raffle. For more information or tickets, visit bit.ly/2023BAUDLMarinDinner.

Oceans of opportunity

Join Call of the Sea's annual gathering Oceans of Opportunity on Oct. 27 in support of on-the-water education. The event will be held at the San Francisco Yacht Club in Belvedere and feature ship tours, dinner, an auction and a fund-a-need for scholarships. Tickets are \$195 and include dinner and admission. For more information, visit callofthesea.org.

Senior digital skills program offered

Calling all Marin County seniors. Join the Marin County Cooperation Team for its Digital Literacy Program and unlock a world of possibilities. Boost your tech skills, make meaningful connections with peers, and access essential mental health resources - all completely free. Whether you're a digital novice or have some experience, this program offers personalized mentorship, engaging community activities and valuable online tools tailored to your needs. For more information, visit marincountycooperationteam.org.

Save the date for Tribe Rising

Tribe Rising will celebrate the graduation of its first high school class in Gurap, West Bengal at their annual fundraiser on Nov. 4 at the Corinthian Yacht Club in Tiburon. Join auctioneer and master of ceremonies Liam Mayclem for an evening of dinner, dancing and henna. Tickets and sponsorships are available. For more information, visit triberisingindia.org.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Spahr Center

PARC framework readies for disasters

New community program engages under-resourced, low-income communities

Prepared and Resilient Communities (PARC), a new community program that aims to engage under-resourced and low-income communities through a neighbor-helping-neighbor emergency preparedness framework, recently held its first class. PARC was established by Rachel Kertz, coordinator of Central Marin's Neighborhood Response Group, with the assistance of an initial \$15,000 grant from the California Fire Foundation.

"Many in our community work multiple jobs, live in highdensity neighborhoods, and don't have access to emergency preparedness resources," said Kertz, a San Rafael councilmember. "A significant number of community members are not being reached by current emergency outreach programs."



PARC participants (from lower left, clockwise): Maureen "Mo" de Nieva-Marsh, Community Action Marin director of Whole Family and Community Services; Rachel Kertz, Central Marin Neighborhood Response group coordinator; Yolanda Barahona, Community Action Marin family advocate; Paula Doubleday, PARC graphic designer; and Carlita Acevedo, Canal Alliance community resilience coordinator.

Photos courtesy of PARC

The PARC program is designed to expand Marin County's Get Ready and Neighborhood Response Programs to underresourced communities that, when a disaster strikes, often bear the disproportionate burden.



Thirty-eight community members participate in the launch of Prepared and Resilient Communities, an emergency preparedness program designed for low-income, marginalized communities.

At its core, the PARC initiative offers community resiliency by providing dedicated time, targeted training and incentives. This starts with a comprehensive two-hour class on disaster awareness, creating Go Bags, and signing up for emergency alerts. Upon completion of the class, participants receive a \$50 gift card.

Each class is designed to accommodate 30 individuals with an approximate cost of \$3,000 per class. This cost primarily funds the stipends of the participants and the class assistants. The PARC program is seeking additional funding to expand its reach across all communities in Marin.

According to Maureen "Mo" de Nieva-Marsh, director of Whole Family and Community Services at Community Action of Marin, the PARC program is establishing trust.

"By recognizing that people of color, non-English-speaking individuals and low-income communities are disproportionately affected by disasters, the PARC program seeks to correct this disparity," de Nieva-Marsh said.

As an ongoing partner to PARC, CAM plays a role in the program's success by offering on-site childcare, Spanishspeaking trainers and active participation in the recruitment and registration of participants. Additionally, CAM will manage the administration of stipends through gift cards, ensuring direct incentives for program completion.

For more information, visit tinyurl.com/ywwcdmuf or call 415-937-7779.

MCC tournament rallies \$200K for Okizu

Marin Country Club held its inaugural Golf, Tennis and Pickleball Charity Tournament on Sept. 16 and raised more than \$200,000 for Okizu, a Novato-based nonprofit organization that supports children affected by cancer and their families.



"Marin Country Club has always given back to the community but this year the club made a commitment to make a difference in a much bigger way," said Ken Dougherty, PGA director of golf at Marin Country Club. "Okizu was an organization we felt deserved our full attention and that's what they received from our members."

All donations raised will provide free support programs to cancer patients, siblings and parents while Okizu recovers from the 2020 wildfires and searches for new property for its camp.



The Spahr Center seeks community members to support the celebration of LGBTQ+ arts, culture, community and history. Volunteers are needed Oct. 21 -22 for setup, parking, environment quality, an information booth, vendor assistance, event cleanup and more. Individual and group sign-ups are welcome. Learn more and sign up at thespahrcenter.org/marinpride.

Experience Corps Bay Area

Experience Corps Bay Area aims to increase child literacy rates by connecting older adult volunteers with non-fluent readers in first through third grades. There is no experience necessary to volunteer for this program. All training and support is provided. For more information, contact Sandra Strang at sstrang@sequoialiving.org or 415-464-1767. To sign up, visit sequoialiving.org/volunteer-signup.

Brad Paterson, Chris Norlander, Nick Egide and Ben King (from left) tee up for Okizu. Photos courtesy of Marin Country Club

"We are grateful to everyone at Marin Country Club for their partnership and for bringing together such a generous group of people for such a special event," said

A day of golf, tennis and pickleball at Marin Country Club raises over \$200,000 for Okizu.

Suzie Randall, executive director of Okizu.

For more information, visit okizu.org.

Bloom seeks Amazon back-to-school basics

Bloom, a San Rafael-based program of YWCA Golden Gate Silicon Valley, provides two weeks of free clothing for individuals and families seeking selfreliance. Clients also receive a hygiene kit, undergarments, shoes and accessories.

Now that the school year is in full swing, Bloom has been dressing more



Bloom's Amazon Wish List supplements back-to-school donations. Photo courtesy of Bloom students each week. The demand for everyday basics outweighs the donations. Bloom's Amazon Wish List is a way to support this nonprofit as purchased items are delivered directly to Bloom. To donate new items from the wish list, or for more information about Bloom and its services, visit bloommarin.org.

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