

## Children's Health Guild Holiday Fundraiser Raises \$180K for Children's Healthcare

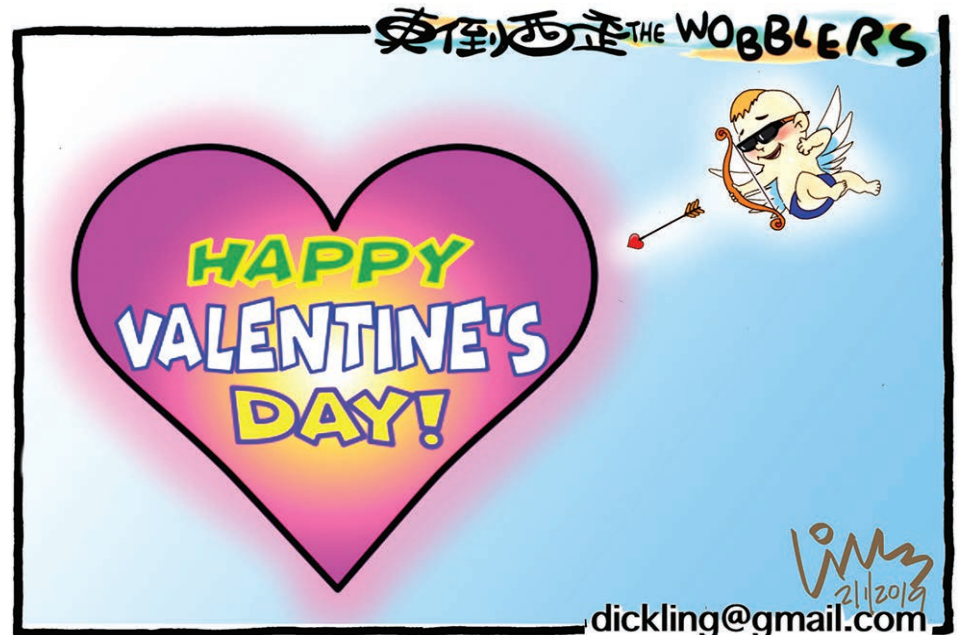
By ELANA O'LOSKEY  
Staff Writer

On Nov. 30 at the Ritz-Carlton San Francisco, more than 300 guests came together to "Gather, Give and Empower"

on behalf of the Children's Health Guild (CHG) winter fundraiser. The event benefits UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital in Oakland (CHO) and George Mark Chil-  
[SEE CHG page 6]



(L-R) Event Co-Chair **Erin Roth** of Orinda, Children's Health Guild President **Dariana Ross** of Lafayette and Event Co-Chair **Sharon Koh** also of Orinda, hosted the "Gather, Give, Empower" fundraiser held Nov. 30 at the Ritz Carlton San Francisco.



## "Live at the Orinda" Concert Series Brings Broadway Stars to Town

By SALLY HOGARTY  
Executive Editor

The concert series "Live At the Orinda" got off to a great start last month with the appearance of legendary actor/singer Rita Moreno. The brainchild of Lamorinda Theatres owner Derek Zemrak and cabaret producer Michael Williams, the concert series performs in the historic Orinda Theatre's mid-sized movie venue.

"Our goal has been two-fold: to bring world-class Broadway and jazz artists who excel in this intimate style of performing and who don't often perform in the Bay Area to the Orinda Theatre; and to create a sense of community among live music lovers. It's a beautiful community here and an untapped market, we've discovered," says Zemrak.

The 180-seat space provides a rare opportunity to see Broadway stars in an intimate setting. Moreno's performances on Jan. 19 and 20 not only provided an up-close-and-personal setting for the award-winning star but also served as a fundraiser for the theater with proceeds used to purchase permanent concert lighting for the series.

The season continues on **Sunday, Feb. 17**, with three-time Tony nominated Broadway star **Carolee Carmello** (*Scandalous*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Finding Neverland*) making her long-awaited Bay Area concert debut. Carmello has had a plethora of starring roles in Broadway musicals since landing her first role in *City of Angels* in 1989. Her most recent performances include: Donna in *Mamma Mia!*, Alice in *The Addams Fam-*



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Tony-nominated Broadway performer **Carolee Carmello** makes her Bay Area debut at the Orinda Theatre on Feb. 17.

ily, Mother Superior in *Sister Act*, Aimee in *Scandalous* and Madame du Maurier in *Finding Neverland*.

On **Thursday, March 14**, Broadway and TV star **Telly Leung** (*Aladdin*, *Wicked*, *Allegiance*, *GLEE*) will appear in his first Bay Area concert in many years. Platinum-selling singer/songwriter **Ann Hampton Callaway** (*At the Same Time*) will reunite with Broadway star and sister **Liz Callaway** (*Miss Saigon*, *Cats*) on **Thursday, April 4**, for their award-winning show *Sibling Revelry*. This also marks the first Bay Area duo concert by the Tony-nominated sisters in several years. The first half of

[SEE CAMELLO page 4]



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License#01967218





## POLICE BLOTTER

December 2, 2018 through January 12, 2019

### Calls for Service

911 Hangup: 13 incidents.  
 Abandoned Vehicle: 2 incidents.  
 Accident Property: 7 incidents.  
 Alarm, False: 47 incidents.  
 Barking Dog: 1 incident.  
 Battery: 2 incidents.  
 Bomb Threat: 1 incident.  
 Burglary, Residential: 1 incident.  
 Civil Matter: 10 incidents.  
 CVC Moving Violation: 94 incidents.  
 CVC Non-Moving Violation: 53 incidents.  
 Found Property: 1 incident.  
 Grand Theft: 2 incidents.  
 Grand Theft from Building: 1 incident.  
 Hailed by Citizen: 1 incident.  
 Hazmat: 1 incident.  
 Hit & Run Misdemeanor: 1 incident.  
 Identity Theft: 4 incidents.  
 Litter: 1 incident.  
 Lost Property: 2 incidents.  
 Medical Hospital: 4 incidents.  
 Missing Adult: 1 incident.  
 Occupied Stalled Vehicle: 4 incidents.  
 Ordinance Violation: 5 incidents.  
 Outside Assist: 25 incidents.  
 Panhandling: 1 incident.  
 Parking Detail: 46 incidents.  
 Patrol Request: 17 incidents.  
 Petty Theft: 3 incidents.  
 Public Assembly Check: 6 incidents.  
 Public Nuisance: 1 incident.  
 Reckless Driving: 14 incidents.  
 School Check: 17 incidents.

Security Check: 13 incidents.  
 Service to Citizen: 81 incidents.  
 Shoplifting: 1 incident.  
 Shots Heard: 3 incidents.  
 Suspicious Circumstances: 10 incidents.  
 Suspicious Person Stop: 15 incidents.  
 Suspicious Subject: 8 incidents.  
 Suspicious Vehicle: 9 incidents.  
 Suspicious Vehicle Stop: 13 incidents.  
 Tow: 1 incident.  
 Traffic Collision/Property Damage: 3 incidents.  
 Traffic Hazard: 10 incidents.  
 Vacation House Check: 21 incidents.  
 Vandalism: 2 incidents.  
 Vehicle Theft: 2 incidents.  
 Verbal Dispute: 1 incident.  
 Walk Through: 6 incidents.  
 Welfare Check: 11 incidents.

### Arrest

Assault with Deadly Weapon: 1 arrest.  
 Battery: 1 arrest.  
 DUI: 1 arrest.  
 Marijuana Sale: 1 arrest.  
 Warrant Arrest: 2 arrests.

### BART Statistics

No incidents reported.

— Compiled by David Dierks  
 Assistant Editor

For more incidents details, visit  
[www.crimereports.com](http://www.crimereports.com)

### ◆ CHG from page 2

dren's Home (GMCH) in San Leandro. The day began with the option to shop one's way more or less guilt-free through several large rooms filled with close to 30 luxury boutiques. Guilt-free because 25 percent of sales go to the beneficiaries.

As the luncheon began, CHG President Dariana Ross welcomed the guests and introduced the first speaker, Kristen Posey, wife of the Giants' icon who was behind the plate for three World Series triumphs. Posey was honoree and recipient of the first ever CHG Helping Heart Award because of her dedication and philanthropic efforts to help fight pediatric cancer. Beginning in 2016, the Buster and Kristen Posey Family Foundation has contributed almost \$3 million to fund pioneering research and treatment and raise aware-

ness about pediatric cancer. See [www.BP28.org](http://www.BP28.org) for more information about the foundation.

Divina Wheelright, manager of Child Life Services at CHO, described how she creates role plays for children using dolls and real or pretend medical equipment to explain the medical procedures they are facing. Because of CHG funding, there are two child life specialists in the E.R. who meet children at the door to guide and nurture them through whatever medical tests they need.

JeanMarie Mead, pediatric hospice and palliative RN from GMCH was honored for dedicating her 30-year nursing career to caring for children receiving palliative, respite and hospice care. She began at GMCH in 2004 and now serves as the nursing education liaison. She related a respite story

## Lion Dance Brings in Chinese New Year of the Pig at Orinda Library



Dancers perform a Chinese lion dance before an appreciative audience at the Orinda Library during last year's festivities. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By LYNN KALMAR  
 Assistant Editor

On Feb. 2, members of the Concord Kung Fu Academy will perform a traditional Chinese lion dance in the Library Garden Room in celebration of Lunar New Year. The lion dance dates back thousands of years and is intended to scare away bad spirits and bad luck, and to bring good fortune in the new year. Sometimes the dance includes another traditional element known as "choy cheng" where businesses hang heads of lettuce from their doorways with red envelopes of money inside. The lion pretends to eat the lettuce, spitting

out the leaves as a show of good luck for the businesses and keeping the money as a reward for the dancers. The library performance comes a few days early with the start of Chinese New Year Feb. 5, marking the first day of the "Year of the Pig."

The event is sponsored by Dr. Weylin Eng of Orinda Optometry Group and his wife Rose, who established the Eng Family Endowment for Asian Cultural Programs when the library first re-opened in its current home in 2001. The lion dance will take place at 2:30 p.m. and is free and open to the public. Contact the Orinda Library with questions at 925-254-2184.

through photos about caring for adopted twin girls who had severe medical challenges. Their adopted older mom needed a two-month respite to recover her sight after surgery. Days were spent in a variety of ways: interweaving medical needs with swim breaks, singing sessions with musicians, dog walks around the grounds, and more. Each twin needed her own unique set of activities. GMCH was just the right place for those needs to get met.

As the auctioneer's resonant voice echoed throughout the banquet room, paddles were raised and Fund-A-Need donations mounted. Respite care at GMCH and CHO's Child Life Services will continue

another year. Wendy Rotblat, CHG public relations director, was thrilled to report, "We raised \$180,000 for our beneficiaries! It was a wonderful day of shopping and fun but, most importantly, a very successful fundraiser for George Mark Children's Home and UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland!"

Closing remarks by event co-chairs and Orinda residents Sharon Koh and Erin Roth were a testament to the three empowered speakers who shared so eloquently about their dedication to making a difference in the lives of children receiving critical pediatric care. To learn more about CHG, visit [www.childrenshealthguild.org](http://www.childrenshealthguild.org).

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<p><b>TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19</b> 11:30 am</p> <p><b>Alan Brennert</b> <i>Daughter of Moloka'i</i> ST. MARTIN'S \$27.99</p> <p>The highly anticipated sequel to Brennert's acclaimed bestseller follows the fortunes of Rachel's daughter Ruth, adopted by a Japanese family. The novel's vivid, evocative prose conjures up the beauty and history of both the Hawaiian and Japanese cultures.</p>	<p><b>TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26</b> 11:30 am</p> <p><b>Christopher Castellani</b> <i>Leading Men</i> VIKING \$27</p> <p>An expansive yet intimate story of desire, artistic ambition, and fidelity, set in the glamorous literary and film circles of 1950s Italy with Truman Capote as one of the leading players and based on events in the lives of Tennessee Williams and his long-time lover, Frank Merlo.</p>
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