



# Pinole **Historical** Society

## E-News



**Dr. Joe Mariotti (seated) and his family at the March 22 event.**

## **Pinole Garden Club honors Dr. Joe**

**T**he Pinole Garden Club honored Pinole Historical Society founder Dr. Joe Mariotti (seated in photo, with his family) at its annual Arbor Day ceremony on March 22 by planting a Crape Myrtle tree in his honor at Bayfront Park.

Dr. Mariotti, a retired orthopaedic surgeon who was the team physician for Pinole Valley High School for 32 years, is a longtime environmentalist and conservationist who has served on the Save Contra Costa Shoreline Committee, Hercules Environmental

## **Please renew your PHS membership**

**W**e are in the midst of our 2011 membership drive, and if you haven't renewed your membership, please send a \$30 check to Pinole Historical Society, P.O. Box 285, Pinole, CA 94564.

A 2011 membership form is on page 8 of this e-zine. Please send it with your check.

Thanks.

Resources Committee, Urban Creek Council, East Bay Regional Parks Advisory Committee, Contra Costa County Plastic Recycling Advisory Committee, Coastal Clean-Up, West Contra Costa

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## Historic women

Pinole Historical Society President Marcia Kalapus (middle, in red suit) sits among fellow National Women's History Month award recipients at a March ceremony at Contra Costa College. The college, in conjunction with the American Association of University Women, presented the awards.

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## Dr. Joe honored by Pinole Garden Club

*Continued from front page*

Environmental Education Committee, and the Friends of Pinole Creek Watershed.

He also served on the Pinole City Council and Pinole Planning Commission.

Arbor Day is a holiday in which individuals and groups are encouraged to plant and care for trees.

It originated in Nebraska City, NB, in 1872. Julius Sterling Morton, a Nebraska journalist and politician, felt that Nebraska's landscape and

economy would benefit from the wide-scale planting of trees. He set an example himself planting orchards, shade trees and wind breaks on his own farm and he urged his neighbors to follow suit.

The first Arbor Day was held on April 10, 1872, and an estimated one million trees were planted that day.

When Morton became a member of Nebraska's state board of agriculture, he proposed that a special day be set aside dedicated to tree planting and increasing awareness of the

importance of trees. A second Arbor Day took place in 1884 and the young state made it an annual legal holiday in 1885.

In the years following that first Arbor Day, Morton's idea spread beyond Nebraska with Kansas, Tennessee, Minnesota, and Ohio all proclaiming their own Arbor Days.

Today all 50 states celebrate Arbor Day, although the dates may vary in keeping with the local climate. Arbor Day is also celebrated in several other countries.

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# Pinole **Historical** Society

P.O. Box 285, Pinole, CA 94564

[www.PinoleHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.PinoleHistoricalSociety.org)

[info@PinoleHistoricalSociety.org](mailto:info@PinoleHistoricalSociety.org)

(510) 724-9507

# Senior Center genealogy program postponed to May 11

**T**he Pinole Historical Society's genealogy program—*Create Your Family Tree*—at the Pinole Senior Center has been postponed to Wednesday, May 11, at 2 p.m.

It was originally scheduled for Wednesday, April 13, but that afternoon Pinole City Manager Belinda Espinosa will be making a presentation on the city's budget to the center's member-

ship after the monthly membership meeting.

PHS President Marcia Kalapus and board member Shirley Ramos will repeat the program they did at the February 17 PHS membership meeting. They will be joined by either Ian Richards or Tim Madigan, Pinole librarians, who will speak about genealogy resources available at the library.

This event is free to the public.



*Pinole Historical  
Society*

**Create Your Family Tree  
Wednesday, May 11, 2011  
@ 2 pm immediately following the  
General Membership Meeting**

Genealogists Marcia Kalapus & Shirley Ramos take us on a journey through our family histories to create a family tree. You'll learn how to get started, what to look for, where to find resources on the Internet and at the library, and, as a bonus on an accompanying PowerPoint presentation, see photos of Marcia and Shirley when they were toddlers.

Yes, there were cameras then!  
Please bring a pencil, as family lineage worksheets will be distributed.

# PHS board has openings for directors

We'll be electing at least two new board members at our May 19 annual meeting. We sure would welcome some new people with new ideas. If you'd like to

serve, please write a short letter expressing your interest and send it by April 30 to Marcia Kalapus, Pinole Historical Society, P.O. Box 285, Pinole, CA 94564,

## Pinole history essay contest in schools

**T**his year, for our annual essay contest in Pinole schools, we're asking students at Ellerhorst, Collins, Shannon, Stewart, and St. Joseph schools, Pinole Middle School, and Pinole Valley High School to use resources at the Pinole Library, at their school, and on the Internet, to write an essay about Pinole's history or their family's history.

Awards will be presented June 6 and June 7 at these schools by Edward M. Downer III, Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Mechanics Bank—our sponsor—and Pinole Historical Society President Marcia Kalapus. Awards will include certificates to the authors of the best essays in each grade, and savings bonds—courtesy of Mechanics Bank—to Grand Prize winners. Grand Prize winners will also receive a copy of *Images of America: Pinole*, from the Pinole Historical Society.



Shannon Elementary School student Esmeralda Topete (center) received a 2010 essay-contest award. Mechanics Bank Chairman of the Board Edward Downer III, Mechanics Bank Community Affairs Officer Fernanda Rodrigues, PHS President Marcia Kalapus, and then-Mayor Debbie Long (L-R), presented the award.

### Do you like this newsletter format?

Rather than send the usual text newsletter, we thought we'd try something different. Do you like this PDF format for our e-zine? We might send it this way occasionally. Send your comments to [info@PinoleHistoricalSociety.org](mailto:info@PinoleHistoricalSociety.org). Thanks.

# Hercules book launch will include program at PHS membership meeting

The book *Images of America: Hercules*, part of Arcadia Publishing's series on city histories is due to be released May 2.

The result of the tremendous efforts by authors Jennifer Posedel and Stephen Lawton with the Hercules Historical Society (HHS), the book promises to provide comprehensive information about this former company town and its inhabitants.

An event, to take place at the Hercules Public Library, 109 Civic Drive, Hercules, on Saturday, May 7, from 2 to 4 p.m. will serve as the book's launch. You are cordially invited to attend this free event.

Jennifer and Stephen, plus many of the Hercules Historical Society members, will be present. Copies of the book will be available for sale

and can be signed by the authors.

You can order the book via the HHS web site at [www.herculeshistory.org](http://www.herculeshistory.org). For information about the book, click on the Book Information tab at the top of the home page.

Three other events have been scheduled that will provide an opportunity to see and buy the book:

**May 14 and 15** in conjunction with the used book sale being conducted by the Friends of the Hercules Library. The book will be sold inside the library. The hours of this sale are:

Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.

**May 19** at the Pinole Historical Society's annual meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Alex Clark Room of the Pinole Public Safety Building, 880 Tennent Avenue, author Jennifer Posedel will share interesting stories from Hercules's past and photos from long ago.

**June 4 and June 5**, during the Hercules Cultural Festival, the HHS will sell the book near its beer booth

in Refugio Valley Park in Hercules. The hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Hercules Historical Society  
Book Launch and Author Signing  
Sat. May 7th, 2011  
2 p.m.**

The newest book by Arcadia Publishing in its "Images of America" series is about Hercules!

Be one of the first people to buy a copy of the book that was created in conjunction with the Hercules Historical Society. Author Jennifer Posedel will be on hand for autographs.

**HERCULES LIBRARY**  
109 Civic Drive ~ 510-245-2420

Monday & Tuesday 1—9  
Weds., Thurs. & Saturday 10—6  
Sunday 12—5

**ccclib.org**  
**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY**  
Bringing People and Ideas Together

## In case you missed one of our TV interviews . . .

All of our interviews with notable Pinole residents that appeared on Pinole Community TV may be found on the city's website—  
[www.ci.pinole.ca.us/about/videos.html](http://www.ci.pinole.ca.us/about/videos.html).

Scroll down to PINOLE HISTORY. You'll

find our interviews, Veterans' Day programs, George Vincent's Walking Tour of Historic Downtown Pinole, and the very fine PCTV-produced, 12-part series based on the Historic Walking Tour brochure. It's great TV!

## Lafayette Historical Society program this Wednesday

The Lafayette Historical Society's Speaker Series continues on Wednesday, April 6 at 3 p.m. with Stuart J. Swiedler. His presentation, *The East Bay Hills Project*, is a collection of largely unpublished aerial images accompanied by ground-based photos that follows the 17-mile right-of-way of the Sacramento Northern Railroad.

You'll see highlights and details of Rockridge, Lake Temescal, the Mountain Boulevard Freeway, Montclair, Shepherd and Redwood Canyons, Moraga, Lafayette, Saranap, and downtown Walnut Creek.

You'll feel as though you're part of a group of hikers taking a direct route from the base of the Oakland hills to the oldest section of central Walnut Creek. You see the beauty of the area, including scenic paths, lakes, reservoirs, creek beds, redwood forests, and small communities that have been shielded from major highways and large public centers. You'll discover changes in the landscape



brought about by major public works projects, development and preservation efforts that came to a head in the 1950s and 1960s.

Stu will show special images including chilling

photos of the Sacramento Northern Railroad tunnel connecting Redwood and Shepherd Canyons. He will provide the location of a Roger Heller photo posted on the Web that has baffled experts and share never before published views of the Lafayette "Loop." He will also address the challenge of documenting changes from the 1950s in Lafayette's southern- and eastern-most sections of Burton

Valley, Glenside, and the section shared with Saranap traversed by Olympic Boulevard.

For questions or reservations call (925) 283-1848, email [lafayette.history@comcast.net](mailto:lafayette.history@comcast.net), or send your check (\$10 members, \$15 non-members) made payable to LHS to P.O. Box 133, Lafayette, CA 94549.



**LAFAYETTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

*Don't miss the April 6 Speaker Presentation!  
If you haven't already contacted LHS, please do!*

Lafayette Historical Society's Speaker Series  
Wednesday, April 6th • 3:00 pm

**What's Happened Since the Railroad's Been Gone**

Speaker: **Stuart Swiedler** uses live images from his website (*The East Bay Hills Project*) to unveil amazing visuals of the changes to the roadbed over the last 50 years

Arts and Science Room—Mezzanine Level  
Lafayette Library and Learning Center

Donation requested: \$10 members; \$15 for non-members to help defray costs  
Limited seating • Reservations—283-1848  
See article below for full description



**Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> 2011**  
**Fernandez Park**

**Make a difference in Pinole!**

Volunteer for projects throughout the city, including painting at the Pinole Youth Center, landscaping at the Pinole Senior Center, visiting with senior citizens, and helping Pinole Middle School pack and move into temporary facilities while the school is being rebuilt.

**8 to 9 a.m.: Meet at Fernandez Park for a FREE breakfast a FREE T-shirt (for the first 200 volunteers).**

**9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.: Volunteer at a project site.**

**1 to 3 p.m.: FREE lunch for volunteers at Fernandez Park and visit booths of local service organizations.**



Volunteers may sign up for a project on the city's website:  
[www.ci.pinole.ca.us/live/news/com\\_service.html](http://www.ci.pinole.ca.us/live/news/com_service.html).

For more information about Pinole Community Service Day, contact Pinole Community Services Commissioner Julie Oshiro at (510) 541-8036 or [PinoleCSD@gmail.com](mailto:PinoleCSD@gmail.com).

# Pinole **Historical** Society

## 2011 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(PINOLE RESIDENCY NOT REQUIRED FOR MEMBERSHIP)

PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, AND SEND CASH OR YOUR CHECK,  
TO PINOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, P.O. BOX 285, PINOLE, CA 94564

MEMBERSHIPS ARE FOR THE 2011 CALENDAR YEAR (EXCEPT LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS)

**NAME (each person):** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY/ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL (please!):** \_\_\_\_\_

**CIRCLE ONE: Annual (\$30)    Life (\$150)    Business (\$50)    Sustaining \$(500)**

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED:**    [   ] Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_    [   ] Check # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE PAID:** \_\_\_\_\_