

Sandra Simon to head Institute on Aging Philanthropy Committee

Institute on Aging (<https://www.ioaging.org/>), one of California's largest nonprofits dedicated to health and community programs for older adults and adults living with disabilities, recently announced that Piedmont resident Sandra Simon will lead the organization's critical philanthropic efforts as head of the all-volunteer philanthropy committee. She will also spearhead its annual fundraising dinner in 2021.

A supporter of Institute on Aging for the past 34 years, she is a lifelong Piedmont resident who attended Piedmont schools from K-12.

"Institute on Aging does important work, including touching many facets of our society that go unnoticed or hidden from view," said Simon. "It has brought seniors into the spotlight, and I love being a part of that. It's such a sense of accomplishment to raise all-important dollars to keep the organization's programming moving forward."

Her mother, May Shane, was part of the group of supporters who first created Dinner à la Heart in 1983, a program that matches IOA's supporters with



Sandra Simon will be the new chair of Institute on Aging's Philanthropy Committee.

their favorite Bay Area restaurants for an inimitable dining experience. Her mother encouraged Sandra to establish her own East Bay group to participate in the fundraising event, and after many years, Simon decided to carry on her mother's legacy by joining the auxiliary board that works together to produce the event. Dinner à la Heart and the yearlong work of the philanthropy

committee has become a key part of the success of the non-profit organization, raising significant funds to its support senior services in the Bay Area, to include dementia care, home care, and community living services.

"Institute on Aging is very lucky to have someone as dynamic as Sandra leading the charge for our philanthropic initiatives from the donor side," said Jonathan Bernstein, Vice President of IOA. And also a Piedmont resident. "She brings a wealth of knowledge to those whom she is leading, as well as a deep passion for helping older adults and adults with disabilities who need what IOA offers."

"Seniors are really cool and have great stories that should be listened to and shared," added Simon. "I remember my grandmother in her late 90s would light up from a simple visit or phone call from a friend or family member, even if that person just asked 'what did you have for lunch today?' It made her feel included and special, knowing that someone cared."

"Institute on Aging does that for all its participants, and it's so important," added Simon.

By Paul Lettieri and Debra Dryden

Once again, the bicycle team Linda and Marvin will be riding in memory of Linda Lettieri and Marvin Stern, both of whom passed away from ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, better known as Lou Gehrig's Disease).

July 9 marked the 13th anniversary of Linda's passing and the 15th year our bicycle team, Team Linda and Marvin, will be participating in the Ride to Defeat ALS.

This is truly a science fiction-like disease in its progressive reduction of your ability to move, speak and eventually, breathe. Since ALS is currently not well understood, has no cure or effective treatment path, we are working hard to fund-raise to find a cure through the ALS Association, Golden West Chapter. Finally, there are some glimmers of hope that some of the genetics of ALS are being discovered, although we are a long way from effective treatments and the eventual cure.

The ALS Association is the only non-profit organization fighting Lou Gehrig's Disease on every front. By leading the way in global research, providing assistance for people with ALS through a nationwide network of chapters, coordinating multidisciplinary care through certified clinical care centers, and fostering government partnerships, The Association builds hope and enhances quality of life while aggressively searching for new treatments and a cure.

Team Linda and Marvin will

be riding this Saturday, September 26, in their memory and we are soliciting your support to help our team exceed our fundraising goal for ALS research. Last year, through the amazingly generous donations of friends, family, and clients, we raised over \$70,000 for ALS Research. The timeline for a cure or even a treatment for ALS may be very long, and we may not be around long enough to see it, but the goal is worthy of our effort and hopefully your dollars.

Any contribution, no matter how small (or large!) will be appreciated and will help fund research into the causes and cures of ALS. Your tax-deductible gift will make a difference in the lives of many! It is faster and easier than ever to support this great cause. You can make your donation online by simply clicking on the link at the bottom of this message. If you would prefer, you can also send your tax-deductible contribution to the address listed below. Please write the name/Team Linda and Marvin in the memo line.

Due to the Coronavirus, the ride is going virtual this year, but some of us will be riding from Oakland to the top of Mount Diablo and back, a distance of 80 miles and 7,500 feet of vertical climbing. That's our challenge to support ALS research and care. We hope you will be compelled to support this cause in an effort to defeat this horrible disease. A link to Linda Lettieri Memorial Website, which has been updated this year with more compelling photographs, is at: <http://www.olivemurphy.com>.

De Young Museum

Continued from page 16

where she began to cultivate her now-iconic Tehuana style and her identity as a painter. Members of the museums will be able to enjoy exclusive access to *Frida Kahlo: Appearances Can Be Deceiving* every Wednesday throughout the exhibition.

Uncanny Valley: Being Human in the Age of AI, an exhibition exploring the increasing human dependence on artificial intelligence, will reopen in an expanded version: Pierre Huyghe's bronze sculpture *Exomind*, with a beehive at its head, will greet visitors in the Barbro Osher Sculpture Garden. The museum will also offer visitors a chance to experience its vast and varied permanent collections of American art, as well as arts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas, among other holdings on view throughout the Young.

The Museum Store will be open.

The Legion of Honor

The Legion of Honor will reopen to the public in mid-October. Prior to the museum's general opening, members will be invited to visit for pre-opening member days.

The film and installation *Alexandre Singh: A Gothic Tale*, which draws inspiration from the nineteenth-century Gothic revival as well as San Francisco's place in film noir history, has been extended and will be on view through the fall. In addition, visitors will be able to journey through the museum's European painting and decorative arts collections, as well as explore its newly installed gallery of ancient art.

Through December 2021, both museums will offer **free general admission for essential workers**, who will also receive a \$15 discount on tickets to special exhibitions.

Continuing the Museums' popular **Free Saturdays program**, general admission to the de Young and Legion of Honor museums will be free every Saturday for all residents of the nine-county Bay Area.

New safety measures

Deu to the coronavirus, visitor capacity has been reduced to 25 percent, and both general admission and special exhibition tickets will provide access to the de Young and Legion of Honor

on a timed entry basis to ensure proper social distancing. While the Museums encourage booking tickets online in advance, limited tickets will be available on-site for spontaneous visits. The duration of visits is not limited, and visitors are welcome to explore the de Young and Legion of Honor at their leisure upon entry.

Physical distancing will be facilitated through new procedures at admissions, store and café cashier desks, including plexiglass screens, and the opportunity to use no-touch payments. Face coverings will be required for staff and adult visitors at all times in the buildings, and visitors will be encouraged to follow directional signage. The Hamon Tower observation level, de Youngsters Studio, Coat Checks, and other areas where proper social distancing or appropriate health and safety measures cannot be guaranteed, will stay closed for the time being. To encourage curiosity, Discovery Guides to the collections will be made available at the Information Desk. Cleaning routines have been increased, and sanitizing stations are available throughout the two museums.

For more information, visit <https://deyoung.famsf.org/visit-us>.

Piedmont Pickleball Schedule

Pickleball is once again active in Piedmont with the reopening of the courts at Piedmont Middle School, 740 Magnolia Avenue. The courts are located below the school, and are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday.

For more information, contact the Recreation Department at 420-3070.

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