

DO GOOD

Volunteer Opportunities

## DONATIONS/VOLUNTEERS

### Turkey donations needed

The Free Dining Room at St. Vincent de Paul Society of Marin will serve more than 5,400 total meals between now and Thanksgiving, but they have run out of turkey. Despite many challenges over the years, including current safety precautions, the Free Dining Room has remained open every day since it began in 1982 serving hot, nutritious meals to vulnerable children, adults, veterans and seniors in Marin. Right now, to ensure everyone’s safety, the Free Dining Room is currently providing meals in “to go” containers at breakfast and lunch times. Fresh or frozen turkey donations can be dropped off at 820 B. St. in San Rafael, between 7 a.m.-3 p.m. any day of the week. Find additional information at [vinnies.org](http://vinnies.org).

### Education and health

Donations to Canal Alliance directly help Latino immigrants and their families to access the resources and support they need to achieve safety, stability, education and opportunity. During the pandemic caused by COVID-19, donations also ensure that Latino immigrants, who are disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus, have access to needed services and support to address their most urgent needs. Find information about donating at [canalalliance.org](http://canalalliance.org).

## VIRTUAL EVENTS

### Online art for sale

“Fresh Art 2020” is a National Fine Arts Exhibition presented by the Marin Society of Artists Nov. 7 - Jan. 16 online at [marinsocietyofartists.org](http://marinsocietyofartists.org) and as a slide show on YouTube. This show will feature artwork in a diverse range of medium, subjects and styles including sculpture, painting, photography, printmaking, mixed media, all types of fine art crafts and fabric art and more. All art will be for sale.

### Awards for women

Soroptimist International of Marin County is a local chapter of Soroptimist International, a global organization of women helping all women become their best through education and support. Soroptimist International of Marin County is once again offering financial awards, both to women who seek further education and youth who demonstrate talent in the field of musical instruments. Apply by Nov. 15 for the Live Your Dream Award for educational assistance and by Feb. 1 for the Hazel Barbano Music Award for students of musical instruments. Additional information for both awards and details for eligibility and applications can be found at [marinsoroptimist.org](http://marinsoroptimist.org).

### Resilient, healthy gardens

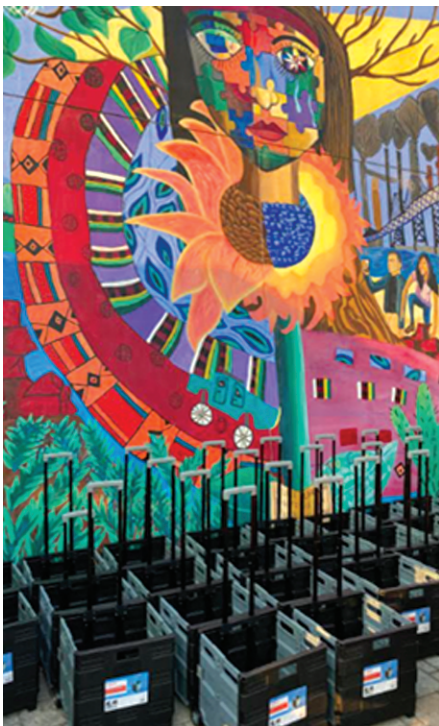
Environmental Forum of Marin will host an online event, “Healthy Soils: Growing Climate Resilience,” about how we can build healthy soils that both produce nutritious food and protect the planet on Nov. 17, 6:30-8:30 p.m. The three speakers will untangle the complex role of agriculture in climate change: agriculture is villain, victim and potential savior, explaining how building the health of our agricultural soil can reduce emissions, sequester carbon, and improve plant health. For information and registration for the event, go to [marinefm.org/event-3788096](http://marinefm.org/event-3788096).



**COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR ELDERLY:** On June 11, the Marin IJ printed a letter to the editor inviting volunteers to reach out to Marin’s 59 convalescent centers and assisted living communities. Within 24 hours of the day the letter was printed, Betsy Best-Martini, author of the letter, received several volunteer offers. To date, Lions Club of Terra Linda, Las Gallinas Lions Club, Corte Madera Women’s Club and many individuals have donated their time, crafts, new and used materials to Marin Post Acute, Novato Healthcare Center, Marin Terrace Assisted Living and Kaiser Permanente. Elders and recovering patients continue to be isolated. For suggestions of new and used materials to donate, contact Dr. Sally Gelardin, outreach coordinator at Marin Activity Professionals, at [sgelardin@gmail.com](mailto:sgelardin@gmail.com).

- Photo of volunteers courtesy of Sally Gelardin

## COMMUNITY IN ACTION



**VIVALON ROLLS OUT MEALS:** The COVID-19 pandemic continues to pose an unprecedented threat to Marin’s at-risk communities including low-income families residing in San Rafael’s Canal area. Some of these multi-generational families, with limited or no access to government sponsored relief programs, are being disproportionately impacted by economic and health issues, including food insecurity. Vivalon (formerly Whistlestop) is proud to support Vivalon Family Dinners, a program designed to help feed struggling families during the current crisis, providing healthy pre-cooked family dinners to Canal area residents with the help of Stacy Scott, culinary director at Jackson Café, who prepares and packages 100 family meals weekly. When staff and volunteers realized that some people were turning down the meals because they couldn’t carry all the food back to their homes, Vivalon raised money to buy rolling carts. For information about the meal program or how to donate, go to [whistlestop.org/nutrition/family](http://whistlestop.org/nutrition/family).

-Photos courtesy of Vivalon

## GIVING MARIN 2020 PARTNERS

### THANK YOU TO THESE GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

AUTOMOTIVE	BIOTECHNOLOGY	CONSTRUCTION	DEVELOPER
EDUCATION	FINANCIAL SERVICES	GROCERY	HEALTH CARE