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Spring Fest organizer, Isabelle Bennette, amidst the many booths May 14 at Moraga Commons Park.

Photo Vera Kochan

Local teens bring Spring Fest advocacy to Moraga Commons Park

By Vera Kochan

The first of its kind local event is the brainchild of Miramonte High School senior Isabelle Bennette. Held at the Moraga Commons Park on May 14, Spring Fest was titled to celebrate the season and the theme of “springing into action” with regards to initiatives and advocacy affecting youth and the community.

Bennette originally came up with the idea “during the Black Lives Matter movement in the summer of 2020. It began as a cultural fair only a few months ago.” Many of the nearly 30 organizations provided ways for the community to engage in active causes.

While Georgetown University-bound Bennette was the primary organizer, the Acalanes Union High School District hosted the event and the Moraga Youth Involvement Committee’s (Parks and Recreation Department) sponsorship allowed the basically

student-run Spring Fest to blossom. Miramonte, Campolindo, Acalanes and Las Lomas students all had a hand in some type of participation.

Student bands entertained at the bandshell; a Wall of Compliments allowed folks to add encouraging remarks to strangers; a Collaborative Mural meshed individual artwork into one; and a cultural fashion show displayed the beauty of global differences through traditional costumes.

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Hung finishes 36th consecutive Boston Marathon, tying women’s record



Photo provided

From left: Son David, his cousin Nancy, Patty, grandson Gavin, son Erick

By Jon Kingdon

There are two sure things in life – death and taxes. For the last 36 years, you could also add Patty Hung running the Boston Marathon. On April 19, the 76-year-old Orinda resident ran what she anticipates will be her penultimate race, pointing to next year’s Boston Marathon which will give her the record for the most consecutive Boston Marathons completed by a woman (Bennett Beach owns the men’s record of 54 consecutive Boston Marathons).

Following the bombing at the 2013 and the coronavirus, this year’s Marathon finally had a feeling of normalcy. “Last year we had to verify vaccination records constantly,” Hung said. “We did have to mail in our proof of vaccination but not when we came in for the race because they had it all on record and it was a bit more relaxed this year. At the expo, where you could buy running gear and souvenirs, masking there was still important.”

With the weather in the high 50s and low 60s and the sun coming in and out, the conditions for the runners were ideal for the 25,314 runners. “Everyone was talking about how great the weather was,” Hung added. “Running through Wellesley and Framingham and then coming into Boston right over the hill, the crowds were amazing. To have all of those people cheering us on, it’s unlike any other marathon.”

Hung finished the race with a time of 5:08:03

which was 26 minutes and 22 seconds faster than last year which surprised her when she saw the time. “I never looked at my watch and when I saw how I had improved over last year, I was really surprised,” Hung said.

Hung’s family was even more pleased than her with her time. “We were taking a plane out of Boston right after the marathon back to California,” Hung said. “My family made it clear that I had to finish the race in under six hours, and they were jumping for joy when I came in just over five hours.”

Rank does have its privilege in this marathon for those who are in the Quarter Century Club, all those who have run at least 25 Boston Marathons (approximately 50 runners). “It’s been a real privilege to be in that club. We were allowed to get up to the front and start in Wave 2 which allowed us to start an hour and a half before the last wave was to start,” Hung said. “It’s a nice thing the directors do for our group.”

Hung still believes that she can break five hours but that is not what is most important to her as she has approached each race: “I’m not trying to break any records. I just want to try and enjoy the race. Age creeps up on you and it does funny things sometimes and I just want to always remember how I’ve always enjoyed this race so much. The important goal is to enjoy my family and come back healthy the next year and that thinking has worked all the way. I just really want to enjoy the race and not to put any pressure on myself.

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Environmental Task Force shares key goals with Lafayette council

By Lou Fancher

When members of the city's Environmental Task Force presented the committee's annual update May 9 at the city council meeting, ETF chair Nancy Hsu Hu said that after a hiatus for all of 2020, the committee in 2021 decided to "hit the ground running" and have shown significant momentum to develop and implement environmental policies and programs. Joining Hu in the presentation to the city council were vice chair Brenna Shafizadeh, ETF commission members Greg Meronek, Maria Gastelumendi, and Ashley Louisiana, and city planning technician and staff liaison to the ETF Joshua Miller.

In 2021, the committee identified three priority projects: a draft ordinance about EV charging and electrification of construction projects; a city-wide move from gas to electric leaf blowers; and waste reduction related to single-use food ware.

Subcommittees created by the task force pursued priorities laid out by the city council that included an EV charging ordinance that would exceed future CalGREEN state requirements, building electrification, and single-use food ware policies directly tied to specific recycling and waste diversion

percentage rates.

Hu said adopting an EV Charging Ordinance for multi-family construction would result in universal access for residents and provide equitable, basic levels of charging (instead of some multifamily building residents having a great deal of access and others having none). According to Hu, CalGREEN's standard is set at a level that means 60% of residents in a multifamily building will have no charging capability at all. Instead, the ETF recommends all new construction in Lafayette have Level One charging.

Given the high number of multifamily construction projects in Lafayette, the scarcity of EV chargers, Gov. Newsom's executive order banning all internal combustion vehicles by 2035 – and acknowledging that level one charging is slower – Hu said it is still better than having nothing at all. The committee sought council approval to submit their recommendation to the Planning Commission to begin the zoning text amendment process.

Shafizadeh reported that the ETF has researched 54 other communities in California that have established "reach codes" related to building electrification ordinances. While continuing to pursue outreach

efforts for local input through hosted information events and online resources, the task force is working toward an ordinance that would have new buildings be all-electric and require some remodels to undergo re-electrification.

One example of such a "re-model," Shafizadeh said, would be the addition of a backyard ADU, for which no new gas lines would be installed and the unit would need to be all electric. A long-term goal for the city would be to cap all gas lines by 2045. In the meantime, an online webinar, links to rebates for electrification, and surveys to collect feedback from residents have been implemented.

Other action items recommended the council issue a city resolution stating a commitment for city workers to convert entirely to manual means (i.e. rakes) or electric leaf blowers. ETF also recommended placing a citywide ban on gas leaf blowers. Hu said that due to reservations about an outright ban expressed by Public Works and Parks and Recreation departments, a review of the city's ordinances should take place before making a citywide ban.

Consulting with nearby cities that have already made the transition was also recommended. Hu emphasized the

difficulties of both gas and electric leaf blowers: the former has health negative impacts, the latter requires recharging, is less powerful and will result in "non-pristine lawns," Hu said, adding that those left-behind leaves are beneficial for soil.

An ETF recommendation for the council to adopt an ordinance reducing single-use food ware picked up on a draft created in 2019 that was stalled by COVID. Taking into account the ongoing concerns from local food businesses just getting back on their feet, she said crucial to next steps is feedback from stakeholders, engaged community members and restaurateurs.

The first phase would require straws and stirrers to be compostable fiber-based and provided only on request. It would also mandate compostable produce bags be used in grocery stores and food service businesses. Businesses would need to have three bins: compost, recycle and trash for customer's waste items. The second phases six months later would require all disposable containers (plates, cups, and more) to be fiber-based and only given out on request.

There would be a 25-cent fee charged for disposable cups, and if eating in, businesses

would be required to provide reusable utensils.

In public comments received prior to the meeting, four respondents supported gas leaf blower elimination or reductions. In the one public comment during the meeting, restaurant owner Robert Lavoie said it was disturbing to see the council trying to limit people's options. He encouraged them to adopt a "do-no-harm policy." Lavoie said mandating electrification and eliminating leaf blowers is not supported by people who use leaf blowers and "having one choice for energy is really not your business." He also said imposing costly ordinances (such as restrictions on single-use items) is not acceptable, but said encouraging people with Green Awards is good.

Other priorities for the ETF are to explore gray water systems, update the city's Environmental Action Plan that was last updated in 2017, conduct another Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory and identify funding sources, monitor the drafting of General and Specific Plans to promote sustainability, and draft and adopt a charter that includes a mission statement, long-term goals, and focuses on incorporating the city's latest vision and mission statement.

Lafayette School District board receives good news on school funding

By Jennifer Wake

The Lafayette School District governing board was met with some good news at its May 18 meeting, after hearing presentations from various departments about challenges they face involving declining enrollment and staffing shortages, the Lafayette Partners in Education donation figures and state budget revision,

which will help schools across California, put smiles on governing board members' faces.

LPIE president Danielle Gallagher, during her presentation to the board, focused on the enormous community response for donations to the nonprofit this year, exceeding expectations with a whopping \$4,787,361 projected to have been raised, \$500,000 of that from their recent Gala alone.

LPIE, which was established 42 years ago, is a fundraising juggernaut helmed by a 50-person volunteer board who work countless hours to support Lafayette elementary, middle and high school programs such as the arts, music and math, as well as technology, instructional aid, counseling and much more.

Governing board member Dave Smith was one of several

board members to express their gratitude for LPIE. "A big thank you," Smith said about the ability of the nonprofit to rebound from the pandemic in such a significant way, adding, "LPIE is one of the largest community engagement partners."

"Coming out of the pandemic, our parents rallied," Gallagher said of the successful year. "Whatever we are

able to raise goes to our schools and students," noting the phenomenal music and arts programs, and site specific instructional support at the elementary school level, as well as robotics, art, music mentors and wood tech at Stanley Middle School that LPIE supports.

... continued on Page A3



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Volunteers still needed for first-ever Lafayette Community Day, June 4



throughout the community. Sign-ups are now open for volunteer projects and activities that focus on human services, youth development and education, seniors, arts and culture, diversity and kindness and town beautification. The event will begin with a volunteer check-in at 9 a.m. June 4 at Plaza Park, followed by a welcome rally at 9:15 a.m. Everyone will return to the park at 12:30 p.m. for lunch, a collaborative community-wide art project, a small nonprofit fair, other fun activities, and music from the band, Traveling Wilburys Revue. Visit LafayetteCommunityDay.org to learn more and to sign up today.

– J. Wake

Lafayette Community Foundation, in partnership with the City of Lafayette and the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce as well as financial sponsor Republic Services, is organizing Lafayette Community Day, an event where team leaders and volunteers will head out to work on projects

New principal to take the helm at St. Perpetua



Karen Goodshaw

After 14 years at St. Perpetua Catholic Elementary School in Lafayette current principal, Karen Goodshaw, will be joining the Oakland Diocese as an Associate Superintendent for Leadership. Goodshaw leaves St. Perpetua in a very strong position with enrollment increasing by over 20% during the last two years. She also successfully collaborated with the Lafayette City Council to make the school safe for all community members in the neighborhood with the installation of a new LED crosswalk path on Hamlin Road. Goodshaw concludes her tenure at St. Perpetua after assisting thousands of students, teachers and parents.

Molly Gotchet will become St. Perpetua's new principal for the 2022-23 academic year. Gotchet comes to St. Perpetua from Ecole Notre Dame des Victories in San Francisco where she has been the Director of Student Life. In addition



Molly Gotchet Photos provided

to her experience at Ecole Notre Dame, she has an extensive teaching background including working as a third-grade teacher at Our Lady of Grace School in Castro Valley. She also worked for the Oakland Unified School District as a Special Education teacher.

Gotchet completed her undergraduate studies and a master's degree at Saint Mary's College, and a master's degree in special education from Loyola Marymount University. She is also a current Masters of Arts in Educational Leadership candidate in the prestigious Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program for Catholic School Leaders at the University of Notre Dame. The St. Perpetua community is eager to welcome Gotchet onto its campus and is looking forward to her arrival in July.

– J. Wake

Lafayette School District board receives good news on school funding

... continued from Page A2

LafSD Superintendent Richard Whitmore also spoke about Gov. Gavin Newsom's recent May revised budget, which according to a statement from the California Department of Education, "directs a total of \$128.3 billion to education, lifts up the most critical needs including historic health, recruitment and retention of teachers, and literacy strategies necessary to allow students to heal and recover after two very challenging years." The revised budget includes \$3.3 billion to combat statewide declining enrollment and stabilize school budgets, according to the DOE.

Whitmore said the extra money in state funds was generally good news, "but people

are popping their champagne bottles a little too quickly," noting that the state senate and assembly will be making adjustments before the proposed budget goes to the governor's desk June 15, and is signed off by June 30. "But ... not bad news," he added, stating, "We'll have another discussion with LPIE and how we put together an expenditure plan that uses these funds to their highest use."

The board will return to discuss the proposed budget at its June 14 and 15 meetings. The board typically adopts its 2022-23 budget in mid-June, and has 45 days to update the budget after the final state budget is approved.

For information about upcoming meetings and agendas, visit www.lafsd.k12.ca.us/board



Lafayette Public Meetings

City Council

Regular Meeting
Monday, June 13, 7 p.m.
Teleconference via City of Lafayette's You Tube Channel:
<http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube>

Planning Commission Meeting

Monday, June 6, 7 p.m.
Teleconference Meeting via Love Lafayette YouTube
<http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube>

Design Review

Wednesday, May 25, 7 p.m. Zoom
Teleconference Meeting via Love Lafayette YouTube
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Town Council: Wednesday, May 25, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, June 8, 6:30 p.m.

Planning Commission: Tuesday, June 7, 6:30 p.m.,

Park and Recreation Commission:
Monday, June 20, 7 p.m.,

Moraga School District Board Meetings :
Tuesday, June 7, 6 p.m. www.moraga.k12.ca.us.

Town council provides direction to staff for Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget

By Vera Kochan

Marin Clean Energy's Deep Green program, the American Rescue Plan Act, and a Parks and Recreation Department re-organization were the main topics of consideration regarding the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget discussion between the town council and staff during a May 11 meeting. Council Member Sonja Makker was absent that evening.

Town Manager Cynthia Battenberg's presentation to council members provided specific questions as to what direction staff was expected to take. In the case of Deep Green, "Should the town opt for Deep Green service, and if so, only for the street lights or for all town facilities?"

At this point in time, the town subscribes to a Marin Clean Energy (MCE) Light Green program providing 60% of renewable energy. Deep Green would account for 100%. Moraga has been on track to meet Climate Action Plan goals with the purchase of hybrid vehicles, EV charging stations and eventual solar energy for town facilities. An additional annual cost to the town by opting into Deep Green would entail \$3,045 (General Fund for all town facilities) and \$2,334 (Fund 500 - Lighting Assessment District for Street Lights) totaling \$5,379. The town council agreed that paying approximately \$1 per household annually was worth the lessening of a carbon footprint.

The distribution of the \$4,254,072 in ARPA funds could include general government services, and storm drain investment besides assistance to

impacted town businesses. "Should the town carryover \$32,400 of the IT Broadband funding to continue implementation of high-speed fiber services to town facilities?"

Due to installation delays by the town's provider, only \$3,000 of the FY 2021-22 budget allocation of \$50,904 will be spent by fiscal year end. The council agreed that the \$32,400 be carried over and include the town's Emergency Operations Center.

Under the ARPA category, "Should the town continue funding the storm drain system infrastructure improvement, and eliminate funding of the Slide and Basin Failure and Sediment Basin Studies?"

There are several expenses that fall under the storm drain umbrella: Temporary Senior Civil Engineer (\$93,000); Storm Drain Maintenance and Repair (\$125,186); 2021-23 Annual Road Rehab and Storm Drain Repairs 21-205 (\$1,125,000); and Moraga Road and Hacienda Drainage Project 21-206 (\$56,000). Total costs: \$1,399,186. Council members agreed to put on hold a \$50,000 expense toward both basin projects and to carry on with the infrastructure improvements.

With regards to government services, "Should the town transfer \$310,000 to the General Fund to be spent on Government Services; and should the town budget \$71,500 for implementation of a finance software upgrade to Springbrook Cloud?"

The council agreed to the General Fund transfer, because in FY 2021-22, the town allocated \$310,000 in ARPA Funds which could be used for government services. Additionally, the town uses outdated soft-

ware, and council members felt it necessary to upgrade the system in order for staff to increase efficiency with regards to data generation.

"Should the town fund the shortfall necessary to complete the Bollinger Canyon Special Study Area Rezone (\$65,000) and Housing Element and General Plan Update (\$418,000)?"

The council agreed to use ARPA funds for these projects.

COVID-related small business assistance has already seen an allocation of nearly \$200,000 in ARPA funds used to boost Moraga's Chamber of Commerce and independent retailers. "Should the town allocate additional funding to the Chamber and/or for grants to impacted small businesses?"

The council decided to wait until more information was forthcoming from the Chamber as to whether any additional funds were necessary, and if so how much.

A Parks and Recreation Department Reorganization became necessary once the new Hacienda tenant, Wedgewood Weddings, assumed management of events in November 2021. "Should the town reallocate 20% of the Parks and Rec Director's time to other recreation and open space needs and to public outreach; and should the town reallocate the Recreation Supervisor's time to recreation programs to expand the programs offered to the community?"

Now that Wedgewood Weddings has taken over event venues and freed up staff to put their energies elsewhere within the department, the council agreed to the reallocation of time for both positions.

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Fire Abatement begins on 21 town-owned parcels

By Vera Kochan

Just like every property owner in Moraga, the town is required to follow fire abatement procedures on its 21



Photo provided

Hand crews conduct fire abatement work on Mulholland Ridge

parcels that comprise 382 acres of both developed and undeveloped land. Projected fire prevention costs are expected to increase from \$93,000 in Fiscal Year 2021-22 to \$109,000 in FY 2022-23 thanks to new requirements.

As noted in Parks and Recreation Director Breyana Brandt's May 11 staff report, the town council approved \$20,000 in the FY 2020-21 budget to complete a fire abatement study through a consultant. Unable to find a consultant, town staff completed the analysis with the help of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District, thereby reallocating the money toward funding fire abatement work.

There are nine developed parcels that the town is responsible for abatement during each fire season. The Town Hall (one parcel), while mostly a structure and parking lot, is subject to defensible space standards that routine landscaping will accomplish.

The Council Chambers/Corporation Yard (one parcel) is also mostly structure that requires minimal work.

Even though the Moraga Library (one parcel) is mostly a building and parking lot, the property does contain a hillside that is subject to defensible space standards and weed abatement.

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Community views remodeled Hacienda at recent Open House



Photos Vera Kochan

Remodeled Secondary Dressing Suite

By Vera Kochan

Ever since Wedgewood Weddings assumed event management at the Hacienda de las Flores, located at 2100 Donald Drive in Moraga, the facility had been abuzz (literally) with the sound of saws and hammers. The six-month, interior renovation was culminated with a May 12 Open House for the community.

The house chef created fancy appetizers for the occasion and a new signature cocktail called The Hacienda (tequila, lime juice, grapefruit juice and elderflower juice) was introduced.

Parks and Recreation Director Breyana Brandt and Recreation Supervisor Jasmine Bateson were on hand to give guided tours of the on-site improvements which included

the ADA patio expansion, kitchen remodel, refurbishment of the Fireside Room and eventual gas fireplace, remodeled Secondary Dressing Suite, and repainted meeting rooms. That was just the first floor.

The second floor was turned into offices for the Wedgewood staff event planners, and the crown jewel on the third floor was an extensive makeover of the Primary Dressing Suite complete with a raised pedestal surrounded by full-length mirrors, a full bathroom, wet bar, couches and chairs offering a marvelous view of the Hacienda's patio (lit with twinkle, drip and bistro lights) and lawns below. The Pavilion area saw the dilapidated lawn replaced with artificial turf and a cement center aisle.

Wedgewood's Regional Manager Jerome Cansino, who

oversees 10 of their properties replied, "We're here to co-exist with the people in the neighborhood." To that extent the premises are allowed a 75-decibel noise level, but Wedgewood plans on keeping it at 55.

General Manager Alissa Mendoza oversees the entire staff including the caterers, bartenders, and event coordinators to ensure that things go smoothly. "I make sure that the couple of the day are in wedded bliss."

A bonus to the evening was a poetry reading on the Pavilion grounds by Matthew Zapruder, award-winning author of "Why Poetry." Zapruder is also a Saint Mary's College professor, a Guggenheim Fellow and former editor of the New York Times Magazine's poetry page.

Fire Abatement begins

... continued from Page A4

The Hacienda de las Flores has four structures (three parcels): Hacienda Building, La Sala Building, Casita Building and the Pavilion Building which are all subject to defensible space standards. A major drawback on the property is the hillside-covered Eucalyptus grove. In 2020, six trees were removed with the closest proximity to private structures in order to widen the fuel break.

Moraga Commons Park (two parcels) has a lawn that is regularly mowed, but the right-of-way land that runs from Moraga Road along St. Mary's Road toward Carter Drive is considered an evacuation route that must be kept clear.

Rancho Laguna Park (one parcel) has a combination of maintained lawn and natural areas that need fire abatement.

Of the eight town-owned undeveloped parcels, the largest is Mulholland Open Space Preserve (three parcels). With 250 acres it is the town's biggest fire abatement challenge in that a large portion of the area maintains its natural state

The Moraga Road Right-of-Way (one parcel) is located across from the Moraga Commons Park and is adjacent to West Commons Park. This area requires annual discing work.

West Commons Park (one parcel) is a new parcel to the town and will need to be monitored to decide what type of future abatement will be necessary.

Vacant Lots (three parcels) located at the intersection of Rheem Boulevard and St. Mary's Road fall under the full abatement category.

The town does perform in-house fire abatement work of weeds through flail mowing, trimming/edging, and medians (treatment after weed removal). Fuel reduction abatement involves limbing-up trees, shrub and brush re-

moval, and chipper use. Outside contractors are hired to weed abate large areas and perform fuel reduction through tree removal, complex and specialized fuel reduction, limbing-up trees, and hand crews to work steep hillsides.

Based on the results of staff's fire abatement study and recommendations, the council, minus Member Sona Makker who was absent that evening, agreed that the town continues to collaborate with MOFD regarding prescribed burns, expanded use of burn piles and expanded use of their Chipper Program.

Council also agreed to the continued use of cattle grazing on Mulholland, with the possibility of expanding the practice to other town parcels; continue to leverage available grant funding for fire abatement work; increase the FY 2022-23 budget for fire abatement to \$109,000 and plan for additional annual expenses of \$94,000 with regards to Mulholland; and use a hand crew to establish and maintain Mulholland's perimeter fuel breaks over a three-year period from 2021-22 to 2024-25 with fuel modification through MOFD.

The town council was asked to "consider purchasing a Kubota skid-steer loader with a forestry package and the following attachments: battle axe mulcher attachment and a 30 series root grapple, or comparable. The \$119,547 cost of purchasing the skid-steer loader could be funded with Fund 100 - Palos Colorados." There was discussion as to whether Moraga, Orinda and MOFD could share the purchase cost; or if Moraga made the purchase the other two could rent the equipment. However, given the short window of time involved for fire abatement and the amount of terrain involved among the three parties, someone might get the short end of the usage

stick when all is said and done. The topic will most likely come up for discussion at a future date.

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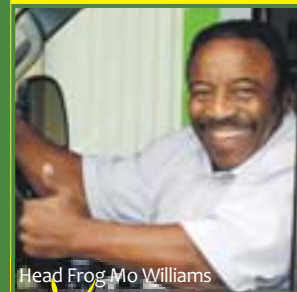


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See public meetings schedule on this pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements
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www.cityoforinda.org
 Phone (925) 253-4200
Chamber of Commerce:
www.orindachamber.org
The Orinda Association:
www.orindaassociation.org

City Council

Regular Meeting:
 Tuesday, June 7, 7 p.m.
 By Teleconference Only
Planning Commission
 Tuesday, June 14, 7 p.m.
 By Teleconference Only
Supplemental Sales Tax Oversight Commission
 Monday, June 8, 6:30 p.m.
 By Teleconference Only

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Hookah proponents fail at last ditch attempt to get exemption from flavored tobacco ban

By Sora O'Doherty

Although it is unusual for there to be much discussion about city ordinances when they come back to the council for second reading, the Orinda ordinance banning the sale of flavored tobacco products was the exception, and was pulled from the consent calendar on May 17 to allow for further public comments. The comments were divided into two camps: proponents of the continued use of flavored tobacco products in hookahs, and opponents of any use of flavored tobacco at all. City council members were not swayed, and proceeded to adopt the ordinance banning all sale of flavored tobacco in Orinda without change. The new ordinance will become effective on June 16, 30 days after adoption.

The discussion included a face-off between Thomas Lawton, government affairs representative of Fumari, Inc., a hookah manufacturer, and Mayra Lopez, Contra Costa County Health Services program manager of the Tobacco Prevention Project. Lawton, in both written and oral comments, accused the county of misleading the city by providing false information in order to fit the county's political agenda.

In response, Lopez submitted a red-lined version of the county's earlier letter of support for the proposed ban on flavored tobacco products. Although there were some differences, Lopez continued to assert that there is rising hookah use among youths and that any tobacco use is dangerous and deleterious to health. That position was strongly

supported by Jen Grand-Lejano of the American Cancer Society and a Contra Costa County resident. She specializes in local tobacco control, she said, because tobacco is a unique product that "when used, kills half its users."

Jimmy Ancira submitted both written and oral comments addressing the issue of whether members of the LGBTQ community are more susceptible to hookah use. Ancira said that hookah use is a gateway to other tobacco products, and told of how this occurred in his own life. "As a Latin gay male," he said, "I have witnessed firsthand how flavored hookah hooks vulnerable youth and leads them to use other types of tobacco products."

The issue of hookah use in the LGBTQ community was addressed on the other side by

George Johnson, a manufacturer of wooden hookah pipes, who identified as a gay man. Johnson countered the argument that had been made that flavored tobacco products began in the 1990s, but rather, he said, the use goes back some 400 years. Tobacco for hookah use has always been flavored. He also alleged that hookah use in California is on the decline.

Alexandra Winston told the city council how in 2017 her son started vaping, and in 2019 her husband tried vaping as a route to quit smoking. Her husband died, leaving her a single parent of four. Her son continues to vape. She argued that what was before the council was a question of health equity. "No business should profit off people's lives," she concluded.

Orinda joins nation in proclaiming May as Jewish-American heritage month

By Sora O'Doherty

Following the lead of U.S. President Joseph Biden, the Orinda City Council declared

May to be Jewish-American heritage month by adoption of a proclamation, which states, in part, "during Jewish American heritage month, the city of Orinda celebrates the heartfelt progress won through the struggle and sacrifice of Jewish Americans, and we rededicate ourselves to building a world where diversity is cherished and faith is protected."

The proclamation goes on to praise the vibrant culture and life of the Jewish American community, while acknowledging that they have experienced prejudice and discrimination, and that Jewish communities continue to confront hostility and bigotry, including in America. "The city of Orinda shares the obligation to condemn and combat antisemitism and hatred wherever it exists," the proclamation continues.

It recognizes that American Jews have "worked tirelessly to strengthen the promise of religious freedom and civil rights in the United States by joining together with all faiths to reject ignorance and intolerance, teach empathy and compassion, and root out hatred wherever it exists." Reflecting on the greater

history of the Jews, the proclamation notes that "through our understanding and study of the holocaust, we know the human devastation that can come from systematic prejudice, and are compelled to 'never forget.'"

The federal proclamation explains that the first Jews to arrive in America were 23 refugees who landed in New York in 1654.

Noting that the inspirational poem inscribed on the Statue of Liberty was written by Jewish-American poet Emma Lazarus, Biden recently said, "Throughout our country's history, Jewish Americans have proudly served our Nation in uniform, in elected office, and on our nation's highest courts. They have made enormous contributions to America's cultural, scientific, artistic, and intellectual life, and they have marched, petitioned, and boarded buses to demand civil and political rights for all — from women's rights to voting rights to workers' rights."

The Orinda proclamation invites people to visit www.jewishheritage-month.gov to learn more about the heritage and contributions of Jewish Americans.

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Wong takes two top awards in annual Poul Anderson writing contest



Emma Wong Photos provided

By Sora O'Doherty

Emma Wong, a ninth-grade student at Miramonte High School, won two of the four awards in the 2022 Poul Anderson writing contest. Wong won for her poem, "American or Not," as well as her short story, "A New Homeland." The other two awards were won



Hannah Shagan

by Hannah Shagan, 10th grade, Miramonte, for her science fiction or fantasy story, "Floating City," and Eloise Anagnost, 11th grade, Miramonte, for her short story, "Chased by Darkness."



Eloise Anagnost

Honorable Mentions were given to Chiara Sponzilli for her poem, "Fake," Indie Lee for the poem, "Smile, you're on camera," and Jonathan Su for his science fiction/fantasy story, "City of Blues."

The Friends of the Orinda Library Creative Writing Contest was renamed in 2002 in the memory of Poul Anderson, a popular science-fiction writer of over 80 books. Anderson is honored as an Orinda resident who was a true friend to the community. The contest is open to high school students who live or attend high school in Orinda.

The contest is judged by a panel of judges who are involved professionally in reading, writing, or publishing. This year's contest was judged by Sally Hogarty, executive editor, The Orinda News; Sora O'Doherty, reporter, Lamorinda Weekly; Anne Lowell, li-

brarian, Glorietta Elementary School, and Susan Williams, Miramonte High School librarian.

The entries are submitted to the judges without any identification of the author. The judges make their awards based on the best pieces of writing. They are not required to make an award in each category. This year, there was no award in the category of essay or memoir. The judges this year were impressed with the students' willingness and ability to tackle some big universal issues, such as immigration, prejudice, and the environment.

Each winner will receive a cash prize of \$500 from the Friends of the Orinda Library. The winning works will be included on the Friends of the Orinda Library's website, <https://friendsoftheorindalibrary.org>

Orinda gets a new public holiday: Juneteenth now officially recognized

By Sora O'Doherty

Orinda adopted Juneteenth as a public holiday at the May 17 city council meeting, giving Orinda employees a new day off each year. California is also considering adoption of the holiday, which honors the

end of slavery in the United States.

In the resolution adopting Juneteenth, Orinda noted that last year President Joe Biden signed legislation establishing Juneteenth as a federal holiday. Juneteenth, which is observed on June 19, became the first new federal holiday since

the addition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 1983. The resolution explains that essentially Juneteenth celebrates the Emancipation Proclamation, which ended slavery. The June 19 date commemorates when Union Gen. Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, to announce to enslaved African-

Americans they were free and the Civil War ended. President Lincoln had announced the Emancipation Proclamation two and a half years earlier, but it didn't take effect while the Civil War raged on.

In Orinda, the observed holidays are specifically enumerated in the Memorandum

of Understanding with the Teamster bargaining group and the Unrepresented Employee Manual, which now includes Juneteenth as the 12th official holiday for employees of Orinda. In 2022, June 19 is a Sunday, so the employees will get a day off on Monday, June 20.

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MOFD directs chief to form working group on single role paramedic staffing

By Sora O'Doherty

The Moraga Orinda Fire District on May 18 once again took up the topic of increasing staffing at Fire Station 45 in downtown Orinda. From 2007 to 2013, staffing had been increased from 17 to 19, with a dedicated ambulance service at Station 45, but in 2013 the district reverted to the current cross-staffing model, under which the crew of Engine 45 staffs the ambulance when responding to emergency medical service (EMS) calls.

In his staff report to the board, MOFD Fire Chief Dave Winnacker reported that this requires taking Engine 45 out of service for the full length of the EMS call and creates a gap in coverage for a median time of 62 minutes per call.

MOFD's second ambulance unit is staffed with a dedicated crew at Station 41 in Moraga. Winnacker explained that the

reason the ambulance call outs can take more than an hour is owing to the lack of local hospitals. When the ambulance from Station 45 is on an EMS call, Engine 45 cannot be used because the firefighters are with the ambulance.

This issue was raised again at the April 20 board meeting, when Directors Michael Donner and Steve Danziger requested a staff report. In addition, Local 1230 Union Representative Jacob Airola recently raised an instance where there was a house fire in north Orinda, but the ambulance from Station 45 was transporting a patient to the hospital, which meant that Engine 45 remained idle. The engine from Station 43, St. Stephens, responded, but there was a delay for several minutes.

Fortunately, the fire was contained to the chimney where it started, with no damage to the rest of the structure or any other structures. There

were no injuries or fatalities. Winnacker, using the time it took for the battalion truck from Station 45 to reach the site of the fire, estimated the delay at about two minutes. For each structure fire called in to 911, MOFD dispatches four engines, a ladder truck, two battalion chiefs, and an ambulance. Winnacker explained that MOFD wants 15 to 20 firefighters at an incident. MOFD also receives help from the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District as needed.

The chief's report contains extensive documentation of incidents and response time. Winnacker requested that the board provide directions to staff on four alternatives: 1) to maintain status quo of 17 suppressing members per day with two vacation relief positions per shift; 2) increase staffing to 19 suppression members per day with existing authorized positions; 3) increase staffing to 19 suppression members per

day with two additional vacation relief positions per shift; or 4) develop proposal to implement single role paramedic staffing.

Alternative one would require a substantial amount of overtime, which would require the district to meet and confer with union representatives. Director Danziger also pointed out that mandatory overtime leads to more burnout and more injuries to firefighters. Under alternative four, Station 45's ambulance would be staffed with paramedics, and possibly with EMTs who are not firefighters, which would leave the firefighters available for call-outs on Engine 45. The staff report explains that the use of firefighter/paramedics is no longer widespread in the East Bay owing to increased staffing costs, although it is retained in the city of Alameda and some other smaller departments because there is an insufficient call volume to support single-

role positions.

Director Craig Jorgans noted that north Orinda response times are the worst in the district. He was definitely in favor of the chief forming a working group to discuss increased service levels. A working group formed by the chief was favored over a group established by the MOFD board, because the working group formed by the chief would not be a Brown Act body.

Winnacker asked the board to give him specific directions on what the group was to consider, as the board has considered increasing the number of firefighters several times and already has considerable information about that. It was agreed that Winnacker's group should work on alternative four only, to develop a proposal to implement single-role paramedic staffing. When that group reports back, the board will then be in a position to consider all four options.

MOFD honors volunteer student, Kaitlyn Roach



From left: MOFD Fire Chief Dave Winnacker, Kaitlyn Roach, and Fire Marshal Jeff Isaacs

Photo provided

By Sora O'Doherty

The board of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District was told at their May 18 meeting that Miramonte High School student Kaitlyn Roach of Orinda has received a big thank you for volunteer service to the district. Roach was honored for her leadership, marketing talent, innovative ideas, and communication skills which have been an invaluable resource for the district and the community. Roach has managed the monthly Fire Marshal messages for fire safety, developed local banners to communicate the annual abatement deadline, and created an educational video about home

hardening and defensible space. She received a proclamation recognizing her volunteer service to MOFD.

Fire Chief Dave Winnacker and Fire Marshal Jeff Isaacs showed their gratitude by giving Roach the Official Proclamation as well as taking her on a personal ride in a fire

engine, which Roach really enjoyed. She was also provided with an excellent recommendation. According to the district, "Kaitlyn's sense of community and pride is an excellent example of demonstrated civic duty for everyone."

Fire District Public Meetings

Moraga-Orinda Fire District

Board of Directors
Wednesday, June 15, 6 p.m.
For meeting times and agendas, visit www.mofd.org

ConFire

Board of Directors
Regular Meeting: Tuesday, June 7, 1 p.m.
For meeting times and agendas, visit www.cccfpd.org
(http://64.166.146.245/agenda_publish.cfm?id=&mt=ALL)



Letters to the editor

No Mow May

No Mow May is a tiny idea with huge consequences! Here's the idea - stow your lawnmower for the month of May and let the weeds come to bloom. The plants that we consider weeds are actually food that is essential for pollinators, like bees, just coming out of hibernation.

The U.S. has nearly 5,000 species of native bees and many of them overwinter underground. When they come out of hibernation, they are hungry.

No Mow May is all about feeding the bees.

So sit back and watch the grass grow for the rest of the

month! Contact the person who mows your lawn and give them the rest of the month off. The bees will thank you.

Ellen Beans
Moraga

Orinda council fails on affordable housing

State law requires Orinda to upzone for over 600 units of affordable housing. Other cities have a different number. In the Bay Area, affordable housing for a four-person household allows for a maximum income of \$150,000. A document called the "Housing Element" must be

submitted to the state by January 31, 2023, showing where the re-zoning will occur.

State law, however, allows for this zoning requirement to be satisfied by zoning sufficient sites for a density of 20 units per acre or more, without actually requiring that affordable housing be built on the sites designated for affordable housing. In order to actually obtain affordable housing, many cities, including Lafayette, have enacted "inclusionary housing ordinances" requiring, e.g., that 15% of units in new projects be affordable. Yet rather than enacting such an ordinance (which could be copied from

Lafayette), or even committing to enact such an ordinance, the Orinda council has allowed "staff" to submit to the state a draft Housing Element that merely proposes that Orinda will "research" the subject over a multi-year period.

The Mayor should be faulted for failing to cause the Council to provide direction to staff, instead by inaction leaving the decision to "staff," which is already in discussions with

developers. "Staff" unsurprisingly, and in the absence of direction from the Council, has chosen to submit a draft Housing Element that is a developer's dream: up-zoning for increased density without a requirement for any affordable units. The Mayor, the Council, and staff should be embarrassed.

Nick Waranoff
Orinda

Opinions in Letters to the Editor are the express views of the writer and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly. All published letters will include the writer's name and city/town of residence -- we will only accept letters from those who live in, or own a business in, the communities comprising Lamorinda (please give us your phone number for verification purposes only). Letters must be factually accurate and be 350 words or less; letters of up to 500 words will be accepted on a space-available basis. Visit www.lamorindaweekly.com for submission guidelines. Email: letters@lamorindaweekly.com; Regular mail: Lamorinda Weekly, P.O.Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570

Hung finishes 36th consecutive Boston Marathon, tying women's record

... continued from Page A1

As I get older, I think this run is going to be a good run in my head, not necessarily to run fast."

Hung, who is still working

as a nurse, starts training hard for the race for about three months running 800's and it always careful to do what she can to avoid any injuries or illnesses. "I've been running for a long time, and I've been so for-

tunate because so many things can happen with your health," Hung said. "The last two weeks prior to the race, I was very careful when I went out and made sure I always had a mask on."

As a native Bostonian, the race also serves to have an annual reunion with any number of friends and relatives: "it was great to see everyone at mile 13 and then they all moved to the end of the race to see me finish."

Hung is already looking forward to next year's race: "I had a wonderful write-up in the Boston Athletic Magazine that acknowledged my tying the record this year. It will be more exciting next year."

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Police Department Tip Line 94549Tip@gmail.com
Police Department Traffic Issues 94549Traffic@gmail.com
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Orinda Police Department:
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Chief of Police, Ryan Sullivan 925-254-6820
Orindatip@cityoforinda.org



Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report May 1 - May 14
Alarms 32
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 9
Traffic 87
Suspicious Circumstances 6
Suspicious Subject 15
Suspicious Vehicle 5
Service to Citizen 26
Patrol Req./Security Check 27
Public/School Assembly Check 2
Supplemental Report 23
Vacation House Check 0

Welfare Check 23
Ordinance Violation 4
Vehicle violations
Auto Burglary
Brown Ave./Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3200 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor 80 Block Lafayette Cir.
1000 Block Carol Ln. (2)
Lafayette Cir./Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Pleasant Hill Rd./Acalanes Ave.
Nephi Ct./Moraga Rd.
3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
3600 Block Mosswood Dr.
Reckless Driving
Moraga Rd./St Marys Rd.
3700 Block Happy Valley Rd.
Pleasant Hill Rd./Acalanes Ave.
Moraga Rd./Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Glenside Dr./St Marys Rd.
St Marys Rd./Moraga Rd.
Huntleigh Dr./Lucas Dr.
Deer Hill Rd./1St St.
Happy Valley Rd./Wb Sr 24
Tc - Property Damage
800 Block Acalanes Rd.
Happy Valley Rd./Deer Hill Rd.
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Moraga Rd.
900 Block Moraga Rd.
Vehicle Theft
1100 Block Via Media
3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Other criminal activity
Commercial Burglary
900 Block 2Nd St.
Grand Theft
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Identity Theft
1100 Block Via Media
900 Block Village Center
Panhandling
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)
Petty Theft
800 Block Mountain View Dr.
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Police Department (2)

3400 Block Golden Gate Way
Petty Theft From Veh
500 Block Silverado Dr.
Residential Burglary
3100 Block Windsor Ct.
Shoplift
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (3)
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (4)
900 Block Moraga Rd.
Tampor With Vehicle
900 Block Hough Ave.
Nuisance to the Community
Disturbance-domestic
3200 Block Mt. Diablo Ct.
Disturbing The Peace
900 Block East St.
Loud Music
500 Block St. Mary's Rd.
3200 Block Sweet Dr.
Moraga Blvd./Victoria Ave.
Loud Noise
10 Block Fallen Leaf Ct.
Loud Party
Fallen Leaf Ct./Silver Dell Rd.
1200 Block Quandt Rd.
Las Trampas Rd./Glenside Dr.
Moraga Blvd./Victoria Ave.
1000 Block Glen Rd.
Public Nuisance
Mt. Diablo Blvd./El Nido Ranch Rd.
Happy Valley Rd./Bart
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Burton Dr./Glenside Dr.
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
3400 Block Moraga Blvd.
Vandalism
1100 Block Howard Hills Rd.
3400 Block Sweet Dr.
Other
Brandishing Weapon
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
H&S Violation
1000 Block Dewing Ave.
K9 Outside Assist Request
400 Block Norman Ave., Cly
Return After Eviction

3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Trespass
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Trespass W/ Vehicle
3900 Block Canyon Rd.
Unwanted Guest
3300 Block Betty Ln.
3500 Block Mt. Diablo



Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report May 3 - May 16

Alarms 14
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 4
Traffic 46
Suspicious Circumstances 7
Suspicious Subject 5
Suspicious Vehicle 2
Service to Citizen 17
Patrol Req./Security Check 27
Supplemental Report 10
Vacation House Check 1
Welfare Check 7
Public/School Assembly Check 7
Ordinance Violation 1
Vehicle violations
Accident Injury
Ascot Dr./Moraga Rd.
Excessive Speed
Chalda Way/Rheem Blvd.
Moraga Way/Canyon Rd.
Moraga Rd./Rheem Blvd.
Moraga Rd./Donald Dr.
Moraga Rd./Lucas Dr.
Moraga Way/Ivy Dr. (2)
Moraga Way/Moraga Rd. (2)
Hit And Run Misdemeanor
Library
Reckless Driving
Moraga Rd./Campolindo Dr.
Moraga Way/Valley View Dr., Ori
Ascot Dr./Moraga Rd.

Canyon Rd./Camino Pablo
Tc - Property Damage
Canyon Rd./Country Club Dr.
Vehicle Theft
Nb Canyon/Camino Pablo
Other criminal activity
Fraud Credit Card
Not Available
Grand Theft
1500 Block Canyon Rd.
Grand Theft Veh Parts
10 Block Fieldbrook Pl.
Petty Theft
Not Available
Theft Access Card
Not Available
Nuisance to the Community
Disturbance-domestic
Hacienda
Disturbing The Peace
Police Department
Loud Music
Not Available
Canyon Club Brewery
Hardie Dr./Moraga Way
Loud Party
30 Block Miramonte Dr.
Other
Battery Sexual
Campolindo High School
Police Department
Penetration With Object
Campolindo High School
Unwanted Guest
Canyon Club Brewery



Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report will be back next time

Intergenerational crowd warmly welcomes back Concert at the Res after two-year pandemic hiatus



Photo Sharon K. Sobotta

One of several performances at May 14 Concert at the Res.

By Sharon K. Sobotta

Four-year-old Leila smiled ear-to-ear, while pointing toward the stage at the Lafayette reservoir. Why? “Because my brother plays jazz.”

Leila and her mom Meera Sreenivasan were among the few hundred people who gathered May 14 for the annual Concert at the Res, hosted by the Lafayette Rotary Club, after undergoing a two-year pandemic hiatus.

“My son is a percussionist and it’s great to be out here on this beautiful, sunny day,” Sreenivasan says. “I love hearing him play with his teacher Bob Athayde, who’s retiring, be-

cause he brings so many people from different generations together.”

Throughout the day, students from the local schools cycled across the stage playing music, beating conga drums and singing for a happy intergenerational crowd, thrilled to be back together again.

Katie Penn showed up at the concert to listen to her seventh-grade son play, but she leaves with an even deeper appreciation for the community of Lafayette than when she arrived. “When the kids were playing online, it wasn’t quite the same. There’s something about the collectiveness of music,” Penn says. “It’s nice to cele-

brate their teacher and it’s fun to come together and bring our kids and watch them be influenced by music.”

Monica Phillips doesn’t have a student in the band, but the concerts have been on her online calendar for a long time. “I came back from a work conference and ‘Concert at Res’ popped up on my calendar,” says Phillips, who knew when she experienced the reservoir concert a few years ago, that she’d be back. “I love outdoor concerts. I’ve missed the art and wine festival and I’m so excited that concerts (in the plaza are resuming). Music is such a great connection and a great way to bring the community together.”

Stanley Middle School Music Director and Director of the Lafayette Summer Music Workshop Bob Athayde, the man that so many parents and community members gushed about, may have directed his final concert at the reservoir, but promises he’ll be back. “I can’t wait to come to this concert again next year and sit back in a chair and enjoy the music as my former student Todd Minson directs,” Athayde says. “It’s so important to hear live music. If you hear these parents and these kids, that’s all you need, to know what music does for people.”

Longtime teacher known for changing hearts and minds, bids LES farewell



Photo Sharon K. Sobotta

Sofia Lares, Emi Perez and Espi Estrada-Sobotta with LES teacher, Dr. Dana Fry.

By Sharon K. Sobotta

Dana Fry has much more than math, writing and reading on her agenda when she walks into her fourth-grade classroom every morning. “I want all my students to know that I like and respect them just the way they are,” Fry says. “(Being yourself) is hard these days. I hope my students look back and say that my classroom was a place where they felt safe to be themselves.”

With 30 years as an educator under her belt, Fry – who is retiring this year after 14 years at LES – has purpose behind all she does. “My students call me Dr. Fry because I have a doctorate of educational leadership (for social justice).” Fry doesn’t share that to be boastful, but rather as a testament to her passion for lifelong learning (as she got her doctorate in 2014) and her intention to show her students that anything is possible. “People come from backgrounds where education wasn’t accessible. Some people might come to school hungry or in pain because they have a cavity or sad because they’re dealing with something big at home,” Fry says. “(My goal is) to reach kids exactly where they are, accept them and then move forward from there.”

While Fry is committed to reaching children across the gender spectrum, she’s particularly proud of giving the girls she teaches a glimpse at a larger world with more possibilities than they may have imagined for themselves. “I bring engineering projects to the classrooms to show girls that they are good at math. They do have spatial recognition skills that they can do things that are seen as male jobs,” Fry says. “I want to get my students out of a single track mindset.”

Neither Fry nor her students will dispute her reputation as a strict teacher. “Children need boundaries. It’s im-

portant for them to learn I can go up to this point, but not beyond that one,” Fry says. “It makes them feel safe.”

Tait Foster says he was a little worried about Fry being a strict teacher, but quickly changed his mind. “I learned (from Dr. Fry) never to judge a book by its cover,” Tait says. “She’s really funny and she makes learning a breeze.” Tait’s not alone in his views. There’s a seemingly unanimous sentiment of love for learning among Fry’s students that has them more sad about parting ways with their teacher and less eager about starting summer break.

“She uses funny voices while reading,” Emi Perez says. “When something is confusing, she teaches us to use common sense to solve our problems.”

“Common sense can’t be taught and it can’t be given to you,” Fry explains. “We talk through how to solve a problem even if it’s for something very simple like not having a pencil. We can go ask somebody. Use our words. Eleanor Roosevelt said ‘do something everyday that frightens you’ and I try to teach that.”

A slightly shy fourth-grade girl lit up while describing being granted a gigantic piece of land by Dr. Fry during the California land project. For the assignment, Dr. Fry acted as the governor of California and the children had to request the number of acres they wanted and share their plan for using the land. “Most students requested five or 10 acres, but one requested over a thousand acres and I granted it to her,” Fry explains with a smile. Dr. Fry hopes she planted seeds for a larger life lesson with that particular unit. “Don’t be afraid to ask for what you want or need. Don’t be afraid of the word ‘no,’” Fry says. “You may be told ‘no’ a lot, but you might also get a yes.”

Retirement has been on

Fry’s mind for a few years, but she wanted her final year to be one in which she worked alongside the students inside a classroom, not through a screen. “The best part about in-person learning is being able to reach each student (where they are) to support them and motivate them,” Fry says. “I’ll leave with a warm feeling toward my career.”

While Fry imagines making her way back to a community college classroom at some point, in her next chapter she’ll be more accessible to parents than children as she embarks on a new gig as a wine ambassador at Fenestra Winery in Livermore. “I don’t know much about wine (yet); I’ll need to refine my palette,” Fry says. “I’ve got more to learn. I’m a lifelong learner.”

Help Wanted for the Lamorinda Spirit Van Program



- Part time paid driver for the Lafayette Shopping Shuttle from 10 am to 2 pm on Tuesdays or Wednesdays, eventually two+ half days a week. If wanted, this position can also include part time dispatching and/or driving older adults to appointments and errands. Position requires a good driving record, cheerful communication skills, agility to occasionally tie down a wheelchair.
- Part time paid dispatcher to take ride reservations, schedule the route, communicate with passengers and drivers, and prepare reports. Position requires good communication skills and knowledge of Excel.
- Volunteer drivers for a 4-hour weekly or bi-weekly morning or afternoon shift to take older adults to appointments, errands and shopping.



For more information, please email Mary at mbruns@lovelafayette.org or call 925-284-5546.



The Lafayette City Council is soliciting applicants to fill several volunteer positions.

One vacancy on the Planning Commission. The seven-member body is responsible for matters relating to land use and development in the City. The Commission serves as an advisory agency to the City Council for administering the laws and ordinances governing the approval of general and specific plans, zoning text amendments and rezonings. The Commission also hears and decides on applications for subdivisions, variances and land use permits.

Members of the Planning Commission are required to be qualified electors of the City of Lafayette, and are selected on the basis of training, education, occupation and expertise. The Commission reviews technical reports and construction plans. Individuals interested in this key volunteer position may obtain an application from the City’s website at www.lovelafayette.org/city-hall/commissions-committees or by calling the City Clerk’s office at (925) 284-1968. Completed applications must be received by 5:00pm on June 17, 2022.

LAMORINDA LACROSSE CLUB

would like to congratulate the graduating class of 2022 lacrosse players!



Miramonte High School:

GIRLS: Ellie Hawkins, Elena Gant, Julia Hunt, Sophia Swenson, Caitlin Jenkins, Peyton Mays, Anna Crinks

BOYS: Ronnie Hollis, Max Metzgen, Mark Cheng, Anchul Schmidt, Ethan Berndt, Christian Gee, Liam Williams, Chris Morrison, Aidan San Gabriel



Campolindo High School:

GIRLS: Annie Cimperman, Laurel Hunter, Georgia Hudson, Kendall Keely, Maddie Krozek

BOYS: Tyler Kivelson, Grayer Leenhouts, David Colachico, Julien Welch, Griffin Brown



Acalanes High School:

GIRLS: Grace Hagel, Avery Bahl, Elise Flagg, Ella Morris, Ellie Ives, Lucy Milnes, Maya Stelzer, Jojo Bishop, Samantha Louie, Brooke Palma, Sammy Hess, Michelle Goll

BOYS: Jake Henderson, Mitchell Sweeney, AJ Keohane

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Service Clubs Announcements



Lamorinda Sunrise **Rotary**

Every Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.
Lafayette Veterans Memorial Building
OR Zoom Link at <https://lamorindasunrise.org/speakers>

June 2022 Weekly Speakers

3: Major Kristin Wolfe, USAF - First Female F-35A Demo Team Commander
10: Jumbo Jim Eakins, Retired American Pro Basketball Player
17: Melissa Allen, RotaCare Concord
24: Mark Cohen, Member Magazine

Local teens bring Spring Fest advocacy to Moraga Commons Park

... continued from Page A1

A food truck was on hand in addition to several cultural food offerings at participating booths.

“When I first began brainstorming for this event,” Bennette explained, “I met with district-wide student forums that helped me get an idea of what students wanted a district-wide event to look like.”

Scores of advocacy-related organizations were well represented: Asian Student Union’s Bring Change to Mind (end the stigma of mental illness); Advocates for Immigrants and Refugees; Youth Leadership Commission of Walnut Creek (registering voters); STEM in Action; Rainbow Community Center; Miramonte SAGA (Sexuality and Gender Al-

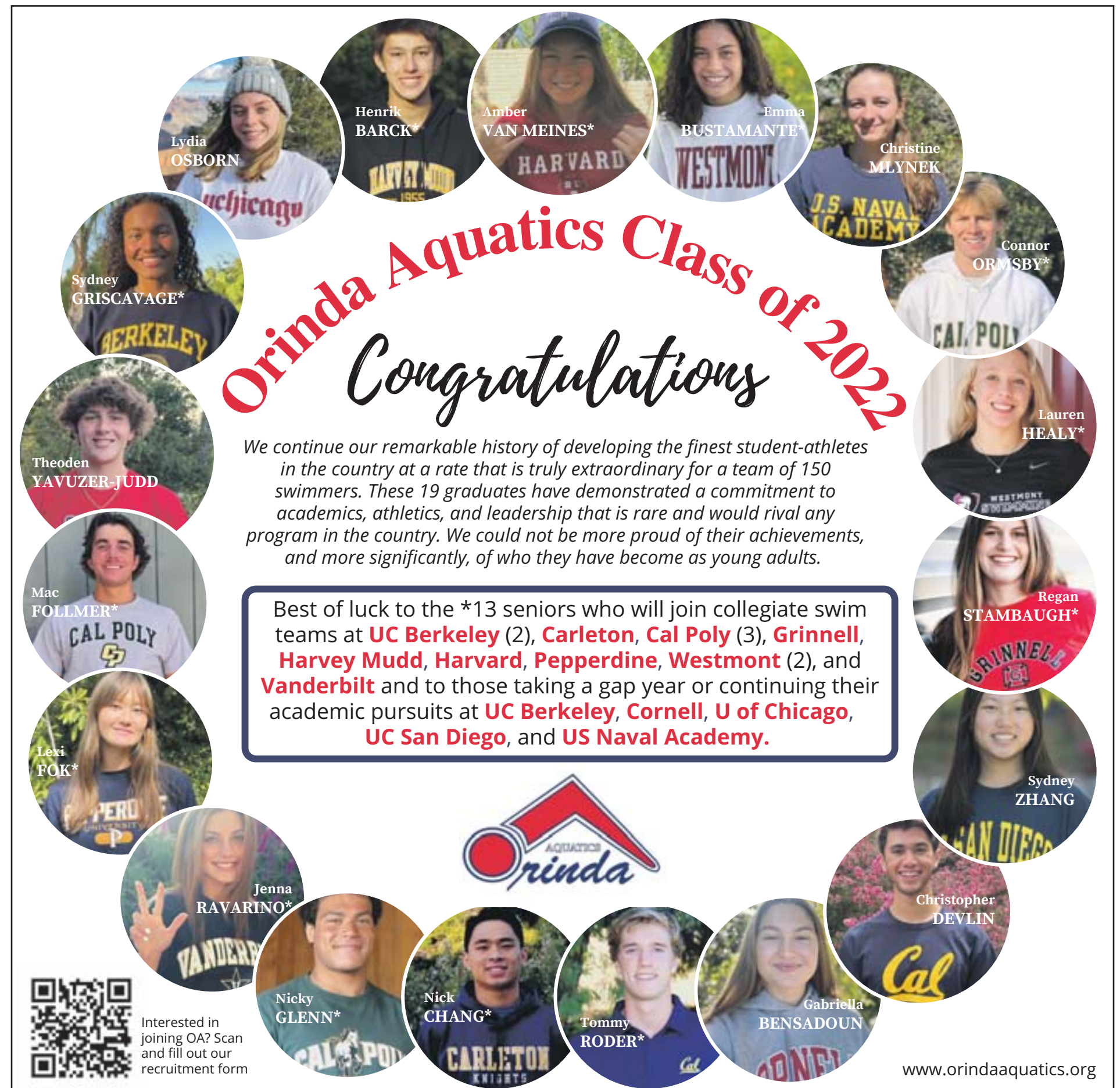
liance); Amnesty Orinda (International); Latinos Unidos Club (Las Lomas); Moraga iKind; Latinix Club (Miramonte); Save Mount Diablo; PFLAG Lamorinda; Writer’s Magazine (Miramonte); Lamorinda Arts Council; Rossmoor Advocates for Diversity; Keeping Our Promise (tutor Afghan refugees); Miramonte Robotics Team 8751 The Wild Bulls; Diversity Consciousness Committee; and Las Lomas Stands for Ukraine (proceeds from all sales went to RAZOM which in Ukrainian means together).

Student entrepreneurs were also in evidence: Hand-printed and hand-crafted tote bags, postcards, prints and earrings by Aki Yoshie; Aqua Jewelry (gold and silver-plated – with 10% of proceeds going to teen sui-

cide prevention) by Kirstin Parker; artwork “exploring the way that we could change the view of death in a pro-social way” by Annika Salamon; a henna design booth; bead jewelry kits for kids by A. M. Briggs; and artwork by Ilana Roginsky (a portion of sales went toward Ukraine relief).

“This event is really a tribute to active students, whether they are artists, entrepreneurs, scientists, advocates, or leaders,” stated Bennette. “Putting together Spring Fest has been an incredibly heartwarming experience as I saw how much our community has been and continues to advocate for marginalized peoples; create educational and vulnerable spaces; and put in tons of time and energy to support others.”

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community. Send a letter to the editor: letters@lamorindaweekly.com



Orinda Aquatics Class of 2022
Congratulations

We continue our remarkable history of developing the finest student-athletes in the country at a rate that is truly extraordinary for a team of 150 swimmers. These 19 graduates have demonstrated a commitment to academics, athletics, and leadership that is rare and would rival any program in the country. We could not be more proud of their achievements, and more significantly, of who they have become as young adults.

Best of luck to the *13 seniors who will join collegiate swim teams at **UC Berkeley (2), Carleton, Cal Poly (3), Grinnell, Harvey Mudd, Harvard, Pepperdine, Westmont (2), and Vanderbilt** and to those taking a gap year or continuing their academic pursuits at **UC Berkeley, Cornell, U of Chicago, UC San Diego, and US Naval Academy.**

Interested in joining OA? Scan and fill out our recruitment form

www.orindaaquatics.org

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Christine MLYNEK
Connor ORMSBY*
Lauren HEALY*
Regan STAMBAUGH*
Sydney ZHANG
Christopher DEVLIN
Gabriella BENSADOUN
Tommy RODER*
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Theoden YAVUZER-JUDD
Sydney GRISCAVAGE*
Lydia OSBORN

~ Life in LAMORINDA ~

Citizen Scientists research wildlife in the Nature Area



A bobcat, a top carnivore, has never before been photographed in the Nature Area during daylight.



A raccoon visits the Sue Graf pond.



Blacktail buck a few days before it was killed by a vehicle.

Photos provided

By Megan Kennedy and Kathy Barrett

A raven called from an oak tree announcing that people had returned to the Nature Area. The woods were still wet from a recent rain, and local high school students were gathering for their monthly check of the camera traps. For the past year, about a dozen students participated as citizen scientists, in a research project to learn more about the wildlife of the Orinda Nature Area.

The Friends of the Wagner Ranch Nature Area (FWRNA) conducted the project with partial funding from the North American Association of Environmental Educators, Youth Learning as Citizen Environmental Scientists (YLACES). FWRNA was recently renamed Friends of Orinda Nature Area (FONA) to distinguish it from Wagner Ranch Elementary School.

Under the guidance of UC Berkeley Emeritus Professor of Wildlife Studies, Reg Barrett, students monitored cameras situated in the five habitats of the Nature Area: wetland, grassland, shrubland, wood-

land, and riparian. Starting at the Sue Graf pond, they refilled the three bait stations across from each camera. Most months, they found the aluminum bait pans empty, so they filled them again with dog food, fresh blueberries, and hog chow, taking turns changing the camera chips so that animals visiting the bait had their pictures taken during the following month, which students viewed, studied, and proposed hypotheses to explain the activities of the wildlife.

During one of the sessions, two groups of the team carefully picked apart a number of owl pellets, finding the skulls of gophers, wood rats, and deer mice. Gophers and deer mice had not been captured on camera. Some of the most exciting photos were of a bobcat with a squirrel in its mouth, and a family of baby raccoons. Sometimes the students found slender salamanders under the 2-foot by 4-foot plywood boards supporting the bait pans. Worms, pill bugs and spiders also hid under the boards.

March and April of 2021, the first two months of the study, the group didn't put any bait in the aluminum pans to serve as a control period to al-

low them to observe the effect of bait on the activity of the wildlife. They continued monitoring the camera stations through March and April of 2022. During the control period, only three species were recorded. By the end of the study, 22 species had been documented visiting the bait. Ravens did not visit the bait stations during the Control Months, but starting in May, they were the first animals visiting the bait, and were very busy flying away with the dog food.

The group observed many changes in the creeks and vegetation over the 14 months of the study and using the data collected from the camera traps, they also noted several changes in the patterns of wildlife in the nature area.

Each student participating in the study was tasked to write a hypothesis regarding some of these changes, and is now in the process of writing a research paper to convey their findings. Students, from Miramonte, Monte Vista, and California high schools hope that their findings will not only further the community's understanding of the species in the nature area, but also provide

educators with information they can use when teaching about local organisms or the Orinda Nature Area.

Across the board, the students enjoyed the invaluable experience of being able to

study the nature area like environmental scientists under the guidance of experienced educators.

The Orinda Union School District owns the Orinda Nature Area, which is the 18-acre historic homestead of Theodore Wagner, California's first Surveyor General. On Sundays during the school year, children and their parents volunteer to help Naturalist Toris Jaeger maintain the biodiversity garden, pond, and trails. Before Covid 19, FONA conducted public festivals, one in the fall, and the other around Earth Day. Hopefully these festivals can resume soon. Dogs and pets are not allowed in the Nature Area. If people want to volunteer, they can reach out to Jaeger (torisjaeger1@gmail.com) who teaches programs and supervises Scout projects and volunteers. Information at www.fona.org. Photos were taken with RECONIX cameras.



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Biscuit bliss delivered with sun-dried tomato and goat cheese combination



Sun-dried Tomato & Goat Cheese Biscuits

Photo Susie Iventosch

By Susie Iventosch

These savory, buttermilk biscuits, full of flaky layers and loaded with sun-dried tomatoes and goat cheese, are rich, delicious, and perfect for breakfast, lunch or dinner. In my opinion, goat cheese and sun-dried tomatoes are the perfect match and always taste so wonderful together. The goat cheese adds to the rich flavor in this recipe and makes for an especially tender crumb. If you serve them for dinner, try adding a

little Boursin cheese on top for an extra-special dinner roll.

You might wonder how to add goat cheese to your biscuit dough, but it's easy. Simply cut it into the dries along with the chilled butter. Make sure that both the butter and the goat cheese are firm and cold before you add them to the mixture. Use a pastry cutter or your cold fingertips to cut the cheese and butter into the dries.

The best way I've discovered to make biscuits flaky with lots of buttery layers is to

fold the dough in half after you press it out onto your cutting board. If you do this about three times, you will find plenty of layers in your biscuits. You can also cut the dough in half and stack it before you roll it out again for the second or third time. This gives plenty of great air space and creates the layering effect.

The key to nice flaky biscuits is to chill them once you've cut them for about 20 minutes before baking them. The colder the butter when you bake them, the better the

chance that the butter will melt more slowly and the biscuits will rise higher, while maintaining their shape. If the butter is too soft, the biscuits will spread out quickly and become flat and more misshaped. They will still taste great, but will look a little funny!

One last little note is that I always use aluminum-free baking powder. Have you ever made baked goods that end up tasting metallic? That can be due to too much baking soda or baking powder with aluminum. I've switched to Rum-

ford aluminum-free baking powder and use it for anything that calls for baking powder. My family has been so happy with the results of using this product.

So, now you are ready to go ... chill your butter and cheese, use a light touch when handling the dough and make lots of layers with your dough! As always, don't forget to send me an email with any questions or comments.

Sun-dried Tomato & Goat Cheese Biscuits

Makes 12 two-inch biscuits

INGREDIENTS

2 cups all-purpose flour
1 1/2 tsp. baking powder (aluminum-free)
1 tsp. salt
1 tbsp. granulated sugar
1/2 cup chilled butter, cut into small cubes (1 stick or 4 oz.)
1/3 cup crumbled goat cheese
1/2 cup sun-dried tomatoes, chopped (drained of any oil, or use sun-dried tomatoes not packed in oil)
2/3 cup milk

DIRECTIONS

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and set aside.

Place flour, baking powder, salt and sugar in a large mixing bowl. Using a pastry cutter, or your cold fingertips, cut butter and goat cheese into the dries until the butter and cheese are about the size of tiny peas. Mix in the sun-dried tomatoes.

Stir in milk with a fork or wooden spoon and mix until all dries and milk are incorporated into a dough. Roll dough out onto a floured cloth or cutting board to about 1-inch thick. Fold dough in half and roll out again. Repeat this process two more times.

On the last fold and roll, cut the biscuits and place onto the prepared baking sheet. Refrigerate for at least 15 to 20 minutes.

While the dough is chilling, preheat the oven to 400 F.

Remove chilled biscuits from the refrigerator and bake for approximately 14-16 minutes, or until the tops are golden-brown.

Serve with a spread of labneh, goat cheese, Boursin cheese, eggs, or just plain!

These biscuits freeze very well for several weeks, too. Just thaw for about 10 minutes before reheating to serve.



Susie can be reached at suziventosch@gmail.com. This recipe can be found on our website: www.lamorindaweekly.com If you would like to share your favorite recipe with Susie please contact her by email or call our office at (925) 377-0977. Or visit <https://treksandbites.com>



Family Focus

Parents need a pat on the back

By Margie Ryerson, MFT

It's natural for parents to doubt themselves at times, especially if their child experiences a behavioral, social or academic challenge. When a child is struggling, conscientious parents tend to first look at themselves and what they did or didn't do that contributed to the problem. If 10-year-old Skylar wasn't included in a classmate's sleep-over party, not only might her parents feel bad for her, but they may blame themselves for not getting to know the classmate's parents or for not inviting the child to their house, or for not helping Skylar learn to navigate her social environment better.

In addition, there's what I call the "compare and despair" syndrome that all too often results in parents feeling unhappy with their own situation while seeing supposed evidence of other people or families being much more successful. A previous Family Focus column explored how comparing yourself to others can lead to negative feelings about yourself and your life. It's important to realize that we can't always see behind the scenes of others' lives to be able to

evaluate accurately. If you find yourself automatically making comparisons, try to become aware that you're doing this and tell yourself it's counterproductive. It may take a while to first catch yourself doing it and then to block it. A tool in this process is to think of all that you have to be grateful for instead of feeling diminished by making comparisons.

Natalie, the mother of three young children, expressed how she felt her life was very routine and that she felt generally unappreciated. She thought that anyone could perform her tasks and child-care taking, and that there was nothing special about her. Natalie put her children and husband first. Because she was also an exceptionally giving person to her extended family and friends as well, Natalie sometimes felt that no one was looking out for her. People in her life expected her to be responsible and loving, and Natalie felt taken for granted.

We all hear and read about self-care being important. Natalie was already doing positive things for herself such as monthly massages and regular exercise and yoga classes. She was in good shape physically but needed an emotional tune-up.

If you are in a similar posi-

tion of needing more affirmation from others, it's important to take action for yourself. Try not to let pride or embarrassment stand in your way. Let those close to you know how you're feeling. Some will offer validation right away, whereas others may need a cue that you could use a boost. Ask what they see you doing well and how they view you as a parent, a partner, a friend and as a person. You can ask older children to tell you what they like about you (and to skip the critiques for now). You can ask younger children to draw a picture of you and tell you about it. Chances are it will be a loving effort.

Parents are urged to listen carefully and offer positive, encouraging comments to their children. Yet, what too often goes unaddressed is that parents would love to receive this as well. A systematic approach ensures that everyone in the family can have this need met – being heard and receiving caring and encouragement.

If you establish a family meeting time for sharing concerns and problem-solving, you can incorporate validation for everyone each time. Take turns having everyone share specific things that they appreciate about each member of the family. In addition, you

may want to have a time when everyone can share something they are proud of about themselves and then receive some affirmation. If you don't want to have regular family meetings, you can do this exercise on an impromptu basis. The important thing is to do it regularly. Your children will become used to noticing positive behavior among family members and learn how to share their observations. Not only will they offer others some compliments, but they will also get reinforcement for their own positive words and actions.

It is more meaningful if you can give an example of something you have seen or heard, rather than just offering a generalization. If you want to tell Kevin he was being considerate, let him know that you saw him share a toy with his little sister or let a friend go first in a game. Be careful not to use labels, such as honest, smart, talented, etc. Labeling one child a certain way can cause another child to feel less adequate. If one child is labeled as smart and another is labeled as kind, each may think he or she lacks or doesn't have enough of the quality the other has. Use action words, not nouns or adjectives. For example, you saw that Olivia

studied hard and did well on her math exam. Or you appreciated that Sam was being thoughtful by unloading the dishwasher.

The hope is that you will be able to receive recognition and appreciation from those whose opinions are most meaningful to you. Many of us receive validation from our jobs, but it's important to look for ways to fill up our personal and emotional tanks. We can ask others to help with this from time to time. And we can set up a systematic approach within our family.



Margie Ryerson, MFT, is a local marriage and family therapist. Contact her at 925-376-9323 or margierye@yahoo.com.

Her books, "Family Focus: A Therapist's Tips for Happier Families," "Treat Your Partner Like a Dog: How to Breed a Better Relationship," and "Appetite for Life: Stories of Recovery from Anorexia, Bulimia and Compulsive Overeating" are available from Amazon.com.

Lafayette Library Bookmark Contest winners announced



Back row, from left: Jonah Mateo, 7th, St. Perpetua School, Ruby Bogan, 7th, Stanley Middle School, Matt Roberts, 5th, Lafayette Elementary, Sofie Kemper, 6th, Stanley Middle, Gabby Schaffer, 5th, Burton Valley Elementary, Phaley Kim, 6th, Stanley Middle; front row: Taylor Baker, 8th, Stanley, Avery Parkin, 4th, Happy Valley Elementary, Evelyn Bard, 1st, Lafayette Elementary, Kai Takahashi, 2nd, Springhill Elementary, Oliver Semenov, K, St. Perpetua School, Ekaterina Fadeeva, 3rd, Springhill Elementary.

Submitted by
Laurelle Miles

After a year's absence due to the pandemic, the Lafayette Library Bookmark Contest returned this year. Students at all Lafayette elementary and middle schools were given an opportunity to draw a bookmark for the contest. The winning bookmarks were chosen from among the hundreds received. An awards ceremony was held

on April 27 at the library. Winners received gift certificates to Bel & Bunna's Book Shop and the Friend's Corner Book Shop, complimentary framing of their bookmark by Anthony's Custom Picture Framers, and eight printed bookmarks for their family and friends. The winning bookmarks are available at the local elementary and middle schools, Lafayette Library, and the Friend's Corner Book shop.

Photo Ellen Reintjes

Contra Costa County's maritime history helped boost San Francisco's economy



Photo Vera Kochan

"Maritime Contra Costa County" author Carol A. Jensen

By Vera Kochan

Although Lamorinda is landlocked, it does belong to Contra Costa County where a successful maritime industry helped to shape the wealth of San Francisco, thanks to the joining of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers near Suisun Bay.

Carol A. Jensen, Brentwood resident and author of "Images of America: Maritime

Contra Costa County," was a Moraga Historical Society guest speaker on May 12 at the Moraga Library. She discussed the highlights of her book with the aid of a slide presentation documenting how the county provided deep-water ports with which agricultural, mineral and manufactured goods could be shipped worldwide. The 70-100 miles of Contra Costa shoreline has helped make the area the fourth largest inland estuary in the

United States; and has been attributed to helping California become the fifth largest economy in America.

Over 2,000 years ago, the early residents who lived along the Delta were the Bay Miwok. They used the then crystal-clear waterways for fishing and transportation, which allowed them to travel over to what is now San Francisco Bay.

Fast forward several hundred years to the 1840s, when the shipping of goods to S.F. began, eventually via steamboat and wind-driven ships. The rivers provided jobs for many living in the area.

The 1850s saw a population boom in California thanks to the Gold Rush. Since there was a lack of decent roads many traveled long distances by water. Contra Costa County became rich in agriculture and was positioned in an ideal location for export and import by river. The fishing industry along the Delta also offered folks a prosperous living. With a growing population, mail service was transported along the river on a daily basis along with passengers.

After the initial Gold Rush, Chinese migrants came to the Delta in the 1860s to try their hand with the shrimping industry and were immensely successful. Immigrants from England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales came to work in the Black Diamond Mines (Antioch), which transported coal

via the river.

As industry of all kinds of goods began to use the river ways, larger steamships and ferries were built to traverse the Delta. The "Solano," built in 1879, was the biggest railroad ferry steamer in existence for over 35 years. It transported entire railroad cars between Benicia and Port Costa. To this day, there remain two smaller ferries that transport autos from one side of the river to the other -- creating a shortcut route for drivers.

During the 1880s farmers began to extend their landings in order to simplify the process of shipping crops by river. Peaches, nuts, asparagus, pears, prunes, apricots, potatoes and wheat all made the riverboat trip.

As San Francisco's housing market grew, the early 1900s brought the lumber industry to Pittsburg, Calif., for milling and eventual shipment across the Bay. Concord, Calif., had a large port that Lamorinda residents/farmers would have used. Up to a point, most goods

were produced in Contra Costa County and financed in S.F. However, tired of paying the city's shipping fees, eventually goods were sent through Port Costa and shipped worldwide.

During the prohibition era (1920s), "booze boats" took the rich and famous up and down the river between Sacramento and San Francisco for a good time that was not under the watchful eye of the law.

The 1940's "party boats" would often take people up and down the river to spend a day of leisure on the water, or to take Contra Costa County residents over to Stockton for some serious shopping. During World War II munitions factories popped up along the river which provided speedy transport of armaments. Point San Pablo was home to the last whaling station (1956-1971) in the U.S.

To this day, the Delta continues to be a source of water and transportation within Contra Costa County, in addition to recreational enjoyment with many opportunities for watercraft rentals to the public.

To contact Carol A. Jensen email: Historian@ByronHotSprings.com.

Cal Shakes presents bilingual adaptation of Shakespeare's most iconic tale of young love



Set design

Photo Jay Yamada

Submitted by Kevin Kopjak

California Shakespeare Theater Artistic Director Eric Ting and Managing Director Sarah Williams on April 19 announced the full cast and creative team for "Romeo y Juliet," the world premiere bilingual adaptation of William Shakespeare's most iconic tale of

young love.

Adapted by acclaimed playwright Karen Zacarias and directed by Cal Shakes favorite KJ Sanchez, "Romeo y Juliet" imagines these starcrossed lovers as two daughters from feuding families before the backdrop of Alta California, as California was known during Spanish Colonial and Mexican rule. "Romeo y Juliet" performs in Orinda at the Bruns Am-

phitheater May 25 through June 19.

"Following a two-year delay, we are thrilled to present Shakespeare's timeless story of star-crossed lovers to the San Francisco Bay Area," said Sanchez. "By interweaving English and Spanish text, we bring an intensity and depth to the production while staying accessible. I think Karen's translation will resonate with audiences long after the curtain comes down."

"Romeo and Juliet has been adapted countless times, in countless ways for hundreds of years," adds Zacarias. "It is exciting to present this bilingual adaptation of Shakespeare's rich, colorful language that gives audiences a different way to hear and feel it."

Ting says he's honored to welcome back director KJ Sanchez "who moved so many

of us with her production of 'Quixote Nuevo.'

"We started talking about a bilingual Shakespeare before that production even opened and had hoped to make that dream come true in 2020 before we, like so many of our sister institutions, had to cancel our season," Ting adds. "Together with Karen Zacarias (whose Destiny of Desire had me laughing so hard I cried) and an extraordinary ensemble of artists, this team has worked tirelessly to imagine this quintessential story in a way that evokes both the history of this place we call home, and the undeniable ability of love to close the distance that separates so many of us from each other."

Originally scheduled for

Cal Shakes' 2020 Season, "Romeo y Juliet" features a cast of Latinx artists led by Sarita Ocon (Romeo) and Vero Maynez (Juliet) in the title roles and the creative team includes Tanya Orellana (Scenic Designer) and Jessie Amoroso (Costume Designer).

Single tickets (ranging from \$30-\$70) are available now online at calshakes.org or by calling 510-548-9666 (Tuesday-Friday from 1 to 5 p.m.). Ticket prices are subject to change without notice. Performances of "Romeo y Juliet" will be held evenings at 7:30 p.m. Matinees (Sunday) at 4 p.m.; select Saturdays at 2 p.m. May 25-June 19 at Bruns Amphitheater 100 California Shakespeare Theater Way, Orinda.

For information on Cal Shakes' COVID safety policies, visit calshakes.org/cal-shakes-2021-covid-19-safety-precautions/.

Assistance League of Diablo Valley awards over \$206K in scholarships



Assistance League of Diablo Valley 2022 Scholarship recipients. Photo provided

Submitted by Betty Miller

Since 1999, Assistance League of Diablo Valley's Scholarships program, presently co-chaired by Susan Klipfel and Carol Johnstone, has provided financial and emotional support to high school, community college and university students as well as returnees to the academic community. Each applicant has expressed a desire to advance through education by maintaining a designated grade point average, volunteering in campus and community projects and charting an academic timeline.

Additionally, the required Interview component encourages each candidate to explain what he or she wants to accomplish, why and, as important, how to implement their commitment. This process touches on the candidates' significant touches of their lives, information that might be sensitive and, therefore,

held in confidence.

On May 11, Assistance League of Diablo Valley held its Scholarships Awards Presentation at Boundary Oak Golf Course Clubhouse, Walnut Creek. Recipients ranging from ages 17 to 68, supported by family members and mentors alike, realized their dreams.

Following the awards ceremony presentations, Klipfel and Johnstone acknowledged the generosity of foundations, individual donors (chapter members included) and revenue earned at the Assistance League Thrift Shop at the Way Side Inn, the chapter's primary fundraiser, located in Lafayette. The combined efforts resulted in \$206,200 in scholarships granted to well-deserving applicants for 2022-23.

To learn more about the Scholarships Program, as well as Assistance League of Diablo Valley's other philanthropic programs, visit assistanceleague.org/diablo-valley.

In Memory

If you would like to share an announcement about a special event or achievement, such as a wedding, engagement, scholarship or graduation of a local resident, or about a special person from Lamorinda who has passed, send a photo along with your text (up to 250 words) to story-desk@lamorindaweekly.com, and include "Celebrations and Remembrances" in the subject line.

Share Your Celebrations and Remembrances

If you would like to share an announcement about a special event or achievement, such as a wedding, engagement, scholarship or graduation of a local resident, or about a special person from Lamorinda who has passed, send a photo along with your text (up to 250 words) to story-desk@lamorindaweekly.com, and include "Celebrations and Remembrances" in the subject line.

Family fun planned at Moraga Garden Club's 'Welcome to the Garden' event, June 5

The Lamorinda community is invited to celebrate the establishment of the Monarch Habitat and Demonstration Garden, built by the Moraga Garden Club as a gift to the town of Moraga, at the "Welcome to the Garden" event beginning at noon on June 5 at Rancho Laguna Park, 2101 Camino Pablo. The family-centered day of fun will begin at noon with a ribbon cutting by Moraga Mayor Renata Sos, followed by a but-

terfly parade (with costumed adults, kids and dogs), hot dogs and non-alcoholic beverages offered by general contractor and supporter Andy Boggeri of AB construction, crafts and games, docent tours and music. Milkweed and other pollinator seeds will be available as well as information about how to help the monarchs. For information, visit www.moragagardenclub.com.
- J. Wake

Hoops 4 All nonprofit works to bolster local basketball program

Submitted by
Alvaro Ledezma

Edward M. Downer Elementary School in San Pablo had a vibrant after-school basketball program with high student involvement and community support before the program was dissolved about 12 years ago due to budget cuts and a lack of coaches. Through the partnership with Downer Elementary, Hoops 4 All – a nonprofit organization dedicated to making the sport of basketball accessible to underprivileged Bay Area communities, founded by Campolindo High School junior Alvaro Ledezma – is looking to revitalize the school's basketball community and give the students an outlet to explore their passion for the sport.

The project consists of various renovations which are to be made to the school's basketball facilities, including the addition of side hoops to the

school's gym and the painting of a mural overlooking the school's playground, as well as the hosting of basketball camps for Downer's students. Most of the renovations are set to take place during late July and early August, and the basketball camps will likely be held at the start of next school year and coached by local high school basketball players.

To fund the project Hoops 4 All is organizing a fundraiser called the Hoops 4 All Shoot-A-Thon where participants from Campolindo High School's boys and girls basketball programs as well as from Infinite Training, a local AAU basketball team, solicit donations from friends and family, however anyone interested in donating can visit the Hoops 4 All - Edward M. Downer GoFundMe page (<https://go-fund.me/c3e6f053>). For more information about Hoops 4 All, email hoops4all.emd@gmail.com.

Troop 204 celebrates new Eagle Scouts



Blake Chehlaoui and Ryan Coyle

Photo provided

Submitted by
Marc Chehlaoui

Lafayette Boy Scout Troop 204 honored two scouts who achieved the Eagle Scout rank at the Troop's 69th Eagle Court of Honor at the Cal Shakes Theater in Orinda on April 30. Eagle Scout is the highest rank in the Boy Scouts of America.

To attain the Eagle Scout rank, a Scout must earn at least 21 merit badges including 13 Eagle-required badges, demonstrate leadership and Scout Spirit, and successfully complete an approved Eagle Service Project. In addition to the requirements above, these Troop 204 Eagle Scouts participated in the annual 50-mile backpacking trips, including planning and leading a trek on an eight-day trip.

Blake Chehlaoui, a junior at Acalanes High School collected, restored and donated over 330 pieces of used lacrosse equipment. He coordi-

nated and led groups of Scouts and friends in refurbishing the equipment during multiple workdays. Once the gear was ready for action, Blake donated it to Play Marin, a nonprofit based in Marin City that affords underprivileged youth the ability to learn and play sports free of charge.

Ryan Coyle, a junior at Acalanes High School worked with the city of Lafayette Parks, Trails and Rec Commission on a two-part project: The first part involved working with the commission to draft a standard for all Lafayette trail benches; the second part involved constructing one of these benches. Ryan's bench is on the Jakovina trail off the Sessions Road trailhead, under an oak tree with a view of Mount Diablo.

Troop 204, Lafayette's oldest BSA Troop, is celebrating its 90th anniversary and is currently accepting new members. For more information, visit www.troop204.com.

OIS debate team takes first in Spring Spar tournament



Photo provided

OIS debate team with coach Terry Eubanks show off their first place trophy.

By Casey Scheiner

Orinda Intermediate School's debate team took home first place May 14 in the East Bay Debate League's end-of-year online tournament, the Spring Spar.

"The kids were phenomenal Saturday. They speak so eloquently, with great confidence, curiosity, and writing ability," OIS debate coach Terry Eubanks said. "They've done extremely well this year. Our team has won every tournament in 2022. Every year around December, the students start to take it to another level."

Co-founded by OIS in 2007, the East Bay Debate League (EBDL) hosts six tournaments per year, with competing schools including Fallon Middle School in Dublin, Dorris-Eaton in San Ramon, and Head-Royce in Oakland. "Our school's program really evolved in recent years," Eubanks continued. "It used to be just a semester, but it's become a year-long class that the kids are really devoted to. I think [their devotion] is a big reason for our success in recent years."

The EBDL uses a format of parliamentary debate, which features two teams of three debating a resolution. For example, recent motions included

"Ecotourism does more good than harm" and "The US should lower the voting age to 16." With 49 teams of three competing, one emerged above the rest: OIS' team of Reese Akel, Claire Casado, and Molly Stout, who placed first. Another Orinda team of Zara San Gabriel, Caitlin Loughran, and Sacha Patwardhan went undefeated as well.

"We put in a lot of work and spent many nights trying to polish our [arguments]," Akel, the team's first speaker, said. All of that dedication proved to be worth it during the award ceremony. "Hearing your name be called for anything feels amazing and you know that all your hard work has paid off," Akel concluded.

In addition to awards for best single team and overall school, OIS speakers took home individual honors. Competing with nearly 150 competitors, Caitlin Chan was awarded third place, Roxie Tarantino finished seventh, and Emma Wang and Kodie Zundel placed 10th and 11th. "My team and I have gotten really close since the beginning of the year and they're one of the biggest reasons I did so well in this tournament," Chan said. "Debate is my favorite class. I met so many new people and made so many new friends. Not only that but we have an amazing teacher in Terry [Eubanks]."

AAUW-OML Distinguished Woman, Stacia Cragholm



Stacia Cragholm

Photo provided

Submitted by Jan Cushman

Every May, the Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW-OML) honors one of its members as the Distinguished Woman of the Year, for services to the community and the branch.

In April, Stacia Cragholm was named the Distinguished Woman of the Year and was honored at a luncheon in her honor on May 17.

Cragholm graduated from UC Berkeley, playing on the tennis team for two years and trying out several majors, including math and biology and then settling on history. She completed a minor in elementary school physical education, while attending San Francisco State's credential program. She launched her teaching career at Mill Valley Middle School. She married Ellis Cragholm in 1970 and moved to Missoula, Montana, his home state, where she taught girls PE and after school sports. In 1972 they moved to Oakland and later to Lafayette. In

1973 Stacia began teaching in Lafayette, subsequently working at Vallecito, Montecito, Happy Valley and Burton elementary schools. After spending time with her two daughters, Julie and Cristina, she was hired by the West Contra Costa Unified School District where she worked in Richmond and in Hercules teaching elementary and middle school students. She retired from teaching in 2009 and joined AAUW in 2011.

When she became a Branch member, she joined the Tech Trek committee and helped interview and select seventh-grade girls for AAUW sponsored Tech Trek camp. But she had a vision to engage over 100 middle school girls with a one-day conference to provide hands-on workshops on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). She met Dr. Kristen Beck and Roy Wensley, Dean of Saint Mary's School of Science, who supported what has become OML's STEM Conference. Saint Mary's donated the use of classrooms and Stacia engaged with Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) conferences to secure a grant from Chevron as well as contributions from the community, including the Sunrise Rotary and the Bettelheim Family Foundation. She has been the initial catalyst, inspiration and leader for the STEM conference, working over multiple years.

In total over 800 girls have attended the conferences from 2016 through 2019, virtually in 2021, and in-person again in 2022. Now that's success! And it didn't stop there. High school girls who participated in Sister-to-Sister and Tech Trek are recruited each year to hone their leadership skills as ambassadors to the conference. Stacia's idea has become a powerful reality, introducing the STEM world to over 800 girls – a life-altering experience for them and for Cragholm a legacy to be proud of. AAUW-OML is privileged to celebrate Stacia Cragholm's commitment to young women and the mission of AAUW as our Distinguished Woman of 2022.

Community Service: We are pleased to make space available whenever possible for some of Lamorinda's dedicated community service organizations to submit news and information about their activities. Submissions may be sent to storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com with the subject header In Service to the Community.

Not to be missed

ART

Art show at Orinda Books. May features the paintings of Dee Tivenan and Margie Caldwell-Gill who are both Orinda moms and abstract expressionist painters with different styles. Tivenan creates art intuitively by translating the moment through color and form, which allows her connection to the moment to flow and reveal the boundlessness of creativity. Caldwell-Gill uses traditional and non-traditional tools to explore and interact with the materials on the canvas, moving between intuition and logic to discover order from the chaos of creation. Visit the Artist of the Month at www.orindabooks.com. Orinda Books is located at 276 Village Square, Orinda, (925) 254-7606

Valley Art Gallery presents "SLOPES of Diablo" Juried Exhibition May 14 – June 25. 1661 Botelho Drive, Suite 110, Walnut Creek, www.valleyartgallery.org; (925) 935-4311 or email us at valleyartgallery@gmail.com

Music

Gold Coast Chamber Players concert Seriously Mozart, elegant-dramatic-playful. Saturday, June 4, at 7:30 p.m. Pre-concert interactive experience at 7 p.m. Don Tatzin Community Hall at the Lafayette Li-

brary, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette. The concert will be recorded for online viewing beginning June 7. TICKETS \$15-45; Online: www.gccpmusic.com, by phone: (925) 283-3728

The UC Alumni Chorus presents the "Eleven O'Clock Number" on Monday, May 30, 3 p.m. at Hertz Hall on the UC campus. The concert will feature show-stopping songs from Broadway, as the Alumni Chorus honors retiring Director Mark Sumner and Associate Director Bill Ganz for their 60 cumulative years of service. Tickets are \$25 (discounts for seniors/students) and available at the door or online at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/5431791 Visit ucac.net for more information.

Berkeley Symphony presents Berkeley Symphony Chamber II Concert on Sunday, June 26, from 3 to 5 p.m., at Piedmont Center for the Arts, 801 Magnolia Ave, Piedmont. Join us for an engaging mix of classic and contemporary works. Get your tickets today! Cost: \$35. For more info see <https://www.berkeleysymphony.org> or call (510) 841-2800 or email tickets@berkeleysymphony.org.

Festival Opera and The Rotary Club of Orinda are thrilled to present the Club's

Not to be missed

12th "Opera in the Park" concert. This free performance, will be presented from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 16, at the Orinda Community Park. It is an opportunity to hear Festival Opera's stellar artists performing hits that span both opera and musical theatre genres. For more information on Festival Opera or the concert, please visit www.festival-opera.org or email info@festivalopera.org.

Literature

June events at Orinda Books: Thursday, June 2, 11 a.m. Pat's Book Club will read and discuss "The Dictionary of Lost Words" by Pip Williams. Everyone is welcome; just email info@orindabooks.com to let them know that you are coming. Saturday, June 4, 2 p.m. Debbie Chinn will discuss her new memoir, "Dancing in Their Light," a colorful compilation of inspiring stories woven together with humor, pathos, confluences of fate and the eternal guiding hands of her ancestors. RSVP to www.eventbrite.com/e/debbie-chinn-presents-her-memoir-dancing-in-their-light-tickets-322482211977. Saturday, June 11, 3 p.m. Surviving the Unimaginable, Expressing the Inexpressible: A conversation about grief and healing with Pascale Vermont and Mike Bernhardt. Vermont is the author of "Surviving the Unimag-

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inable: Stories of Coping with Pregnancy & Infancy Loss." She is a clinical psychologist who is now a grief counselor working with parents whose babies have died during pregnancy or in infancy. (925) 254-7606 or email info@orindabooks.com

Other

Memorial Day Vigil on Monday, May 30 at 5 p.m. The vigil will take place at the Lafayette Hillside Memorial, across from BART in Lafayette. Thoughts will be focused on U.S. soldiers who have served on behalf of our country as well as other casualties of war, including those in the Ukraine and other parts of the world experiencing conflict. It will include short speeches, music and reflection. www.lafayettehillside.com

Bay Area KidFest returns on Memorial Day Weekend, May 28-30, with a full lineup of attractions, activities, jam-packed entertainment, KidFest

Marketplace, rides, food and fun in Concord at Mt. Diablo High School, 2450 Grant St. KidFest is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Memorial Day Monday. On-site vehicle parking is \$5 with plenty of free street parking around the festival site. www.KidFestConcord.com

Creekside Commons Presents: Summer Solstice Tuesday, June 21, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Come celebrate the start of summer on this the longest Day. Live music with Dougie Free, Classic Taco Truck, Summer Sangria, a chance to meet your local farmers and fisheries, sunshine balloon hats, tattoos and a sunburst craft project for kids. Creekside Commons Courtyard and grounds. 1035 Carol Lane. For more info, visit CreeksideCommons.org

On Saturday, June 4 Lamorinda Bees is teaming up with the Mt Diablo Beekeepers Association and holding an open house to show how honey is harvested. They will hold the event with drop-in hours from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Community Room at the Moraga Library. It will offer the chance to see how honey is extracted from the comb, processed and then jarred. They will have honey for sale, an observation hive to show what the bees are doing inside the hive, and volunteers to talk to the community in case you are interested in starting a backyard beehive. This event will be held indoors due to the bees smelling the honey while being harvested. Please follow @lamorinda_bees on Instagram for more details as it gets closer. You can email: saepullen@gmail.com with any questions.

Lafayette Community Foundation (LCF), in partnership with the City of Lafayette and the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, presents Lafayette Community Day on June 4 at 9 a.m. Volunteers check in at Plaza Park (the corner of Mt. Diablo Blvd and Moraga Road), enjoy breakfast snacks, donate canned goods to the White Pony Express food drive for Ukrainian refugees and receive their T-shirt. At 9:15 a.m., the welcome rally begins followed by team leaders and volunteers heading out to work on projects throughout the community. At 12:30 p.m., everyone returns to the park for lunch, a collaborative community-wide art project, a small nonprofit fair, other fun activities, music from the band Traveling Wilburys Revue! LafayetteCommunityDay.org to sign up.

Garden

Moraga Garden Club invites the community on June 5 to celebrate "Welcome to the Garden" at Rancho Laguna Park, 2101 Camino Pablo, Moraga. The two-year effort to establish the Monarch Habitat and Demonstration Garden will culminate into a family-centered day of fun—beginning at noon. The Garden is now beginning to bloom and butterflies have been spotted. Come and join the fun. www.moragagardenclub.com

Lamorinda's Religious Services

ORINDA CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH
24 Orinda Way (next to the Library)-925-254-4212
Sunday Services and Sunday School 10-11 am
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Campolindo wins NCS Volleyball Tournament



Campolindo boys' volleyball NCS winners

Photo Jon Kingdon

By Jon Kingdon

In their 40th match of the season, the 31-9 Campolindo boys' volleyball team defeated De La Salle in three straight games to win the North Coast Section tournament. The first two games were close with the teams tied at 17-17 in each game before the Cougars won each by scores of 25-22 and 25-21. The third game was all Campolindo, winning 25-17 to close out the match.

Playing for the NCS championship was a long-held goal for coach David Chen and the players, with the prior two tournaments having been canceled due to the pandemic. "The experience of missing out on two big years was really disappointing," Chen said. "Everybody was a bit nervous, and they knew what this moment meant to them. When it came down to the end of the games when the scores were close, we made the big, disciplined plays when they were needed."

De La Salle had the height to match the front line of Campolindo and it took time for the Cougars to adjust. "De La Salle was disciplined up at the net with blocks, timing wise," Chen said. "They knew who our hitters would be, so they really made our offense and hitters uncomfortable."

Senior co-captain Josh Ewert, playing with a sore shoulder that he was icing after the match, changed his game to adapt to the De La Salle front line. "I adjusted to their size on the front line by not hitting every ball as hard as I could and making plays like tipping the ball," Ewert said. "It was just a matter of getting the ball on the floor and not always ripping it."

Ewert also credited his teammates on the front line and the team's setter, Andrew Pak: "(Co-captain) Brian Thomas, Gabe Goeller and Patrick Volk were our top hitters that really brought it in. Andrew had a number of great sets all year. I could not have had a better setter."

With so many options on the front line, Pak, who has also played outside in the past as well, took advantage of all of his weapons. "It's been such a great experience being the setter on this team because I have so many guys that I can go to that can put the ball away and it's allowed me to be creative with it," Pak said. "Coming into the game, we wanted to keep our nerves in check and play together as a team. Our adjustments in the game were to make sure that we were dialing in our passes first before we hit and to see where we were going before we hit."

Sophomore Graham Volk, the team's libero, led the team's defense. "We watched a lot of film on De La Salle, studying their tips," Volk said. "We wanted to stay aggressive and continue playing our game."

The back line was also helped by outside hitters Josh Ewing and Patrick Volk (Graham's brother). "Josh takes up half the court and Patrick is also really good defender," Volk said.

Chen also acknowledged the play of defender Cooper Ciruili and Brody Crouch who made some big serves and highlighted the play of Ewert. "What doesn't Josh do?" Chen asked. "He's really composed and brings a sense of calm to the rest of the guys which helped in situations like this."

Campolindo played a very competitive schedule to prepare themselves for games like this one. "We've been in some tough situations with injuries and illnesses during the season and a number of our players really stepped up in times of need," Chen said. "Tonight, Will Marusich was out sick and Brian Thomas was playing with a bad ankle, and we knew who was going to fill in."

This was the second North Coast championship for two of the Campolindo players. Tyler Vineyard was a forward on the basketball team and Tyronne Tuavale was a lineman for the football team and each saw a parallel between the volleyball team and those teams.

"In a sense, both teams were the same," Vineyard said. "We both had top players in Josh Ewart and Aidan Mahaney leading our teams to the championships. It was also the leadership that co-captains Brian Thomas and Cade Bennett brought to each of the teams."

Tuavale who played a lot more for the football team had a similar feeling of accomplishment with each team: "I did not get the minutes on the volleyball court that I got playing football but the feeling and energetic euphoria that I got from football was very similar to how it felt with the volleyball team."

As with all coaches, Chen still saw room for improvement, in this case, the need for the team to improve their serving: "Our Achilles heel has been not being consistent enough with too many faults. At this point and in this moment, if we were to continue to harp on what we know is just in our nature, it wouldn't have helped the situation. That's who we are and let's move on and make up for it somewhere else."

As the seventh seed in the NorCal championships, the Cougars lost to the second seed Mountain View, 3 games to 1.

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Campolindo Football Hall of Fame induction ceremony



Photo Jon Kingdon

From left: Jaime Vega, Tyler Petite, Karl Thornton and Coach Kevin Macy

By Jon Kingdon

The annual Campolindo Hall of Fame was celebrating three seasons this year: the 2011 (14-1) team, the 2014 (16-0) team, and last year's 10-4 NCS champions. Representing the 2011 team were Jaime Vega, a fullback and linebacker, and Karl Thornton, a wide receiver and safety, with Tyler Petite, a tight end and defensive end, representing the 2014 team.

As for this year's team, early in the season, there was a concern that there would not be much to celebrate after a home loss to Aptos and a loss to Liberty in the Honor Bowl due to a disputed call. "After the loss to Liberty, some of the dads said we lost our Hall of Fame for this team because they felt we might not get close to winning anything big the rest of the season," Macy said. "Ultimately they were proven wrong, and our parents were sky high for this

evening."

Besides the players and the teams, there were honors for Campolindo basketball player Aidan Mahaney, senior Lleyton Allen, senior cancer survivor Dylan Mandel and team mother Lauren Fritch. "We honored Aidan for letting our team go crazy at all of those basketball games," Macy said. "Lleyton sang the anthem at our home games and the youth jamboree games and has been a real ambassador of positivity and good cheer through the COVID quarantine. Dylan who has always been the happiest, most cheerful person God has ever created before and through the cancer. He never let anyone feel sorry for him. The player made sure to see him off for his last chemo treatment. He's such a great success story ... and his hair's growing back. Lauren Fritsch who led Campolindo football to new heights on and off the field."

Tyler Petite went on to play four years and graduate from USC and is now

living in Newport Beach, working for Arthrex in medical device sales. Growing up, Petite attended the Hall of Fame dinner every year. "It was very good to see so many players that Coach Macy would talk about and then be at their induction and then to be here myself, it's really great. Coach makes it all about the team and its heritage."

In Petite's three years on the varsity, Campolindo's combined won-lost record was 37-3 and he averaged 24 yards a catch and was a dominating defensive end that teams ran away from. "There's no program like Campolindo football," Petite said. "It wasn't just a matter of how good you were at football, they wanted to find a way to bring the team closer as friends to where we would hang out together on and off the field. They knew that a team that loved playing with each other would go further than a team that just relied on ability. I've had the opportunity to play in some unique places but there was never anything compared to playing with my best friends in Orinda for 15 years."

Jaime Vega graduated from the University of Oregon and now works in San Francisco in technology sales. It was not just Vega who was overwhelmed when he heard of his induction. "I have been to many of these events, and I was very honored to get the call," Vega said. "I called my dad, and he broke down crying as it was as special for him as it was for me. The effort, sweat and tears that go into this event, it's truly a brotherhood and when players leave Campo, it stays with them forever."

For Vega, it was the things that were not easy in the football program that have proven the most valuable to him in his personal and professional career. "Coach Macy made it so that we were facing life's adversities in the non-real lens of high school football with challenges to overcome and roadblocks to get through every week. I've found that in life, things are a little easier because

of the challenges that we had already overcome."

In 2011, Karl Thornton and Griffin Piatt, who was inducted last year, had their own competitions in that they both played wide receiver and safety. Thornton would catch 56 passes for 789 yards to Piatt's 50 for 1,017 yards and each had 11 of the team's 38 interceptions.

Thornton went on to play rugby at the UC Berkeley, winning a national championship and runs an art business in San Francisco with his sister Bridgette. "I'm really just supporting her as she is the one who creates the fine arts which we sell wholesale across the country and I do everything that is not creative," Thornton said.

The football program is something that Thornton looks back on in his post-Campolindo life: "Campo football was the ultimate foundation. It paved the way for so many moments that I could reflect back on, throughout college, looking for jobs, entering the real world. I was able to fall back on knowing that I went through harder times in a way that Coach Macy made our practices feel they were hard times, when it was really exercise and all the credit goes to him and for that I'm eternally grateful."

Thornton then gave this advice to the current Campolindo players: Be a good son, be a good brother, be coachable and a good teammate and make sure that players that are on your left and right know that you are there without having to say a word and if you do all of that it will show up on Friday nights."

Macy concluded the evening by giving credit to the parents of all the players: "A small school like Campolindo is not supposed to accomplish the things that we do on the football field. You're the magic that brings all of the kids to our team, so eager, trained, prepared, and wanting to achieve and they allow us to have that magic."

Campolindo girls come up short in NCS Championship

By Jon Kingdon

With an offense that was averaging 15.6 goals per game and a defense that was holding their opponents to six goals per game, the defense had their usual solid performance, but the Campolindo girls lacrosse offense never got into a rhythm and the team lost to Marin Academy in the North Coast Section championship by a score of 6-4.

"This wasn't our best game," Campolindo head coach Devin Combe said. "On offense, we weren't passing the ball as cleanly as we usually do. A lot of passes were low and turned into ground balls and they were beating us pretty cleanly on the ground ball game. We had good patience and we weren't forcing it but anytime it came down to us driving in, they were very quick to slide and made good double teams. We were prepared for that but any feed out of it was just a locked up, low ball that wasn't easy for us to catch and that really threw off our offense."

Sophomore attacker Molly Stephens agreed with Combe's analysis: "They were playing really good team defense and were able to lock up on us at the end and we could not get into a settled offense, but we'll be back next year."

Senior midfielder and co-captain, Annie Cimperman, did not allow the loss to dampen her feeling about her career at Campolindo: "Just coming to practice every day has been the most fun experience and it was always the favorite part of my day. In the end, it didn't matter if we won or lost because I'm not going to remember that in the future. It's just how we were together and I'm really happy I was a part of such a great team."

In the semifinal game, San Marin tied the game 10-10 with three consecutive goals with seven minutes left in the game. Senior co-captain Laurel Hunter

explained how focused the team got at that point: "We talked about the things that we wanted to happen and how we did not want this to be our last seven minutes of the season and we would simply not lose this game."

Sophomore goalie Haley Richards was a little nervous herself but made it a point to get the team to relax: "I brought everybody in, and they were all talking at once, so I said, 'Guys, let's breathe in and breathe out and when we all did that, it really helped us. After that, we talked about what we were doing well, but acknowledging what we needed to do to make it better.'"

The Cougars then scored six of the next seven goals to make the final score 16-11.

The dominant defensive play carried over to the championship game. "Haley's saves in goal were in the double digits and our defense did a great job in preventing a lot of their drives," Combe said. "They are a fast team that scores a lot in transition, and we kept their transition goals down to one."

For Combe, despite the loss, it was still a very successful season that was far more challenging than anyone had anticipated: "I told them it was important for them to take the time to think about the entire journey and everything they went through. We won a lot of games and cried a lot of tears with the loss of two lives in our community. There was a lot of heartbreak and lot of open and honest conversations with each other. Overcoming that and learning about the bigger picture which is life, and being able to use sports to create support systems and work out some of those bigger battles with their teammates was an important experience for them and for them to remember what they went through this season and what a huge accomplishment it was to get to this championship."

Karate & Fitness USA team members selected to USA Karate Team



Pictured: Andrew Cai, Miles Paras, Paroma Khan, Chloe Paras, Ethan Luo, Ammar Khan, Sophia Hong, Wayne Dong, Rayan Sohrabian, Adeeb Khan, Amaliya Nalitikina, USA Karate Coach Thomas Westernoff

Submitted by Thomas Westernoff

Eleven athletes from Karate & Fitness USA of Lafayette have been selected to represent the USA Karate Team along with USA Karate Coach Thomas Westernoff at the 10th Annual WUKF World Karate Championships to be held in Ft.

Lauderdale, Fla., July 2-7. This will be the first time the event has been held in the United States. Athletes from all over the world will compete at the highest level of the sport in Kata (forms), Kumite (sparring) and Kobudo (weapons). Their outstanding performance at team trials held in Las Vegas on Easter weekend secured them a spot on the USA Team.

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Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly

Volume 16

Issue 7

Wednesday, May 25, 2022



Organize your closet

read on Page D4

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian Coming up roses



Spectacular blooms of Angel Face roses.

By Cynthia Brian

“Won’t you come into my garden? I would like my roses to see you.” ~ Richard Sheridan

Ask any gardener who grows a multitude of roses what they think of the species, and you’ll probably get an answer that sounds seriously star-struck. I am a dedicated devotee of roses. They consistently amaze me



Photos Cynthia Brian

Roses and cornflowers are beautiful companion plants.

with their resilience, beauty, and bountiful blooms. It wasn’t until the end of February that I completed my heavy pruning, and by the end of April, the roses had sprouted new shoots and were already in full bloom. This month, the flowers are even larger and more plentiful. Depending on the variety, each flush lasts approximately three to four weeks from bud to deadheading. Over the years I

have created multiple rose rooms that continue to delight me throughout the year. If you have not added roses to your landscape, please put them on your bucket list to plant next year. Once established, they don’t require much water, and with a bit of TLC, you, too, will enjoy seasons of splendor. To keep your roses bug-free, add a few cloves of garlic around the base of each trunk. Mix a cup of alfalfa pellets into the soil in March to increase the nitrogen for greener leaves.

Entertaining in the summer garden is my favorite manner to gather friends and family for al fresco dining, conversation, and laughter. There is always so much to celebrate in June – the end of school, graduations, Father’s Day, birthdays, showers and weddings. This is the time to spruce up the yard in anticipation of the summer to come. Because of the pandemic, for the past two-plus years, I have spent countless hours working in the garden yet have not entertained friends or family. The garden is thriving with my diligence, and I have been reaping the health benefits of my efforts in my body, mind and spirit.

The leaves of the spring bulbs as well as the naked lady bulbs that will bloom later in the season have all dried like hay, making the garden appear messy. I’ve pulled multiple garbage bins of them for the compost pile along with so many buckets of weeds that I’ve lost count.

Butterflies are plentiful in my garden as they flutter from flower to flower. Swallow-tails are in abundance as are several different white and yellow flyers that I haven’t identified.

... continued on Page D12

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City	Last reported	Lowest amount	Highest amount
LAFAYETTE	31	\$900,000	\$6,000,000
MORAGA	22	\$340,000	\$3,400,000
ORINDA	20	\$435,000	\$2,850,000

Home sales are compiled by Cal REsource, an Oakland real estate information company. Sale prices are computed from the county transfer tax information shown on the deeds that record at close of escrow and are published five to eight weeks after such recording. This information is obtained from public county records and is provided to us by California REsource. Neither Cal REsource nor this publication are liable for errors or omissions.

LAFAYETTE

- 886 Avalon Court, \$2,528,500, 4 Bdrms, 2271 SqFt, 1955 YrBl, 04-14-22, Previous Sale: \$1,255,000, 07-11-10
- 218 Contessa Court, \$3,525,000, 5 Bdrms, 3136 SqFt, 1968 YrBl, 03-29-22
- 31 Crest Road, \$2,500,000, 5 Bdrms, 3157 SqFt, 1981 YrBl, 04-08-22, Previous Sale: \$1,237,500, 07-23-14
- 1000 Dewing Avenue #313, \$1,325,000, 2 Bdrms, 1554 SqFt, 2017 YrBl, 04-04-22
- 518 Florence Drive, \$1,375,000, 4 Bdrms, 1481 SqFt, 1951 YrBl, 04-01-22
- 3629 Happy Valley Lane, \$1,830,000, 3 Bdrms, 1645 SqFt, 1947 YrBl, 04-07-22, Previous Sale: \$1,640,500, 07-06-20
- 5 Hidden Valley Road, \$1,925,000, 4 Bdrms, 2724 SqFt, 1942 YrBl, 04-01-22
- 778 Las Trampas Road, \$1,950,000, 3 Bdrms, 1514 SqFt, 1959 YrBl, 04-15-22, Previous Sale: \$1,145,000, 11-26-18
- 4026 Los Arabis Drive, \$5,800,000, 6 Bdrms, 4541 SqFt, 1941 YrBl, 04-08-22
- 833 Mariposa Road, \$1,705,000, 3 Bdrms, 2104 SqFt, 1948 YrBl, 03-29-22, Previous Sale: \$950,000, 07-14-06
- 3309 Moraga Boulevard, \$1,500,000, 3 Bdrms, 1504 SqFt, 1966 YrBl, 04-15-22, Previous Sale: \$980,000, 10-09-13
- 3404 Moraga Boulevard, \$1,900,000, 2 Bdrms, 1549 SqFt, 1937 YrBl, 04-05-22
- 529 Morecroft Road, \$3,220,000, 5 Bdrms, 3769 SqFt, 1973 YrBl, 04-08-22, Previous Sale: \$1,415,000, 08-14-14
- 859 Mountain View Drive, \$1,875,000, 4 Bdrms, 2228 SqFt, 1967 YrBl, 04-15-22, Previous Sale: \$971,500, 06-10-16
- 9 Mountain View Lane, \$6,000,000, 4 Bdrms, 5416 SqFt, 1982 YrBl, 03-30-22, Previous Sale: \$925,000, 04-01-87
- 3279 Mt Diablo Court #5, \$900,000, 3 Bdrms, 1684 SqFt, 1987 YrBl, 03-30-22, Previous Sale: \$745,000, 01-24-17
- 3279 Mt Diablo Court #25, \$1,035,000, 3 Bdrms, 1731 SqFt, 1986 YrBl, 04-13-22, Previous Sale: \$800,000, 10-06-18
- 3978 North Peardale Drive, \$4,800,000, 5 Bdrms, 3999 SqFt, 1946 YrBl, 04-04-22, Previous Sale: \$906,000, 06-17-02
- 1062 Oak Hill Road, \$1,500,000, 3 Bdrms, 1137 SqFt, 1959 YrBl, 04-08-22, Previous Sale: \$827,100, 06-02-15
- 3555 Old Mountain View Drive, \$2,300,000, 5 Bdrms, 3082 SqFt, 1949 YrBl, 03-28-22, Previous Sale: \$1,015,000, 09-10-13
- 3972 South Peardale Drive, \$3,275,000, 2 Bdrms, 3250 SqFt, 1951 YrBl, 04-11-22
- 3361 Reliez Highland Road, \$1,500,000, 4 Bdrms, 2451 SqFt, 1964 YrBl, 04-05-22
- 376 Shire Oaks Court, \$2,100,000, 3 Bdrms, 1757 SqFt, 1962 YrBl, 04-12-22
- 1167 Sierra Vista Way, \$1,805,000, 3 Bdrms, 1406 SqFt, 1957 YrBl, 04-15-22, Previous Sale: \$515,000, 03-07-12
- 3485 Stage Coach Drive, \$3,125,000, 3 Bdrms, 3289 SqFt, 1988 YrBl, 04-01-22, Previous Sale: \$1,821,000, 07-18-19
- 3141 Stanley Boulevard, \$1,500,000, 4 Bdrms, 1492 SqFt, 1952 YrBl, 03-31-22
- 1281 Sunrise Ridge Drive, \$3,650,000, 4 Bdrms, 3905 SqFt, 1999 YrBl, 04-15-22, Previous Sale: \$1,650,000, 11-01-16
- 33 Topper Court, \$2,850,000, 6 Bdrms, 2648 SqFt, 1962 YrBl, 04-13-22, Previous Sale: \$560,000, 09-01-91
- 1702 Toyon Road, \$1,150,000, 5 Bdrms, 2958 SqFt, 1956 YrBl, 04-14-22, Previous Sale: \$2,375,000, 02-03-22
- 11 Vista Viax, \$1,510,000, 4 Bdrms, 1572 SqFt, 1960 YrBl, 03-31-22
- 3293 Withers Avenue, \$4,400,000, 4 Bdrms, 3682 SqFt, 1935 YrBl, 04-08-22, Previous Sale: \$2,495,000, 06-08-06

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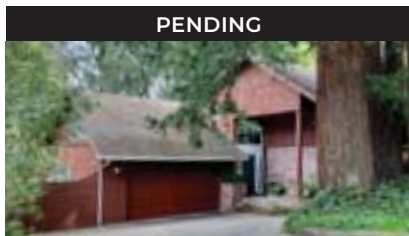


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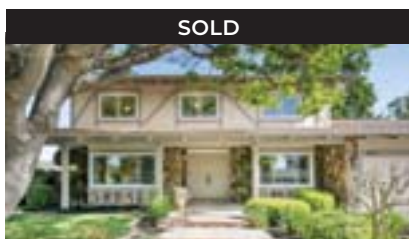
PENDING

1030 VIA NUEVA, LAFAYETTE
OFFERED AT \$1,950,000
L. LEGLER & C. HATA | 925.286.1244



SOLD

347 DEL AMIGO ROAD, DANVILLE
SOLD FOR \$3,015,000
SMITH HOMES TEAM | 925.998.1914



SOLD

3318 WHITEHAVEN DR., WALNUT CREEK
SOLD FOR \$1,975,000
S.HUTCHENS/A.HAMALIAN | 925.708.5630



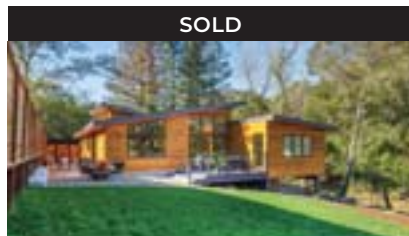
JUST LISTED

3241 MARLENE DRIVE LAFAYETTE
OFFERED AT \$779,000
LAUREN DEAL | 925.876.4671



PENDING

66 BROOKWOOD ROAD, ORINDA
OFFERED AT \$999,000
RUTH EDDY | 925.788.5449



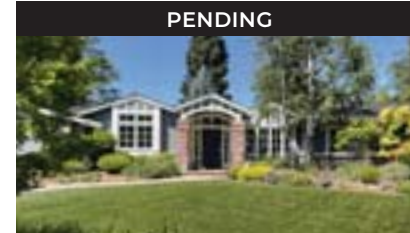
SOLD

2 CLOVER LANE, LAFAYETTE
SOLD FOR \$2,650,000
L. LEGLER & C. HATA | 510.912.5882



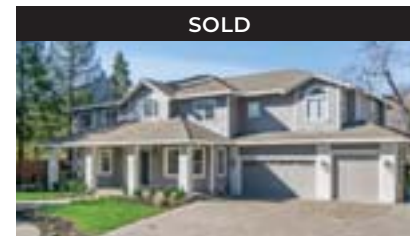
SOLD • REPRESENTED BUYER

655 LOS PALOS DRIVE, LAFAYETTE
SOLD FOR \$3,300,000
KAAREN BRICKMAN | 925.351.5049



PENDING

1056 RODERICK COURT, LAFAYETTE
OFFERED AT \$2,395,000
KAAREN BRICKMAN | 925.351.5049



SOLD

817 ASHLEY LANE, WALNUT CREEK
SOLD FOR \$4,125,000
DON & PAMELA COLOMBANA 925.878.8047



SOLD

163 CRESTVIEW DRIVE, ORINDA
SOLD FOR \$2,155,000
KELLY WOOD | 925.381.7172



SOLD • REPRESENTED BUYER

270 KEATS CIRCLE, PLEASANT HILL
SOLD FOR \$1,300,000
JILL BALAZS | 925.804.0200

BRYAN HURLBUT



925.383.5500
DRE# 01347508

CHERYL HATA



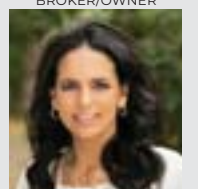
510.912.5882
DRE# 013859346

JILL BALAZS



925.804.0200
DRE# 02038791

JULIE DEL SANTO
BROKER/OWNER



925.818.5500
DRE# 01290985

KELLY WOOD



925.381.7172
DRE# 01931711

LISA TICHENOR



925.285.1093
DRE# 01478540

LORI LEGLER



925.286.1244
DRE# 00805732

MATT MCLEOD



925.464.6500
DRE# 01310057

PAMELA & DON
COLOMBANA



925.878.8047
DRE# 01979180/01979181

RUTH EDDY



925.788.5449
DRE# 01313819

SHELLEY RUHMAN



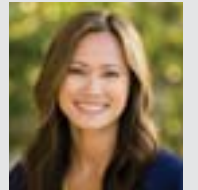
510.506.1351
DRE#01180260

SHERRY HUTCHENS



925.212.7617
DRE# 01320608

TINA FRECHMAN



925.915.0851
DRE# 01970768



If closets could talk: from chaos to confidence



Source: Canva

By Jennifer Raftis, CPO ®, Certified Professional Organizer

When you stand in front of your closet each morning, what does your closet say to you? It literally can set the mood for your entire day!

Is your closet a chaotic mess, and after five minutes of rummaging through your hanging clothes, you can't find that blue, sleeveless blouse, give up and wear something else? Then you find the blouse the next day wedged between two pairs of pants? Or are you choosing that sweater you've tried on three times already this month, still don't like the way it looks, but are keeping it anyway because you love the colors and paid a lot of money for it?

Does this resonate with you? Do you end up with a pile of discarded outfit options? Do you dream of a morning where getting dressed is simple?

How can we create an organized closet that gives us confidence and energy when we start our day? The answer is to only have items in your closet that you like to wear, that fit, and you can find.

Where do I start?

There are some organizers that want you to take every item of clothing you own and throw it on the bed. I can honestly tell you that this extreme method would never work for me or any of my clients. Talk about being overwhelmed. ... I suggest a method that has a 100% success rate because it is a manageable process. Follow this "Remove-Sort-Eject" method, schedule it in your calendar, and have a deadline. This process is done with only one category of clothing at a time (jeans, shorts, sweaters, blazers, T-shirts, etc.) so you don't feel so overwhelmed.

Remove-Sort-Eject Method

Before you begin, create boxes with the following labels: Consignment, Donation, Repairs, Recycle, Other Sizes. Start by removing and relocating any clothes that belong in other closets such as coats, rain

boots, hats, gloves, etc. Next, bring out one clothing category at a time.

Look at each item and ask yourself these questions: 1) Do I like the way it looks? (If you don't like the way it looks today, you probably won't like the way it looks tomorrow); 2) Does it fit? (If not, pack it in the "Other Sizes" box and put a date on the box for 6 months from now to try them on. Note: Do not keep clothes in your closet that do not fit; they will never make you feel good); 3) Do I have 15 items in this category but only wear four? (Hello black pants!); 4) Does it have stains, holes, or pills? (If yes, it does not go in the donation box, it goes straight to the recycle box.); 5) Is it sentimental? If yes, keep it ... maybe not in the front and center of the closet); 6) Does it need repair? (If yes, put it into the "Repair" box); 7) Is the tag still attached but you have never worn it? (If yes, give yourself a small pity party for overpaying for a bad purchase, then remove it); 8) Is it out of season? (Can you store these in a container under your bed or on the high shelves of your closet?)

After you have completed the category, hang it on the left side of your closet so it's all together. Seeing your progress will keep moving you forward. (Tip: As you are removing the items you no longer want, keep a list of clothes you need to replace.)

When the sorting and ejecting is complete, now you get to arrange the clothes that are hanging.

Your New Organized Closet

There are many, many ways to organize your clothes. Here are the two I use most often: 1) Type of function: work, formal, exercise, casual, comfy, etc., then by color; 2) Type of clothing such as pants, button down shirts, blazers, long sleeve, short sleeve, etc. Then by color.

... continued on Page D10



Source: Canva

YOUR CB ORINDA REALTORS:

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Orinda

PRIVATE ESTATE

25 Rustic Way \$5,750,000

This Private Glorietta Orinda Estate features 8514 sq ft on 8.14 acres with a 6 car garage, 2 offices, an indoor racquetball court, a full tennis court, 6 bd / 5.5 ba, a game room, an exercise room, sauna, pool, and panoramic views!

Laura Abrams
 www.25RusticWay.com

510-697-3225
 Lic#01272382



Orinda

ESCROW CLOSED

9 La Noria \$1,910,000

Located in the Orinda Country Club neighborhood, this delightful home combines the charm of a traditional 40's Orinda home remodeled to an open floor plan with a new kitchen and Master suite.

Laura Abrams
 www.9lanoria.com

510-697-3225
 Lic#01272382



Orinda

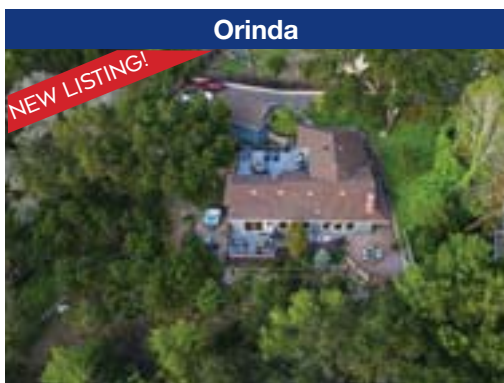
JUST LISTED

1 Rustic Way \$1,895,000

This single-story Glorietta home is set on a .61 acre lot with 4 bedrooms + bonus space and 2 baths, 1 Rustic has a flat yard with lawn, deck, hot tub, chicken coop, treehouse and shed. Close to top schools and Meadow Swim & Tennis Club.

Michelle Holcenberg & Suzanne Geoffrion

925.324.0405 & 925.699.4832
 www.1RusticWay.com Lic#01373412 & 01878803



Orinda

NEW LISTING!

1 Madera Lane \$1,795,000

Orinda Country Charm in this magical private picturesque El Toyonal hideaway 2,652 sq ft. on .69 of an acre with great outdoor entertaining areas, privacy and views.

Laura Abrams
 www.1maderaln.com

510-697-3225
 Lic#01272382



Orinda

PENDING

228 The Knoll \$1,399,000

2 beds, 2.5 baths - Coveted Orinda Woods. Nestled amongst towering trees. Supreme privacy. Top Rated schools.

Ana Zimmank
 www.anazimmank.com

925-640-6008
 Lic #00469962



Moraga

JUST SOLD!

66 Hardie Drive \$2,700,000

Single-story with mid-century modern vibe and serene yard with pool and views. More than 3000 square feet, walls of windows, hardwood floors. Represented buyers.

Michelle Holcenberg
 www.holcenberg.com

925.324.0405
 Lic #01373412



Moraga

JUST SOLD

5 Roberts Ct \$2,300,000

Located on a cul-de-sac on a large, flat, redwood-studded lot sits this beautiful traditional home. There are 5 bedrooms and 3 full bathrooms, including 2 primary suites. Warm hardwood floors run throughout. Represented seller.

Michelle Holcenberg
 www.holcenberg.com

925.324.0405
 Lic #01373412



Moraga

JUST SOLD

102 Alta Mesa Ct \$1,680,022

Moraga Ridge beauty! Represented Buyer.

Suzanne Geoffrion
 www.MyAgentSuzanne.com

925-699-4832
 Lic #01878803



Concord

PENDING

1405 Parkland Dr \$895,000

3 beds, 2 baths - Updated kitchen and bathrooms. Paradise backyard perfect for entertainment. Quiet lovely street.

Ana Zimmank
 www.anazimmank.com

925-640-6008
 Lic #00469962

JUST LISTED

EASY LIVING IN THE HEART OF GLORIETTA



1 Rustic Way, Orinda

4 bed + bonus room | 2 bath | 2,075 sq ft | .61 acre
Offered at \$1,895,000

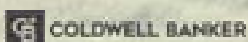
Summer is coming, and 1 Rustic Way offers the perfect outdoor space to enjoy it with a flat yard with lawn, deck, hot tub, chicken coop, treehouse and shed with electricity. Hardwood floors, dual-paned windows, owned-solar, updated bathrooms. Close to top schools and Meadow Swim and Tennis Club, and with an excellent central location, this is a special place to start making memories.

More information at www.1RusticWay.com.



Michelle Holcenberg
CB Top 100 East/North Bay Region

www.holcenberg.com
michelle@holcenberg.com
925-324-0405
BRE #01373412



Suzanne Geoffrion
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suzanne.geoffrion@cbtnorcal.com
925-699-4832
BRE #01878803



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COUNTRY CLUB JEWEL

3 LA CUESTA DRIVE, ORINDA
1,976 SF | 4 BR | 2 BA | .22 ACRES
\$1,850,000



Stunning updated charmer on glistening private knoll overlooking Lake Cascade. Sunny SW facing lot with an inviting and elegant living room with large picture windows features views to the garden. Hardwood floors, built-ins, formal dining room, remodeled baths, eat-in kitchen, and detached 2-car garage. Extensive upgrades and centrally-located near top Orinda schools.



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Is the Market Slowing in Contra Costa?

I have heard from many Realtors that the market is slowing or at least changing. Mortgage rates have jumped. As of May 9th, 30-year fixed rate was 5.75% (conforming loans up to \$647K) and 5.25% (for jumbo loans of \$970K or more). Rather than rely on anecdotal data, my conclusions are drawn from local MLS Data for Single Family Detached homes.

For April 2022:

The sold price for more than half of all sales are over the asking price. Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek had all but 2 or 3 sales over asking. The average amount **OVER ASKING** for Lafayette - \$408K, Orinda - \$326K, Moraga - \$387K, Pleasant Hill - \$221K, Danville - \$349K. The 4 cities that had highest **OVER ASKING** for a single transaction; Lafayette - \$1.128MM, Orinda - \$1.055MM, Danville - \$800K and Pleasant Hill - \$705K (for a 1700+sf house listed for \$1.2MM).

Days on Market (DOM) is a key indicator for the market. The average DOM for April (closed transactions) was 7.82 for all 11 central CC cities. The pending sales at the end of April have a DOM of 9.18. Homes are taking a little bit longer to sell.

The number of month's inventory is another key indicator. 6 months is a balanced market. 10 of 11 central CC cities have less than 1 month's inventory. Danville is the only exception with 1.23 month's inventory. This trend has been a persistent problem throughout this year and last.

Our local market is changing; from "INSANE" to only "CRAZY". Stay tuned for next month's analysis of the central Contra Costa market.

I capture monthly stats from the East Bay MLS on all 11 cities in Central Contra Costa. More detail can be seen at www.YourContraCostaRealtor.com.



Cary Amo, Realtor

DRE #01104264

C: 925.818.0880

971 Dewing Ave.

Lafayette

cary@caryamo.com

www.YourContraCostaRealtor.com



Lamorinda home sales recorded

... continued from Page D2

MORAGA

1170 Alta Mesa Drive, \$1,470,000, 3 Bdrms, 1954 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 04-01-22, Previous Sale: \$1,120,000, 03-07-18
 124 Ascot Court #E, \$600,000, 2 Bdrms, 1233 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 04-15-22, Previous Sale: \$197,500, 06-30-00
 1965 Ascot Drive #3, \$748,000, 2 Bdrms, 1130 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 03-28-22, Previous Sale: \$540,000, 04-01-21
 1992 Ascot Drive #B, \$600,000, 2 Bdrms, 1063 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 04-08-22, Previous Sale: \$455,000, 06-03-05
 39 Ashbrook Place, \$1,825,000, 4 Bdrms, 1990 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 04-04-22
 601 Augusta Drive, \$1,307,000, 2 Bdrms, 1262 SqFt, 1976 YrBlt, 04-06-22, Previous Sale: \$725,000, 11-15-16
 624 Augusta Drive, \$2,100,000, 4 Bdrms, 2680 SqFt, 1976 YrBlt, 03-30-22, Previous Sale: \$1,299,000, 10-10-14
 6 Benedita Place, \$1,180,000, 2 Bdrms, 1845 SqFt, 1985 YrBlt, 04-08-22
 316 Calle La Montana, \$3,000,000, 4 Bdrms, 2369 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 03-31-22, Previous Sale: \$1,615,000, 03-18-16
 271 Corliss Drive, \$1,700,000, 4 Bdrms, 2104 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 03-31-22, Previous Sale: \$315,000, 06-01-88
 94 Devin Drive, \$2,525,000, 4 Bdrms, 2505 SqFt, 1960 YrBlt, 04-05-22, Previous Sale: \$1,075,000, 05-10-12
 120 Devin Drive, \$2,910,000, 5 Bdrms, 3730 SqFt, 1958 YrBlt, 04-11-22
 2133 Donald Drive #16, \$340,000, 1 Bdrms, 501 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 03-28-22, Previous Sale: \$65,000, 10-28-98
 5 Haven Court, \$3,400,000, 5 Bdrms, 2988 SqFt, 1985 YrBlt, 03-29-22, Previous Sale: \$1,835,000, 04-03-18
 468 Kingsford Drive, \$2,015,000, 5 Bdrms, 2616 SqFt, 1969 YrBlt, 03-28-22
 157 Miramonte Drive, \$1,020,000, 3 Bdrms, 1742 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 04-08-22, Previous Sale: \$645,000, 12-12-14
 179 Miramonte Drive, \$950,000, 3 Bdrms, 1742 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 04-01-22, Previous Sale: \$560,000, 08-20-13
 204 Miramonte Drive, \$1,015,000, 2 Bdrms, 1514 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 04-05-22, Previous Sale: \$429,000, 11-21-09
 651 Moraga Road #5, \$415,000, 1 Bdrms, 669 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 04-06-22, Previous Sale: \$360,000, 09-27-18
 120 Natalie Drive, \$1,865,000, 3 Bdrms, 1918 SqFt, 1968 YrBlt, 03-28-22, Previous Sale: \$1,125,000, 02-10-20
 3908 Paseo Grande, \$2,251,500, 4 Bdrms, 2115 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 04-12-22
 130 Shuey Drive, \$2,870,000, 3 Bdrms, 2860 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 04-01-22

ORINDA

40 Barbara Road, \$1,668,500, 3 Bdrms, 1811 SqFt, 2003 YrBlt, 04-15-22, Previous Sale: \$1,668,500, 01-19-22
 67 Brookwood Road #14, \$460,000, 2 Bdrms, 897 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 03-28-22
 67 Brookwood Road #22, \$435,000, 2 Bdrms, 897 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 04-05-22
 15 Calvin Drive, \$2,650,000, 3 Bdrms, 3119 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 04-08-22
 2 Camino Del Monte, \$875,000, 3 Bdrms, 1290 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 04-06-22
 5 Corte Sombrita, \$2,850,000, 4 Bdrms, 2601 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 03-31-22
 11 Dos Encinas, \$2,700,000, 5 Bdrms, 1968 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 03-29-22, Previous Sale: \$1,090,000, 05-25-05
 4 El Camino Moraga, \$1,675,000, 3 Bdrms, 2067 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 04-08-22
 20 El Verano, \$2,750,000, 4 Bdrms, 5030 SqFt, 1938 YrBlt, 04-11-22, Previous Sale: \$375,000, 06-01-89
 111 Glorietta Boulevard, \$1,360,000, 5 Bdrms, 1980 SqFt, 1946 YrBlt, 03-31-22, Previous Sale: \$1,280,000, 10-12-21
 65 Hacienda Circle, \$2,525,000, 4 Bdrms, 2304 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 04-04-22, Previous Sale: \$1,359,000, 04-04-08
 46 La Campana Road, \$2,375,000, 3 Bdrms, 2738 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 04-07-22
 1 Lavina Court, \$1,662,000, 3 Bdrms, 1290 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 03-28-22, Previous Sale: \$785,000, 07-11-14
 212 Longview Terrace, \$1,867,000, 3 Bdrms, 2141 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 04-11-22
 40 Loma Vista Drive, \$2,300,000, 4 Bdrms, 2330 SqFt, 1939 YrBlt, 04-01-22, Previous Sale: \$785,000, 07-02-04
 2 Los Amigos, \$1,675,000, 3 Bdrms, 1667 SqFt, 1949 YrBlt, 04-06-22, Previous Sale: \$1,030,000, 09-01-21
 460 Miner Road, \$2,810,000, 4 Bdrms, 3016 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 04-04-22, Previous Sale: \$1,585,000, 04-28-16
 34 Moraga Viax, \$1,550,000, 3 Bdrms, 1641 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 03-31-22
 102 Ravenhill Road, \$1,850,000, 2 Bdrms, 1532 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 04-01-22, Previous Sale: \$1,245,000, 05-01-18
 84 Tarry Lane, \$2,600,000, 4 Bdrms, 1796 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 04-08-22, Previous Sale: \$1,300,000, 12-23-14

Liz Gallagher
510-710-7714
lizgproperties@gmail.com
DRE#: 01365730

Welcome, Liz!



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joins our team of
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DRE# 01301392



EYE-OPENING IN ORINDA

27 Woodland Road, Orinda

One of the most stunning yards in all of Orinda! This home is truly the one you've been waiting for.



This sprawling, single-story rancher is bursting with curb appeal and has a 3604 sq. ft. 5 bedroom, 4 bath main house, and a 748 sq. ft. 1 bedroom, 1 bath guest house on a large .76 acre pancake flat lot.

Listed at \$3,495,000

Call for more details - 27woodlandrd.com



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If closets could talk: from chaos to confidence

... continued from Page D4

I suggest that whatever system you use, make it simple. Be careful not to cram more than will fit into your closet, that's when you will start to get into trouble. Remember, your closet can set the mood in the morning and if it's chaos in the closet, it probably contributes to chaos in your mind (maybe that's just me).

Tip: Hang all clothes on matching hangers, it's a bonus if the hangers are thin.

Tip: Fold all of your drawer items like file folders so you can see what you have. We wear 20% of our clothes 80% of the time. Just try to unravel that fact. We also wear the clothes we can see (not the ones at the bottom of a drawer).

Tip: Install a stick-on light inside the closet, it's a game changer when you have enough light to see what you have!

Tip: Separate your navy and black clothes with white clothes in between. How the Heck Do I Keep it This Way?

Sorry to break it to you, but you have to maintain your closet. I recommend having a donation bag near or in your closet. Some clients turn their hangers to face the opposite direction after they have worn the garment so they know which pieces are worn the most. After six months, you can see the items that were never worn and you can donate them. You can also use the 1-In-1-Out rule to keep the closet from becoming overstuffed. Like any system, it will require adjustments from time to time. You can do this!

This could be the beginning of a brand new relationship with your closet. Watch out, your closet just might wink at you as you leave!

Resources:

Consignment - www.thredup.com, www.therealreal.com, www.poshmark.com, Facebook Marketplace, Nextdoor
 Donation - www.donationtown.org, www.freecycle.org, www.hospiceeastbay.org Recycling for Clothing - www.retoldrecycling.com, www.bluejeansgogreen.org

Professional Organizer, Jennifer Raftis, CPO® founded Efficiency Matters, LLC to help you with all of your organizing needs for your home and business. She is a Certified Professional Organizer and an active board member with NAPO, National Association of Productivity and Organizing Professionals. She is also an independent representative for The Container Store and has expertise in designing closets, garages, pantries, playrooms and more. In addition, she is a Corporate Organizing and Productivity Consultant and has worked with Fortune 500 companies across the U.S. Another large part of her business is move management especially working with seniors who are downsizing. She and her husband have lived in Moraga for 30 years, raising 3 kids and working countless volunteer hours with many local non-profit organizations and schools. Jennifer@efficiencymattersllc.com, 925-698-3756 www.energymattersllc.com



Sold | Represented Buyer
 1140 Camino Vallecito, Lafayette | \$4,600,000



Sold | Represented Buyer
 16 Toledo Court, Lafayette | \$3,665,000



Sold | Represented Buyer
 1025 Hampton Road, Lafayette | \$2,210,000



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Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Coming up roses



Sweet Santa Barbara Daisies bloom year-round. Photos Cynthia Brian



Alstroemeria is an easy-to-grow perennial that is an excellent cut flower.

... continued from Page D1

After I rescued a bee from a swimming pool, it returned to sting me on my back. No good deed goes unpunished! If you get stung by a bee, remove the stinger immediately, make a paste of baking soda mixed with water, add vinegar, and apply to the sting to ease the pain and swelling. If you are allergic to bees or are stung by a swarm, call 911. With all the lizards, frogs, birds, bees and butterflies, my garden is vigorously growing and feeding the beneficials.

Enjoy your green lawns now because as the temperatures heat up, brown spots will appear. Since the water district has mandated a 10% water use reduction District-wide, expect that lawns will not look as lush and lovely as they do now. Make sure to water deeply early in the morning or early evening only once a week to keep the roots alive. Mow the grass to three inches and if possible, do not use a bag when mowing. The cut grasses re-nourish the lawn and will help it stay greener longer.

... continued on next Page



Red bottlebrush attracts bees and grows into a tree shrub.



Pink bonica hedge roses make a big splash.

Photos Cynthia Brian

... continued from Page D12

From what I've gathered from numerous scientific data, the pandemic is not over and in fact, new variants may make life more challenging by the fall. In the meantime, I'll be diligent and careful while I continue cutting my roses for glorious indoor bouquets to boost my spirits. As an eternal optimist, I always see the world through rose-colored glasses.

Congratulations to all the graduates everywhere. Go into the garden and introduce yourself to the roses. Life is coming up roses!

Happy Gardening! Happy Growing!

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LAMORINDA
WEEKLY

Local newspaper delivered to Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda

The Goddess Gardener's Gardening Guide for June

- **LEARN** to identify insects and diseases to better detect problems early.
- **ENCOURAGE** natural enemies such as toads, lizards, snakes, birds, ladybugs, and praying mantis.
- **ROTATE** crops to avoid depleting the soil and building up pests.
- **MAKE** your own potting mix by combining equal parts of compost.
- **BEWARE** of the deadly plant, poison hemlock. Identify it by its red spots. Wear gloves and a mask when weeding.
- **WATER** lawns and flowerbeds deeply to encourage strong root growth.
- **HARVEST** seeds of perennials like penstemon, calendula, and poppies to spread in other areas where color is needed.
- **SUCCESSION** planting is the key to a plentiful supply of summer greens including lettuces, arugula, beets, carrots and radishes. Sow your favorite seeds every three weeks as you consume.
- **PREVENT** fires by removing debris, dead branches, and refuse from around your home and yard.
- **WEED** a final time before the hot weather arrives. Weeds suck the moisture and nutrients from nearby plants.
- **PLANT** bottlebrush as a large privacy screen and bee magnet.
- **CLEAN** patio furniture. Freshen your outdoor look with paint, new cushions, or throw pillows.
- **CUT** bouquets of roses to enhance your indoor rooms.
- **WANT** a perennial that blooms year-round? The delicate Santa Barbara daisy is easy to grow and lives in unison with roses.
- **DETER** raccoons from rolling back your lawn searching for grubs by putting down fruit tree netting which they dislike on their feet.
- **MAKE** your voice heard. VOTE in the elections.



Helpful lizards eat bugs that we don't want in our gardens.



Water lawns deeply once a week in the morning or evening.

Photos Cynthia Brian



Cynthia Brian is gearing up for summer.

Cynthia Brian, The Goddess Gardener, is available for hire to help you prepare for your spring garden. Raised in the vineyards of Napa County, Cynthia is a New York Times best-selling author, actor, radio personality, speaker, media and writing coach as well as the Founder and Executive Director of Be the Star You Are!® 501 c3. Tune into Cynthia's StarStyle® Radio Broadcast at www.StarStyleRadio.com. Buy copies of her books, including, Chicken Soup for the Gardener's Soul, Growing with the Goddess Gardener, and Be the Star You Are! www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store. Receive a FREE inspirational music DVD and special savings. Hire Cynthia for writing projects, garden consults, and inspirational lectures. Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com www.GoddessGardener.com



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27 Woodland Road
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106 Caro Lane
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\$2,875,000

ORINDA



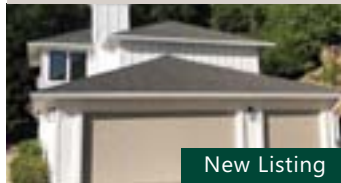
12 Los Arboles
Don't miss this charming 4 bd/ 3.5 ba home nestled on a peaceful cul-de-sac in the heart of Orinda Country Club!
\$1,995,000

ORINDA



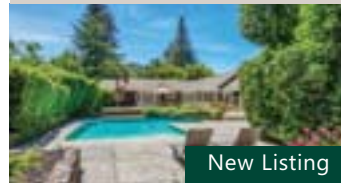
54 Diablo View Drive
Updated 2 bd/2 ba + office 1,656 sq ft home on .71 acres w/ high ceilings & stunning views east & west!
\$1,425,000

LAFAYETTE



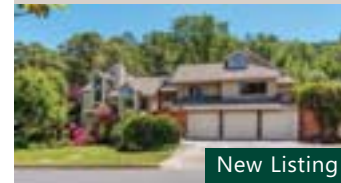
120 Greenbank Drive
Beautiful 4 bd/3 ba 3451 sq ft home w/ amphitheater views from this top-of-the-world sanctuary!
\$3,195,000

LAFAYETTE



878 Santa Maria Way
Nestled at the end of a cul-de-sac 4 bd/ 4.5 ba, 3012 sq ft home on 1.2 acre lot In the heart of the Trail neighborhood!
\$2,995,000

LAFAYETTE



27 Toledo Drive
Exceptional 5 bd + bonus room/3.5 ba home in pristine on 1.5 acre lot w/ magnificent panoramic views of the hills!
\$2,795,000

LAFAYETTE



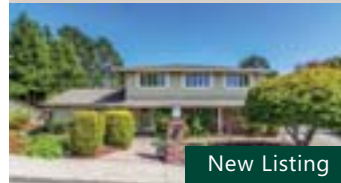
1092 Orchard Road
Stunning 4 bd/3 ba mid-century! 1/3 acre knoll-fabulous private yard! Walk to BART, downtown shops & restaurants!
\$1,695,000

MORAGA



2135 Ascot Drive #22
Beautifully maintained 2 bd/2.5 ba 1529 sq. ft. two-story condo w/ walking distance to Rheem Shopping Center!
\$799,000

MORAGA



109 Sandringham Drive
Lovely traditional 5 bd/3 ba home in the heart of Moraga, 2622 sq ft with beautiful views!
\$1,995,000

WALNUT CREEK



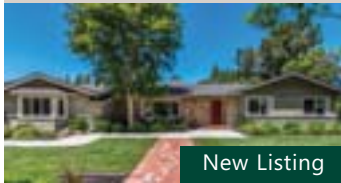
1878 Magnolia Way
Parkmead Charmer! Single level 3 bd/1 ba rancher minutes away from downtown, premier restaurants, & shopping!
\$1,050,000

WALNUT CREEK



440 N Civic Drive #313
Resort Living at The Keys! Fabulous South facing top floor 2 bd/ 1 ba condo with lots of natural light. Tons of amenities!
\$425,000

ALAMO



1440 Jackson Way
Remodeled & expanded 4 bd/ 3 ba rancher + private office & beautiful great room w/ high end finishes throughout!
\$2,995,000

PLEASANT HILL



10 Maureen Court
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PITTSBURG



4287 Oakdale Place
1st open! Stunning 4 bd/ 2.5 ba home! Prime 1/3 acre knoll at end of cul de sac! Sparkling pool & lovely views!
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