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Lafayette Couple Hosts Community Sing-along

By Cathy Dausman



Mike Zampa leads a sing-along with friend Dash Footman. Photo C. Isaacs

slightly less so — to the Holiday cowboy hat-wearing participant. Sing-along, at 7 p.m. Dec. 22, rain or shine, at Lafayette Plaza Park.

inspired by the song "Christmas lowed with a rowdy game of mud Eve in my Home Town," with its football. lyrics of "carols in the square, laughter everywhere."

get the whole community out there to feel good," he says. And holiday song fest. He supplies the when Zampa says "community" he means all of Lamorinda. The makes the high notes accessible. Lafayette man and his wife Lynn began the tradition when their children were little; not even a fiveyear stint in Asia kept them from ing ever," he admits. But Lafayette their song leading, as they returned to the U.S. at Christmas each year Jay Lifson says "you don't need to just in time to pull the sing-along be a member of the Vienna Boys' together.

"It started with people we time grew to as many as 100 natural-born leader and a ham." participants. The younger genhigh schools, now returns to meet variously in shorts or pajamas. friends. One year Lafayette's police chief led a chorus of "Jingle" year the event started, he thinks it Bells." And rain does not deter was 12 to 15 years ago. "For the the crowd. When 50 singers were last eight years it's been the "10th forced to huddle in the rain under Annual" event," he laughs. the Park Theater marquee one year,

h come, all ye faithful — as the overflow gathered under a golf well as those who may be umbrella generously held aloft by a

Another year, after "continuous days of rain," the skies cleared Organizer Michael Zampa was for the sing-along, which was fol-

Zampa once sang lead in a San Francisco based barbershop quar-"It's the one time a year you tet, but he sets the musical bar at "enthusiastic and casual" for this lyrics, and starts in a key he thinks One year an accompanist with a ukulele was consistently off-key. "It was the most discordant sing-Chamber of Commerce director Choir (to join in)"

Lifson, who has attended knew," Zampa says, and at one several times, calls Zampa "a

Dress code is "whatever feels eration, some of whom sang in comfortable and warm," Zampa choirs at Campolindo or Acalanes says, adding that he's performed

While Zampa can't pinpoint the

Lafayette's Leland Reservoir Project is in the Pipeline

By Pippa Fisher

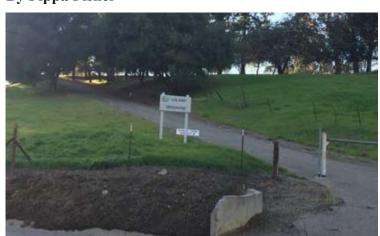


Photo Pippa Fisher

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plans to reconstruct Lafayette's Leland Reservoir.

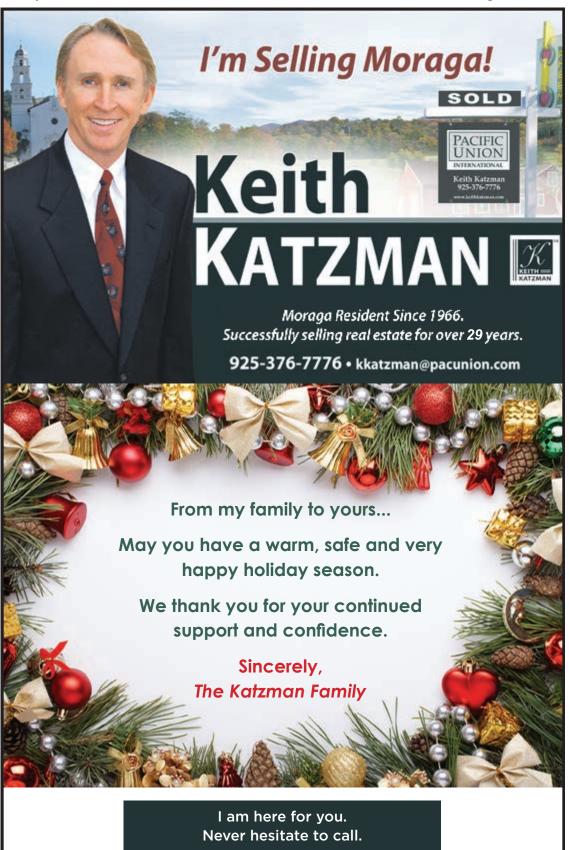
John Coleman, EBMUD director and Jeni McGregor, EBMUD senior engineer, updated the Lafayette City Council on the Leland the 36-inch diameter critical trans-Reservoir Project at the Nov. 28 council meeting.

impact report next year, the \$30 Road and then to the EBMUD propmillion project will go to design from 2020-2022, with construction planned for 2022-2024.

Coleman made the initial ob-

t is a long way off but the East servation that the Leland Reservoir Bay Municipal Utility District is at its breaking point. Smaller capacity tanks are needed to replace the current 18-million-gallon, 60-year-old storage infrastructure at 1040 Leland Drive.

McGregor said that at present mission pipeline runs from the Lafayette Water Treatment Plant to the Following an environmental Leland Reservoir via Old Tunnel erty by way of a narrow 15-foot, unpaved and hard-to-maintain right of ... continued on page A9







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