

LAMORINDA WEEKLY



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Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church
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6:30 a.m. • 8:00 a.m.
9:30 a.m. • 11:00 a.m.
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Twins Sadie and Morgan took their father David to the Opening Day of the market after a morning playing Tot Baseball across the street at the Orinda Community Park. Photo Andy Schreck

Farmers Market Celebrates 20th Anniversary

By Sora O'Doherty

It was no April Fool's Joke when the Orinda Farmers market cut the ribbon on its 20th season of providing fresh food on April 1. The Farmers Market will run until mid-November, with a focus on food and music from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays in front of the Rite Aide store on Orinda Way.

The market's goals for 2016 were to increase customer

attendance and offer some new attractions. According to Staci DeShasier, executive director of Contra Costa County Farmers' Markets, Orinda accomplished that goal with a 10 percent increase in customer attendance. DeShasier was delighted, noting that the increase translates into real dollars for small family farms and also means more residents and visitors are discovering the market and enjoying its offerings.

Enabled by the Orinda Community Center's donation of chairs, the market was able to expand its customer seating area. DeShasier says that when they added top musicians in front of the new seating, it made the market the place to be on Saturday mornings, and now the market has a full lineup of music on tap.

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Rheem Boulevard Opens

By Cathy Dausman



From left: Edric Kwan, Teresa Onoda, Dave Trotter, John Anderson, Kevin Ebrahimi and Bob Priebe Photo A. Schreck

Pedestrian traffic along a length of south Rheem Boulevard yielded to automobiles with the snip of a ribbon March 30 as town officials opened the newly paved roadway to vehicle traffic.

Mayor Teresa Onoda called the roadbed a "slow

moving landslide," which she said had been failing since 1948. Onoda said the \$2.6 million project, which will stabilize the road, took nearly eight months to complete.

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How Lamorindans dispose of an unwanted gun

By Cathy Dausman

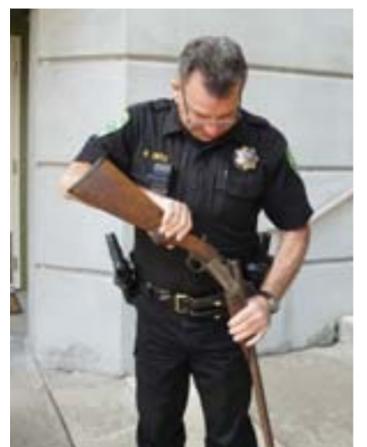
It was so well tucked away I'd forgotten we even had it. "It" was a breach load, break-action J. Stevens 12 gauge, pre-World War I shotgun in poor working order. It weighed in at over six pounds, had a long iron barrel and walnut grain stock. It belonged to my husband's grandfather.

"It was never in great working order," my husband said, adding "we never fired it to my recollection." It was simply a tool his grandpa used to kill snakes or vermin on his rural property; its value more sentimental than fiscal.

Today there are more reasons (grandchildren, primarily) not to keep a gun, even a disabled one, at our house. But how does someone dispose of one safely? In Lamorinda, you bring it to a police station. "It's a service we've offered for years," said

Moraga Chief of Police Jon King, adding "we're pushing it now."

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Moraga Police Officer Robert Ortiz is making sure a turned-in gun is empty. Photo Cathy Dausman

Civic News A1-A12

Debate over "Duct Tape Case" continues – page A4.

Fire Districts A8

Sinkhole affects MOFD response time in north Orinda – page A8.

Life in Lamorinda B1-B12

Spring into fun and egg-citement with these April events. – page B1.



Camps

Check out half-day camps this issue. – Special Section



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Sports

Mat's Wright is headed to State Finals – page C2.



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Our Homes

Natives garden tour shows our natural beauty – page D1.



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