

LAMORINDA WEEKLY



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See's
Moraga Center
 1 PM - 5 PM
 &
Rheem Center
 10 AM - 5 PM
 Kiwanis Fundraiser



Photo Andy Schreck

Terrific turnout at inaugural Turkey Trot

Most people don't think of Thanksgiving as a day to don running shoes and slap a bib number on your chest, but that wasn't the case for 562 people, ranging in age from the very young being pushed in strollers to dedicated athletes in their 80s who took to the course Nov. 23 at the Moraga Country Club as part of the first annual Turkey Trot.

Event brainchild, and MCC general manager/COO Ron

Haas was delighted with the turnout.

"It is hard to believe that this was our first turkey trot in Moraga," Haas wrote in an email to volunteers. "We had participants (two and four legged) from infants to age 83 run/walk our beautiful course. We saw families having fun and smiling ear to ear."

The course consisted of a fun 1.5K trot to a more serious 5K run on the Moraga Country Club grounds. The top three

winners of the male 11-20 5K race each hailed from a different Lamorinda city: First place went to 19-year-old Niki Moore of Lafayette, with a time of 16:24.3; second place went to 20-year-old Ryan McDermott of Orinda (17:16.8); and third went to 18-year-old Kyle Flett of Moraga (17:18.5). Allison Whipple, 16, of Orinda, took first in the female 11-20 age 5K race with a time of 22:54.1 and John Hamilton, age 83 of Moraga, took first in the male 66 and over 5K with 30:31.3.

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Join us for Photos with Santa at 5A Dec. 2nd from 11am - 3pm

Santa will be at 5A with Free Photos, frame, cookies, cocoa, arts & crafts! Don't forget to use our FREE Wrapping Room with everything you need to wrap presents clear 'till 12/24!

5Aspace.com



Cannabis growers in Bollinger Canyon respond to allegations

By Sophie Braccini



Medicinal cannabis in Bollinger.

Photo provided

Three Bollinger Canyon residents who were referred to in a recent article regarding cannabis growing in that area contacted this newspaper to give their version of what was happening in their neighborhood, painting a picture of small family organic farms growing medicinal plants, far from any nefarious cartel activity.

Lamorinda Weekly had reached

out to one of these residents prior to publishing the Nov. 15 article, "Cannabis in Bollinger Canyon," but did not get a response before press time. The Bollinger Canyon residents who contacted this reporter following the article publication asked that we do not print their names.

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Behind the scenes – protecting Lafayette's community events

By Pippa Fisher



A Lafayette Police Officer smiles at a recent Lafayette event.

Photo provided

Lafayette residents enjoy a great community known for being family-friendly and safe, giving little thought to how the many community events are protected – simply taking for granted that they are safe. And that's just fine with Lafayette Police Chief Eric Christensen.

Prior to this year's Res Run, for example, residents might not have noticed the bomb-sniffing

dogs and their handlers checking the entire route, or the drone checking the rooftops.

"We've done a security plan on large scale events for the last five years," says Christensen. "You probably never noticed it, which is a good thing. I don't know when something is going to happen, but my boss (the city manager) expects that we are prepared to handle it if it does."

Lafayette city leaders do not have the attitude that "it can't happen here" and Christensen says that guides all the planning for large community events. He explains that for events such as the Res Run or the Art and Wine Festival, which attract a large number of people from outside the community, the police publish an Incident Action Plan for the event. "The plan tells all of the responders what is going on and what we are going to do if something happens."

Christensen says that in 2012, following a number of incidents where people had driven into crowds at that time, the police started requiring that K-Rail barricades be used to protect any street when people are expected to gather.

"In 2013, we started having bomb dogs go through our larger events, because of bombing incidents.

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