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## You Already Know Us ... But Let Us Tell You More!

Larry comes from 40 yrs in banking. His last position as VP Mgr of Lafayette's Bank of the West allowed him to serve Lafayette as past Presidents of the Chamber of Commerce & Rotary. He was a former Lafayette Business Person of the Year & most recently on the Lafayette Library Board.

Jeanne brought a degree in economics to manage a catalog division of Williams Sonoma & as VP of the Restoration Hardware catalog. With these backgrounds their business focus is customer service & attention to detail. Their personal passion is their home & garden. Providing Lamorinda with a unique, personal, resourceful approach to real estate is their specialty.

Let us get to know YOUR Family!

**J. Rockett REALTORS**

**Larry Duson** 415-297-2680  
larry.duson@dusonjoneshomes.com

**Jeanne Jones** 925-989-2262  
jeanne.jones@dusonjoneshomes.com



**RISTORANTE VINO**  
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*Vino is not your typical restaurant. Our food is made only with the freshest and finest ingredients. We do not use any commercial sauces, hydrogenated oils or trans-fats. What we serve you is delicious, healthy food made with passion.*

**A few selections:**  
**Beet Salad:** fresh mint, tomato, golden raisins, goat cheese, herb vinaigrette....7  
**Sardines Insalata:** calamata olives, green beans, potato, feta cheese, balsamic olive oil .....9  
**Niman Flat Iron Steak:** potato gratin, green beans, chimichurri sauce.....18  
**Fresh Seafood Cioppino:** in a rich tomato-basil sauce, parmesan, garlic toast...19  
**Roasted Scallops:** spinach, salciccia sugo .....19  
**Roasted Wild Salmon:** white wine, capers, braised greens, and potato gratin..17  
**Veal Scallopini:** mushrooms, garlic, marsala wine .....17

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**EFO** funding excellence in education  
Educational Foundations of Orinda

**The Educational Foundation of Orinda (EFO) is looking to hire its first-ever Executive Director. The core proven competencies and experiences we seek in applicants are the following:**

- Fundraising experience with a proven track record of developing and executing multi-million-dollar volunteer-led campaigns. Major gifts experience is a plus.
- Exceptional communication skills including writing, public speaking, meeting facilitation, and consensus building. Naturally persuasive and passionate.
- Financial and/or business management with similar revenue streams, including budgeting and oversight, nonprofit compliance and reporting.
- Demonstrated capacity to build alliances and sustain collaborative relationships with community members from diverse cultural, economic and political perspectives.
- Senior management experience in a comparably focused educational and/or fundraising organization. Ideally having built an organization in size, scope and impact.
- Experience working and partnering with a highly-engaged community-based Board of Directors.

**EFO Executive Director applicants should send their qualifications to EFOEDSearch@gmail.com**

## Smith's still satisfying customers

By John T. Miller

Tucked in the rear row of businesses between two vacant office spaces and behind the Blue Ginko in the Lafayette Plaza, Madison Smith's shoe repair shop has been serving the Lamorinda area since 1981.

Advertising only in the phone book, Smith gets more than enough business from repeat customers and referrals to keep him busy six days a week. Some of his clients have been with him for decades. "Repeat customers are really the heart of my business," he says. Word of mouth brings in many more.

In addition to working on shoes, Smith will work on most any leather product, including purses, wallets and suitcases, for example. He's also been known to fix saddles.

Smith's father was a sawmill worker in Oroville, where he grew up. He says this is where he learned his shoe and leather trades.

He began his shoe repair business in Chico. The soft-spoken 90-year-old says, "It was so long ago, I can't even remember the year." Later he moved to Concord where he set up shop near the BART station on East Street in 1972. Redevelopment forced him out and he relocated to the Clocktower Building for 28 years before moving to his current Lafayette Plaza location.

Smith commutes from his Oakland home every day. As he enters his 10th decade, he says, "I might consider retirement if I could sell my business. It's tough to make a



Although Madison Smith and his son John Smith declined to be photographed for this article, you can find them behind the door of their quaint shoe repair shop in the Lafayette Plaza. Photo John T. Miller

profit with the cost of rent and materials being so high."

He claims he has been able to do well in the business and "make a go of it," and he's been happy with the reception the Lamorinda community has given him.

Smith and his wife, Lori, have four sons and three daughters between them. Most of his children are scattered throughout the Bay Area, although his oldest son is in Texas and a daughter lives in Elk Grove. His wife is retired after a career working in the San Francisco schools.

His son John, who is retired after stints in many different careers, including the military, hospital work, and many other jobs, helps out part time in the shop. About his

father, he says, "He's been working in this trade so long he can fix anything. Kind of a magician with leather!"

Multiple reviews on Yelp praise the work of Smith and his son and it's easy to see why they have so many repeat customers.

When Smith is not in his Lafayette shop, his interest is focused on the Primitive Baptist Church in Oakland, where he and his wife are valued church members. He has previously served as an elder with the congregation.

When you enter the shop you may be startled by the jangling bells on the door, but you'll be pleased by the wonderfully redolent smell of fine leather, in addition to finding personable and quality service.

## Lafayette realtor Dana Green honored



Sisters Jill Hazard Montaquila, left, Dana Green, center, and Wendy Hazard McClain, right. Photo Andy Scheck

At a packed dinner event Feb. 2, local realtor Dana Green received the award for Business Person of the Year, surrounded by family, friends, business associates and her entire "Green Team" on

an evening she described as being truly special.

There was no shortage of guest presenters to roast Green, including her two sisters – all paid tribute to her integrity, unsurpassed enthusi-

asm, civic involvement and love of family, saying her success is the result of her perfect balance between community, family and business.

– P. Fisher

## Educational Foundation of Orinda opts for professional leadership

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The new executive director position will offer a competitive salary, and the EFO expects to find someone with a high level of skills, who is a relationship builder, volunteer leader, and strategic thinker with a proven track record of attracting and sustaining a broad base of volunteer and financial support as well as have proven effective communication skills. The position will be full time, but will offer flexible hours.

The group seeks a leader who is genuinely passionate about building an organization for the future of education, and expects that the salary of the executive director will be more than covered by growth in fundraising. It is possible that more paid positions will be added in the future.

The EFO hopes to move quickly to hire an executive director. The deadline for applications is March 15, or until filled.

A search committee is being formed, led by parent volunteer Jodi Kaelle, who has 20 years of experience as a professional recruiter. The goal is to begin interviews in March and hire soon afterward.

The EFO has made a series of frequently asked questions available online at www.orindaefo.org.

For questions or more information, email EFOEDSearch@gmail.com.