

# LAMORINDA

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The Rippers at the Roundup Saloon last Friday night.

Photo Andy Scheck

## Local community bands together

By Pippa Fisher

It was a rainy night on a holiday weekend, but no one would have guessed it from the capacity crowd at the Roundup Saloon in downtown Lafayette who came together to raise over \$6,000 in a few hours for victims of the Butte County fire at a benefit concert Nov. 23.

As one of several local fundraising endeavors, the Rippers played into the small hours of the morning, together with

sets from SKOOL and No Flow, as people jammed into the bar to enjoy the music. Collection buckets filled and four separate raffles were drawn. The silent auction continued through the following day. The total amount raised is expected to grow.

Roundup owner Karen Johnson said the concert came from an idea that snowballed. As she listened on the news about the plight of all those who lost loved ones and homes

in the Nov. 8 Camp Fire she said she realized she and her husband Mike Johnson had a vehicle for raising money in the iconic downtown bar. She says she was happy to do it.

"I am so proud of the employees and customers – everyone's coming together. It's awesome," said Johnson, as she explained how a couple of bartenders voluntarily went door-to-door asking for auction donation items. ... continued on Page A12

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## Bollinger Valley Project goes before the Moraga Town Council

By Vera Kochan



Bollinger Valley

Photo provided

A nearly five hour Special Town Council Meeting was held in Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School's auditorium Nov 14 to accommodate the anticipated large crowd.

Head town attorney Michelle Kenyon, from Burke, Williams & Sorenson, explained why Vice Mayor Teresa Onoda would lead the proceedings. "On Nov 13, 2018, BWS re-

ceived an advice letter from the Fair Political Practices Commission indicating that Mayor (Dave) Trotter should not participate in the Bollinger Valley Hearing. BWS has questions with the opinion, but in an abundance of caution, BWS suggested that Mayor Trotter not participate."

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## After an early Thanksgiving, holiday events dominate December

By Sora O'Doherty

Now that the turkey and fixings are put away, Lamorinda residents can turn their attention to the many holiday events planned in the area, starting with the return of Holiday Magic at Orinda's Theatre Square from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1. There will be a free kids ornament workshop from 6 to 7 p.m., followed by a performance by Lamorinda Theatre Academy at 7 p.m., ending with the 7:30 p.m. tree lighting. Throughout the event there will be free horse and carriage rides, as well as visits with Santa and photo opportunities.

Earlier on Dec. 1, at 4:30 p.m. in Orinda Village by the Bank of America, the Orinda Tree of Lights will be lit. For 32 years, Hospice East Bay Tree of Lights ceremonies have offered community members a way to honor the lives of friends and loved ones. Memorial names will not be read at this ceremony, which is part of the Orinda community holiday celebration.

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OIS students at last year's Hospice East Bay Tree of Lights event in Orinda.

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