

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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Photo Gavin Schlissel

Teens Rock The House At The Fall Choral Classic

Parents don't ask them to turn it down...

By Cathy Tyson

It was less than standing room only at the Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church last week as the choirs from Acalanes, Campolindo, Miramonte and Las Lomas got together for the Fifth Annual Richard C. Hansen Fall Choral Classic.

The event was broken up into two nights to accommodate all the singing teens. On Tuesday evening the Women's Ensembles from Acalanes, Campolindo and Miramonte performed along with the Bella Voce Choir from Acalanes. Guest Clinician and Conductor Heather Bishop, of Clovis North High School lead the students in clinics and rehearsals dur-

ing the day and conducted as all the students came to the stage for three final songs to end the evening.

The Church was literally bursting at the seams with proud family, friends and fellow student along with 300 performing singers on Thursday evening. Audience members spilled out the side doors of the venue. All the schools' choirs performed admirably, but perhaps because of its size, the 99 strong Campolindo Concert Choir made a big impression. In addition, the many football players in their Choir added a deep resonance to their music.

Concert Choirs from all four high schools got

the evening off to a rousing start, with a variety of songs from spirituals, like the literally snappy, "Swing Down Chariot," and the "The Battle of Jericho," to African "O Sifuni Mungu" accompanied by bongos, to the gospel song "Keep Your Hand on the Plow." Miramonte's Choral Artists and the Chamber Singers from Acalanes and Campolindo followed.

The big, rather huge, finale of the night was all these choirs coming together on the stage to perform three songs they had practiced earlier in the day.

The singers were packed onto risers, across the stage, even filling the first pew. "It Takes A Village,"

was a crowd favorite, especially appropriate as the lyrics mention sharing the burden, sharing the joy of raising a child. Guest Clinician and Conductor Buddy James of California State University East Bay guided the teens and enhanced their performances.

"It was a collaborative effort," said Bruce Lengacher, Choir Director for Acalanes High School, regarding organizing the event. "The cool thing is I've seen groups make huge strides after attending the special clinics and rehearsals that are held during the day. Maybe it's adrenaline or fear." Hard to say, but the students rocked the house.

Sunday Morning - Thousands out on Mt. Diablo Blvd Reservoir Run in Lafayette



Results:

| 5K Name | From | Time |
|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| 1 Stewart Harwell | Pleasant Hill | 16:01 |
| 2 David Hall | Orinda | 16:58 |
| 3 Ralph Till | - | 17:13 |

| 10K Name | From | Time |
|------------------|-------------|-------|
| 1 Jim Sorensen | San Leandro | 34:25 |
| 2 Daniel Madigan | - | 35:05 |
| 3 Rob Elia | Moraga | 35:36 |

1893 registered participants joined the 2007 Lafayette Reservoir Run last Sunday. 594 (of which 189, or 34%, were Lamorinda residents) went out for the 5K run including 5-year-olds Carson Gragg and Andrew Tso of Lafayette.

The 10K included a loop around the reservoir for 500 registered athletes; 799 joined the 2K walk and run, many with their dogs and/or baby strollers.

Local Firefighters Volunteer To Help In So Cal

By Cathy Tyson

A huge fires raged in Southern California, a number of our local firefighters were there in the thick of it. According to Moraga Orinda Fire District Battalion Chief Bryan Collins, workers are polled to see if they want to go. A total of ten people were there last week, filling various positions, Captain, engineer, firefighter and paramedic.

"Typically the expectation is they could be there up to a week. We rotate crews when they hit a 7 day period," explains Collins. Staffers are prepared with a personal day kit that might include socks, t-shirts and toiletries.

Moraga-Orinda Fire District sent one Type 3 Engine, the type used to fight wildland fires, and one Type 1 Engine, a typical fire

pumper. Fear not, our local stations continue to be fully staffed, as there are minimum daily staffing requirements.

Firefighters get paid their regular salary for workdays that they would normally be working, but on days they would normally be off, they receive overtime. Be-

cause California has a Mutual Aid System throughout the state, the Fire District is reimbursed for overtime. "Otherwise, we'd go bankrupt," says Collins.

Calls to Contra Cost Fire Protection District which serves Lafayette were not immediately returned.



L-R: Layne Cooley, Fire Fighter/Paramedic; Daryle Balad, Capt/Paramedic; Steve Huebner, Firefighter/Paramedic at Station 45 in Orinda

Photo Andy Schreck

Time Change! Daylight Savings Time ends on **Sunday, Nov. 4!** Don't forget to set those clocks back one hour!

Advertising

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I would not hesitate in recommending you to anyone who needs a professional real estate agent. You are simply the best.
J. Allen Sayles, Architect

Bruzzone Lawsuit Targets Moraga Design Guidelines

By Steve Angelides

The Bruzzone family and their businesses, which own most of the undeveloped land in Moraga, have filed a 27 page lawsuit against the Town in an attempt to invalidate design guidelines adopted by the Town Council on July 11.

The challenged guidelines protect ridgelines from development, protect mature native tree groupings, preserve views of ridgeline landscape, site buildings so as to permit passive solar design, and state that "residences in new subdivisions should meet Build it Green or equivalent requirements for new residences."

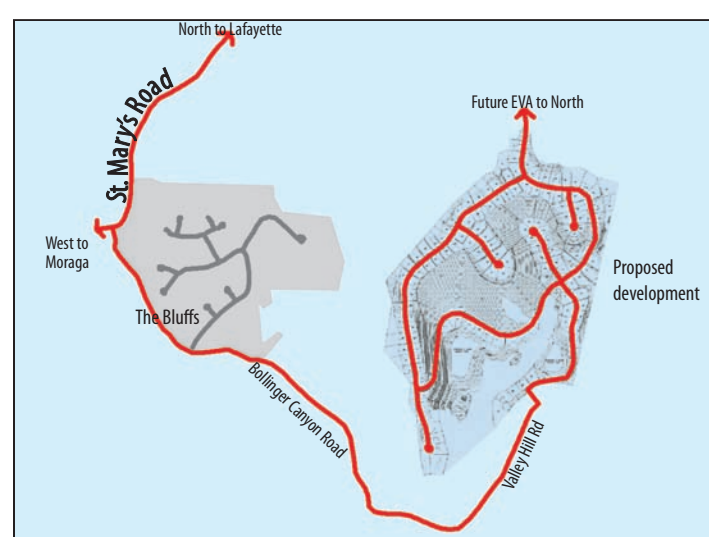
The "Build it Green" guidelines consist of an elaborate point system set forth in 58 pages of text plus a 215 row spreadsheet. The spreadsheet states that to "be considered green" a home must earn a minimum of 50 points, with at least 30 points in energy, 5 points in indoor air

quality/health, 6 points in resources, and 9 points in water. Those guidelines are promulgated by the non-profit group Build it Green, and appear on its website www.builditgreen.org.

The Town Council adopted the challenged guidelines by a 3 to 2 vote as amendments to design guidelines originally adopted by the Planning Commission on June 4. The Council acted after Vice Mayor Lynda Deschambault appealed the Planning Commission's guidelines to the Council.

Deschambault told the Council she appealed the guidelines because she wanted to add energy efficiency and sustainability. Councilmembers Ken Chew and Dave Trotter also voted for the amendments, while Mayor Mike Metcalf and Councilmember Rochelle Bird dissented.

... continued on page 3



Bruzzones' Pending 126 Home Bollinger Valley Subdivision [Source: Page 19 of Revised Notice of Preparation of Draft EIR on Town Website] edited by Andy Schreck for print result improvement

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