

Acalanes High School • Bentley School • Burton Valley • Camino Pablo • Campolindo • Contra Costa Jewish Day School • Del Rey • Donald L. Rheem • Glorietta • Happy Valley • Joaquin Moraga

Lamorinda Schools

Lafayette Elementary • Los Perales • Miramonte • Orinda Academy • Orinda Intermediate • Saklan Valley School • Sleepy Hollow • Springhill • Stanley Middle • St. Perpetua School • Wagner Ranch



Siggy's
CARPET CLEANING
(925) 283-8744

100% Satisfaction Guaranteed
We Pre-Spot, Scrub & Steam Clean Every Job

We Specialize In Carpet, Upholstery & Area Rug Cleaning
Odor Control - Pet Urine Removal
Oriental Rugs Flood Damage
Tile & Stone Restoration
Residential • Commercial

New High Powered Truck Mounted Equipment
EPA Approved Method Licensed-Bonded-Insured

FALL SPECIAL
15% OFF



CARPET CLEANING

LAMORINDA'S FAVORITE FAMILY OWNED BUSINESS FOR OVER 36 YEARS

www.siggyscarpetcleaning.com
3408 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette



DIABLO FLOORING, INC

CARPET • HARDWOOD • LAMINATE • TILE • VINYL

Diablo Flooring Inc. is here to bring the best possible pricing with the most beautiful and complete installation to the Bay Area. We are a small store which lets us give you the attention needed for a more professional experience. We cater to residential & commercial customers, designer, contractors, and developers.

FREE ESTIMATES

(925) 426-RUGS (7847) 5600-D Sunol Blvd, Pleasanton, CA 94566
(925) 988-WOOD (9663) 1829-B Mt. Diablo Blvd, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM OR Shop@Home WWW.DIABLOFLOORING.COM
License #898787 • Bonded • Insured up to \$2 Million

\$250 off
*Minimum 1,000 sq. ft.
Exp. 10-31-09

SCHOOL CALENDAR		
School Governing Board Meetings	Lafayette School District LAFSD Office 3477 School Street, Lafayette Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2009 at 7 pm	Moraga School District Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium 1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2009 at 7:30 pm
Acalanes Union High School District Board Room AUHSD Office 1212 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lafayette Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2009 at 7:30pm	Orinda Union School District OUSD Office 8 Altarinda Road, Orinda Monday, Oct. 12, 2009 at 4:00pm	

State Budget Cuts Push PTAs, Education Foundations to Seek Broader Support

By Jennifer Wake



EFO volunteers Marcie Tuttle and Nina Clark talk with Orinda business owner Peter McNiff about school needs. Photo Jennifer Wake

Although the economy is showing glimmers of improvement, state budget cuts have kept schools scrambling for funds. Cuts are so widespread that monies which once afforded schools a way to enhance student education could now be going to supplement basic school services.

"The need is so great," says Moraga Education Foundation (MEF) president Shari Simon. "We're reaching out to the community more than ever before."

MEF, as well as the Education Foundation of Orinda (EFO) and the Lafayette Arts & Science Foundation (LASF) are fighting to keep small class sizes intact, and programs including sports, the arts, and enrichment programs from the chopping block.

The Foundations are working closely with local Chambers of Commerce and are finding unique ways to partner with other community organizations, offering their volunteers to coordinate existing events or to oversee components of new fundraising events as a way to save costs while raising funds.

"At LASF, we are carefully rethinking how we engage Lafayette residents who are not parents of school-aged children," says LASF president Barbara Serwin. "We want to enlist their considerable community pride and their natural concern for maintaining the relatively high value of Lafayette real estate that is in large part based on the quality of our public schools."

To create more value for

business partners, Serwin says LASF is redesigning its different business sponsorship opportunities so that support of LASF is clearly worthwhile in terms of traditional advertisement measures. "We are also launching a new fundraising program that targets people completely outside of our community."

To make up for the state shortfall, Moraga parents would need to give a combined PTA/MEF contribution of \$2,000 per student to keep programs untouched. "When I meet with people, I usually remind them of what they pay for preschool for three hours a day, which usually resonates with parents," Simon says. Additionally, this year MEF is encouraging community members to give a generous \$300 per family. "We've never had a recommended amount of giving for the community before."

EFO president Joan Keikaer says her organization is looking for additional ways to reach new donors as well.

"Historically, 87 percent of EFO donations come from parents. The student population isn't growing, yet school demands are growing because of budget cuts," she says. "While we've always received donations from community members, we want to broaden our base."

Like LASF and MEF, EFO has linked with community organizations and successful fundraising events coordinated through the Orinda Chamber of Commerce. On Sept. 22, EFO volunteers set up tables at local Starbucks and other

locations as part of Donation Day – a fundraiser designed to build awareness and increase giving that has been utilized successfully by MEF and LASF in the past (MEF's Donation Day is scheduled for Oct. 14).

Orinda parent Debbie Johansen, whose three children attend Orinda schools, came to the Starbucks in Orinda's Theatre Square to offer her support. "I think it's great. I think that if we have good schools, it supports our community, our home prices, and gets us all involved in community building," she says.

Business owner Peter McNiff, who next month will be opening Republic of Cake in Theatre Square, credits organizations like EFO for the quality of local schools. "They have the best schools in the state mainly due to organizations like EFO," he says.

In addition to the education foundations, local parent groups are looking for ways to expand their reach into the community.

Sleepy Hollow Elementary hopes to reach part of its fundraising goal one pumpkin at a time at their annual pumpkin patch on Oct. 17 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the school. "This year, we are really trying to reach and invite families who live in the surrounding areas and have small children but might not attend Sleepy Hollow School," says Lisa Rodriguez. In addition to a haunted house, carnival games and jump houses, there will also be a petting zoo and magician at the event.

Other schools are utilizing the Internet to expand their outreach, launching product sales that can be ordered online, even long after the end of the campaign. Last week, Stanley School kicked off its magazine drive which has helped the school raise valuable funds.

"With many parents losing their jobs, we can no longer rely on them to dig deeper into their pockets to make up for the increasing state budget cuts," Stanley School parent Amy Goodheart says. "It's going to take a village to help keep our schools running."

MEF president Simon is optimistic. "We've done it before," she says. "I really think the community is going to rally."

Submit stories to
schooldesk@lamorindaweekly.com

Class of '69 Cougars Celebrate 40th

By Jennifer Wake



40th reunion at Terzetto Cuisine Moraga. Photo Andy scheck

Nearly 150 of the 362 Campolindo graduates from 1969 gathered at Moraga's Terzetto Cuisine on Saturday, Sept. 19 to celebrate their 40th reunion, reminisce about their high school days and catch up with old friends. Reunion committee chairs Rhonda Darling, Peggy Hoffman, Barbara Coats and Robin Mortarotti spent countless hours scouring the Internet to locate alumni to invite to the event.

"I feel like we can go on to become private investigators. We

were relentless in digging people up," said Darling, who said graduates came from as far as Singapore and Alaska to attend the gathering. "It was like a giant cocktail party. People wouldn't stop talking; they were just starved for reconnection."

Darling credits Terzetto owners Roos and P.J. Pal, who worked with organizers to keep the cost down. "They were really good to us," Darling said. "The price was only \$35."

The morning before the re-

union, 32 of the Class of '69 gathered for a tour of the Campolindo campus, guided by one of Campo's teachers.

Darling said they were all impressed with the technology the students now have access to including some items, such as a CAD (Computer Aided Design), that the former students didn't have access to until college. "We felt very lucky that we went to schools in this district back then," she said. "But now? Wow."

Troop 224 Scouts Awarded Eagle Rank

Submitted by Marilyn Bayer



left to right: David Bayer, Daniel Mayeda, and Steven Klamm. Photo submitted

Boy Scout Troop 224 of Lafayette announced the advancement of David Bayer, Daniel Mayeda and Steven Klamm to the rank of Eagle. They were recognized on September 20, 2009 during the Eagle Court of Honor at the Veterans Memorial in Lafayette. To attain the Eagle rank, a scout must successfully serve in each rank: Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star and Life. Specific requirements must be met before a scout can advance to the next rank. During Life rank, the scout must complete a series of merit badges, demonstrate troop leadership, and coordinate, execute, and document a community service project.

David Bayer led a team of volunteers who preserved Live Oak and Valley Oak trees in Briones Regional Park. They built four-foot-high wire cages around 30 saplings to prevent cows and deer from eating them. Saplings will grow into mature trees if they are not eaten or deformed, and will prevent slow the erosion on hills, provide nesting

areas for birds, and create shady areas for hikers. More Live Oak and Valley Oak trees add to the beauty of Briones Regional Park. David was a guest speaker at the Lafayette Garden Club to raise funds that offset the cost of the project. He is the son of Gregory and Marilyn Bayer, and the brother of Michael Bayer.

Daniel Mayeda planned and directed the construction of new cubbies for the kindergarten playground at his elementary school – Happy Valley. The old cubbies were splintered and had sharp corners, making them dangerous for the students. After some preliminary work at the Acalanes High School woodshop, volunteers assembled the cubby units, painted them and installed them at the playground with a Formica top. Volunteers also repaired and repainted existing equipment on the playground. This project greatly improved the playground visually and strengthened the equipment so it can be used for years to come.

Daniel would like to acknowledge Home Depot, Ace Hardware, Mt. Mike's Pizza, Happy Valley Parent's Club and Mr. and Mrs. Terry Haws for their generous donations and support of the project. He is the son of Andy and Lisa Mayeda, and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Masami Mayeda of Albany, Calif.

Steven Klamm designed and supervised the construction of new outdoor furniture for Acalanes High School. This included four redwood park style benches for the athletic field and a redwood picnic table with benches for the freshman quad. Due to the high expense of the materials, Steven sought and received donations from Home Depot, Piedmont Lumber, JFC Construction and numerous community members. The outdoor furniture was built over a weekend at the Design and Fabrication workshop at Acalanes High School with the assistance of instructor, Bear Begelman. Steven and fellow scouts of Troop 224 contributed 203 service hours towards this community service project. He is the son of Steve and Susan Klamm.

With 53 members, led by scoutmaster Robert Lyman, Troop 224 has an active year round program including summer camps to destinations such as Catalina Island, Sunriver, Oregon and La Paz, Mexico. They also embark on 50 mile high adventure hikes to the top of Mt. Whitney and Philmont, New Mexico. for information on joining the troop visit:
www.Troop224Lafayette.com.



Kids Into Speaking Spanish
Spanish Immersion Preschool

Celebrated Immersion Program
8 Years of Educating Children
Native Spanish Speaking Teachers

Spanish Immersion Preschool

• Preschool • Extended Care • Classes
• Developmental Kindergarten • Summer Programs
7am to 6pm • Snacks • Year Program • 2 to 6 Years

Best in The Bay

925-952-9903
Enrolling Now
www.KissProgram.com



Teachers:
Argentina
Colombia
El Salvador
Guatemala
Mexico
Peru

