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Linda Myers of Lafayette shows off magnifier after winning Bug Bingo game; husband Philip (right) came in second Photo Andy Schreck

The Good, the Bad and the Ugly... Bugs!

By Sophie Braccini

Bug Bingo? Yes, Bug Bingo – also called, “How to learn your bugs and how to live with them in your garden” – was the new trendy game at the Lafayette Community Garden Saturday, July 14 facilitated by landscape designer and

gardener Susanne Frey in the outdoor learning classroom across from the Lafayette Reservoir. About 15 adults and a few children came to find natural ways to manage pests and left with a better understanding of the natural processes that

the savvy gardener can foster.

Once participants learned to identify the Mealy Bug, the Thrip, the Lacewing and the Katydid, the question was: Which ones are good, bad or ugly? ... continued on page A10

Quote of the Week:

Birdhouse mystery solved! "Just to set things straight, my husband put them up some time ago in a moment of whimsy..."

Read Letters to the Editor, page A9

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Transitional Kindergarten is Back On

By Andrea A. Firth

Transitional kindergarten—first on, then off, is now on again. “We should be accustomed to the uncertainty of education funding from the State at this point,” says Dr. Fred Brill, Superintendent of the Lafayette School District. Lafayette, like other school districts in the area, placed transitional kindergarten on hold this past spring when funding for the program was eliminated. With the recent passage of the state budget, funding for the transitional kindergarten program was reinstated, and public schools across the state are now required to provide students with fall birthdays access to an extra year of

kindergarten.

Transitional kindergarten is part of the Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2010, which will move the entry age for kindergarten from age five by December 2 to age five by September 1. The entry age change will be phased in over the next three years and provide students who move from age four to five in the fall the option to attend two years of kindergarten. (See table)

For the upcoming school year, students who turn five years old between November 2 and December 2 are eligible to participate in transitional kindergarten. In Lafayette

School District there are at least 16 students who qualify to participate in transitional kindergarten this year, and Moraga School District reports a similar number of potential transitional kindergarten candidates. Both districts have already had students enroll in the program and expect others to follow; information on how to enroll in transitional kindergarten is available at the district websites. Orinda Union School District also plans to offer the new kindergarten option and will have transitional kindergarten information posted on the district website soon.

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Kindergarten Entry Age and TK Eligibility

School Year	Kindergarten Entry Age	Transitional Kindergarten Eligible
2012-13	Five by November 1	Five between 11/2 and 12/2
2013-14	Five by October 1	Five between 10/2 and 12/2
2014-15	Five by September 1	Five between 9/2 and 12/2

TK: Transitional Kindergarten

Considering a Run for Council?

By Cathy Tyson and Lee Borrowman

The Lafayette and Orinda City Councils and the Moraga Town Council need a few good men and women to serve four-year terms. Nominations for the unpaid positions just opened up on July 16 and will close on Friday, August 10.

There will be three seats up for election this November in both Lafayette and Moraga, and two in Orinda. If any of the incumbents don't file by August 10, the window of opportunity will be extended until August 15. Mayor Carol Federighi of Lafayette recently announced that she will not seek reelection (see sidebar). ... continued on page A8

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Cal Shakes

Lou Fancher says Cal Shakes proves its mettle with *Spunk*. Page B1



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Tavecchio Signs with 49ers

Caitlin Graveson catches up with the Campo grad during training camp. Page C1



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Local Beachfront Vineyard?

Andrea A. Firth reports on fossils found during a Lafayette wine cave dig. Page D1

