## Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian Winter Wonders

## By Cynthia Brian

"The best Christmas trees come very close to exceeding nature." – Andy Rooney couple of days after Halloween, my niece who is a paramedic posted photos of her Christmas decorations on Facebook. Every inch of her home and garden were already festooned in holiday finery. Her tree was hung with sparkling ornaments, the mantel dressed with swags and candles, the bushes and flowerbeds glittering with lights and accents. She definitely inherited the celebratory spirit from our farm family. Every year since I was born, my parents made sure that at least two acres of our ranch were illuminated like a runway to enable Santa Claus to find his way to our remote locale. Not one inch of the gardens surrounding the house was left without adornment and twinkle lights. This was an outward display of pure inner love and I can't even imagine what this oasis looked like from the night sky. Even now, with seven great grandchildren to amuse, my gardener mother maintains this enchanted tradition. Magic happens to those who believe.

Every day those who tend gardens work hand in hand with Mother Nature. As the Grand Dame, she is always in charge. Gardeners are her faithful stewards, nurturing the land that feed our bodies while clothing our spirits with beauty, fragrance, and spiritual wellness. As the earth settles down for its winter nap, we also slow our pace in our outdoor spaces to begin preparations for the holiday celebrations and a new year. ...continued on page D6



Chestnuts on a horse chestnut tree are not edible! They are poisonous.



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STATUS	ADDRESS	CITY	PRICE
Sold	919 Dewing Ave.	Lafayette	\$588,000
Sold	2420 Cherry Hills Dr.	Lafayette	\$650,000
Sold	1841 Del Rio Dr.	Lafayette	\$721,000
Sold	1028 Carol Ln.	Lafayette	\$725,000
Sold	1062 Sierra Vista Way	Lafayette	\$728,000
Sold	3784 Mosswood Dr.	Lafayette	\$749,000
Sold	1042 Sunnybrook Dr.	Lafayette	\$750,000
Sold	432 Donegal Way	Lafayette	\$765,000
Sold	4133 Hidden Valley Rd.	Lafayette	\$809,000

TATUS	ADDRESS
Sold	3530 Deer Hill Rd.
Sold	3432 Saint Marys Rd.
Sold	3444 Solana Ct.
Sold	1712 Chapparal Ln.
Sold	567 Silverado Dr.
Sold	3178 Teigland Rd.
Sold	3138 Diablo View Rd.
Sold	1111 Sierra Vista Way
Sold	3674 Happy Valley Rd.
Sold	2 Benedita Pl

CITY	PRICE
Lafayette	\$840,000
Lafayette	\$846,500
Lafayette	\$900,000
afayette	\$1,125,000
Lafayette	\$1,185,000
Lafayette	\$1,200,000
Lafayette	\$1,300,000
afayette	\$1,410,000
Lafayette	\$3,190,000

\$521,000

Moraga

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STATUS	ADDRESS	CITY	PRICE
Sold	343 Calle La Mesa	Moraga	\$933,000
Sold	1100 Country Club	Moraga	\$1,130,000
Sold	31 Via Hermosa	Orinda	\$690,000
Sold	49 Dolores Way	Orinda	\$809,000
Sold	149 Ardith Dr.	Orinda	\$928,000
Sold	149 Ardith Dr.	Orinda	\$968,000
Sold	18 Meadow Park Ct.	Orinda	\$980,000
Sold	25 Los Amigos	Orinda	\$1,050,000
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