

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

Independent, locally owned and operated!

925-377-0977

www.lamorindaweekly.com

Booths
Bounce
House
Arts & Crafts

Wine
Beer
Food
Music
All Day!

10th Annual
MORAGA COMMUNITY FAIRE & CAR SHOW
Saturday, May 14th
11am to 4pm
Rheem Shopping Center

26,000 copies delivered biweekly to Lamorinda homes & businesses

FREE



Moraga's historic Hacienda de las Flores has seen many owners and many changes in its 100 years. A Centennial Celebration is planned for May 15.

Top Photo Andy Scheck

Hacienda de las Flores Turns 100

By Sophie Braccini

One hundred years ago the first building was erected on the site known today as the Hacienda de las Flores. That piece of land and that building have seen the rise and fall of many local families and enterprises. It is a piece of Moraga history, maybe to be transformed to yet something different for the future.

The community will celebrate its big anniversary on May

15 at a community celebration, quite befitting for a place that was once known as the Little Hearst Castle.

Elsie Mastick of the Moraga Historical Society remembers the day in the early 1960s when she modeled for a fundraising fashion show around the pool, by special permission of property owner Donald Rheem. The Hacienda de las Flores had been purchased in 1934 by the industrialist for his wife

Alice Rheem, who loved the scenic hills and wanted acreage for her horses. In fact, the 20-acre property included stables and racetracks close to what is now El Paraiso Court. Rheem was friends with William Randolph Hearst, and while his Hacienda may not have been on par with Hearst Castle, it was nonetheless known as the San Simeon of the East Bay.

... continued on page A11

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

News	A2 - A14
Life in Lamorinda	B1 - B8
Not to be Missed	B6-B7
HOW TO CONTACT US	B7
Food	B8
Sports	C1 - C3
Classified	C2
Shop Moraga	C4
Our Homes	D1 - D20

This Week Read About:

Lenox Project OK'd	...A2
Council Supports Bond	...A2
Taste of Lafayette	...A3
New Principal at AHS	...A3
Wight Expansion Denied	...A3
Hacienda Plan Falls Short	...A4
Merchants Faire Turns 10	...A5
Dog Days in Orinda	...A6
New Sign for Orinda Creek	...A6
Orinda Day of Action	...A7
MOFD Open House	...A8
Letters to the Editor	...A9
New Charging Stations	...A13

Civic News A1-A14

Corroded Culvert is Culprit in Sinkhole. — page A4

MOFD News A8

MOFD to sell Lorinda Lane property. — page A8

Advertising

BESTLAMORINDAHOMES.COM		VLATKA BATHGATE (925) 597-1573	
5 Owl Hill Ct. Orinda \$2,995,000	35 Oak Rd, Orinda \$1,879,000	155 Erselia Trl, Alamo \$1,750,000	24 Jennifer Highlands Ct, Lafayette \$1,369,000

Lafayette's Music Man Takes on New Gig

By Diane Claytor



Bob Athayde, Music Director at Stanley Middle School, spends his weekend nights performing at La Finestra Restaurant. Photo Diane Claytor

Bob Athayde lives and breathes music; it fills both his days and nights. He loves band music and orchestral music, jazz and pop. (When asked which he likes best, he responded, without hesitation, "Whatever I'm playing.") And Athayde doesn't ever seem to tire of it, which is good

considering he has spent the last 40 years teaching music to thousands of young people. And now his nights – at least his weekend nights – are spent entertaining diners at Lafayette's La Finestra Restaurant.

Ask him a question about music and Athayde doesn't just give a verbal explanation; he moves over to the piano where his fingers fly across the keyboard, demonstrating his point. Whether he's playing the piano or proudly talking about the students he's worked with as Lafayette's Stanley Middle School's Music Director for the past 30 years, his passion and enthusiasm are evident.

The Oakland native grew up around music. His parents and three siblings all played for fun. "But I'm the only one it really stuck with," Athayde said. At 9-years-old, he picked up the trumpet, playing through high school. "I listened to records and played along with them." He favored Herb Albert and the Tijuana Brass and jazz musicians like Louis Armstrong — but played both rock and soul, performing with different groups at school dances, churches, "just about anywhere we could," he remembers fondly. The trumpet was great, Athayde said, but he discovered he really liked sounds consisting of more than one note at a time, something that couldn't be done on the trumpet. So "I started messing around with chords on the piano" and that soon became his instrument of choice.

... continued on page A11

Life in Lamorinda B1-B8

SMC Professor Named New Poetry Editor of The New York Times. — Page B3



Sports C1-C3

Volleyball Teams Are Reaching for the Stars at NCS. — Page C1



Our Homes D1-D20

Annual Kitchen Tour Highlights What's Cooking in Hot Designs. — Page D1





Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, May 9, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, May 16, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, May 9, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Acalanes Union High School District
Wednesday, May 18, 7:30 p.m.
AUHSD Board Room
1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

Wednesday, May 11, 7 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting
District Office Board Room
3477 School St., Lafayette
www.lafsd.k12.ca.us

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

City of Lafayette:

www.ci.lafayette.ca.us
Phone: (925) 284-1968

Chamber of Commerce:

www.lafayettechamber.org



Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report April 3 to 16, 2016

Alarms	74
911 Calls (including hang-ups)	6
Noise complaints	5
Traffic stops	99
Suspicious Circumstances	9
Suspicious Subjects	16
Suspicious Vehicles	22
Abandoned Vehicle	
Moraga Blvd/Second St.	
1000 block Miller Dr.	
900 block Diablo Dr. (2)	
Foye Dr/Moraga Blvd.	
Hope Ln/Brookdale Ct.	
Animal Cruelty	
800 block Moraga Rd.	
Arson Knox Dr./Hidden Valley Rd.	
Battery	
3400 block Golden Gate Way	
S Thompson Rd/Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Barking Dog	
3300 block Johnson Rd.	
Burglary, Auto	
3500 block Moraga Blvd.	
1200 block Quandt Ct.	
Civil Problem	
700 block Old Jonas Hill Rd.	
400 block Peacock Blvd	
Dispute, Verbal	
4000 block Marianne Dr.	
3300 block Mt Diablo Blvd	
Fraud	
3500 block Plaza Way	
70 block Bacon Ct.	
1900 block Marion Ct.	
1200 block El Curtola	
Harassment	
1000 block Cavallero Ln.	
Hit & Run	
3400 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
3600 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
3300 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
20 block Lafayette Cir.	
Insufficient fund checks	
3300 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
In custody, theft	
3500 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Ordinance violation	
Moraga Blvd/Third St.	
Panhandling	
3500 block Mt Diablo Blvd	
Police/Fire/EMS response	
3300 block Victoria Ave.	
900 block Moraga Rd.	
1000 block Second St.	
10 block Crest Rd.	
Public Nuisance	
3500 block Mt Diablo Blvd. (2)	
3400 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Foye Dr./Moraga Blvd.	
30 block Circle Creek Ct.	
3300 block Springhill Rd.	
Promiscuous Shooting	
3300 block Springhill Rd.	
Reckless Driving	
Florence Dr./Helen Ln.	
Acalanes Rd./Glorietta Blvd.	
Read Dr./Rohrer Dr.	
Pleasant Hill Rd./Deer Hill Rd.	
3300 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Windsor Dr./Condit Rd.	

STILL #1 FOR A REASON

2008 THROUGH 2015

3654 Happy Valley Road, Lafayette

Coveted 4BR/3.5BA, 3139± sq. ft. Happy Valley Estate on an incredible level 2.4± acre lot with pool & cabana (2 separate parcels). This property provides a rare and incredible opportunity for you to create your dream home or move-in and enjoy changes over time.

Offered at \$4,450,000 • 3654HappyValleyRoad.com

License #: 01866771 **DanaGreenTeam.com | 925.339.1918** License # 01482454

Lenox Loft Project to Finally Get Off the Ground

By Cathy Tyson



Mountain View Lofts, South Elelcaton Interior Courtyard

Images provided



Mountain View Cottages, South Elelcaton Interior Courtyard

Images provided

The City of Lafayette recently greenlighted plans for six single-family loft style homes directly behind Traders Joes on Mountain View Drive. Local developer Dan Freeman of Lenox Homes had been negotiating with the city on circulation issues for the project. He anticipates moving through the review process that will hopefully be complete by the end of the summer, with

construction starting at the end of the year or perhaps in early 2017.

The project has significantly changed over the past three years, with the current fresh, innovative design coming from Lafayette-based Steven Kubitschek and local architect Newell Americh of AD Architects Inc. Plans for the in-fill community call for three duplexes with “thoughtful layouts” to maximize privacy and a smaller scale so as to not overwhelm the neighborhood.

The project has shrunk significantly from the original three-story, 11-condominium project that was not popular with neighbors, to the more residential cottage units, with perhaps the first “woonerf” in town — a Dutch term for a central shared living street, designed for pedestrians and cyclists and a social space where residents can meet and kids can play.

City Council Throws Support Behind School Bond

By Cathy Tyson



Lafayette Unified School District board members Teresa Gerringer and Suzy Pak flank Superintendent Rachel Zinn at the April 25 city council meeting. Photo Cathy Tyson

The Lafayette City Council showed its backing for local schools by voting to support the Lafayette Unified School District Bond Measure C, which will be on the June 7 ballot.

With all but one of the schools in the Lafayette School District between 50 and 70 years old, Superintendent Rachel Zinn briefed city leaders on the “tremendous need” in the district as the reason the school board is pursuing a \$70 million dollar bond to accommodate future growth as well as repair and upgrade structures that are “frozen in time.”

Two years ago the district began a comprehensive process to examine campus buildings and infrastructure, along with student

population trends for the four elementary schools and one middle school, Zinn told the council.

Given the age of the buildings and the projected student growth – in five to six years projections show an additional 105 students in grades kindergarten through fifth grade; at Stanley Middle school during the same period, studies show an additional 140 students — it was clear the district needed renovations and more classrooms.

If passed, the bond translates to \$29.50 per year for every \$100,000 of assessed value of a Lafayette home. It’s estimated that a typical homeowner will pay about \$185 per year.

... continued on page A13

Mt Diablo Blvd/Happy Valley Rd.
St Mary’s Rd/Rohrer Dr.
Upper Happy Valley/Happy Valley
Mt Diablo Blvd/Moraga Rd.
Pleasant Hill/Deer Hill Rds.
Taylor Blvd/Pleasant Hill Rd.
1200 block Pleasant Hill Rd.
Hwy 24/Happy Valley Rd.
Moraga Rd./Via Granada
3400 block School St.
Shoplifting
3500 block Mt Diablo Blvd.
3200 block Stanley Blvd.
3600 block Mt Diablo Blvd.
Throw from moving vehicle
Moraga Rd./St. Mary’s Rd..
Theft, Grand
3500 block Moraga Blvd.
Theft, Petty
3500 block Mt Diablo Blvd. (2)
3700 block Crestmont Pl.
1200 block Monticello Rd.
1100 block Glen Rd.
Theft, ID
1200 block Quandt Rd (2)
3300 block Woodland Way
1000 block Serrano Ct
3500 block O’Connor Dr.
300 block Shire Oaks Ct.
3800 block Quail Ridge Rd.
Threats
900 block Dewing Ave. (2)
Trespass
1000 block Pine Lane.
3500 block Eagle Pt Rd.
Unwanted Guest
3500 block Mt Diablo Blvd.
3500 block Brook St.
Mt Diablo Blvd/Moraga Rd.
3400 block Echo Springs Rd.
Vandalism
10 block Middle Rd. (2)
3200 block Sweet Dr.
10 block Tolran Way
Violation restraining order
1000 block Carol Ln. (4)

Patricia & Ashley Battersby
Linda Friedman
925-323-9955, 925-899-2336
ashley@ashleybattersby.com
linda@lindafriedman.com
BRE# 01407784 & 00521002

1167 Monticello Road, Lafayette

Happy Valley Glen

A Fabulous Neighborhood Near Town

6 Bedrooms 3 Baths 3536 Sq Ft* Single Story
.58 Acre* Beautiful Private Setting & Large Yard

- Well designed, custom built contemporary home
- Light and bright, soaring ceilings, skylights, walls of glass windows & doors
- Inviting California indoor/outdoor living environment
- Spacious interior, extra living spaces, flexible floor plan
- Fabulous yard with a beautiful and mature outdoor setting, gorgeous gardens
- Expansive deck, level lawns, large sparkling pool with solar heat
- Detached bonus building in the backyard
- Desirable neighborhood close to vibrant downtown, Bart, freeway

*per Public Records

**Would you like to CALM DOWN after a STRESSFUL DAY?
Would you like to RECHARGE for the EVENING?
Are you interested in SELF-HEALING?**

Simple powerful breath and movement practices adapted from Ancient Traditions. Lighthearted and joyfully presented by the Blue Pearl Group.

Minimum Donation \$10.00 • All Ages Welcome
More Information: David Holland 415-233-2581

Wednesdays | May 11 & June 16 | 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM
Lafayette Library | Arts & Sciences Center | 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd

Lafayette Celebrates its Good 'Taste' on May 20



Uncle Yu's will be a hot spot during Taste of Lafayette. Photo Andy Scheck

It's a moveable feast on Tuesday, May 20 as the Taste of Lafayette restaurant walk is back with a staggering 22 restaurants, one flower shop and two bakeries, all for residents' enjoyment. There will also be nine other restaurants and caterers serving appetizers, dessert and coffee from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at Lafayette Plaza. Come hungry – the party starts and ends at the Plaza Park. Save \$5 with early-bird tickets available until May 6; after that date, tickets cost \$50. For more information go to the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce website at www.lafayettechamber.org —C. Tyson

A New Bell Rings For Students at Acalanes High

By Cathy Tyson



Travis Bell Photo Cathy Tyson

Current Acalanes High School Associate Principal Travis Bell is being promoted to principal as of July 1 in order to fill the shoes of outgoing principal Allison Silvestri, who announced her resignation in early March. She'll remain on staff for the remainder of the school year to ensure a smooth transition, but is moving on to become principal at San Lorenzo High School.

Acalanes Union High School District Superintendent Dr. John Nickerson announced the leadership change after the district did a statewide search for applicants.

"As we proceeded through a very rigorous interview process, it became more and more clear that Travis Bell would be an ideal fit for the desired profile," said Nickerson. The hunt for a replacement included a stakeholder survey that asked for student and teacher input.

Originally from the small foothill town of Murphys, Calif., Bell has been in the trenches as an English teacher and also served as the Leadership Teacher at Dougherty Valley High School, prior to moving into Acalanes administration in 2012. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from UC Davis and a Masters in Educational Administration and Leadership from Brandman University.

When not busy at school, Bell is plenty busy as a married father of two girls, age 3 years and seven months. The family lives in Danville. He played tennis and soccer in high school and enjoys family hikes along with running and swimming in his spare time.

The staffing change comes after outgoing principal Silvestri was at the helm for a relatively brief two-year stint.

Judge Rules Against Wight House Expansion

By Cathy Tyson

Contra Costa County Superior Court Judge denied a suit brought by landowners Linda and Steven Wight that would have overturned the City of Lafayette's denial of a Phase II permit on their 9,600 square foot home on 13.66 acres at the end of Monticello Road.

As the long and controversial proposed home project wrapped up last year, the Wights promised they would sue the city if the Phase II building permit was denied. In May 2015, after years of meetings, the project's Phase II permit was indeed denied by the Lafayette City Council on the grounds that the property required excessive grading and that the home failed to comply with design guidelines, and that its construction would create health hazards and be a nuisance to neighbors.

The Wights said they were unhappy with the city's decision after spending a considerable amount of time, effort and money — even hiring a new architectural team to draw up a completely fresh set of plans — and agreeing on a number of concessions to mitigate construction concerns.

They filed suit on July 23, 2015, complaining through their attorney David Bowie that the denial of the Phase II application was "an abuse of discretion because the decision was not supported by appropriate findings, and the findings were not supported by substantial evidence."

In a tentative filing April 16, Judge Judith Craddick of Contra Costa County Superior Court saw it differently, stating that the "petitioners' argument does not find support in California law."

I'm Selling Moraga!

Keith KATZMAN

Moraga Resident Since 1966.
Successfully selling real estate for over 30 years.
925-376-7776 • kkatzman@pacunion.com

ACTIVE!



1 North Lane, Orinda | Offered at \$995,000
3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms & 1460± sq.ft.



SOLD!

PENDING!



1236 Rimer Drive, Moraga
Offered at \$1,175,000



5 Fieldbrook Place, Moraga
Offered at \$1,175,000 | Sold for \$1,315,000



I'm selling homes fast! Yours could be next.
Call me for a no obligation visit!

License #: 00875484



WHEN EXPERIENCE COUNTS AND RESULTS MATTER

SHERRIE B. PERLSTEIN

925.766.3030 | Sherrie@OrindaHome.com
www.OrindaHome.com | License #: 00925213

132 Oak Road, Orinda
Offered at \$1,975,000

27 Ivy Drive, Orinda
Offered at \$899,000

1944 Meadow Road, Walnut Creek
Offered at \$2,500,000 | PENDING

1227 Upper Happy Valley, Lafayette
Offered at \$2,575,000 | SOLD in 4 Days

15 Valley View Drive, Orinda
SOLD | Represented Buyer

47 San Pablo Court, Moraga
SOLD | Represented Buyer



Moraga

Public Meetings

City Council

Wednesday, May 11, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, May 25, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, May 16, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, May 9, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Moraga School District
Tuesday, May 10, 7 p.m.
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium
1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga
www.moraga.k12.ca.us
See also AUHSD meeting page A2

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

Town of Moraga:

www.moraga.ca.us

Phone: (925) 888-7022

Chamber of Commerce:

www.moragachamber.org

Moraga Citizens' Network:

www.moragacitizensnetwork.org

Moraga Police Report



Tax identity theft, 4/19/16: A Roberts Court resident attempted to file her taxes and discovered her social security number had already been used to fraudulently file tax returns. Presumably her refund is long gone, but surely the government will be happy to send another check. The reporting person was in contact with the IRS, but wanted to file a police report to cover all her bases.

Stolen golf cart, 4/17/16: A golf cart was stolen by a male subject around 9 p.m. near the ninth hole of Moraga Country Club golf course. Cops looked but did not find it. The cart couldn't be entered into the police Stolen Vehicle System since it didn't have a VIN or serial number.

D.U.I., 4/16/16: Was it driving over landscaping or perhaps allegedly striking a building on Camino Peral that alerted officers to a person driving under the influence? The driver submitted to a chemical test, was found to be less than sober and was released to a relative after signing a notice to appear. No word on the car, which probably slept it off.

Double whammy, 4/14/16: It was not a happy hour, although it was around 7 p.m. in front of Safeway when a woman was found to be under the influence and on probation. This included prohibiting her from consuming alcohol. She was arrested for public intoxication along with the added bonus of probation violation and taken to jail.

Craigslist Honda fraud, 4/13/16: An unnamed individual paid \$6,500 cash for a car that wasn't actually for sale, and didn't belong to the seller. The victim made contact with the fraudster at Starbucks for an arranged sale of a 2011 Honda Civic. When the reporting person attempted to change title at the DMV the next day, he was advised that the vehicle was owned by a third party and that a bank possessed a lien on the car. The cash and the seller have vanished.

Mailbox trauma, 4/12/16: Sometime during the night, an unknown suspect pried open all of the mailboxes at a Moraga Way complex. One of the sections of mailboxes had been completely removed from the group. Damage is estimated at \$200. Hard to say if any mail was stolen.

Other crimes in Moraga from April 12-19:
Domestic disturbance – Juliana Court
False alarm – Rheem Boulevard, Dolores Court

Local Knowledge of Lamorinda & Extraordinary Results



Gary Bernie



Ken Ryerson

If you are considering selling your home, give us a call for assistance.

925.200.2222 Gary
gabernie@pacunion.com
CalBRE#00686144

925.878.9685 Ken
ken@ryersonrealty.com
CalBRE#01418309



pacunion.com | A Member of Real Living

Gary Bernie & Ken Ryerson

New Hacienda Plan Falls Short With City Council

By Sophie Braccini

What was supposed to be the final presentation of the conceptual plan to the Moraga Town Council for the renovation of the Hacienda de Las Flores was met with unanimous skepticism last week. While the council did not decide to scrap the plan, members were put off by the financial feasibility of the proposed renovations.

The council will again take the project under its wing and work on a scaled-down version.

The architectural firm Gould Evans started meeting a year ago with residents and staff to define a vision for the renovation of the Hacienda de las Flores. The historic

building is underutilized and cost the town about \$200,000 a year for upkeep. It is in need of repair and Americans with Disabilities Act upgrades. The April 27 presentation was the second one made by the architects, incorporating revisions that had been asked by the council in February.

The new draft included a 200-person banquet room; a restaurant opened year-round; a five-room boutique hotel; and wider access from Moraga Road. But as soon as the presentation was over, comments from the public started eroding any confidence that the project would be approved that

night. The barrage of critics started with Wendy Scheck, president of the Moraga Chamber of Commerce, who explained that the return of the \$6.1 million estimated investment would not be sufficient to attract investors. Most critics focused on the banquet or garden room that residents found either visually intrusive or too expensive for the site.

Different ideas were shared in the public comment, including stopping holding weddings at the Hacienda, tenting large events instead of building an out-of-scale addition, or increasing the size of

the Casita to make it a real community center.

Some indicated they liked the visuals proposed by Gould Evans, but that the lack of financial feasibility made spending any more money on the proposed option unwise.

The council decided to create a two-person committee, Vice mayor Dave Trotter and Councilmember Teresa Onoda, to take over the project and work with partners such as the Chamber of Commerce to assess the cost of different alternatives. No timeline was defined for this next phase.

Corroded Culvert is to Blame for Sinkhole

By Sophie Braccini



Sunday, March 13: The initial emergence of sinkhole.



Monday, March 14: A traffic signal pole, a PG&E electrical switch vault and portions of the sidewalk collapsed into the sinkhole. Photos provided

The Town of Moraga established with certainty that the cause of the recent sinkhole is the failing of the 96-inch corrugated metal culvert that runs under the Rheem Boulevard-Moraga Road intersection.

The town will replace the failed portion of the metal pipe with a concrete conduit. It will not fix the entirety of the corrugated section, because state funding might not be available for improvements beyond the immediately affected area.

Glen Anderson from consultants Schaaf & Wheeler made a presentation to the town council on April 27 of the forensic work that has been done in the sinkhole over the past weeks. Images of the film taken inside the culvert were enough to bring their point home. It showed a pipe where corrosion was everywhere, to the point that the bottom was gone in some places, not supporting the top of the pipe, and resulting in its deformation. The presentation showed a 17.5-inch joint offset running all along the side of the culvert, caused by the shape alteration. When the rains started pouring last month, pressure increased on top of the pipe and large quantities of dirt were dragged from under the sidewalk into the pipe through the offset joint. After a while the road collapsed.

Repair alternatives were presented to the council. All agreed that removing the failed corrugated metal and replacing it with reinforced concrete was the way to proceed. ... continued on page A12

Unsuccessful shoplifting – HomeGoods

Loud party – Moraga Road, Ascot Drive

Stolen car – Rheem Boulevard

Found purse – Sanders Ranch Road

Identity theft – Roberts Court

Inherently shotgun returned to cops, family requests it be destroyed



Rick & Nancy Booth

Realtors/UC Berkeley MBAs

Great Market • Great Opportunity
Call Today 925.212.8869

Glorietta View Estate!

Beautiful vaulted ceilings & walls of windows. Expansive views. Spacious rooms: 5BR/4.5BA, great room, gourmet kitchen, formal living & dining, sunroom, and media room. 4164+/-SF on 1.39 +/- acres. Large yards, level lawns. Private yet close to downtown.
Offered at \$2,499,000



67 Tara Road, Orinda



32 Southwood Drive, Orinda

Updated Brown Shingle

Gorgeous remodel, fantastic views. Sunny decks for entertaining. Formal living & dining. Remodeled kitchen/family room combo. 3BR/2BA. 1970+/-SF on .569 +/- acres. Private yet close to town.
Offered at \$1,199,000



29 Tara Road, Orinda

Pending in 12 days
Offered at \$1,150,000



22 Martha Road, Orinda

Sold with 13 offers
18% over asking

www.BoothHomes.com

Rick & Nancy Booth
Rick@BoothHomes.com



CalBRE: 01388020/01341390

©2016 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01908304.



EXPERIENCE MATTERS

Linda Ehrich
Realtor
93 Moraga Way
Orinda, CA 94563
925.698.1452
Linda@LindaEhrich.com
www.LindaEhrich.com
DRE# 01330298

Quality Hearing Aids • In Ear Monitors • Ear Mold Impressions

FREE Consultations
FREE Hearing Screenings
and now taking Blue Cross, Blue Shield and Medicare.

Dr. Erik M. Breitling,
Au.D., CCC-A, FAAA

LAMORINDA AUDIOLOGY

3744 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 100, Lafayette
(925) 262-4242 www.LamorindaAudiology.com

Swim Plugs • Comprehensive Diagnostic Adult Hearing Evaluations

Moraga Faire Celebrates 10 Years of Family Fun

By Sophie Braccini



Photo provided

Ten years ago a small group of Moraga residents became engaged in the town's business in a way that was going to have a long lasting impact. Ellen Beans, a retired resident, took the lead on launching the first Art, Wine and Merchants' Faire. It took only two months to set up that first event that has now become a Moraga tradition. As Beans says, the merchants, as well as the public, are clamoring for it.

This year's Faire will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on May 14

at the Rheem Center.

Beans remembers the beginning of 2007, when then-councilmember Lynda Deschambault wanted to involve the businesses in the Moraga Beautiful Day event that had been created by former mayor Margaret DePriester. Beans had just joined the Moraga Chamber of Commerce and thought that it would be a good idea to involve the local merchants. A small group of nine interested business leaders met with her and the idea of the Faire

took shape. It was March 5, 2007. The first Faire took place exactly two months later.

Ten years later, the Faire is now the Moraga Community Faire and Car Show. Yet many things are still the same. Mike Metcalf is the mayor now as he was in 2007, and the Chamber of Commerce still supports the Faire.

Beans recalls how the first event was split between the two shopping centers to spread possible economic spinoffs. The Moraga Center housed the Energy Faire; the Art, Wine, and Merchant Faire located in the Rheem Center showcased 11 artists and 38 local merchants, and a wine booth with about four vintners pouring both Lamorinda and area wines. Beans and her team estimated that 800 people attended the first Faire. Last year's count was 2,500 visitors, and about 80 merchants, including the Lamorinda Wine Growers Association.

For the second year many of the staple items were added: the musical entertainment — most of it local; games and activities for children; food — first from local restaurants now food trucks. This year, the Saint Mary's Jazz Band will be on stage, as well as the Joaquin Moraga Middle School

Jazz Band, the West Coast Swing Dancers, and Rosemarie and The Rhythm Riders. To close the day, Chinese folk dancers from the Contra Costa Chinese Cultural Enrichment Organization will showcase authentic regional Chinese folk dances with colorful authentic costumes.

The popular car show was added in 2010 and now features 70 trophy cars.

Beans' organizational team has grown so she can envision passing the baton in a year or two.

The team is planning to have this year's theme to be about water. No more bottled water will be sold on site, while a giant blue "water monster" will refill anyone's container at will.

... continued on page A11

Town of Moraga Community GARAGE SALE

Saturday, May 21

Featuring multiple residential sales throughout Moraga

Maps of garage sale locations and more information available at www.moragarec.com

Alain Pinel Realtors®

FIND YOUR PLACE



LAFAYETTE \$3,750,000

1982 Reliez Valley Road | 4bd/4.5ba
Karen Richardson | 925.258.1111



LAFAYETTE \$2,600,000

1530 Rancho View Drive | 6bd/4ba
Bill Leone | 925.258.1111



LAFAYETTE \$2,399,000

1903 Reliez Valley Road | 5bd/4.5ba
Alan Marks | 925.258.1111



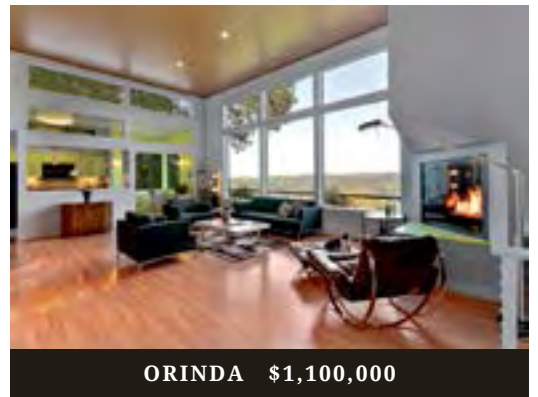
LAFAYETTE \$1,895,000

507 Winchester Court | 5bd/3.5ba
L. Brydon/K. Ives/K. Brickman | 925.258.1111



ORINDA \$1,800,000

52 Camino Don Miguel | 4bd/3.5ba
Alan Marks | 925.258.1111



ORINDA \$1,100,000

243 El Toyonal | 1bd/2ba
Cheryl Hata | 925.258.1111

APR.COM

Over 30 Offices Serving The San Francisco Bay Area 866.468.0111

ALAIN PINEL
REALTORS

LUXURY PORTFOLIO
INTERNATIONAL®



Orinda

Public Meetings

City Council

Special Meeting:
Thursday, May 12, 7 p.m.
Library Auditorium, Orinda Library
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Planning Commission

Tuesday, May 10, 7 p.m.
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,
Orinda Library

Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission

Wednesday, May 11, 2016, 6:30 p.m.
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,
City Hall, 22 Orinda Way, Orinda

School Board Meetings

Orinda Unified School District
Monday, May 9, 6 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting
8 Altarinda Rd., Orinda
www.orindaschools.org
See also AUHSD meeting page A2

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

City of Lafayette:

www.ci.lafayette.ca.us
Phone: (925) 284-1968

Chamber of Commerce:

www.lafayettechamber.org



Maureen Wilbur



Beacon Ridge Belvedere Townhome

Walnut Creek address but Really Lafayette ~ Coming Soon!

Rarely available, this 3 bedroom 3 bath townhome is an end unit, level in, with views! Beacon Ridge is the premier gated townhome community in Lamorinda. It's minutes to downtowns Lafayette & Walnut Creek, BART, Highway 24 & 680 and the award winning Lafayette Schools.

Direct: (925) 389-6161 Maureen@MaureenWilbur.com

www.MaureenWilbur.com CalBRE #01268536



©2016 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01908304.

Wag More, Bark Less on Orinda's Dog Day Afternoon

By Vic Ryerson



From left, Carolyn Mills and her dog Sophie, and Alison Zamanian with her friend Oreo, get ready for Orinda's Dog-gone Fest. Both women are OPR Foundation board members and are co-chairing this event. Photo submitted

Dog owners and dog lovers will find plenty of treats and fun – and maybe even a dog to take home — at Orinda's Dog-gone Fun Fest from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 15 at Orinda Community Center Park. Hosted by the Orinda Park and Recreation Foundation, the event will feature a dog parade, dog agility and search and rescue demonstrations, dog product vendors, and rescue organizations with dogs for adoption.

The event is free. Members of the public are invited to bring their dogs on leash. Prizes will be given for the best dressed dog, the dog that looks most like its owner, and the best in show.

Further information is available from Carolyn Mills at 254-5292 or bandcmills@comcast.net.

New Sign Reveals Hidden Secrets of San Pablo Creek

By Chris Lavin

While walking or driving through Orinda, pedestrians and drivers often are unaware they are driving over a rich and diverse collection of plants, animals – even wetland wildlife – beneath them.

“Most people have no idea the creek is there,” said Adriane Bosworth, a director of Friends of Orinda Creeks.

That may change now that the FOC has completed a much belabored project dear to their hearts: an interpretive sign at Orinda Community Park that educates about the life in and around the creek. They installed the at the end of April, and it details some of the life that is dependent on the often-invisible San Pablo Creek.

The sign was installed near the play structures.

From frogs to raccoons to skunks and salamanders, the creek supports abundant wildlife, and because water quality is gradually improving since massive construction over the past 50-or-so years, the lives of the critters in and around the creek are improving, too.

“We still have a ways to go,” cautions Brian Waters of the FOC.

Since last February, the group has been working on the language and the art for the sign, a laborious task that involved not only finding out how to do it in the first place, including city ordinances, access issues and artistic creativity. Fortunately for the FOC, Bosworth said, they have Waters on the board, “and he pays a lot of attention to detail.”

At a recent meeting Reg Barrett, a biologist who sits on the FOC board, visibly lit up in discussing plans for last week's installation. “Has anyone seen an auger at work?” he piped up. He was bringing his for the post holes. His enthusiasm wasn't exactly contagious.

But it worked, and the sign is in.

More information on Friends of the Orinda Creeks can be found at www.orindacreeks.org.



Friends of Orinda Creeks volunteers pose with their new project -- a new interpretive sign in Orinda Community Park. From left are Jim Luini, illustrator Doyle Wegner, Bob Stoops, Reg Barrett, Brian Waters and Adriane Bosworth. Photos Adriane Bosworth



Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report April 3 to 16

Alarms	72
Noise complaints	1
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	9
Traffic stops	41
Suspicious Circumstances	8
Suspicious Subjects	10
Suspicious Vehicles	21
Abandoned Vehicle	
Avenida de Orinda/Orinda Way	
Battery	
60 block Singingwood Ln.	
10 block S Point Rd.	
Burglary, Auto	
10 block Camino Sobrante	
Rite Aid	
100 block Goodfellow Dr	
Burglary, Residential	
100 block Cannon Dr.	
Civil	
40 block Charles Hill Rd.	
10 block Altarinda Rd.	
Shell Station	
10 block Woodcrest Dr.	
Death, non-criminal	
100 block Ranch Rd.	
10 block Carisbrook Dr.	
Dispute	
100 block Camino Pablo	
10 block Overhill Rd.	
10 block S Point Rd.	
DUI	
Shell Station	
Miner Rd./Camino Lenada	
Drunk in Public	
10 block Theatre Square	
200 block Village Square	
Embezzlement	
60 block Moraga Way	
Exhibition of Speed	
30 block Muth Dr.	
Felony	
Hwy 24 tunnel	
Hit & Run	
400 block Moraga Way	
ID Theft	
reported to Police (3)	
10 block Irwin Way	
100 block Lombardy Ln.	
Missing Adult	
80 block Estates Dr.	
Panhandling	
Nations	
Police/Fire/ EMS	
Bigleaf Rd./Quarry Hill Rd.	
Starbucks	
40 block Oak Rd.	
Public Nuisance	
Spring Rd/Brookwood Rd.	
10 block Theatre Square	
Camino Pablo/Hwy 24	
Reckless Driving	
100 block Overhill Rd.	
Camino Sobrante/Orinda Way	
Moraga Way/Glorietta Blvd. (2)	
Revoke Probation	
500 block Moraga Way	
Theft, Grand	
Miramonte High School	
Theft, Petty	
50 block Berkeley Ave.	
30 block Orinda View Rd.	
400 block Singingwood Ln.	
Bates Blvd/Davis Rd.	
40 block Camino Lenada	

10 block S Point Rd.
Unauthorized Possession
10 block Orinda Way.
Unwanted Guest
30 block Claremont Ave.
Warrant Service/Arrest
Safeway
Camino Pablo/Monte Vista Rd.
Moraga Way/Camino Pablo
Brookwood Rd./Moraga Way.
Camino Pablo/Brookwood Rd.



rocking chair

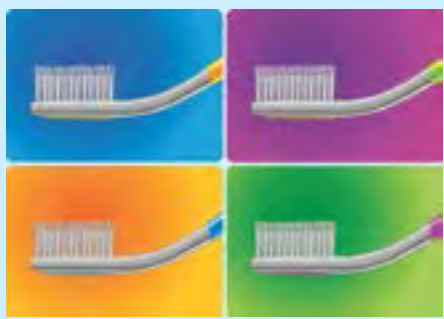
Change your perspective

At Byron Park, life is different here. It's not just a place to live. This is where residents discover the community experience and put passions into practice. Engage, challenge yourself, share knowledge, and build a legacy for future generations. This is where your personal journey begins.

Call 888.713.2228 or visit
LifeatByronPark.com to learn more.

Family & Cosmetic Dentistry

Now accepting new patients!



Kristi L. Doberenz, D.D.S., Inc.
8 Camino Encinas, STE #110, Orinda
(925) 254-3725

Now is the best time to sell a home in years!

The spring market remains very strong. There's still time for savvy sellers to take advantage of the extremely favorable market conditions.

Call me for a personalized plan to get top \$\$\$ for your home!

Integrity ♦ Knowledge ♦ Results



Frank Woodward

Realtor®, Previews Property Specialist
T. 925.788.4963
E.Frank@FrankWoodward.com



©2016 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01908304.



Volunteers from throughout the city donned t-shirts and work gloves and helped clean up and beautify areas around town on Saturday, April 23, during the eighth annual Orinda Action Day of Community Service. This event was co-sponsored by the Orinda Community Foundation and the City of Orinda.

Photos provided by Sue Severson

Theater View Veterinary Clinic



Theater View Veterinary Clinic, owned by Dr. Laurie Langfold, is excited to announce a new addition. Dr. Amelia Ausman has joined our team. Come check us out.



"Dr. Laurie" Langford

Phone: (925) 317-3187

Fax: (925) 334-7017

Email: theatervieworinda@gmail.com

www.theaterviewvetclinic.com

1 Bates Blvd., Suite 200, Orinda

The Lamorinda Real Estate Firm People Trust

Coldwell Banker Orinda



ORINDA \$4,250,000
6/5.5 8+ acres w/potential for subdivision. Recently updated with many features. One of a kind!!
Laura Abrams CalBRE #01272382



ORINDA \$3,795,000
6/5.5 Desirable Orinda Highlands location, amazing views, lrg rooms, 1+ acre, appx. 7,000sf.
The Beaubelle Group CalBRE #00678426



LAFAYETTE \$2,950,000
4/4 Stunning home, 4311 sqft on mostly level 1 acre lot with breathtaking gardens & pool.
Elena Hood CalBRE #01221247



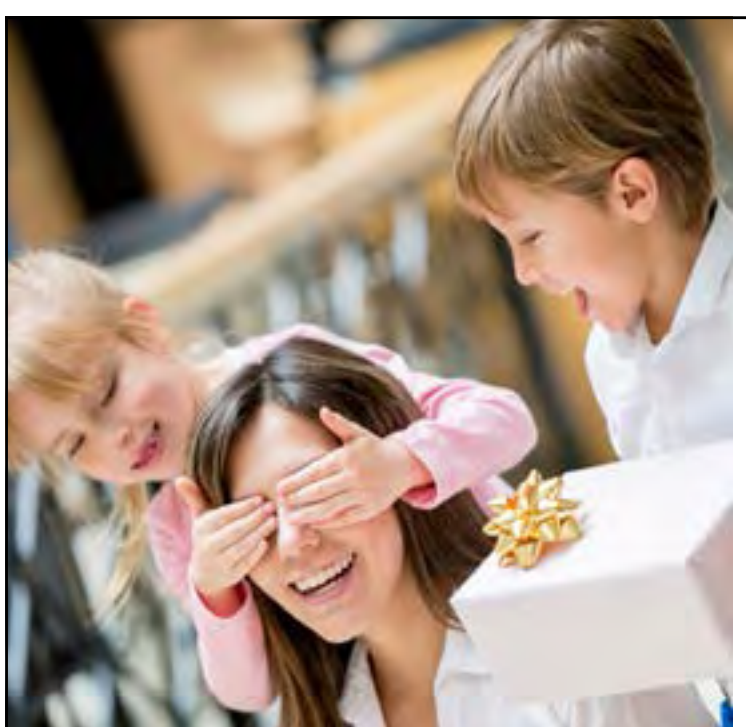
MORAGA/CANYON \$2,895,000
5/4 BEAUTIFUL horse property on 1.31 acre with stable and approx. 4000 sq. ft custom home.
The Beaubelle Group CalBRE #00678426



ORINDA \$2,798,000
5/4 BEAUTIFULLY remodeled mid-century modern style home on 1.28 mostly flat acres.
Beaubelle|Fellner CalBRE #00678426|01428834



ORINDA \$2,500,000
5/4.5 Gorgeous Gated Stunning Single Level Glorietta Estate Totally Remodeled and Expanded
Maureen Wilbur CalBRE #01268536



THIS IS HOME

This is where Mom's hugs are endless, her chocolate chip cookies come to life and her love is constant.

Happy Mother's Day from Coldwell Banker.

Coldwell Banker. Where home begins.

ColdwellBankerHomes.com

#ThisIsHome
#CBOOrinda



MORAGA \$1,665,000
4/3 Spacious single level in Sanders Ranch, 3259 sqft, Creekside setting with large backyard.
Elena Hood CalBRE #01221247



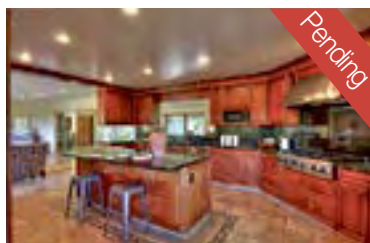
LAFAYETTE \$1,398,000
4/2.5 Charming spacious home in the heart of Burton Valley. Light/bright w/lg beautiful yrd
Susan Schlicher CalBRE #01395579



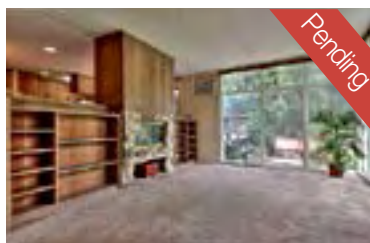
LAFAYETTE \$1,369,000
4/3 Enjoy warmer days and longer nights w/this entertainer's dream Home with a pool.
Vlatka Bathgate CalBRE #01390784



ORINDA \$1,199,000
3/2 Updated brown shingle close to downtown. Lrg windows & stunning views, private bkyd w/lawn.
Rick & Nancy Booth CalBRE #01388020



LAFAYETTE \$1,195,000
3/1.5 Lovely setting, 2222 sqft private w/ gardens, large flat patio, views, lrg high end kitchen
Elena Hood CalBRE #01221247



ORINDA \$1,150,000
6/4 Cool Contemporary in Glorietta. In-law unit. Close to town/BART. Top Schools.
Rick & Nancy Booth CalBRE #01388020



ORINDA \$1,098,000
4/2 Light-filled home with flexible floor plan, views, updated baths, flat yard and privacy.
Suzi O'Brien CalBRE #01482496



MORAGA \$1,095,000
4/2 Great floorplan, peaceful flat yard, .34 acre lot, completely updated kitchen & bathrooms.
Elena Hood CalBRE #01221247

5 Moraga Way | Orinda | 925.253.4600 | 2 Theatre Square, Suite 117 | Orinda | 925.253.6300



californiahome.me

[/cbcalifornia](https://www.facebook.com/cbcalifornia)

[/cb_california](https://twitter.com/cb_california)

[/cbcalifornia](https://www.pinterest.com/cbcalifornia)

[/coldwellbanker](https://www.youtube.com/coldwellbanker)

©2016 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01908304.



Fire Districts

Public Meetings

Moraga-Orinda Fire District

Board of Directors
Wednesday, May 4, 7 p.m.
Sarge Littlehale Community Room
22 Orinda Way
Orinda, CA 94563
For meeting times and
agendas, visit www.mofd.org

ConFire Board of Directors

Tuesday, May 10, 1:30 p.m.
Board Chamber room 107,
Administration Building,
651 Pine St., Martinez
For meeting times and
agendas, visit
<http://alturl.com/5p9pu>.

Emergency response information
and training:

Lamorinda Community
Emergency Response Team
(CERT)

www.lamorindacert.org.

- ◆ HARDWOODS
- ◆ CARPETS
- ◆ RUGS
- ◆ LINOLEUM
- ◆ TILE
- ◆ LAMINATE

FAMILY -OWNED
30 YEARS !

3344 Mt Diablo Blvd
in Lafayette
925-284-4440
lamorindafloors.com

LAMORINDA
FLOORS
Karastan
GALLERY

Cabinet Modifications

With over 25 years fulfilling custom needs, we can alter or modify most cabinetry, while still utilizing your existing cabinetry for:

- Large TVs/ Refrigerators and appliances
- Recycle Bins and shelf pullouts
- Cabinet alterations/repairs

We can help with home, office, entertainment, custom cabinetry, shelving, crown mouldings, baseboards, new doors or mantels!



925.827.1093

Paul Kephart Master Craftsman
www.TheCabinetMd.com

Licensed Cabinet & Millwork Contractor #598395

Mary H. Smith D.D.S. • Cecelia Thomas, D.D.S.

A Professional Corporation

Family & Cosmetic Dentistry

96 Davis Road, Suite 5 Orinda, 925.254.0824



Taking care of all dental needs for you and your family. Emphasizing cosmetic dentistry with implants, and Invisalign. Nitrous oxide is available. Consultations are complimentary. Dentistry with Excellence.

YOUR SMILE IS EVERYTHING

New Medic Units for Moraga-Orinda Fire District



From left, Daryle Balao captain-paramedic; Matt Lopez firefighter-paramedic; Chris Davies engineer; Vince Matulich captain-paramedic; Tim Williams engineer; Lucas Lambert firefighter-paramedic; Anthony Grgurevic firefighter; Lucas Trumpf firefighter-paramedic. Photo Andy Scheck

Two new International TerraStar medic units, designed by Leader Ambulance in Los Angeles, were placed in service May 1 by the Moraga-Orinda Fire District. “We responded to complaints about an uncomfortable ride, and the fact that the old ambulances were not properly designed for our roads,” said firefighter-paramedic Matt Lopez of the district apparatus committee. “We chose and designed ambulances to give us the longest service life and requiring the least amount of maintenance.” —N. Marnell

MOFD Avoids Drama, Sells Lafayette Property

By Nick Marnell

The Moraga-Orinda Fire District will make a handsome profit on its recent real estate holdings, based on offers from private citizens it accepted for property it owns at 1035 Lorinda Lane in Lafayette. The move avoids a possible dispute over an easement request by the City of Lafayette.

The district had purchased the property in 2013 for \$1.2 million as a fire station site but decided not to build there; it then split the property into two parcels and put them on the market. Fire Chief Stephen Healy on April 27 announced pending sales prices of \$1.25 million for the house and \$449,000 for the vacant lot.

Apparently potential buyers did not blink at a special easement request by the city.

The city had pressured the district to obtain easements for a

hiking trail on the outskirts of the MOFD holdings. The right of way requested by Lafayette runs atop ones already granted for roadway and utility use along the Lorinda Lane parcels, but the district did not want to risk compromising the sale of the property with the addition of another easement.

Lafayette offered the district \$10,000 for the easements. Healy and city manager Steve Falk negotiated a contract specifying terms of the transfer, and the chief presented the contract to his board at its April 6 meeting.

The reaction was not positive.

One-time board member Dick Olsen, out of concern for both the privacy and security of the Lorinda Lane residents, and also for how the price of the trail easements might negatively impact the future

value of all easements granted in that neighborhood, urged the board to vote no.

Lorinda Lane resident Mark Debusschere pleaded with the district to not make the deal. “I assume the city is extorting the district to get these easements,” he said. “I wouldn’t sign this at all. If you made this same request of the new property owner, what do you think they are going to say?”

The issue has become a matter of public controversy, director Brad Barber said. “To the extent that this matter is drawn out by the city of Lafayette in its desire to obtain the easement, we face the likelihood that the value of the property will be impaired.”

MOFD counsel John Bakker said that the city could get an injunction to preclude the sale of the

property.

“That would be a hostile act,” director Fred Weil said. “I would hope they understand our situation and react like decent human beings.”

Weil also noted that Lafayette could condemn the property for public use any time it chooses, but to this point, why hadn’t it done so? The city said it would be challenging and time consuming to secure the easements from private owners, which is why it pushed for acquisition from the district.

The board declined to grant the easements but will revisit the motion at its May 4 meeting.

Any concerns the district had about diminishment of value of its property because of the easement request likely have been obviated by the strength of the initial offers.

MOFD Holds Open House to Mark Wildfire Prevention

By Nick Marnell

To recognize National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day, the Moraga-Orinda Fire District will hold its biannual Open House May 14 at Station 45 in Orinda Village.

MOFD firefighters, staff and management, plus representatives of outside agencies like Pacific Gas and Electric and the East Bay Municipal Utility District — and yes,

Smokey the Bear, too — will be on hand to explain what they can do to help you prevent wildfires.

“With all of the rain we’ve had this season, it’s never too early to work on your weed abatement,” said MOFD fire marshal Kathy Leonard, and she will tell you everything you need to know to protect your property from wildfires — and to avoid receiving a nasty letter from the district in late June because of out-of-control weeds.

Firefighters, decked out in their wildland gear, will pull out the Type 3 engine, a shorter, squattier vehicle used to fight wildfires and seldom seen traversing the streets of Moraga and Orinda. They will explain the differences between the Type 3 and the regular engine, and demonstrate the special equipment the Type 3 carries.

But the event will not be all work.

“It’s a great time for everyone,” Leonard said. “The firefighters love meeting the kids.” And there will be plenty for the kids to do, includ-



Future firefighters try out the driver’s seat.

Photo courtesy MOFD

ing seemingly every small child’s dream: to sit in a fire engine.

Firefighter David Mazaika will bring his super-customized grill to station 45 and cook links and dogs and burgers, with all proceeds for the barbecue going to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Even the Contra Costa County Animal Services Department will set up, showcasing cats and dogs available for adoption. Agency representative Steve Burdo promises a

reduced adoption fee for all attendees.

“Let’s break the Orinda open house record of 500 this year!” said district clerk Grace Santos, who organizes this event as well as the Moraga Open House and Pancake Breakfast during National Fire Prevention week in the fall.

The event runs from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday, May 14 at MOFD Station 45, located at 33 Orinda Way in Orinda Village.

ConFire May Start From Scratch on Station 16

By Nick Marnell

The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District will consider a tear down and rebuild of fire station 16 in Lafayette, according to upcoming fiscal year budget documents the district submitted to its board.

ConFire planned to rehab the structure but after receiving numerous construction proposals decided that it may be best to bulldoze the station and start from scratch. “If I had my way, that’s the way we’d go,” Fire Chief Jeff Carman told his advisory fire commission in April.

The reversal of the Lafayette fire station rebuilding plan is analogous to the turnaround of ConFire, which barely resembles the struggling district that Carman took over two-and-a-half years ago.

ConFire was on the brink of a financial inferno in 2013. It had closed seven engine companies, stopped filling firefighter vacancies, was running up to a \$10

million structural deficit and was perilously close to exhausting its fund balances. The county administrator warned that the district was headed toward bankruptcy.

The budget presented for the 2016-17 fiscal year recommends funding for 25 fire stations, 26 companies, one squad and 353 full-time employees, including a new assistant chief of emergency medical services. By the end of the fiscal year the district will have placed 13 new fire engines, four trucks and three other vehicles into service.

ConFire can restore these resources thanks to projected revenue of more than \$123 million, nearly \$30 million more than three years ago, due in large part to increased property taxes and first responder fees.

A major step in the district turnaround took place Jan. 1, when ConFire became the county’s exclusive operator of emergency ambulance service — not including

the areas covered by the Moraga-Orinda Fire District and the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District.

“That was the highlight of the year,” said Carman. Though the new program was expected to run cash-negative for several months, the first quarter appeared to finish strong. “It’s better than we expected in terms of revenue,” said the chief. The upcoming fiscal year will include the first complete 12-month cycle of ambulance operations.

The district will also ramp up its involvement with two county departments next year. ConFire plans to provide additional staffing for the county sheriff’s helicopter program, and to work more closely with the county Hazardous Materials Division. Carman ran the Hazmat Division when he worked for the Roseville Fire Department.

The chief said he hopes to present a proposal for fire station 16 construction to his board May 10.



KAY'S PLUMBING & ROOTER

- SEWER AND DRAIN CLEANING
- FAUCETS- TOILETS -SINKS- DISPOSAL-SHOWERS
- WATER HEATERS - HYDRO JETTING
- WATER & GAS REPIPING

Just Call us!
(925) 743-1515

Lamorinda Residence for over 10 years
LICENSE #: 1008078

FREE ESTIMATE



Lamorinda Spirit Van

Volunteer Drivers Wanted...CALL (925) 283-3534

Letters to the Editor

Opinions in Letters to the Editor are the express views of the writer and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly. All published letters will include the writer's name and city/town of residence -- we will only accept letters from those who live in, or own a business in, the communities comprising Lamorinda (please give us your phone number for verification purposes only). Letters should be 350 words or less; letters of up to 500 words will be accepted on a space-available basis. Visit www.lamorindaweekly.com for submission guidelines.
email: letters@lamorindaweekly.com; Regular mail: Lamorinda Weekly, P.O.Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570

Can Orinda taxpayers afford to be fair?

Dear Editor,

The City has determined that it will cost \$80 million to fix our roads. This is the price of deferred maintenance.

The question is: Will Orinda's residents and taxpayers take this obligation on themselves or will they pass the obligation onto the next generation (in some cases, their own children)?

The City is proposing an additional \$25 million bond, repaid with an ad valorem tax, to help solve the problem. This tax, like the tax repaying 2014's \$20 million bond, will be repaid mostly by Orinda's youngest homeowners. They will end up paying 90 percent of the cost with the longstanding residents, who incurred the obligation, only paying 10 percent.

The youngest one-third of Orinda's homeowners are already paying property tax based on an assessment of 85 percent of their home's market value. They pay 60 percent of Orinda's total \$60 million in annual property tax. Conversely, the oldest one-third of Orinda's homeowners, who have seen remarkable gains in the value of their homes but are paying taxes based on assessed values of 20 percent of the market value of the homes, are only paying 10 percent of the total.

Is this fair? The argument that it is says that the new homeowners will be using the reconstructed roads for a long time; but they will also be paying taxes to maintain them. One of the benefits of the new roads, in addition to less wear and tear on cars, is enhanced home values. So the existing residents will see enhanced home values, sell to new residents who will pay the enhanced price to live in Orinda AND "get to" pay off the road bonds which enhanced the price.

Can we afford to be fair? Should this be a concern to the City and to the individuals in the city who are being asked to vote for this new ad valorem tax? There are alternatives as outlined in the www.OrindaRoadFacts.info website. We can choose to be fair. It doesn't cost that much.

Steve Cohn
Orinda

Funds Needed for Road Repair

Dear Editor:

For more than 20 years, my family has been fortunate to live in Orinda, with its excellent schools, great location, terrific weather and so much more. Over that time, however, one aspect of our idyllic city has degraded badly: Years of tight limitations on budgets for road repairs have led to severe deterioration of our roads. Many of our roads are, quite literally, falling apart.

Through the combined efforts of the Orinda's Engineering Services department, the city council, and the Citizens Infrastructure Oversight Commission — along with a lot of input from Orinda citizens — the city has developed a five-phase plan to repair our roads along with the drains beside and beneath those roads.

This plan has been supported by Orinda voters, who strongly approved the funds needed to start implementation of the plan, voting in favor of a 0.5 percent sales tax in 2012 and a \$20 million bond measure in 2014. With these initial

funds, a number of our worst roads have been repaired, and more are scheduled to be repaired soon.

However, these funding sources provide only the first part of the necessary financing. They were never expected to be sufficient to repair all of our roads. As projected in the plan, a large fraction of the existing funds have already been used or are committed to planned repairs. To keep this crucial project moving, we need to assure that the next funding increment is in place before the present funding is exhausted. Road repair is an expensive, complex process, and the city cannot commit to new repair contracts unless it is certain that the necessary funds are in hand.

The ballot this June includes a new bond measure, Measure L, which would add \$25 million to the city's road repair fund. Passage of Measure L will assure a timely continuation of the funding stream our city needs, so that this badly-needed repair work can continue. Vote YES on Measure L this June!

Jud Hammon
Orinda

Is Software to Blame for Bad Moraga Roads?

Dear Editor,

Why was one section of Moraga Road repaved but the section from Dreager Drive to Camino Pablo filled with pot holes and cracks left unpaved? Why was a section of Wandel Drive filled with cracks left unpaved while the rest of Wandel got repaved, and all the streets surrounding it got repaved?

I asked these questions of the head of the Moraga Public Works Dept. His answer was that information is fed into a computer software program and the program informs the town which areas are to get repaved and which won't. Just eyeballing the condition of these streets, it seems to me common sense dictates these sections should have been repaved when the rest of the street was being repaved.

Either the software the town is using is faulty or the information being fed into it is not accurate. Whichever it is, the Public Works Dept. needs to get on the ball and repave these sections of street before the holes and cracks become an even greater annoyance to Moraga drivers.

John O'Hare
Moraga

Private Streets Need to Be Funded, Too

Dear Editor,

Orinda voters are being asked to vote for a \$25 million road bond measure to repair Orinda's public residential streets. We support this concept. However, we would like to point out that there are over 1,000 families which are disenfranchised from these improvements. These are the households living on Orinda's 26 miles of privately maintained streets.

Very few know what these streets are. They are not gated enclaves. However, they represent 30 percent of Orinda's residential streets and 20 percent of Orinda's population. The people on these streets pay the same property taxes as the people on public streets; they pay the same Measure L sales and Measure J bond taxes for public residential street road repair; and if the new bond measure

passes, they will pay that tax too. Yet, they see almost no benefit from these road taxes.

The claim is made that they use the public residential streets like every other Orinda resident, but this is not true. The website www.OrindaRoadFacts.info/-private-streets shows that:

* Almost 60 percent of private streets feed directly into Orinda's Collector and Arterial roads which none of the new tax money will go toward repairing.

* Only 20 percent of private street residents traverse publicly maintained Residential Streets for over a quarter mile before they hit a Collector or Arterial.

* And while one of the major benefits of bringing our Residential Streets up to acceptable conditions is the increase in home values on those streets; this benefit will not apply to Private Street homeowners.

We are not saying that Orinda's private street holders should not support the common good, but there should be a quid pro quo. The greater community should also show some support to the private street dwellers. Share some common tax and fee revenue with the private streets. Allow private streets to become "public" if so desired. Offer some recognition of commonality. Until then, we encourage others to reject more taxes dedicated only to the public streets which we do not benefit from.

Mark Bresnik and Madelyn Mallory
Orinda

Keep Leigh Creekside Park Pristine

Dear Editor,

The very explicit Public Forum letter (April 20, 2016) about the history of Leigh Creekside Park written by Mr. and Mrs. Cass impressed me

and made the situation clear about the past of this piece of land. Now, my support for a passive park is stronger than before.

I sent the article to my daughter brought up in Lafayette and living temporarily in Australia. This is what she says: "I do feel that our community should, as far as possible, preserve open, green spaces that are accessible to the entire community. I do believe that Open Spaces and greenery should be preserved for our original townspeople who settled in this community long before either of us were born. They trusted that the community they invested in would look after them. Knowing that times are changing and change is inevitable, it would be gracious if you could take a step back — a breath — to consider why Lafayette came to be. And the people who made it." This is an appeal to keep Leigh Creekside Park in the pristine state the original owners desired it.

Elisabeth Branczyk
Lafayette

Orinda Road Repair Funds Are In Good Hands

Dear Editor,

As members of Orinda's Finance Advisory Committee, we have seen first-hand how the city's finances are handled and reported. Orinda's road repair funds are rigorously tracked and controlled.

As of February 2016, 90 percent of the funds made available for road repair (including \$10 million of bond proceeds from the sale of Measure J bonds) has been spent or committed to construction contracts awarded.

In accordance with Attachment 2 of the City's Road and Drainage Repairs Plan, the remaining \$10 million of Measure J bonds will be sold

and the proceeds spent in Fiscal Year 2017 (beginning July 1, 2016) and FY2018. The Plan, including Attachment 2, is available on the city's website (cityoforinda.org: "Roads and Infrastructure").

Like the Measure J bonds, if approved by voters in June Measure L bonds will be sold in tranches (portions). These proceeds will DOUBLE total road repair expenditures in FY2017 through FY2020 (per Attachment 2 of the Plan). To handle the additional construction activity, Measure L will also pay for a professional project manager to supplement city staff and the city's construction management firm which oversees the construction contracts.

Road repair funds come from many sources including (1) the Measure L sales tax, (2) the Measure J bond proceeds, and (3) city funds received from gas taxes, garbage franchise fees, county "return to source" sales taxes, and infrastructure grants secured by city staff. All monies received and spent from each of these (and future) sources are accounted for in separate funds created in the City's general ledger. The status of each fund is regularly reported to the Finance Advisory Committee and the city council and are included in the City's financial statements, which are audited by the City's certified public accountants as part of the annual audit.

Orinda's taxpayers can rest assured. Road repair funds are well stewarded.

Bob Thompson, CFA, Chair, Orinda Finance Advisory Committee
Carol Penskar, MBA, Member and former Chair, Orinda Finance Advisory Committee
Bob Burt, CPA (retired), former Member, Orinda Finance Advisory Committee
Each acting as private citizens.



We did it again!

Home Care Assistance was named 'Best of Home Care 2016' by Home Care Pulse for yet another year!

Lamorinda's Trusted Choice for Caregivers. Each has at least 2 years of experience and receives extensive training through our Home Care Assistance University. All applicants are thoroughly screened, including DOJ and FBI background checks and in-house fingerprinting, and are matched to your family's individual needs and preferences.

Ongoing Client Care Management and Quality Assurance. We don't just match you to a caregiver! Our comprehensive care team is always there to check in and ensure the highest quality of care. We are on call 24/7 for total peace of mind and can even process long term care insurance for you!

The Brain Health Experts. We are the only home care agency that offers the Cognitive Therapeutics Method™, a research-backed activities program that promotes brain health, engagement and vitality in our clients...at no additional cost.

Call one of our Client Care Managers today for your free consultation.

Home Care ASSISTANCE 925-233-6166 | 190-G Alamo Plaza
HomeCareAssistance.com/Alamo Alamo, CA 94507

New Jet Service Soars into Buchanan Field

By Peggy Spear



Photo provided by JetSuiteX

Contra Costa County is taking off.

Quite literally, as a new charter jet service is roaring to life at the East Bay's Buchanan Field.

JetSuiteX, a new venture from private jet company JetSuite, launched their first flights from Concord to Burbank earlier this month, offering round-trips up to three times daily, as well as a weekend jaunt to Las Vegas.

"The JetSuite X service provides an exciting alternative to driving to Oakland for county residents and brings additional commerce to Buchanan Airport area businesses," says County Supervisor Candace Andersen. "I am delighted to welcome the service to Contra Costa County".

The value of the service is easy to see, says her colleague, Supervisor Karen Mitchoff. The "scheduled charters" are a great option for business travelers in the county who usually would have relied on quick trips from Oakland, San

Francisco or even San Jose airports, fighting rush-hour travel.

The planes themselves are refurbished American Eagle jets, according to Keith Freitas, director of airports at Buchanan Field and the Byron Airport. They will serve up to 30 passengers at a time.

The inaugural price will be \$109 one-way, and go upwards to \$300 as demand increases, and depending on the day of the week people need to fly, said Gareth Edmondson-Jones, a spokesperson for JetSuiteX.

The other advantage of the flights is that passengers won't have to endure long TSA screening lines. "But that doesn't mean the travel is unsafe," Edmondson-Jones said. Passengers will still be screened to make sure they are not on the "No-fly" list, and be checked for any explosive devices. There will be other security measures in place, he said, but was not at liberty to go into detail as to what they were.

"But rest assured, there will be visible and invisible security all around," Edmondson-Jones said.

Both Freitas and Edmondson-Jones downplayed the noise level that the jets would create. "We already have charter jets taking off from Buchanan, so it will only be about four more flights per day," Freitas said. And Edmondson-Jones said that the JetSuiteX planes were "some of the quietest" out there.

With the new service, JetSuiteX has plans to refurbish the old PSA terminal at the airport, which was, in essence, a double-wide modular building, Freitas said.

The decision to begin service from Buchanan was a "no-brainer," Edmondson-Jones said. "There's a sizeable amount of people who fly for business between southern California and the Bay Area each day, and many come from Contra Costa County."

He says that the idea came from an old Jet Blue model, which looked at underused airports in urban areas — specifically Long Beach and JFK in New York — and saw how there were "millions of people who lived near these airports and didn't take advantage of them because there weren't services they needed." Jet Blue went in and started offering flights and in the case of Long Beach, saw a huge revitalization. "Jet Blue made a go of Long Beach, and JetSuiteX wants to do the same thing here."

The weekend trips to Las Vegas

— which leave Friday and return Sunday — are sure to be popular, Edmondson-Jones said, as it will attract those who want to get away for a little fun, as well.

Another demographic that JetSuiteX did not take into account are college-age kids who want to make the jaunt home from Southern California schools.

It makes sense, says Kish Rajan of Walnut Creek, the former Director for Governor Office of Business and Economic Development (GO Biz) who currently works with the Southern California Leadership Council. Not only did he see the economic advantages of for both Contra Costa and Burbank, but he himself will be a frequent traveler on the flights several times a week.

"Flying into Burbank is so much easier," he said. "LAX is a monster. Plus, Buchanan is right near my home, so I don't have to fight traffic coming from Oakland or San Francisco."

He said that these types of scheduled charters are the wave of the future. "It's almost like the 'Uber-ization' of air travel," he said. "We're repositioning our assets in a new way."

But perhaps the biggest impact will be on the economy the East Bay, Mitchoff said.

"We are much closer to the wine country and other attractions here at Buchanan," she said. "It makes sense for the tourists who want to come and not pay top-dollar San Francisco prices and can enjoy what Contra Costa and the

surrounding areas offer."

Lafayette Chamber of Commerce President Jay Lifson says it may take a while to see the economic impact in Lamorinda communities, but that the convenience of having a user-friendly airline this side of the tunnel is great. "It's a fantastic option for travelers," he said.

Lori McAdams of Lafayette is a recent JetSuiteX user who flew to Burbank. She said her trip to Concord converted a two-and-one half hour trip to the Oakland airport into a one-hour trip. McAdams said passengers do not go through the usual TSA lines, "although they do swab your hands."

Her flight had 20 passengers on a 30-passenger plane with a pilot and a flight attendant, who was also training to be a pilot ("a back-up pilot," McAdams said). "It was like being on your rich friend's plane!"

It is also a boon for Buchanan Field itself, Freitas said. "We do a lot to educate the community about what we offer here," he said. "This will allow us more visibility, and show what gem we have."

It remains to be seen how consumers greet the new service, but Edmondson-Jones is positive about the response. "We're in it for the long haul," he said.

For more information, contact Contra Costa Airports, call 844-Fly-ToUs or visit online at www.ContraCostaAirports.org.

Lamorinda Weekly business articles are intended to inform the community about local business activities, not to endorse a particular company, product or service.



Hair Design by Alisa

Specializing in highlights, color, Brazilian blowouts, special events styles and custom haircuts!

Alisa Peters
Sison Salon
134 Village Square, Orinda
925-470-7440
dabombhairstylist@yahoo.com

20% Off

your first service with Alisa only.

SPRING STYLE EVENT

THE MOST EFFICIENT WAY TO BUY WINDOW COVERINGS.
NOW WITH MORE ENERGY-EFFICIENT SOLUTIONS.



ASK HOW YOU CAN LOWER YOUR RECURRING ENERGY EXPENSES BY UP TO 30%!

GET A REBATE UP TO \$250*

*Offer good from April 1 to May 31 2016

Schedule your FREE In-Home Consultation today!
925-216-4857 // BudgetBlinds.com

©Applies to selected Signature Series® window treatments by Budget Blinds®. Purchases of \$1,000 or more qualify for a rebate of \$100, and purchases of \$2,500 or more qualify for a rebate of \$250. Some restrictions may apply. Ask for details. Not valid with any other offers, discounts, or coupons. Valid for a limited time only. Offer good at limited time of estimate only. All participating franchisees only. ©2016 Budget Blinds, LLC. All Rights Reserved. Budget Blinds is a trademark of Budget Blinds, LLC and a Home Franchise Concepts Brand. Each franchise independently owned and operated. Franchise opportunities available.

business briefs



New Orinda Motors entranceway

Graphic provided

Changes Rolling at Orinda Motors

Change is in the air at Orinda Motors. During the last week in April, the business consolidated the offices of Orinda Motors and Express Oil Change & Tire Center into one entity. The old Express Oil Change & Tire Center will be converted into a new customer waiting area. Plus, the business changed the direction of its driveways for improved traffic flow. Beginning May 2, all vehicles will enter the driveway

on the side closest to Orinda Way and Camino Sobrante.

Parks Honored as Moraga Employee of the Month

Kim Parks, the Middle School Dean at the Saklan School, has been named the Moraga Employee of the Month for April.

Parks oversees the Saklan Middle School, with 48 students and five faculty members and is the fastest growing segment of the private school. In addition to overseeing the curriculum and the student community, she also is responsible for coordinating the student community service activities, including the Alameda Food Bank, the Monument Crisis Center and the San Francisco Botanical Garden.

"Kim is one of the best assets of our school," said Peter Metzger, the Saklan Head of School. "In addition to her fine work in overseeing our middle grades,

she often gives up many of her weekends to take the students on community service projects or fundraising events. She is a wonderful educator and role model."

In winning the award, the Moraga Rotary and Chamber of Commerce will award Parks a gift card to Safeway as well as a restaurant gift card. Parks will be presented with her award and gifts at the April 26 Moraga Rotary lunch at Saint Mary's College.

Social Media Workshop: Keep Social Media Simple

Join the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce for its May Social Media Workshop: Keep Social Media Simple — but Engaging: Top 3 Things You Need to Know Today, at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, May 18 at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center. Presented by Robin S. Fox, Digital Strategist.

This event is free but registration is requested. Please make your reservation by sending an email to workshops@lafayettechamber.org.

May Mixer

The Lafayette Chamber of Commerce's monthly mixer will be held from 5:30- 7 p.m. at Lace & Bustle, located at 3569 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite E. For more information visit the chamber's website at www.lafayettechamber.org.



From left: Roger Gregory, Kim Parks, Wendy Scheck and Peter Metzger

Photo Kevin Reneau

COFFEE TALK

with Greg Gaskin


Conversation • Coffee • Treats

FREE Educational Seminar on Today's Market Issues

- Managing and mitigating stock market risk
- Managing your investments
- Knowing when to buy and sell

First Saturday of the month
Starting May 7th, 2016

Time: 9:30am—10:45am



Come visit us at the
Moraga Barn

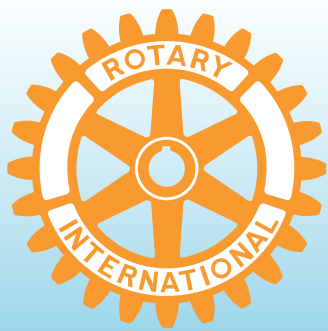
925 Country Club Drive
Moraga, CA 94556

Telephone: 925.376.7335

Email: Simran@managemarketrisk.com

Please RSVP to
Simran Parhar

If you have a business brief to share, please contact storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com



FREE Concert at the Reservoir



SATURDAY, MAY 14, 11AM – 3PM

WWW.LAFAYETTECHAMBER.ORG

Lafayette's Music Man Takes on New Gig

... continued from page A1

As a freshman at California State University, Hayward, he joined the jazz band, first as a trumpet player and then playing the piano, mainly because "they had a bunch of trumpet players and were short on pianists." He began playing professionally, providing music at weddings, parties, funerals. "If they needed a piano player, I was there," he says.

With his bachelor's degree in music and a teaching credential in hand, Athayde moved forward with his true passion – teaching music to young people. Positions in San Lorenzo and Pinole preceded his coming to Stanley Middle School in 1986.

The much-awarded and much-loved Athayde brings energy and creativity to his students, now numbering more than 300 in Stanley's five concert bands, two jazz bands and one chorus. And in his classes, everyone plays. "My philosophy is that everyone is invited and everyone gets to play," he explained.

Summers for Athayde are not for lounging around. For the last 15 years, the Orinda resident has spent a week in Sitka, Alaska, teaching and mentoring students at the Sitka

Fine Arts Camp. And then there's the Lafayette Summer Music Jazz Workshop, a week-long program that Athayde founded and has directed for 18 years, attracting people of all ages interested in learning and playing jazz.

If that's not enough to keep him busy, Athayde also teaches a jazz improv class at Saint Mary's College, teaches master classes and interviews artists at the annual Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival in Idaho, and jams with friends frequently.

And then there's his latest gig – solo pianist on weekend nights at La Finestra. "This job is the greatest," he states. "I play classic songs, the kind most people recognize." Calling himself a commercial musician rather than a jazz musician, Athayde has a repertoire of approximately 1,000 songs. "And I just keep trying to learn more." He plays both pop and jazz at La Finestra and even, occasionally, sings. "I'm there to provide background music," he explains. "A waiter serves the food, I serve the music. I'm there to enhance the dining experience."

On a recent Saturday night, La Finestra was bustling and Athayde, looking dapper in his dark suit and

tie, was sitting at the piano, softly playing tunes that would be familiar to most diners. Suddenly, at a nearby table, one of the five Saint Mary's College Christian Brothers who were enjoying a night out started singing along as Athayde played "If Ever I Should Leave You." Soon his tablemates joined in and it wasn't long before other diners added their voices. Athayde kept on playing. Patrons suggested songs and Athayde played them. Minutes later, a customer sat down at the chair next to Athayde and sang; once she returned to her table, a gentleman, waiting for his table to be ready, took her place to sing along.

Athayde admits there are some Fridays when, leaving school and feeling exhausted, he's wondering how he's going to get through the evening. "And then I start playing and the music absolutely rejuvenates me," he says. He's also energized seeing former students and parents walk through the restaurant's doors.

Many years ago, when Athayde was pursuing an advanced degree, one of his instructors suggested that he "become the village music teacher of Lafayette." It looks like that's exactly what he did...and so much more.

Local Schools Perform at Concert at the Res



The 22nd annual Concert at the Res will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 14.

Since 1996, The Lafayette Rotary has hosted an afternoon of live music at the Lafayette Reservoir featuring local school bands from Acalanes High School, Stanley Middle School, Bentley School and Westlake Middle School. In the last few years the program has expanded to include young dancers and singers from the Town Hall Troupe and the Lamorinda Theatre Academy.

This annual concert raises money to support the local school music programs as well as other Rotary-sponsored programs such as Meals on Wheels, Trust in Education and Rotary scholarships. The concerts are presented on the outdoor stage in the Lafayette Reservoir that was entirely built and funded by the Lafayette Rotary Club and individual community donors, and has recently been deeded to EBMUD to be operated by them for use and enjoyment by the public.

The event was conceived by Lafayette Rotarian Dick Holt over 20 years ago to provide a venue to showcase and help fund local school music programs through donations, corporate sponsorships, and the proceeds from a day-of-the-event raffle.

Along with the live entertainment, there will be food and drinks for purchase. It is also the perfect spot for a picnic on the lawn, and chairs and shade tents will be provided for those attending the concert. Though the stage is a short walk from the parking area, the Rotary Club will be providing golf cart transportation to and from the stage for those who may desire it.

Public restrooms and a children's play area are nearby, and parking is available for \$7 all day or at metered parking.



Photo provided

Stanley Middle School musicians were thrilled with the news that the Lafayette City Council last week proclaimed April 27 as Stanley Middle School Jazz Messengers' Day in Lafayette. This honors the many achievements the middle school jazz band has made this year, including participating in the "Next Generations in Jazz Festival" in Monterey and receiving a shared first place award from Downbeat Magazine as a top Middle School Large Jazz Ensemble in the nation. This will be published in the June edition of Downbeat Magazine.

Although Stanley Music Director Bob Athayde knew about the award for the past two months, he had to keep it secret from his students until the proclamation at the April 25 meeting. "It was hard," he says, "but it was worth the wait."

Hacienda de las Flores Turns 100

... continued from page A1

The Rheems originally bought the property from two friends, Alberta Higgins and Gertrude Mallette, who built the first building on the property in the Spanish style in 1917. The first floor of the Hacienda is still testimony of what was conceived to be a boys' orphanage. The orphanage did not last and was closed down when authorities discovered that only female nurses were working on the premises.

That land had been a part of the Rancho Laguna de los Palos Colorados, the 13,316-acre Mexican land grant given in 1841 to Joaquin Moraga and his cousin, Juan Bernal. When the wheels of fortune turned and Moraga lost the rancho, a quarter section was bought by Jesse Williams in 1857, who had been a squatter on that land. In 1906, 160 acres of the land was purchased by Manuel Lucas, who in turn sold 20 acres to Albert Higgins. His daughter Alberta inherited the property.

When Donald Rheem's wife died, he decided to sell the property he had developed for her. Over the years the property had been considerably remodeled, with the addition of a second floor and 18 rooms. In 1938 the pool and cabana were added (now the Pavilion). The estate included quarters for the chauffeur, the maid and butler, a theater and a dark room. In 1961 the Christian Brothers of Saint Mary's College purchased the present building surrounded by 10 acres for their residential and administrative use.

In 1973, Moraga was not yet a town, but it had a Park and Recreation Authority independent from the county that had its own taxation

rights. The Authority included William Penn Mott, who had been director of the California Department of Parks and Recreation under Gov. Ronald Reagan. Claire Roth, who served on the Authority board, remembers how Mott's imagination was unbounded. The work of the Authority led to the purchase of the Hacienda. It was transferred to the town after the incorporation in 1977. In 1986 the town paid off the \$130,000 mortgage that had been taken to purchase the building.

The 1970s and 80s were the height of the Hacienda as a recreation center. Roth remembers dinners, meetings, gatherings and classes for all ages on every level of the building. She even remembers the photo lab installed on the second floor for photography instruction. In the winter of 1975,

over 1,000 people signed up for 86 classes. It included DVC classes, a Youth Summer Theater, the Moraga Music Makers and holiday workshops.

Current Parks and Recreation Director Jay Ingram adds that at the time Moraga was the only Lamorinda city with a recreation center. He says that in the nine years he has been in charge not much has changed, and the facility is not competitive with what Lafayette and Orinda have developed for community centers. He is very hopeful, though, that the new plan the town is working on will result in improved community facilities, as well as all around attraction for residents.

The next step in the life of the unique facility will begin with its second century.

The Centennial Celebration

It was the Parks and Recreation Department idea to have a Centennial Celebration for the Hacienda. The Hacienda Foundation was the perfect partner to organize the May 15 event.

"This is a free event," says foundation member Claire Roth. "It is not a fundraiser, it is a way to invite the community to come and enjoy their park."

The event is a Cinco de Mayo celebration, but with a lot of additions and surprises. Residents will enjoy traditional Mexican food, drinks, music and games, such as piñata contests, tortilla making, Mexican tile painting, cupcake walks and loteria on the beautiful grounds. The friends of the Moraga Adobe will bring a unique game, Capture the Donkey with a Lasso.

But since it is also a historical celebration, the mosaic room in the Hacienda will be transformed in a small museum with on one side the history of the Hacienda and on the other the conceptual ideas presented by Gould Evans for the future of the building.

The celebration runs from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday, May 15, and is for all ages. There will be parking at Rheem Elementary School, 90 Laird Dr., and free shuttle to the Hacienda.

Moraga Faire Celebrates 10 Years of Family Fun

... continued from page A5

The anniversary will also showcase those businesses that have been there since the first year: Rheem Valley Pet Shoppe, Mechanics Bank, 5A-Rent-A-Space, Montessori School, Loard's Ice Cream, the Lamorinda Wine Growers Association and the Lamorinda Weekly.

Beans also wants to acknowledge the many volunteers who have given their time and energy this past decade, from Boy Scout Troop 246 to Saint Mary's College students, as well as many residents. She adds that the sponsors, all local businesses, donated money for the climbing wall and the bounce

houses, and make it possible for the Faire to be a free family event.

The most recent poll shows that 85 percent of the visitors are Moraga residents, and to Beans that means that the Faire has succeeded in becoming the community-building event she dreamed of.

The only element Beans does not control is the weather. She's seen it all, from the days of scorching heat, to a very wet and cold Faire, to that day in May when the wind was so strong that the tents started flying away.

"You just can't predict it," she says with a smile.

Corroded Culvert is to Blame for Sinkhole

... continued from page A4

“Daylighting” — bringing the culvert above ground — is too expensive; not doing anything is unsafe; and fitting a smaller pipe into the existing conduit would reduce the culvert capacity too much.

The culvert that carries Laguna Creek underground paralleling Moraga Road is made of different portions. There are about 600 feet of corrugated pipe that run in between concrete sections to the north and to the south. The metal section runs under town property and private property. The town plans to replace 125 feet of metal pipe.

Mayor Mike Metcalf asked the consultant if they found the condition of the corrugated pipe after the sinkhole to be in as bad a shape as the failed portion. They indicated that it was not in as bad a shape.

However, when that same consultant did a storm drain study for the town two years ago, the portion that failed last month had been listed as in need of repair, but no sign of complete failing was present at the time.

Metcalf, followed by Council member Phil Arth, said that not replacing the corrugated portion of the pipe in its entirety, including what is under the Rheem shopping center, does not make any sense since it is going to fail someday.

But funding is a major issue. The State has declared an emergency in Contra Costa for storm-related damage to roads and highways after the March heavy rains. It means that Moraga will be able to apply for reimbursement of the expense to fix the problem created by the storm. But other council

members had serious doubts that the portions under private property that had not failed could be covered as well.

Interim Town Manager Bob Priebe asked the council to focus on repairing the present damage and restoring the intersection, which cost will be in the area of \$3.3 million.

Metcalf insisted that options to mitigate potential failure and extend the life of the pipe in other sections of the corrugated conduit be looked at. At the same time, Public Works Director Edric Kwan will meet with state agencies to define procedures and what can be included in the repairs; the town attorney will look into rights of way and maintenance responsibility for the portions of the pipe located under private property.

Kwan plans to expedite the requests for proposal and the bidding process to be able to start work as soon as possible. All repair work is scheduled to be completed by the start of the rainy season, mid October.



Project site and culvert location

LeapFrog Plumbing

Head Frog Mo Williams

Got gas? Many people think plumbers deal only with water and sewage. Not true! We install and repair all types of gas lines and fixtures too.

Mo's sizzling summer specials...

- Outdoor kitchens
- New gas lines for cooktops and dryers
- Fire pits & patio heaters
- Pool heaters & hot tubs
- Natural gas barbecues

We're poly-pipe certified (approved vendors of PG&E - better than iron)

LeapFrog Loot \$25 off Any plumbing job*

LeapFrog Loot \$100 off Gas line installation over \$600

LeapFrog Loot \$150 off Tankless water heater installation*

*1 coupon per service, exp. 7/31/16

We Hop To It! Family-owned and serving Lamorinda since 1993

green solutions!

(925) **377-6600** www.LeapFrogPlumbing.com

CA Lic 929641

Existing Pipe Condition

- Joint offsets of up to 17.5 inches
- Joint openings were visibly obstructed by debris from the sinkhole including concrete, irrigation piping and electrical conduit.
- Water flowing into the CMP through joint offsets at a rate of 1 to 2 gallons per minute following a dry period of approximately 10 days.

Figure 8: Joint Offset with Debris Intrusion 4/27/16

Figure 9: Joint Offset of CMP at Sinkhole Location

Apparent Mode of Failure

Figure 5: Animation of CMP Failure



Pipe Crown Deformation

Images provided by Town of Moraga and Schaaf & Wheeler Consulting Civil Engineers

2016 MORAGA COMMUNITY FAIRE & CAR SHOW

Join us for a day of fun at the Rheem Valley Shopping Center

Entertainment Schedule

- 11:00 Saint Mary's College Jazz Band
- 12:00 JM Jazz Band
- 1:00 West Coast Swing Dancers
- 2:00 The Rhythm Riders
- 3:00 C4EO Dancers
- 3:45 Classic Car Show Trophies Awarded

Ongoing Activities

- Classic Car Show
- Local Wines and Beer
- 26' Climbing Wall, Firetruck & Transit Bus
- Explorer Passport Prizes throughout the day
- Visit Dozens of Vendors: Business, Non-profit, Schools
- Bounce House
- Hy-Stykers
- SMC Spirit Team & Athletes
- Food Trucks

www.moragachamber.org/faire

Bay Area UNDERPINNING

GENERAL CONTRACTOR LIC. 867128

707 310-0602

www.bayareaunderpinning.org

Building Foundations

- Lifting
- Leveling
- Stabilizing

GENERAL CONTRACTOR LIC. 867128

Lafayette

City Gears Up for Free Car Charging Stations

By Cathy Tyson



The charging stations will be like these at Whole Foods. Photo Cathy Tyson

Electric vehicle drivers in Lafayette will soon be able to plug in and charge their cars on Golden Gate Way, between the Lafayette Library and Learning Center and the Park Theater, at no cost to the city.

Although motorists will have to pay for the cost of a “tank” full of electric fuel, which is considerably cheaper and some say cleaner than gasoline, they will also have to feed the meter: \$2 for the maximum two-hour parking.

Energy company NRG is paying to provide, install and maintain what they call an EVGo “Freedom Station” made up of the two DC fast charging stations, along with one Level II charger. The funding is made possible as part of a fine stemming from claims reaching back to Dynegey and the California energy crisis in 2000 and 2001. NRG is installing a minimum of 200 DC fast charging stations statewide at no cost to municipalities to encourage and support zero emission vehicles as part of the \$120 million dollar penalty for gouging California energy users.

Golden Gate Way was chosen for its downtown location, availability of parking spaces and nearby electrical infrastructure that could support fueling needs. Originally spaces in front of the Mercantile building were suggested, but that concept was scrapped in response to feedback and overall demand for those sought-after parking spots.

The only other NRG charging

stations between Walnut Creek and Oakland are the two chargers located at Whole Foods; the addition of these three charging stations more than doubles availability.

NRG will be paying to upgrade the power capacity as well as the actual energy used directly to PG&E.

Four dedicated parking spaces will be striped for electric vehicles only and will be wide enough to accommodate disabled parkers.

The mayor and city council members were unanimously in favor of the proposal. City Attorney Mala Subramanian will review the eight-year renewable contract to make sure everything is in order and that the city is indemnified for potential tripping hazards.

City Manager Steven Falk did point out that the charging hose isn’t released from the pump until a barcode is scanned, at which point it is plugged into car, making for a relatively short amount of time the hose is accessible.

The wheels of city government spun quickly on this project, which accelerated with the official submission of a cleverly named Charge! grant application in late December 2015. NRG energy is one of the nation’s largest competitive power producers with over two million retail customers in 16 states; it’s also the nation’s first comprehensive electric vehicle charging station provider.

City Council Supports School Bond Measure

... continued from page A2

Both commercial and residential property owners would be subject to the assessment and all the funds would stay local, with independent citizen oversight and mandatory audits to ensure that funds are spent properly on school facilities and infrastructure, Zinn said.

“It’s a pleasure to have an opportunity to compliment a public agency that is well led, well managed and we would urge the council to support this school bond,” said Jack Weir, president of the non-profit, non-partisan Contra Costa Taxpayers Association at the April 25 city council meeting. He explained how the group carefully reviewed all of the tax measures on the June ballot using a list of critical criteria, and this school district “met every single one of our key crite-

ria” including project scope, labor agreements, and whether the agency seems to do a good job in fulfilling its mission, specifically educational outcomes.

“This district does an excellent job,” he said, adding that the bond is completely reasonable. “There’re no frills, no funny stuff.”

Grace Dixon, a parent of local school children, added her voice to urge the council’s support, as she said she feels that home values in Lafayette rise and fall on the quality of the school system here.

After clarifying with the city attorney that it was appropriate to take a position on the matter, which is possible as long as no public funds are spent, the council unanimously voted to support the bond measure.

IT’S APRIL IN LAMORINDA FOR REAL ESTATE



Call me when you are ready to sell or buy a home and want the best results.

925-253-2147
aprilmat@comcast.net

CalBRE#01221153



Giving Dreams an Address

93 Moraga Way, #103, Orinda

April Matthews www.villageassociates.com • www.dreamhomelamorinda.com



Gen. Eng. Lic #971074

Complete Sewer Specialist

Locally Owned & Operated

38 Years of Experience

Trenchless Replacements & Repairs

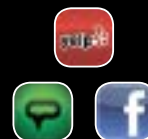
Video Inspections & Locating

No Landscape Damage

Sewers Unclogged

925.932.4023

www.GoTrenchless.com



Visit our new state-of-the-art retail showroom
In The Heart of Lafayette

Plumbing • Tile • Lighting • Vanities

Present this ad to receive
\$50 off any kitchen or bath faucet

Minimum purchase \$250



\$150 off any kitchen or bath sink & faucet combo

Minimum purchase \$500

3535 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette • 925.284.1772 • DouglaHDesigns.com • Lic. 962876

Cannot be combined with another offer. Does not apply to trade pricing. Expires 6/1/16.



"A little bit of myself goes into every job."

Michael VerBrugge,
President,
Moraga Resident

925.631.1055

www.MVCRemodeling.com

**Specializing in kitchens & bathrooms.
All forms residential remodel/repair.**

Lic# 681593



**MICHAEL VERBRUGGE
CONSTRUCTION INC.**
General Contractor



**Clean | Courteous | Conscientious
On-time | Trustworthy | Local References**
Full design team resources available

~ HE'S ALL ABOUT LAMORINDA ~



CalBRE #: 00903367

CLARK THOMPSON

REAL ESTATE BROKER
VILLAGE ASSOCIATES

Office: 925-254-8585
Cell: 925-998-7898
www.clarkthompson.com
ct@clarkthompson.com



Giving Dreams an Address

EBMUD Ceases 'Outing' of Water Wasters

By Nick Marnell

The East Bay Municipal Utility District board voted unanimously April 26 to suspend its Excessive Water Use Penalty Ordinance, the controversial program that fined customers who used more than 1,000 gallons of water a day.

Though the district mistakenly reported inflated water usage by some of its customers at times, and residents of areas with larger lawns complained that the ordinance was unfair, one highly publicized aspect of the program

that most riled up customers was the release of the names and addresses of the water wasters to media outlets. Even the district board was torn on the use of such negative reinforcement.

"If the purpose was to shame the customers, and for some board members it was, then it served its purpose," said director John Coleman, whose Ward 2 includes Lafayette. "The fact is that in every past drought when we ask our customers to cut back, they all do on an equal basis regardless of where they live. We would have achieved the same results without the 'outing' of names and addresses."

EBMUD spokeswoman Andrea Pook defended the use of the program, claiming that over 70 percent of users who appeared once on the excessive use list did not return. "They took positive action that resulted in water conservation" she said.

Director Marguerite Young of Ward 3, which includes Moraga and Orinda, agreed.

"I do support the use of this approach in future droughts as one tool of many," she said. "Only 1.2 percent of our customers were subjected to the penalty

but the savings achieved were considerable." EBMUD said that its customers reduced water use by 24 percent compared with consumption in 2013.

The district suspended the excessive use penalty effective May 3, though the ordinance will remain on the books in case EBMUD needs an emergency conservation tool to respond to future droughts. Coleman says he will again refuse to vote for the release of the names and addresses of violators.

"No, I will not support such a proposal," he said. "First, I believe it violates the personal rights of an individual, and furthermore, it potentially creates a situation in which the individual or their family could be put in jeopardy of harm from an individual that may be mentally unbalanced."

The Lamorinda Weekly received the names and addresses of excessive water users from the district but declined to publish them. The most recent EBMUD excessive user report included 25 addresses in Lafayette, two in Moraga and 17 in Orinda.

TG HARDWOOD FLOORS
Moraga California
DESIGN • REFINISHING • INSTALLATION
925-376-1118
Lic # 974653

Since 1993!
Tom Gieryng, owner and operator

CALL TOM FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

**HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
Installation, Service & Repair**

cleanAIR HVAC

www.ca-hvac.com
(877) 482-2496
HVAC 4 YOU
Moraga, CA 94552

YOUR COMFORT SPECIALIST

Heating • Air Conditioning • Installation and Repair
Maintenance Agreements • Free Estimates
Serving Contra Costa County • CA Licenses & Insured

925-689-7017



INDIGO & POPPY
FINE CALIFORNIA LIVING

It's our 2nd Birthday and You're Invited!
For 1 Day Only Take an **EXTRA 20% Off** our
Everyday Low Prices on Everything in the Store!



Join us Saturday, May 7th, 9:00-4:00

Complimentary Espressos and Lattes will be Served 9:00 til Noon.

Living Room • Dining Room • Home Accents • Art • Rugs • Gifts

Indigo & Poppy
1009 Oak Hill Road, Lafayette
925-962-9201
www.indigoandpoppy.com
Hours: 10:00am - 5:30pm Monday - Saturday, Closed Sunday

Long Distance Love is Tricky for Grandparents and Grandchildren

By Cathy Dausman



The Boren grandchildren enjoy being together on a recent trip to San Francisco with their grandparents. Photo submitted

If absence makes the heart grow fonder, some Lamorinda grandmothers must be developing the fondest hearts of all. These women are grandmothers with offspring who live miles, time zones and sometimes countries away from the East Bay. They are experts at long distance love.

Diana Graham is known as Grandma to her four grandchildren, but three of them might easily call her "Farmor." Along with a granddaughter who lives in El Cerrito, Graham has twin grandsons, age 4, and a granddaughter, 16-months-old, living in Linköping, Sweden. She catches up with her overseas family during weekly sessions of Skype, the video conferencing program, usually during their dinner-time, when it is breakfast time here. Visiting in person requires making a nine-hour time change, an 11-hour flight and a three-hour train ride to the Swedish city.

"It (Sweden) is a long way off, and it is hard for them (to travel here)" Graham says. So Graham makes the trip three times a year for 10-day visits, usually in late fall, early spring, and again in June when her husband joins her.

"If I could travel once a month to see my mother in Portland, I can do this," she said. Graham says her

overseas grandchildren are fluent in both English and Swedish so language is not a barrier. Her favorite activity is accompanying her grandchildren to a nearby farm with a playground, or watching them swim in a "wonderful indoor pool" or outdoor lake. In Sweden Mother's Day, or Mors Dag, falls on the last Sunday in May, so the timing is different, too. Fortunately, Graham says "I'm not big on holidays."

Patti Witalis' seven grandchildren, who range in age from toddlers to young teens, call her "Damma." The youngest two, both boys, live in Albany. Three more boys, ages seven to 10, are in Seattle. The oldest ones, a girl, 11, and boy, 13, live on the outskirts of London.

Witalis says Skype is a "wonderful" way to stay in touch despite the miles, especially when compared with how she remembers handling long-distance communications years ago, using a three minute egg timer to make telephone calls after 6 p.m. "I can show them our new house [and] our new dog," she said, all the while keeping tabs on what each child is "happy or hesitant about." She can watch grandchildren rehearse for a speech or show off a Halloween costume, too.

"It's just like being next door," she says. Witalis and her husband travel to Seattle two or three times a year; they'll make their fourth trip to London in July.

Erla Boren's grandchildren are also split near and far. The good news is the younger ones have recently relocated "much to our delight" two time zones closer, from Atlanta to Denver. Boren is "Amma" to her four grandchildren in deference to her Icelandic roots.

"We try to visit [her out of state daughter's family] three or four times a year," Boren said, adding "they also come here." Boren uses FaceTime to connect with her daughter's family, asking what kind of dress her young granddaughter might like to wear. "They are really such a joy," she says, "wanting to talk and show [me] everything. They are just a pure delight!"

Boren says she and her husband and their children work to "keep the family together," in spite of any distance between them. Her grandchildren have seen each other enough in their young lives that they are "crazy about each other," which, she adds is "such a joy for me". It's important to visit and keep in touch, Boren says, even by doing something as simple as mailing them a coloring book.

"I'm just making sure they don't forget me," she says.



LOPC's First Friday Forum Presents:

SYRIA: THE LONG CIVIL WAR

with Dr. Glenn Robinson Professor of Defense Analysis, Naval Post Graduate School



FRIDAY, MAY 6

1:00 p.m. Refreshments • 1:30 p.m. Speaker

Dr. Robinson's talk will focus on the causes, characteristics, evolution and consequences of Syria's long civil war, including its impacts on the broader Middle East, the prospects for the fragile cease-fire being maintained and whether Syria will remain as a country in the future.

Free and open to the public



LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
49 Knox Drive Lafayette CA 94549
(925) 283-8722 • LOPC.org

Care Indeed is poised to meet your home care needs effectively because we choose our caregivers carefully and train them well.

The owners of Care Indeed are experts in senior care; they are licensed health care professionals who have been caregivers too.

One of the things they learned from being caregivers is the importance of teaching, supporting and encouraging their caregivers to enjoy their role, and do it well.



Serving the Greater Bay Area
(925) 317-3080 • (925) 402-4411
info@careindeed.com
www.careindeed.com



BECAUSE SHE GOT YOU A PUPPY.

And then took care of it.

BECAUSE EVERYTHING



THANK MOM

with a \$125 Massage Envy gift card and she'll get a FREE* 30-minute upgrade and Enhanced Therapy



Whatever the reason, we'll help Mom manage the side effects of this wonderful thing we call motherhood. Pick up a gift card for the mom you love at any Massage Envy location. MassageEnvy.com

Lamorinda
558 Center St.
Moraga, CA
(925) 376-3689

M-F 9a-10p | S 9a-9p | Su 9a-8p

DISCLAIMER: *Offer ends 05/08/2016. Not valid online or for previous purchases. Min. \$125 per transaction in gift card purchases. Cannot be combined with other offers. The 30-minute massage upgrade AND Enhanced Therapy must be used in the same session and will be issued together on one promotional voucher. Taxes may apply to voucher in some states. Other rules may apply. Prices subject to change and only valid for first-time guests/members. Rates and services may vary by location and session. See location for details. Session times include massage and a total of 10 minutes of time for consultation and dressing, which occurs pre and post session. Enhanced Therapies are not available to anyone under the age of 18. Voucher redeemable at Massage Envy franchised locations nationwide by 09/09/2016. Gift cards are not redeemable or refundable for cash or credit except where required by law. Each location is

Ware Designs

Fine Jewelry since 1977

Expanding our Services with

Two Goldsmiths

- Custom Designs
- Appraisals
- Expert Repairs
- Pearl Restringing

All your jewelry is insured with Jeweler's Block Insurance.

\$5 off Watch Battery

Reg \$15, Now \$10

1 watch battery per person. Exp. 6/15/16. Usually installed while you wait. W/coupon. Restrictions apply.

3645 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette between Trader Joes & the Post Office
283-2988 www.waredesigns.com Tuesday-Saturday 10-6

- Experienced Caregivers
- Holistic Practices
- In-home Care



Holistic Caregivers

925-451-5208

www.holisticcaregivers.net



Brighton.

EARS TO YOU
April 22nd thru May 8th, 2016

**FREE
Brighton
Earrings!**

Purchase any
Brighton necklace
& bracelet,
choose any pair of
Brighton Earrings*
FREE!

*FREE earrings must be of EQUAL or LESSER VALUE to the highest priced item purchased. Limited to stock on hand. Necklace and Bracelet must be purchased in the same transaction. Prior purchases excluded.

McCaulou's

Lafayette • Moraga • Danville • Montclair • Orinda
Countrywood • Clayton Rd. • Sonoma • Auburn
Stockton (Now at Lincoln Center)

Siggy's
CARPET CLEANING

LAMORINDA'S FAVORITE
FAMILY OWNED BUSINESS
FOR OVER 36 YEARS

(925) 283-8744

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



**SPRING SPECIAL
15% OFF**

A Mother's Silver Lining: Community Rallies to Support Grieving Family

By Sophie Braccini



Loto Rickman at Moraga Royale, where she works. Photo Sophie Braccini

It was life as usual for the Rickman family on Dec. 2. Loto Rickman went to Moraga Royale retirement community where she works as assistant to Director Dianne Wilson; her two children went to elementary and pre-school; and their father, Scott Rickman, a lawyer, continued his search for a new job.

Later that day, Loto Rickman received a phone call from the police department. Her husband had taken his own life.

In the days that followed the tragedy, Rickman says that she felt great confusion, and simply tried to do what her heart was telling her to do for her two children. She said that she found tremendous support from the people at Moraga Royale, and from both parents' communities of the schools her children attend.

Rickman is of Samoan origin. She says that in her culture, depression is not a familiar concept and that she had never heard of anyone taking their own life. She adds that there were no warning signs. Her husband hid the depression that runs in his family. He was someone to always tell a joke and seemed happy, or as Creative Playhouse preschool's owner Julieanna Wakileh says it, a vibrant and happy person, a very involved father.

Rickman met her husband in American Samoa when he visited on business; they both worked for the same company, Starkist Tuna.

When she came to Moraga, the

culture shock was more profound than she had anticipated. She had lived all her life in a society where violence and crime does not exist, and where no one bolts their door. She says it took her three months to feel confident enough to leave the confines of her home and start looking for a job.

Dianne Wilson gave her that opportunity at Moraga Royale, hiring her as a receptionist. Struck by the young woman's abilities, her willingness to grow — she took classes at Mills College — Wilson gave her successive promotions.

"I feel so blessed I have this job," Rickman says. Moraga Royale, its staff and residents have become her comfort zone since her husband's death, the place she goes to when she seeks moral support.

Wilson understands why Moraga Royale is a comfort zone for Loto and her children. "From personal experience I know that when times are almost unbearable the roles reverse and our residents are the ones offering the support and assurance needed to carry on," she says. She adds that life experience and maturity creates wisdom and understanding, which is a gift that only the elderly can offer those who have yet to experience life's unexpected tragedies.

But what Rickman was not expecting was the outpouring of support from the Moraga community, especially from the parents at Rheem Elementary School where her son goes, and the Creative

Playhouse preschool her daughter attends. For the first three months the teachers at Rheem paid for the afterschool care of her son; someone anonymously paid for his hot lunch until the end of the school year; another anonymous parent paid for field trips and added a cashier's check in the boy's backpack.

"I wish that I knew who it was so I could thank them," says Rickman.

Also, the school set up a meal train four times a week from the day of the tragedy to the end of February.

The Creative Playhouse, where Loto's daughter goes full-time five days a week, gave her free tuition until she graduates. "This is huge," says the grateful mother who adds she feels blessed and that words cannot express her gratitude. Wakileh says that she almost did not think anything of it, that it was automatic. "I wanted to offer a safe place for her daughter and peace of mind," she adds.

A Moraga family, the Plantingas, whose child is friend of Rickman's daughter, entirely decorated their house for Christmas. They also helped with a summer camp for Loto's son. Another family gave a Christmas tree, and set up a college fund for the children. She adds that over 50 gifts were lined up under that Christmas tree, along with Safeway and CVS gift cards.

Her son's fourth grade teacher, Lori Bailey, takes care of him during days off school. Other gifts have been received from anonymous donors, and continue to come in.

"I had never seen a community that could step up like that," says the young mother, who wonders what she has done to deserve all this, since she had never been able to volunteer in schools since she works full time.

Rickman adds her children are doing very well, that the first days were hard, but that they are now feeling comfortable talking about their father. At the Creative Playhouse, Wakileh says that the little girl is doing wonderfully, that staff gave her room, attention and let her talk about her daddy who had gone to Heaven.

Loto feels that she does not need a therapist at this time because she has everyone at work to help her.

Scott Rickman has two older children from a previous marriage, one in middle school, and another who attends Diablo Valley College.

Fashion Show Benefits Children's Hospital

Submitted by Melinda Krigel



Orinda's Finley Brown, a UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland oncology patient, walks the runway along with her brother, Cooper.

A very fashionable time was had at the Orinda Country Club in March, when Lamorinda residents and UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland doctors and their patients strutted their stuff on the runway during a fashion show and

fundraiser benefiting the hospital.

The event, organized by the hospital's Lombardy Branch organization, featured Trina Turk's California-inspired designs as well as kids clothes from Lafayette's Whimsy.



Orinda resident Margie Peterson, one of the fashion show organizers, poses with "models" from the Lombardy Fashion Show. Photos SHE Photography

Models included Lafayette resident and Children's hospital oncologist Dr. Jennifer Michlitsch, Lamorinda Pediatrics Dr. Juliana Herbert, and Children's patient and Orinda resident Finley Brown, and her brother Cooper.

**VACATION BIBLE
CAMP**

June 13 - 17, 2016

Register today at LOPC.org!

VOLUNTEER!

Help make summer meaningful for a child.
We're seeking volunteers for the following roles:

- **Crew Leader** - Help shepherd kids from station to station
- **Hospitality** - Check kids in as they arrive to camp
- **Recreation** - Run around and play Bible themed games
- **Craft** - Help kids create art to remember what they learned
- **Snack** - Prepare and serve delicious and nutritious snacks
- **Mission** - Help kids complete a project for summer mission
- **Worship** - Lead motions to songs for large groups
- **Camp Nurse** - Help care for sick, injured, or tired children
- **Camp Set-Up** - Help set-up in preparation for the week
- **Camp Breakdown** - Help clean up after the week is over

Contact Ryan@LOPC.org for info or to volunteer

LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
49 Knox Dr Lafayette CA • (925) 283-8722

SMC Prof Tapped as Poetry Editor for The New York Times

By A.K. Carroll



Saint Mary's English professor Matthew Zapruder is the new Poetry Editor for The New York Times Magazine. Photo Chris Hardy

Matthew Zapruder, professor of English at Saint Mary's College and editor at large at Wave Books, did not always set out to be a poet. "I didn't start writing poetry until I was in my 20s," said Zapruder, who earned a doctorate in Russian Literature at UC Berkeley before going on to pursue a Masters of Fine Arts at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

"I always wanted to be a writer of some sort and when I started writing that's what I wrote and I wasn't really interested in writing anything else." Now, the author of four collections of poetry and the forthcoming book of prose "Why Poetry," has another feather to add to his literary cap — being named editor of the poetry column for The New York Times Magazine.

The position, which debuted in February 2015 along with the re-launch of the publication, was previously held by former U.S. Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey. "I assumed Natasha would do it for a while," said Zapruder, who went to graduate school with Trethewey. "When I got an email from the Times magazine asking if I would do it I was doubly surprised: [firstly,] that it was available and [secondly, that] they were interested in having me do it."

In keeping with the previously set guidelines, Zapruder is limiting his selections to poems that have been recently published or are forthcoming. "I'm looking for a wide variety," he said. "I want to show off the strength and diversity of American poetry, both aesthetically and in terms of the people who are producing it."

While Zapruder is also restricted by the size of the column, which is a quarter page at most, he finds there are still plenty of poems to choose from. "I'm thinking of what's different and what's new. What's going to blow peoples' minds," he said. "As people keep reading they'll continually be sur-

prised at what can be good."

Zapruder introduced his first selection, "You Throw a Stone" by Juan Felipe Herrera, as a poem that depicts the elemental facts of an unnamed conflict. "I think of the Middle East, but really, it could be anywhere," writes Zapruder. "The unexpected and disorienting spaces in the poem force us to pause, think and empathize in places where we usually don't, but probably should."

The poem is accompanied by R. O. Blechman's illustration of two opposing hands throwing stones at one another, their trajectories marked by thick red arrows. The illustration, much like Zapruder's introduction, makes the poem more approachable, the kind of poem that anyone can read.

"I don't imagine poets or experts in poetry," Zapruder said of his hypothetical readers. "I imagine someone who doesn't necessarily read a lot of poetry. Someone curious and interested in culture and the news, generally educated but not an expert in literature or anything." Zapruder likes to think this about his own poems as well — that they're there for people who want them.

When he makes his selections and crafts his introductions, it takes much the same trajectory as presenting a friend to an audience. "I imagine what it would be like to read this if you didn't know anything about poetry and just turned the page," said Zapruder. "I picture someone who has a life and does things and cares about things like family and politics and the world."

Zapruder will hold the curatorial position for only a year before it passes on to another nominee. "People seem to really like it," he said of the poetry column. "It used to be that a lot of major magazines ran poetry. They're bringing back something that used to be a tradition in American journalism and publishing."

For Zapruder, one of the high-

lights of the position is getting to tell writers that their poems have been selected. "It's just such a treat to get to tell people the news."

You can find Zapruder's most recent selections in the latest issue of The New York Times Magazine or at <http://www.nytimes.com/column/magazine-poem>.

TAXI BLEU All Airports Served 24/7

Dispatch: **925-849-2222**
Direct: **925-286-0064**
www.mytaxibleu.com
mytaxibleu@gmail.com





A Very Happy Mother's Day

From All Of Us At 5A!



Our Mothers Are our Greatest Treasures

This Mother's Day do something to put a big smile on her face....Clean out her garage, spare room or closets and store it all at 5A Rent-A-Space!

We're giving a rose to every Mom who comes in between now and Sat., May 7th...Or one to you to give to YOUR Mom!

Mother's Day Rose offer expires 6:00 PM Sat. 5/7/16





455 MORAGA ROAD, SUITE F
(925)643-2026
WWW.5ASPACE.COM

Ask for your Neighborhood Coupons when you come visit us!



KAPOW! ComicFest Comes to the Lafayette Library

Submitted by Patrick Brogan



Graphic submitted

The Lafayette Library and Learning Center presents ComicFest 2016. This mini Comic Book Convention style event will feature artists and their work, along with workshops, crafts, cosplay, photobooth, scavenger hunt, raffle prizes and more.

Joe Field, owner of Flying Colors Comics in Concord and founder of Free Comic Book Day, will be the event's guest of honor. Field will kick off the event and give a talk on his life and how comics has and continues to affect it.

San Francisco-based comedian and cartoonist Mike Capozzola will perform a comedy routine and host a table. Guest artists include

San Francisco resident Oliver Chin who will host a workshop and table and Concord resident Sam Filstrup, who will host a table. Guest authors include Lamorinda residents and cartoonist Betsy Streeter and Raea Gragg (cartoonist for the Acalanes Blueprint student newspaper).

Participants are encouraged to come in their best superhero or villain costume. There will be a giveaway of free comic books while supplies last (children first).

This event is part of Free Comic Book Days @ Your Library (www.tinyurl.com/comicbookdays2016) and is sponsored by Friends of the Lafayette Library & Learning Center. For ages 5 and up.

Samira Says



Samira Davi is a Nurse Liaison for ManorCare Health Services in Walnut Creek. Samira has over 10 years of experience working in health care in Contra Costa County, which has gained her a wide view of what is important to the health care consumer. She will be posting common questions and comments in each issue of the Lamorinda Weekly. You are welcome to contact Samira directly at 925.270.8766

How do I choose where I go for recovery?

The center you choose will significantly impact your rehabilitation outcome—here's some information to help you choose:

- (1) Visit and Tour different facilities.**
View the rehab department, view the rooms, meet the staff in different departments, and ask questions about care delivery. Tour the center for cleanliness, friendliness and the amenities that are important to you.
- (2) Make sure the facilities can demonstrate a proven track record of successful outcomes.** Ask for evidence of how successful they are at improving patients walking, bathing, dressing, and ability to manage their own care at home. ManorCare measures these things on admission and discharge, so we can see the impact our services have on our patients. More than 90 percent of ManorCare rehabilitation patients are discharged to home.
- (3) Social workers are a crucial part of the equation.**
Ask how they plan discharge and who manages the process. At ManorCare, we plan patients' discharge from the start so that the patient has a smooth transition back home. This eliminates worry and anxiety for both the patient and the family.
- (4) Who is managing your insurance?** At ManorCare, we have RN Case Managers who manage your insurance benefits from admission to discharge. You have an advocate during your stay to ensure that you are able to maximize your benefits.
- (5) Specialized care and services.** Certified wound care nursing, specialized pain management techniques, speech language pathology and respiratory care are standards at ManorCare—they are critical pieces of recovery. Ask the facility how they manage these clinical issues.
- (6) 24/7 RN coverage.** ManorCare prides itself on its clinical management and skills. We have highly-trained RNs who can manage the highest levels of acuity here around-the-clock. Ask the facility what level of clinical care is available throughout the day and night.
- (7) Customer service.** How does the facility measure its customer service outcomes? As with clinical outcomes, ManorCare measures how it does with its customers—you. A third party surveys all discharged patients and asks questions about the quality of care and service they received while a patient at ManorCare. We're proud to say that the scores come back over-whelmingly positive.

We invite you to tour both of our ManorCare post-acute rehab centers—we'll answer all these questions for you and more.



<p>ManorCare Walnut Creek 1226 Rossmoor Parkway Walnut Creek, CA 94595, 925.975.5000 Walnutcreek@manorcare.com</p>	<p>ManorCare Tice Valley 1975 Tice Valley Blvd Walnut Creek, CA 94595, 925.906.0200 ticevalley@manorcare.com</p>
---	--

Community Service

Glorietta Can't Wait to be 'King'

Submitted By Hillary Weiner



The casts of "The Lion King Jr." get ready for their upcoming performances.



Glorietta Elementary School presents its spring musical, Disney's "The Lion King Jr." on May 13 and 14.

Based on the Broadway production directed by Julie Taymor and the 1994 Disney film, "The Lion King Jr." tells the story of the epic adventures of a curious cub named Simba as he struggles to accept the responsibilities of adulthood and his destiny as king. The play features classic songs from the 1994 film such as "Hakuna Matata" and the Academy Award-winning "Can You Feel the Love Tonight," as well as additional songs written for the Broadway production.

The production is directed by music teacher Ron Pickett, with the assistance of

parent producers Lani MacKenzie, Susan Jordan, and Kathryn Ishizu. There are two student casts, made up of approximately 90 students along with a student tech crew. The production is funded through parent contributions, the school's Parents Club, Orinda Arts Council and EFO.

"The Lion King Jr." takes place at Glorietta Elementary School, 15 Martha Rd., at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Friday, May 13 and at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, May 14. Tickets for the Friday and Saturday performances (all reserved seating) will be available in advance online at www.showtix4u.com. Tickets may also be available at the door prior to the show.

Triathlon Volunteers Keep it Going

Submitted by Gabriella Zacco



Pictured are Joan and Kent Jacobson, David and Sylvia Omoto, Shari Erickson, Robert Giomi, Gabriella Zacco. At the post are Sabina Majzouband and John Kochan. Photo submitted

It's not only the athletes who get a workout during the Moraga Triathlon, held April 24. Here are some Carroll Ranch

neighbors who have continually supported and volunteered for the race each year.

Lamorinda Teens Honored for Charity Work

Submitted by Martina Scanlan



Pictured, bottom row, from left: Lauren Torres, Claire Dodd, Olivia Guidotti, Molly Colwell, Sommar Veverka, Mary Noal, Sophia Settle, Bridget Immel, Olivia Chandler. Top row, from left: Bailey Yuen, Kelcey Higgins, Isabel Napper, Kristine Stanners, Sarah Cella, Katie Woolsey, Emma Scanlan, Sophia Hubbell, Emma Sonnenschein, Abby Garrett and Beth Evenhuis. Photo Juleen Lapporte

Twenty senior girls from Acalanes, Campolindo, Miramonte, Head-Royce and The College Preparatory School were honored at the 25th Annual Senior Recognition event for the Lamorinda Chapter of National Charity League in March. The young women collectively volunteered over 5,800 hours for a wide variety of local philanthropies, in-

cluding Monument Crisis Center, Lafayette Town Hall Theater, Xenophon, Lamorinda libraries and Loaves and Fishes. The National Charity League was founded in 1925 to foster the Mother and Daughter relationship, while being committed to community service, leadership development and cultural experiences.

We are pleased to make space available whenever possible for some of Lamorinda's dedicated community service organizations to submit news and information about their activities. Submissions may be sent to storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com with the subject header In Service to the Community.

Moraga Troop 234 Finds Unique Way to Raise Funds and Fight the Drought

Submitted by Bob Fritzky



Boy Scout Troop 234 received a special honor from Mayor Mike Metcalf. Photo Bruce McGurk

The Town of Moraga awarded Moraga Boy Scout Troop 234 a Certificate of Merit on April 26, recognizing the troop's work in drought education for the town.

Due to the severe drought, the troop cancelled last year's Spring Car Wash Fundraiser and instead went door to door handing out water conservation materials for East Bay Municipal Utility District.

The troop has a long-standing tradition of holding spring and fall car washes to raise funds for troop activities and expenses. Having first consulted with EBMUD Water Conservation Manager Charles Bohlig in the fall, the troop was given the go-ahead to hold its fall 2014 car wash. At that time, the request to Bohlig included an explanation that the troop would follow state mandated guidelines for water conservation and reduce the hours of operation by 20 percent.

In addition, troop representatives explained that run-off water would be caught and directed into the city sewer system, which was commended by EBMUD; the troop would put senior scouts in charge of hoses to reduce the amount of "horse play"; and nozzles would be placed on the hoses. Bohlig was happy to give the troop the go-ahead, suggesting that they'd talk prior to the anticipated spring 2015 Car Wash.

When contacted in spring of 2015, Bohlig could not give the troop permission for the car wash but came up with the idea that the Boy Scouts could help EBMUD get water saving materials out to the public. Though he couldn't match previous car wash proceeds, his department could pay the troop to do this job. When this information was brought to the PLC of this Boy Lead Troop, the boys immediately knew that cancelling the car wash was the right thing to do and helping EBMUD educate the people of Moraga would be a great way to face the drought head-on.

On May 2, 2015, the boys and their parents met at Moraga Commons Park to pick up the plastic door hangers that contained a placard explaining the five steps all EBMUD customers must take to reduce their water consumption, dye tabs for toilet leak detection and a leaflet on how to "Look for Leaks."

The five steps are:

- 1) Indoors, use no more than 35 gallons/day/person of water
- 2) Fix all leaks
- 3) Outside: water no more than two non-consecutive days perweek
- 4) No overspray or run off. Water between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.
- 5) No outdoor washing of driveways, sidewalks, etc.

Rotary Club of Lafayette Turns 70 in Style

Submitted by Robert Shusta



Michael Heller with the Club's birthday cake

Photo Dave Baker

The Rotary Club of Lafayette celebrated its 70th anniversary on April 21 at a luncheon at the Oakwood Athletic Club, where they meet each week on Thursdays.

There were 71 attendees who heard that Lafayette Rotary was chartered in 1946 by the Rotary Clubs of Berkeley (chartered in 1916) and Walnut Creek (chartered in 1937). That Lafayette Rotary was involved in the chartering of four other Rotary Clubs, Orinda (1949), Lamorinda Sunrise (1987), Diablo View in Walnut Creek (2009) and the Ekaterinburg, Russia Club in 1998. Ekaterinburg, also known as Yekaterinburg, is the fourth largest city in Russia located in the Ural Mountains situated between Europe and Asia. The city has a population of 1.5 million and was the second Rotary Club established in Western Russia.

The master of ceremonies, George

Chaffey, acknowledged the members in the club who had over 25 years membership, including special tribute for length of membership to Bill Eames, 52 years, Tom Courtwright, 44 years, and Ed Stokes, 40 years. Chaffey mentioned the Club's impact on the community, in that over the years, its membership has included two city managers, two city council members, four chiefs of police, one sheriff, one county supervisor, three Acalanes Union High School District superintendents, two principals, and one elementary school district superintendent.

Those interested in membership with the Rotary Club of Lafayette are encouraged to attend a complimentary lunch meeting at the Oakwood Athletic Club, 4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Meetings are held every Thursday from noon to 1:30 p.m.

Lafayette's Way Side Inn Hosts Operation School Bell Celebration

By Cathy Tyson



Veronica Grant, President of Assistance League of Diablo Valley and a volunteer outside of the Wayside Inn Thrift Shop. Photos Cathy Tyson

What started in 1994 by providing 67 students with clothing in the Walnut Creek School District has blossomed, and has served an astonishing 50,000 students over the past 49 years, all through the hard work and dedication of the many volunteers of the Assistance League of Diablo Valley through their signature Operation School Bell program.

OSB is epic recycling at its finest: Donated items don't end up in landfills, but are resold for cash which goes toward clothing needy children in Contra Costa County.

Celebrating this milestone at a recent event in front of the Lafayette's Way Side Inn Thrift Shop, President Veronica Grant explained that money raised to support OSB and their other philanthropic efforts is due to the "undeniable shopping skills, generous donors and countless volunteers" that give their time and resources to the cause.

Ground zero for donations and sales, the historical Way Side Inn, adjacent to the Park Theater, was originally a grist mill constructed in 1853. It later morphed into a hotel and tavern, and was ultimately purchased by the Assistance League in 1978 for \$120,000.

The Assistance League of

Diablo Valley is just one of 120 chapters of the Assistance League, a national nonprofit organization that puts caring and commitment into action. The local Diablo Valley chapter serves 49 schools in five school districts through OSB.

Christina Bowman, principal of El Monte Elementary School in Concord, spoke about what OSB means from a recipient's perspective. With just under 500 kids, her school has 65 percent of its students eligible for free and reduced price lunches and 40 percent of the kids speak Spanish at home.

In the surrounding neighborhoods, "parents are struggling just to pay rent, buy gasoline to get to work and to put food on the table. That doesn't leave a lot for clothing" said Bowman.

School uniforms have made a huge difference, said the principal, explaining that since the uniform policy has started, the entire student body's scores have improved along with conduct.

She recently met with a new family with three kids that was registering for school and could see the look of panic when the mom heard about the uniform requirement. OSB came to the rescue, the students were fit with uniforms on the spot, some other necessi-

ties and even given a gift card for shoes. "The mom left with a smile on her face," Bowman said.

Assemblywoman Susan Bonilla also addressed the gathering, praising the kindness of volunteers who care for children in a practical, meaningful way, creating a ripple effect of giving.

Perched near the apple juice and brownies were two of the hardest working puppets in town: Melody James and Renaldo Rodriguez, along with their wrangler and voice, vice president of public relations Linda Patton.

The trio visit kindergarten through third grade classrooms eight times per month to talk about things that may be bothering the students. The current topic of discussion is bullying. Puppets are provided through the "Kids on the Block" program to the Assistance League.

In addition to OSB, other efforts funded by the Way Side Inn shop include college scholarships for young adults, food donations, baby bags for infants at risk, emergency clothing to survivors of assault, and more. To learn more about the Assistance League of Diablo Valley and the popular Way Side Inn Thrift Shop, visit their website at diablovalley.assistance-league.org.

Summer @ Saklan Your passport to the world!



LEARNING • LANGUAGE • LAUGHTER
Culture, Language, and Summer Fun! AGES 3-11 SAKLAN.ORG

The Writing Studio A Camp for Young Writers

June 13-July 1
July 5-August 5

Join **CAMP YOUNG WRITERS** this summer as your children enter a world of **CREATIVE NARRATIVE** and **ABSORBING ESSAY-BASED WRITING PROJECTS**. Through grade appropriate classes and one-on-one sessions, students learn proper sentence structure, the elements of well-written essays, creative use of descriptive words, correct grammar, usage, and so much more.

CAMP YOUNG WRITERS is open to students in grades 3-12 who strive to improve their writing skills. Projects consist of first person narratives, historical biographies and literature analyses. Our camps will take place **June 13-July 1** and **July 5-August 5**; sessions will be held three days per week, 2-5 pm.

For further information, please call **925-385-0211** or visit us at www.lafayettewritingstudio.com.



THE WRITING STUDIO
Where Words Come to Life

3455 Golden Gate Way, Suite A, Lafayette (925) 385-0211

GET AHEAD IN MATH THIS YEAR



WHEN MATH MAKES SENSE, YOU SUCCEED!

MATHNASIUM
The Math Learning Center

GRADES K-12

Pre-Algebra • Algebra 1 & 2 • Geometry
Pre-Calculus & Calculus
SAT/ACT Preparatory
Individualized Instruction

HOMEWORK HELP FOR ALL LEVELS

Flat Monthly Fee

Drop-in any time, no scheduling needed!

1 WEEK FREE TUTORING & HOMEWORK HELP

Must present coupon. New students only.

3435 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette
(Golden Gate Way at Mt. Diablo Blvd.)
(925) 283-4200 www.mathnasium.com

Do Students Need a Business Education in College for a Career in Business?

By Elizabeth LaScala PhD

Each year thousands of college-bound high school seniors apply to college with an interest in pursuing careers in business. However, there is no "standard preparation" for a business career. Whether the student is interested in consulting, finance, human resource management, marketing or one of the many other areas of the business enterprise, a liberal arts education will often do nicely, provided that students choose their classes wisely to develop competency in accounting, economics, statistics, communications and leadership.

Skidmore College in New York is an excellent liberal arts college which allows students to combine a business major with a second liberal arts major, including economics, government or one of three foreign languages (French, German or Spanish). Skidmore also offers a business minor. With 2,600 undergraduates, Skidmore is neither too small nor too large to offer personalized attention, and has an 83 percent four-year graduation rate, about the same as more selective institutions. Skidmore is also a member of the Liberal Arts Career Network (<http://liberalartscareers.org/about-us/consortium-member-schools/>) a consortium of 37 selective liberal arts colleges that share job and internship postings, including many positions in business.

Bucknell University in Pennsylvania is a larger liberal arts college with around 3,600 under-

graduates that also offers an excellent business program. Bucknell grants traditional as well unique bachelor's degrees in business, including a major in markets, innovation and design and a five-year program in management and engineering. Nearly 90 percent of Bucknell students who enter as freshmen graduate on time. The university also has very loyal alumni. More than 30 percent contribute to the school each year.

Babson College in Massachusetts is a smaller school (around 2,000 undergraduates) with a focus on entrepreneurial thinking within all of the business disciplines, and also offers half of the education curriculum in the liberal arts, making it an especially well-balance college for students who wish to major in business but not let go of a liberal arts component. Babson's curriculum is a blend of traditional classes combined with problem-solving exercises in how to launch a small business (profits going to charity) and consult on projects with clients. Internships begin as early as the freshman year. Money Magazine rated Babson the second-best college in the country in its most recent college rankings. Over 80 percent of the students who enter Babson as freshmen graduate within four years, and nearly 10 percent of the graduates in the Class of 2015 had started their own firms before or shortly after they had completed their degrees.

... continued on page B8

Is this too young to go to Cal?



Actually, it's just the right age to get an eye exam at the University of California Eye Center. And again at three years. And regularly after that. (We developed ways to test kids' eyes while they play!) We're part of the UC School of Optometry, and offer you LASIK surgery, contact lenses, and an Eyewear Center with a vast collection of designer frames, too. We take most insurance plans, and major credit cards. It's time for your whole family to go Cal!



Open to the Public 7 Days a Week • www.caleyecare.com
510.642.2020

Lamorinda's Religious Services

ORINDA CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

24 Orinda Way (next to the Library) - 254-4212

Sunday Service and Sunday School 10 - 11 am
 Informal Wednesday Meeting 7:30 - 8:30 pm
 Reading Room/Bookstore M - F 11 - 4; Sat 11 - 2

www.christianscienceorinda.org



Sundays, 9 & 10:30am

10 Moraga Valley Lane | www.mvpc.org | 925.376.4800

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church 433 Moraga Way, Orinda, 254-3422 www.holyshepherd.org



8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
 9:40 a.m. Education for all ages
 10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship
 Coffee Fellowship at 9:30 and 11:45 a.m.
 Childcare available for ages 5 and younger

SAINT GILES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

9am Sunday School & Communion Service in the SMC Chapel



stgiles-moraga.org
 (925) 376-5770
 traditional liturgy + inclusive theology



10 Irwin Way, Orinda | 925.254.4906 | www.orindachurch.org

"No matter who you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!"

Join us Sundays at 10 a.m. | Sunday School 10 a.m.



Lafayette United Methodist Church

955 Moraga Road 925.284.4765 thelumc.org
 Sunday 10am Worship and Faith Formation for all ages

Opportunities to Love God, Love Others, and Serve the World

St. Anselm's Episcopal Church A Loving Community

Sunday Services: 8 and 10 AM

In-church Youth Zone, 10 AM Nursery Childcare
 682 Michael Lane, Lafayette, 284-7420, www.stanselms.ws

LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Where all are welcome, nobody is perfect, and anything is possible with God.



- Sunday Worship 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
- Programs for all ages
- SEEDLINGS Preschool M-F
- Guest Speakers & Workshops
- So much more! Connect with us today!

49 Knox Drive • Lafayette, CA • (925) 283-8722 • LOPC.org • #LOPC



St Stephen's Episcopal Church

66 St. Stephen's Drive, Orinda
 254-3770. www.ststephensorinda.org
 Sunday 8am, 10am

Please...



...thanks

Not to be missed

ART

The Moraga Art Gallery's new show "Capturing Moments of Motion" runs through June 4 and features paintings by local artist Josie Osolin and figurative ceramic sculptures by Fred Yokel. The Moraga Art Gallery is located in Moraga's Rheem Shopping Center next to the Dollar Store. For more information, visit www.moragaartgallery.com, call (925) 376-5407.

Valley Art Gallery's New Spring Collection, "Art Pop," features over 300 new works of art as fresh and eye-popping as the spring season itself, including works for sale or for rent from the best East Bay artists. Plus, there are beautifully crafted, ceramic, wood and glass pieces, and original designer jewelry. The show runs through May 14.

The City of Lafayette Public Art Committee welcomes its latest art exhibit "Oscar's Excellent Year," featuring local artist Joanne Taeuffer. The exhibit is on display in the Homework Center at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center now through June. For info, visit www.joannetaeuffer.com.

MUSIC

Boundless, the fifth and final concert of Gold Coast Chamber Player's 2015-2016 series, showcases music by J.S. Bach, Claude Debussy and Dmitri Shostakovich for piano and strings. The concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 7, at the Lafayette Library Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd. in Lafayette. A pre-concert talk will start the evening at 7 p.m. Ticket price includes complimentary champagne, the pre-concert talk and a reception with the musicians following the performance. Tickets are \$37.50 general, \$32.50 seniors and \$15 for students and are available at www.gcplayers.org and by phone at (925) 283-3728.

The Lafayette Rotary Club's Annual Concert at the Res will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 14 at the Lafayette Reservoir stage. Pack a picnic and enjoy performances by the Stanley Symphonic Band, the Acalanes Wind Ensemble, the Big Band of Rossmoor, the Bentley School Jazz combo and a special guest band.

Murasaki Jazz Ensemble performs at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17 at the Moraga Library. Their music blends improvisational jazz with Asian themes, the meeting of old and new, east and west. This is a free program.

Voci Women's Vocal Ensemble, directed by Dr. Anne Hege, presents "Songs of the Bygone: Traces of a Vanishing World," a wry, sometimes bemused exploration in song of forgotten ways of life and forms of communication. The concert is at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 21 at St. Perpetua Catholic Parish, 3454 Hamlin Road, Lafayette. Tickets are \$25 suggested donation at the door, \$20 advance, \$15 students, FREE for children between 6 and 12. Available at the door or online at www.vocisings.org/tickets.php. Ticket information: (510) 531-8714.

"A Tribute to the Beatles." On the 50th anniversary of the Beatles invasion and their appearance on the Ed Sullivan show, the Blackhawk Chorus will present a two-hour show of the most famous music of this fabulous foursome. The shows will be at 8 p.m. on May 21, at Leshler Center for Arts in Walnut Creek, and at 4:30 p.m. on May 22 at St. Joan of Arc Church in San Ramon, 2601 San Ramon Valley Blvd. Tickets: \$25 for Adults, \$17 for Children (under 12) and tickets can be purchased by calling the Leshler Box Office at 925 943-SHOW (7469).

THEATER

Stanley Middle School Wildcats on Stage and Lamorinda Theatre Academy present "Once on this Island." Performances will be at 7 p.m. on May 6 and 5 p.m. on May 7 at the Stanley Multi-purpose Room. Tickets: \$8 for children & seniors, \$12 for adults.

LECTURE & LITERATURE

Creative Writing Reading Series Alumni Reading. Brenda Hillman and Andrew Kenower read their works at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 4, De La Salle Hall's Hagerty Lounge at Saint Mary's College.

Author Diana Lorence of Innermost House will speak of her "Walden Years" at Lafayette Public Library at 2 p.m. on May 7. In celebration of the upcoming bicentennial of the birth of Henry David Thoreau, Diana Lorence shares her experience of seven years in a tiny, un electrified cabin in the woods of California, in the manner of Thoreau's life at Walden Pond. This is a free event. Registration is recommended as seating is limited. Register online at: tinyurl.com/DianaLorenceMay7.

Moraga Movers and Moraga Library present Book Talking at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, May 11. Local author Michael Ross will share his book, "Ross's Novel Discoveries: Quotes from Great works on Men, Women, Romantic Relationships, Love, Sex, and Marriage." Amusing, entertaining and provocative.

KIDS, PARENTS & TEENS

May the Fourth Be With You, from 4 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 4 at the Moraga Library. Make origami "Star Wars" figures, watch a movie, and more. Feel free to come costumed as your favorite "Star Wars" character. This program is free and open to all children and families, no reservations necessary.

Lafayette Nursery School's 40th Annual Science Day of Discovery is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on May 7. Make a volcano explode, shoot a rocket, make flubber, dig for dinosaur bones and pet an animal in the petting corral. These are just a few of the many hands-on science and nature activities at the event, for children preschool age through third grade. Cost: \$4 per child. More information: Call Lafayette Nursery School at (925) 284-2448 or visit the website at www.lafayettenuerseryschool.org.

Moraga Library Celebrates Free Comic Book Day from 4 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 10. Did Free Comic Book Day at the comic books stores on May 7 whet your appetite for more? Join us at the Moraga Library for free comic books, crafts and fun.

Superhero Storytimes! Wear your favorite superhero costume and join in for special superhero storytimes. Superhero Baby Storytime 10:15-10:45 a.m. and Superhero Toddler Storytime 11:15-11:45 a.m. on May 11 at the Moraga Library.

Create a Graphic Novel with Oliver Chin from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 12 at the Moraga Library. Author/illustrator Chin will show you how to make a Graphic Novel. This will be fun and creative for teens and all ages. These events are free and open to the public, no registration necessary.

The Lafayette Library and Learning Center is proud to present ComicFest 2016 on May 14. This mini Comic Book Convention style event will feature artists and their work, along with workshops, crafts, cosplay, photobooth, scavenger hunt, raffle prizes and more. Joe Field, owner of Flying Colors Comics in Concord and founder of Free Comic Book Day, will be the event's guest of honor. Participants are encouraged to come in their best superhero or villain costume. There will be a giveaway of free comic books while supplies last (children first).

HEALTH

The Stroke Support Group of Contra Costa County will hold its May meeting from 7 to 9 p.m. on May 9 in the Sterns Conference Room at John Muir Medical Center - Walnut Creek Campus (1601 Ygnacio Valley Road.) Karen Rockwell, with the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP), will discuss HICAP services and healthcare changes. For further information about the Stroke Support Group, contact Ann Dzuna at (925) 376-6218.

Breast Cancer Support Group for Younger Women. This support group is for younger women who were recently diagnosed and receiving treatment for breast cancer. Learn about breast cancer treatment and how other women cope with surgery, chemotherapy, radiation and breast reconstruction. Meetings are held from 10 to 11 a.m. the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month at the Alta Bates Summit Medical Center. Pre-Registration for this free program is required. Please call (510) 655-4000, Ext. 4980 for more information.

The Blue Pearl Group comes to the East Bay to offer a series of work / playshops to cultivate Physical, Mental, Emotional and Spiritual Well-Being from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday May 11 in the Arts & Sciences Center of the Lafayette Public Library. The workshop will be group taught by experienced practitioners. \$10. For more information: 415-233-2581.

Drug Awareness and Recovery. Hear the latest news and information from front-line experts regarding drug abuse and awareness 7 to 8:30 pm. on Thursday, May 12 at the Acalanes High School Library. Featured will be Jeff Kent, Youth Clinical Director from New Leaf Treatment Center in Lafayette, and Barbara Hewitt, Diablo Valley College, Health Sciences Department Chair, Addiction Studies Program Coordinator. In addition, hear from local young people who will be sharing their personal stories regarding drug use and recovery.

Dr. Raphael Rettner will be giving a talk entitled "10 Secrets for Permanent Weight Loss" at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 12. The talk will be held at Advanced Weight Loss and Wellness, 959 Mt. View Dr., Lafayette, across the street from Trader Joe's. Space is limited. Please call (925) 962-9160 to reserve your space. Everyone attending will receive a body wrap and weight loss consultation and examination.

Breast Cancer Symposium. Join a panel of breast cancer specialists as they present a breast cancer update from recent San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium and American Society of Breast Surgeons Annual Meeting from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on May 17 in the Lafayette Library Community Room. The physicians will cover exciting new data from the latest clinical trials, FDA approved treatments, surgical and radiation outcomes and advances in systemic therapies. Admission is free. Space is limited. Advanced Registration required. To RSVP call (925) 677-5041 x272.

Dementia - The Road Map from Diagnosis to Family Care from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on May 18 at Eldercare Services 1808 Tice Valley Blvd, Walnut Creek. The program covers: What is dementia? Where is it diagnosed? Understanding the progression; What does a family need to do to prepare for the journey? And protecting dignity and reducing stress in all family members.

FAIRES & FESTS

The Moraga Community Faire & Car Show will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 14 in the town's Rheem Valley Shopping Center, offering a wonderful opportunity for a "family fun day" with a climbing wall, bounce house, games, music, arts and crafts, local food trucks, local wine and over 70 amazing classic cars. Free to attend, the Faire is organized and sponsored by the Moraga Chamber of Commerce; visit www.moragachamber.org/faire.

The Orinda Park and Recreation Foundation is hosting the Doggone Fun Fest at the Orinda Community Center Park from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 15. Join the fun with your dogs on leash to parade around the park. Prizes for best dressed, looks most like their owner, and best in show. Rescue organizations will have dogs for adoption and there will be dog product vendors in attendance. Contact Carolyn Mills at 254-5292 or bandcmills@comcast.net if you need more details.

... continued on next page

CLINIQUE

The news is dramatic.
FREE* 7-piece gift.
 Your Bonus with any Clinique purchase of \$27.00 or more. A \$70.00 value.



YOUR BONUS INCLUDES:

BONUS EXCLUSIVE Cosmetics Bag
 Repairwear Laser Focus™ Wrinkle Correcting Eye Cream
 BONUS FIRST Dramatically Different Moisturizing Cream
 Take The Day Off™ Makeup Remover For Lids, Lashes & Lips
 BONUS EXCLUSIVE All About Shadow™ Trio
 Long Last Soft Matte Lipstick in Matte Petal
 High Impact™ Mascara in Black

CLINIQUE
 Allergy Tested. 100% Fragrance Free.

*One Bonus to a Client. While supplies last

Gift Dates: April 20 – May

McCaulou's

Lafayette • Danville • Montclair • Countrywood • Auburn

Would you rather?

Invest in your **HEALTH** today
 -OR-
 Pay for your **SICKNESS** tomorrow

Bodyzing™

-Personal Training Studio-

CHOOSE HEALTH!

Call Today for Your
 New Client Discount

(707)799-4082

3385 Mt Diablo Blvd, Lafayette, Ca 94549

MOVIE REVIEW

Film Clips

'Mother's Day' is a Heartwarming Gift This Year

By Derek Zemrak



Image provided

Mother's Day is this Sunday and first of all – happy Mother's Day to all the mothers in the world. Garry Marshall's latest movie, "Mother's Day," opened last week. He has directed several memorable films such as "Pretty Woman" and "The Princess Dairies."

As in his previous films, Marshall has put together a star-studded cast that includes Jennifer Aniston, Kate Hudson, Jason Sudeikis and Oscar-winner Julia Roberts. The movie follows five individuals and their dealings with motherhood or their own mothers. Sandy (Aniston) is a single mom of two boys dealing with ex husband's recent marriage to a much younger woman. Jesse (Hudson) has not spoken to her mother for years because mom disapproved of Jesse's dating an Indian man, but

now Jesse's mom decides to visit. Jesse's sister also is keeping a big secret from their parents. Bradley, a recent widower, is dealing with raising two young daughters and is trying to figure out how to have a Mother's Day. Miranda (Roberts) is a highly successful businesswoman who has no time to be a mother. As the story unfolds they all must face their dilemmas on Mother's Day.

"Mother's Day" has some funny and heartwarming moments that will be enjoyed by any parent.

"Mother's Day" is rated PG-13 with a TRT (Total Running Time) of 1 hour and 56 minutes.

Upcoming Rheem and Orinda Theatre Events:

7 p.m. May 12: FREE Movie Night at Orinda Theatre — "The Wizard of Oz"

May 13 – May 20: International Showcase presents "Sweet Bean" for a week-long engagement at the Orinda Theatre.

2 p.m. May 18: Moraga Movers' Classic Movie at the Rheem Theatre – "Road to Zanzibar"

Noon to 10 p.m. May 14: CreaturesCon at the Rheem Theatre – 10 solid hours of Creature Features, including two complete Creature Features Shows; the 50th Anniversary of "Star Trek"; rare clips, discussion panels; question-and answer sessions; and dealer and artist tables. \$25 all-day pass. Hosted by Lord Blood-Rah, John Stanley and Tom Wyrsh.

7 p.m. May 21: Live Music at the Rheem - USO Canteen - A Memorial Day Tribute to the songs and memories of war ballads, patriotic songs and good old American patriotism with Adam Reeves and Patti Liedecker.

◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆

FAIRES & FESTS ...continued

Don't Miss the Hacienda de las Flores Centennial de Mayo celebration from noon to 5 p.m. on May 15, 2100 Donald Drive. Step back in time, enjoy the beautiful grounds and learn about the Hacienda's rich history. Fun for all ages. Free admission, authentic Mexican food and drinks, live Mariachi Band, hourly piñata contests, tortilla making, Mexican tile painting, cupcake walks and more. Limited onsite parking; shuttle available from Rheem Elementary, 90 Laird Drive.

OTHER

Be the Force — the Force for Good. Come help support the JBFC Schools in Tanzania at the third annual Peace, Love & Pancakes dinner and a movie featuring "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" with pancakes at 5:30 p.m. and the movie at 6:30 p.m. on May 13 at JMIS. For more information about the JBFC Schools that are supported, or to order tickets to the event on-line, please visit peaceloveandpancakes.squarespace.com.

Friends Corner Book Shop Half-Price Sale is from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 7, Corner of First and Golden Gate Way, Lafayette.

Join National Park Service rangers for a stargazing adventure, "Road Map to the Night Sky," at 8:45 p.m. on Saturday, May 7 at the John Muir National Historic Site in Martinez. The program is designed to increase knowledge of the night sky by progressing through a series of constellations. Reservations are not required. Visitors should meet at John Muir NHS. Please call the John Muir NHS Visitor Center at (925) 228-8860 if you have questions.

Bike to Work Day is May 12. There will be there will be five energizer stations in Lamorinda where cyclists can stop by for refreshments and promotional items: three in Lafayette, and one each in Orinda and Moraga.

Lafayette Juniors 17th Annual Kitchen Tour is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 14. Tour six Lafayette kitchens for a good cause benefiting Youth Homes, Diablo Ballet's PEEK Outreach Program, the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano and Lamorinda Spirit Van. Tickets are \$40 and available at www.lafayettejuniors.org and Lafayette's Premier Kitchens. (See story on page D1)

Hidden Legacy: Japanese Traditional Performing Arts in the World War II Internment Camps will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, May 14 at the Moraga Library. Join Shirley Kazuyo Muramoto-Wong, Creative Director, for a free screening of this documentary. The production of this film was sponsored, in part, by the National Park Service, Japanese American Confinement Sites grant. The screening will be followed by a koto demonstration and discussion. Sponsored by BDK America. An NPS Centennial Celebration event.

Mark your calendars for A Taste of Lafayette, the city's 14th Annual Restaurant Walk on Tuesday, May 17, 2016. This is an opportunity to tour Lafayette's finest dining establishments and sample the signature cuisine of each restaurant. Cost is \$45 per person if purchased by May 6, 2016; \$50 per person after that date. Visit www.lafayettechamber.org/events/taste-of-lafayette/ for more information.

Beginning Tuesday, May 17, Rabbi Dovber Berkowitz of Chabad of Contra Costa will conduct the six sessions of the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (JLI) course, Strength and Struggle: Lessons in Character from the Stories of Our Prophets, at the Contra Costa Jewish Day School 955 Risa Rd. in Lafayette. The course will also be offered 10 am at Chabad of Contra Costa 1671 Newell Ave. in Walnut Creek.

Lamorinda Rugby Football Club is recruiting for their new Women's High School Team. There will be a player orientation at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17 at Wilder Ranch House.

Text RUGBY to 925-788-0039 or email LamoLadies@gmail.com.

Shred your papers at 5A Rent-A-Space, 455 Moraga Rd. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 21. \$7 per file box.

GARDEN

The Gardens at Heather Farm is celebrating "National Public Gardens Day" between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Friday, May 6. There will be free activities throughout the day in its six-acre public garden and wildlife habitat nestled on a picturesque hillside in Walnut Creek. Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy the day. For more information, visit www.gardenshlf.org.

Growing Tomatoes. Learn about growing this favorite garden delight from 3 to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 7 at the Lafayette Community Garden and Outdoor Learning Center, 3932 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Classes are free but a \$5 donation is requested.

To register for classes or for more information visit www.lafayettecommunitygarden.com.

Annual Compost Giveaway, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 7. RecycleSmart has partnered with the UC Master Gardeners of Contra Costa to provide residents free compost. Bring your own rigid container and take up to 96 gallons of compost while supplies last. There will also be presentations, booths, raffles and more. Register online and see schedule too at <http://getsmartsaturday-compostsmart.eventbrite.com>.

The Walnut Creek Garden Club presents "Jam it Up!" Barbara Kobsar, author of two cookbooks and a food and garden writer for several local papers will be speaking about food and making jams. She will bring some of her jams and jellies to taste and purchase. Business Meeting: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.; Social Time: 10:30 to 11 a.m.; Program: 11 a.m. to noon on May 9 at Heather Farm, 1540 Marchbanks Road, Walnut Creek. Questions: mslittle44@gmail.com.

Service Clubs Announcements



Explore Lamorinda Rotary clubs The heart of Rotary is our clubs- dedicated people who share a passion for both community service and friendship. Learn about Lamorinda's Rotary clubs.

We meet Friday mornings at 7:00 am at **The Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa**, 3666 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette. For more info, please email us at lamorindasunrise@gmail.com

<p>May 6 Amanda Herbert: Female Alliances: Investigating the history of women's friendship.</p>	<p>May 13 Jim Marggraff: Co-founder, Eyefluence: Eye interaction technology</p>
--	--

Successful Wine Barrel Raffle concluded: 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winner drawings reveals third place won by a Rotarian from Florida. Thanks to all who participated!

Lafayette Rotary Club

Step in on a Thursday and join us for our lunch meeting. Thursday at noon Oakwood Athletic Club, 4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette.

<p>May 5: Thomas Stack, Your Best Thinking Got you Here</p>	<p>May 12: Brenda from Papillion and the writer of her story - Jill Plummer</p>
--	--

Save the date: Concert at the Res May 14th
www.rotarylafayette.org

Lamorinda Weekly

is an independent publication, produced by and for the residents of Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda, CA 26,600 printed copies; delivered to homes & businesses in Lamorinda.

Contact us:
 Letters to the editor (max 350 words): letters@lamorindaweekly.com
 Delivery issues: homedelivery@lamorindaweekly.com
 Event listings: calendar@lamorindaweekly.com
 Business press releases: storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com
 General interest stories/Community Service: storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com
 School stories/events: storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com
 Sport events/stories/pictures: sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com

Publishers/Owners: Andy and Wendy Scheck; andy@lamorindaweekly.com, wendy@lamorindaweekly.com

Editor: Peggy Spear; peggy@lamorindaweekly.com
Copy Editor: Nick Marnell; nick@lamorindaweekly.com
Sports Editor: sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com

Advertising: 925-377-0977, Wendy Scheck; wendy@lamorindaweekly.com

Staff Writers: Sophie Braccini; sophie@lamorindaweekly.com
 Cathy Tyson; cathy@lamorindaweekly.com
 Victor Ryerson; victor@lamorindaweekly.com
 Cathy Dausman; cathy.d@lamorindaweekly.com
 Nick Marnell; nick@lamorindaweekly.com
 Digging Deep: Cynthia Brian; cynthia@lamorindaweekly.com
 Food: Susie Iventosch; suziventosch@gmail.com

Contributing Writers: Conrad Bassett, Moya Stone, Jennifer Wake, Lou Fancher, Chris Lavin, Amanda Kuehn Carroll, Diane Claytor, Uma Unni, Spencer Silva, Karl Buscheck, Ryan McKinley, Zoe Portnoff, Clare Varellas, Adam Blake, Daniel Smith, Fran Miller, Jade Shojae, Emily Dugdale, Dean Boerner, Barry Hunau (cartoonist), Derek Zemrak (Film Critic)

Calendar Editor: Jaya Griggs; calendar@lamorindaweekly.com
Photos: Tod Fierner, Ohlen Alexander, Gint Fedaras

Layout/Graphics: Andy Scheck. Printed in CA.

Mailing address:
 Lamorinda Weekly, P.O. Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570-6133
 Phone: 925-377-0977; Fax: 1-800-690-8136
 email: info@lamorindaweekly.com website: www.lamorindaweekly.com



**When I say "good,"
you say "neighbor."**

WE HAVE MOVED

Mike Rosa
Agent
925-376-2244
Insurance Lic. #: OF45583
346 Rheem Blvd., Suite 106
Moraga
P097314.1

Now that's teamwork.
CALL FOR A QUOTE 24/7

State Farm
State Farm Home Office, Bloomington, IL

Thoughtful Food Mastering Rêve Bistro's Nougat Glacé

By Susie Iventosch



Reve's Nougat Glacé

Photo Susie Iventosch

I am so pleased that Laura and Paul Magu, owners of Rêve Bistro in Lafayette, have offered to share this refreshing Nougat Glacé, a dessert which they recently added to their spring menu. It is delicious.

While nougat candy finds its origins around the 12th century in the Middle East, French nougat was a relative latecomer in the 17th century and hails from the city of Montélimar in the Rhône-Alpes region. There are strict requirements for the nougat to be considered Montélimar nougat: it must be made of 28 percent peeled almonds, 16 percent lavender honey, two percent pistachio nuts, and the rest is sugar and whipped egg whites. The candies may be crunchy and hard, or soft and chewy.

This frozen nougat concoction from Rêve is not like anything I've ever made or even tasted before. It is a lighter, whipped and frozen version of the typical nougat candy

that we normally see. This is very creamy, light and fluffy.

"It's a classic French dish which comes from Provence," said Laura Magu. "It is really tasty, light and refreshing."

Laura says this dish is not really typical of any American dessert and she and Paul are really excited to introduce it to the Lamorinda community. I asked her about the use of raw egg whites, since some people are skittish about that, and she said that powdered egg whites or meringue powder could be used to replace the fresh egg whites. I also read that using the pasteurized egg whites is a good way to go.

To see how they would work, I made the recipe twice — once using fresh egg whites from the shells and the second time I used the pasteurized egg whites from the carton. They were both excellent, and the primary difference was that the fresh egg white nougat glacé was

creamier, while the one with whites from the carton was a bit icier. I really enjoyed both, but have to say, the creaminess of the one with fresh egg whites was divine. If any of you try this with powdered egg whites, please let me know how it works out.

Rêve serves this dessert in a pool of strawberry or raspberry sauce and crème Anglaise, which is a very thin vanilla custard. You can find many recipes for crème Anglaise on the internet, and it's basically made of milk or half and half, egg yolks, sugar and vanilla.

The Magus have really enjoyed their experience of owning a bistro in Lafayette and serving typical French cuisine to their loyal customers. Laura pointed out, "It's so rewarding when our customers try a dish of ours and say 'it's just like I remember it in Paris' or 'it's the best I've had since I was in France!'"

I am certain, you will be delighted with this beautiful dessert from Rêve.

Susie can be reached at suziventosch@gmail.com. This recipe can be found on our website: www.lamorindaweekly.com. If you would like to share your favorite recipe with Susie please contact her by email or call our office at (925) 377-0977.



Ames Tutoring and Test Prep

ACT/SAT Summer Classes
REGISTER ONLINE!

TUTORING: All Academic Subjects, ACT/SAT
FREE: College Info Evenings & Practice Tests!

Register: www.amestutoring.com

3249 Mt. Diablo Ct. #206 . Lafayette . 925.962.5599

The Tick Tock Store

We Make House Calls On Grandfather Clocks!

The Right Place For The Right Time
Batteries • Bands • Repair

FREE Estimates
Rolex-Tag Heuer Repair Center
Specialize in grandfather clock and watch repairs

925-952-4488 www.TheTickTockStore.com

1547-A Palos Verdes Mall, Walnut Creek
(In Lunardi's Center, behind UPS Store)

\$1 OFF Watch Battery
With This Coupon.



TREE SCULPTURE

COMPLETE TREE CARE
Proudly serving the East Bay since 1965!
Fully Insured ♦ Certified Arborists ♦ License #655977
(925) 254-7233 ♦ www.treesculpture.com

Nougat Glacé

INGREDIENTS

- 1/3 pound sliced almonds (approximately 1 3/4 cups loosely packed)
- 1 pound superfine sugar, divided (2 and 1/3 cups)
- 6 egg whites (or equivalent if using packaged or powdered)
- 2 cups heavy whipping cream
- Dried fruit or candied citrus peel (optional)
- Raspberries or strawberries for purée sauce.

DIRECTIONS

- Preheat the oven to 450 degrees and line a terrine dish (about 12 x 3 inches) with wax paper.
- Warm the almonds in the oven for 3-4 minutes or until golden brown.
- Heat one third of the sugar (2/3 cup plus 2 Tbsp.) in a heavy pan, until it starts to caramelize.* Stir in the warm almonds and pour onto an oiled cookie sheet.
- Leave to cool and set. When cool, crush into small pieces using a rolling pin. (This is delicious and I reserved a little bit of this nut crunch for garnish.)
- Meanwhile, whip the egg whites and the rest of the sugar together to make a stiff meringue.
- In a separate bowl, whip the cream to stiff peaks and then fold together with the meringue and crushed almonds mixture. (Add fruit at this time, if you choose to add it ... I did not.)
- Fill the terrine dish to the top and place in the freezer until hard — at least 24 hours.
- To serve, remove from the freezer and from the dish. Slice and serve on top of a pool of strawberry or raspberry sauce.

Active time: about 45 minutes to one hour. Total time 24 hours.

*Susie's note on caramelizing the sugar: This takes about four minutes. Stir the sugar constantly. Just as soon as the sugar is melted and the lumps are gone, it's time to remove it from the heat. It will be a beautiful caramel color. I burned my first batch by letting it stay on the burner too long.

Do Students Need a Business Education in College for a Career in Business?

... continued from page B5

But while a blend of business and the liberal arts is a great path to career success, many college students prefer to attend a business school within a college or university setting. They often enter a university's undergraduate business school as freshmen, as opposed to being designated as "pre-business" students before declaring a major.

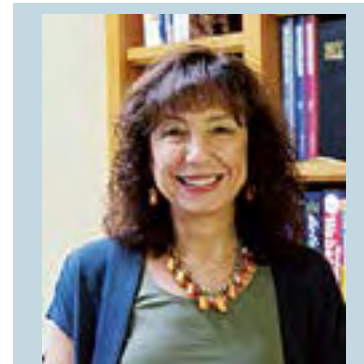
The University of Maryland-College Park has one of the best undergraduate business programs available at a large university, especially for budding entrepreneurs. This university of 27,000 undergraduates also boasts one of the finest honors programs in the country, including one in the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Honors Program. The University of Maryland-College Park also has one of the very best career development centers among the larger research universities. Entry level hiring professionals ranked Maryland eighth among public and private research universities, according to Wall Street Journal survey conducted in 2010 (<http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052748704554104575435563989873060>). More than two-thirds of Maryland undergrad-

uates earn their bachelor degrees within four years, an excellent performance for a state university.

Fordham University in New York, with around 7,900 undergraduates, also offers many innovative programs. These include an applied accounting and finance track as well as a consumer insights track within marketing major. Fordham offers the added advantage of being located in New York City, with campuses in Manhattan and the Bronx. Over three quarters of Fordham students who enter as freshmen finish on time.

Prospective business students might also want to check out cooperative education that alternates periods of paid full-time employment with full-time attendance in classes. Northeastern University in Boston (with about 13,500 undergraduates) has one of the largest cooperative education programs in the country. Students have the option to do co-op over four years, with two six-month assignments, one each during the sophomore and junior year, or over five years, taking a third six-month assignment with an employer. Most students choose to go five years; nearly 80

percent of those who enter as freshmen graduate by then. Each year Northeastern hosts more than 250 career events, and posts positions from over 3,000 employers. More than 90 percent of NEU graduates find work or attend graduate or professional schools full-time within nine months after graduation.



Elizabeth LaScala, Ph.D. is an independent college advisor who draws upon 25 years of higher education experience to help guide and support the college admissions process for students and their families. Dr. LaScala is a member of NACAC, WACAC and HECA. She can be contacted at (925) 891-4491 or elizabeth@doingcollege.com. Visit www.doingcollege.com for more information about her services.

BAD INC. Bay Area Drainage, Inc.

Are You Ready For El Niño?

- French Drains
- Underfloor Drains
- Downspout Systems
- Subdrain Systems
- Sump Pumps
- Retaining Walls
- Pavestone Driveway & Walkways

A General Engineering Contractor
Locally owned and Operated
Contractor LIC # 762208

925•377•9209

visit our website
www.bayareadrainage.com

DIAMOND CERTIFIED

LAMORINDA RUGBY CLUB

IS RECRUITING PLAYERS FOR THEIR WOMEN'S HIGH SCHOOL TEAM.



IT'S PRIME TIME FOR WOMEN'S RUGBY!!!

Rugby is the fastest-growing sport in America. Soccer, lacrosse, basketball, softball and even water polo players are getting in on the action. Rugby is fast-paced, fun, and a great team sport - there is a position for everybody! Rugby returns to the 2016 Olympics and the 2018 Rugby 7's World Cup is in San Francisco. Want your college application to stand out? Rugby is an NCAA women's varsity sport offering athletic scholarships. Most collegiate female rugby athletes never played before and recruiting for high school women's rugby players is FIERCE. Harvard, Brown, and Dartmouth are just a few of the universities that have added women's rugby at the varsity level. Lamorinda Rugby Football Club is recruiting for their new Women's High School Team. Come to our player orientation May 17th, 7pm, Wilder Ranch House. Text RUGBY to 925-788-0039 or email lamoladies@gmail.com



FOR MORE INFO: TEXT "RUGBY" to 925 / 788-0039 or email lamoladies@gmail.com

LAMORINDA SPORTS

Volleyball Teams Gearing up for NCS Action

By Karl Buscheck



Tommy Graham

Photos Gint Federas

With the DFAL season drawing to a close and the NCS tournament set to begin on May 10, the future looks promising for all three Lamorinda boys' volleyball squads.

"The team is always looking to return to the title match," said Campo head coach David Chen, whose Cougars own a 14-6 record overall and a 4-4 mark in DFAL play. "This group has a lot to prove to others but mainly to themselves. We have gone through a lot of battles this season in order to become a tough team for the postseason."

Campo had won five of six matches before falling to rival Acalanes 3-0 (25-21, 25-22, 25-23) in Lafayette on April 27.

"The team is working hard to fight and compete for every point," Chen said. "(They) value the experience of competition and their time with their teammates, all while maintaining a rich past and continuing to leave behind a lasting legacy for our young players. (It's) no small task."

As the playoffs approach, the Cougars, who sit in third place in the DFAL standings, won't be leaning on any stars.

"All of our athletes have stepped up to bring us to where we are this season," Chen said. "They have all embraced the challenge to step out of the shadows of the past teams and engage in the barrage that will be coming at them."

The young Dons' win over Campo on April 27 snapped the

team's three-game losing skid and pushed their record to 3-5 in league play and 12-10 overall.

"This year my goal was to be .500 and try to get into the play-offs," said head coach Mason Mulvaney. "So far, we're ahead of my pace which I'm very happy with." Acalanes, currently fourth place in the standings, one spot behind the Cougars, has just two seniors on the roster in Tommy Graham and Joey Moran.

"He's a phenomenal setter," Mulvaney said of Graham. "He's made second-team all-league the last three years. I'm hoping he makes first-team this year. He's a great server. (He's a) good setter (and he's been a) really positive."

Meanwhile, Moran has emerged as the Dons' Swiss Army knife.

"He's consistent in all six positions and has been a really good leader on the team," Mulvaney said. "And (he's) someone I feel confident in encouraging the other kids and making a real difference on the court."

Acalanes has also relied heavily on junior Bijani Shahabi, whom Mulvaney singled out as the most-improved Don.

"He went from a player who really didn't get much playing time last year to being my most consistent outside hitter," Mulvaney said. "And he's leading our team in kills."

After wining the DFAL opener, the Mats have lost each of their last

six league matches. Even with the team stuck in a rut, head coach Lisa Bachtold has found positives in the defeats.

"(The team is developing) better chemistry and has gained a bit more experience," Bachtold said. "There are always things to improve on, but we're heading in the right direction."

Miramonte (1-6 in DFAL and 5-7 overall) has received major contributions from players all across the roster, but no one has been more valuable than a pair of senior veterans.

"A lot of players have stepped up and contributed," Bachtold explained. "Mitch Brooks and Mitchell Tang have stepped up as captains and have shown a tremendous amount of leadership."

Before making any postseason plans, the Mats will face a challenging end to the league campaign, including a trip to Acalanes to play their neighbors on May 4 and a jaunt to Dougherty Valley to face the co-DFAL leaders a day after that.

"The league is extremely competitive this year with many match ups going to 5 sets," Bachtold said. "It's tough, but we hope to make it to NCS and finish the end of the year strong."



Joey Moran (10) and Chad Abbott (7)

Open Year-Round • Sign up now!

Now open 10-7

Skills for Life

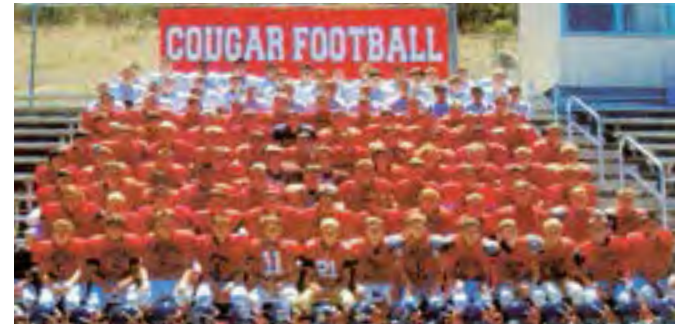
- Protective Warm Environment
- Private Swim Lessons
- Classes in 92°-94° Water
- Diving Lessons
- Parties that make a splash!



Sherman SWIM SCHOOL

925-283-2100 • www.ShermanSwim.com

FULL GEAR YOUTH FOOTBALL CAMP



INSTRUCTOR: KEVIN MACY, HEAD FOOTBALL COACH AT CAMPOLINDO HIGH SCHOOL GRADES 4 – 8, SEPARATED BY GRADE

DATES: July 11 thru July 22 (M – F) TIMES: 1:30 – 5:00 P.M. FEES: \$320 (T-shirt included)

FOR REGISTRATION FORMS, CONTACT: 925/280-3950 x-5163, kmacy@acalanes.k12.ca.us or download registration form at campofootball.net

The Orinda Motors family of auto care companies has just added one more feature for our community:

Bosch Financing

The Bosch Service Credit Card can help you get instant financing with no interest for 6 months!

Bosch Financing is perfect for times when those large repairs come along. On top of being your one stop solution for service you can trust, Bosch Financing is another reason Orinda Motors is your number one choice for auto repair.

Orinda Motors
63 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563
(925) 254-2012



www.orindamotors.com



SPORTS MEDICINE CENTER FOR YOUNG ATHLETES

OAKLAND
(510) 428-3558

SAN FRANCISCO
(415) 353-2808

SAN RAMON
(925) 979-3450

WALNUT CREEK
(925) 979-3430



As NCS Draws Near, Acalanes' Tennis Hold High Hopes

By Karl Buscheck



Isaiah Bird

As the postseason rolls along, no Lamorinda tennis team has more talent – or higher expectations – than Acalanes.

“My top three singles players are kind of a unique thing this year,” head coach Stephanie Lawrence said of Isaiah Bird, Kyle Everly and Ryan Cardiff. “We’ve all pretty much realized we might not see this kind of (group) again.”

While the historic trio led the Dons (18-2 overall, 10-2 in league) to the semifinals of the CIF State tournament a season ago, they’re far from the only upperclassmen that make Acalanes such a dangerous squad.

“Now we’re trying to top (our 2015 state run) this year,” Lawrence said. “Especially (since) I’ve got a great group of about seven seniors. It’s their last hurrah.”

At the DFAL Championship on

April 29 and 30 at Saint Mary’s in Moraga, Bird claimed the singles title, while the Dougherty Valley duo of Winston Yu and Mayson Xue ended up as the kings of the doubles tournament.

On May 6 and 7 at Roundhill Country Club in Alamo, Acalanes and Dougherty Valley – the section’s rival heavyweights – will once again square off.

“They’re one of the best teams in country,” Lawrence explained of the DFAL regulars season winners. “So I was really impressed with the fact that we kind of closed the gap with them and we can give them a little more competition hopefully if we were to meet them in the (NCS) finals.”

While Acalanes and Dougherty Valley are the powerhouse programs with lofty expectations, Miramonte (13-6 overall, 9-4 in



Ryan Cardiff

league) stands out as the young upstart.

“I’m playing eight freshmen and sophomores,” said Mats head coach Michael McCollum. “That’s kind of how it works year-to-year. That experience that those two schools are carrying and the newness of my lineup kind of creates this interesting little dynamic. So we’re hoping for the best.”

At Round Hill, the Mats will be counting on senior Alex Hwang – the defending NCS doubles champ and a Whitman recruit – to set the tone for the youngsters like his brother William and Nico Haet, who are both sophomores.

“He’s the most important and significant player in the lineup as far as our team goes,” McCollum said of the captain and four-year starter.

As his team prepares to take the

court for the NCS tournament, McCollum knows just how serious the challenge is that his team faces.

“It will be a tough road ahead,” McCollum admitted. “Dougherty Valley has four amazing, outstanding players. Acalanes had three really outstanding seniors in their singles ladder. Plus, they have the best regular season doubles team.”

Like the Mats, Campo, who posted a 9-8-1 mark overall and a 6-6-1 record in league play, has a youthful roster.

“Our season went well in the respect that our guys played their hearts out,” head coach Alan Weissbaum said. “But we lost a lot of really close games because of the third-set tie-breaker and I just attributed that to inexperience. So, what turned out to be an okay season could have been a really good season.”



Kyle Everly

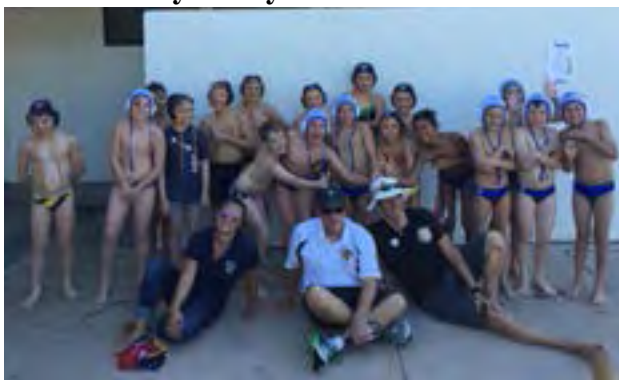
The future looks bright for the Cougars, as Weissbaum views freshman Cal Hunter as a future No. 1 for the program.

Throughout the season, Weissbaum looked to senior captain Jacob Heatlamp – the current No. 1 – to set an example for the younger players both on and off the court.

“He kept really good control (of the team),” Weissbaum said. “And he helped me with the lineup as well as the other captain Jake (Oxendine) – both of them helped me with lineups and they really contributed a lot. That was pretty cool.”

2nd Annual Bill Brown Invitational Hosted by Lamorinda Water Polo

Submitted by Harry Crouch



Lamorinda and Tiburon Waterpolo Club U10 Boys



Lamorinda and Brentwood Seawolves U12 Girls



Lamorinda and Brentwood Seawolves U14 Boys Photos provided

The 2nd Annual Bill Brown Invitational is dedicated to the development of a premier tournament to provide B & C U10,12,14 team players competitive tournament opportunities in the northern California area. The

tournament honors Bill Brown, a USAWP Hall of Fame member and a longtime northern California water polo icon while benefitting the East Bay Sea Serpents. The East Bay Sea Serpents is a group which is focused on

providing fitness, social interaction, and swimming instruction to special needs athletes in the San Francisco East Bay.

Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified

Music Lessons

Piano/guitar w/Robbie Dunbar
All levels welcome!
I travel to your home.
M. A. Music Composition
Piano tuning as well!
925-323-9706
robbiednbr@gmail.com

Guitar Lessons

Lamorinda Guitar Lessons
Folk, Rock, Blues & Jazz
Serving Lamorinda since 1980
925-933-3111
www.lamorindaguitarlessons.com
jackskridgeguitar@gmail.com

Insurance

Totalintegrityinsurance.com
20+yr Lamorinda resident.
My independent insurance
brokerage is here to serve you.
Over 100 top carriers = great pricing
and coverage for Biz Gen Liability,
W Comp, Homes, Auto, Life. Call
Henry at (925) 247-4356 OE90108

THE BEST OFFICE
IN MORAGA -
1st Month FREE!

455 Moraga Rd. Suite A,
Moraga, CA

Great access, parking,
park-like setting!
860 sq. ft. with 2 offices,
spacious lobby, high
visibility. Air conditioning,
great windows.
\$2.00 per sq. ft. + cam.
Call: (510) 727-1800 xt. 313

reach 60,000+ with your ad

House Cleaning

www.totalclean.biz
Serving Lamorinda since 1985.
Insured and bonded 376-1004.

Plumbing

WE HOP TO IT!
(925) 377-6600
LeapFrogPlumbing.com

Rototilling

Ken's Rototilling
• 4 W/D Tractors
• Hillside Weed Cutting
• Mowing • Discing • Rototilling
Free estimates! 925-938-9836
licensed & insured. CA#667491
www.kensrototilling.com

Pet Care

Animal lover will care for your
pet in your home while you're
away. References upon request.
Wendy 925-325-9476

Construction

Jacob Spilsbury - General Contractor
American owned and operated
Renovation • Remodeling • Home Repair
Big & Small Jobs • Bonded & Insured
Lic # 898775 925-825-5201

Concept Builders

Remodeling, Home Repair &
New Construction
Bonded & Insured. License no. 842563
(925) 283-8122, Cell: (925) 768-4983

Handyman

Rusty Nails Handyman Service
Repair • Restore • Revamp
Call Rusty- (925) 890-1581

Windows & Gutters

Reliable Window Cleaning
Friendliness & remarkable results.
Windows, Gutters, Pressure
Washing. (925) 254-7622
ReliableWindowService.com

Tree Service


East Bay Tree Service.
377-8733. Fine pruning, large
tree removal, stump grinding
License #805794

Tree & brush removal.
Poison Oak removal. 376-1995,
Licensed, insured & bonded

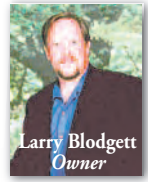
\$10 per 1/2" classified ad height
Email to: classified@
lamorindaweekly.com

Love Lafayette

Making Bay Area Homes Beautiful Since 1946



Blodgett's FLOOR COVERING
"Quality and Service Since 1946" Abbey Carpet.



Larry Blodgett
Owner

www.blodgetts.com
Lic. # 177588


3291 Mt. Diablo Ct., Lafayette 925.284.4807

Breakfast • Lunch • Breakfast • Lunch • Breakfast



MILLIE'S Kitchen

5 AM - 2:30 PM
Seven Days a Week



1018 Oak Hill Road
Lafayette
(510) 283-2397

Best of Bay 2014

Breakfast • Lunch • Breakfast • Lunch • Breakfast



Piano Studio
Keys to success

Piano Lessons in Lafayette with professional instructor MTAC member. Competition, CM exam Preparation.

Rita Yegiazaryan
925-283-7601
Cell: 925-323-8969

1060 Sierra Vista Way, Lafayette

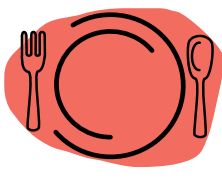
Lafayette Auto Body, Inc.

www.lafayetteautobody.com



3291 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette (925) 283-3421

Taste of Lafayette



A Stroll Down Restaurant Row

Tuesday, May 17, 2016
5:30pm - 9:00pm

Wine & Appetizers
5:30pm - 6:30pm
Lafayette Plaza Reception
Live Music

Stroll & Taste
6:30pm - 8:30pm
Sample 20+ Restaurants
Walk or Take the Free Shuttle

Dessert & Coffee
8:00pm - 9:00pm
Lafayette Plaza Reception

SPECTACULAR RAFFLE

Tickets are Limited!
\$50/person, \$45 until May 6
<http://bit.ly/taste16>

McCaulou's

Save Gas
Save Money
Save Time

Shop your local McCaulou's

44th ROUGHING IT DAY CAMP Year

Ages 4-16 • Lafayette Reservoir Site
Home Pick Up Available in Lafayette

Come Visit Camp!
www.roughingit.com/visit



The Yarn Boutique



- Lots and lots of fabulous yarn
- Friendly, personal service
- Sensible prices



LaFiesta Square,
www.yarnboutique.us - 963-C Moraga Rd. - 925-283-7377

FINE BEDDING & GIFTS



Japanese style & comfort




Gifts, Hand Craft Futon, Solid Hardwood Frame, Tatami Platforms & Mats, Custom Comforter Covers, Shoji Screen & Laterns

Mon-Sat 10-6pm, Sun: 12pm-5pm 925-299-0882

961-A Moraga Rd. Lafayette • sugi-store.com



TRANS JEWELER 

Expert in all your Fine Jewelry needs
Diamond Setting
Jewelry Repair
Custom Design and Manufacturing

(925) 283-2137
3608 Happy Valley Road • Lafayette
- Behind Wells Fargo Bank -

D. Tran



KW BUILDERS, Inc.

Residential - Custom Homes -
- Remodels -
- Additions -

Lafayette (925) 283-3128

Owners:
Matt Kunz
Jeff Wendt

www.KandWbuilders.com

CL# 930839



Participating Restaurants:

Yankee Pier | Uncle Yu's Szechuan
The Cooperage American Grille
Sideboard Neighborhood Kitchen & Coffee Bar*
Rustic Tavern | Round Table Pizza
La Finestra Ristorante | Bistro Burgers*
Rancho Cantina | Postino | Pizza Antica
Patxi's Pizza | Mangia Ristorante | REVE Bistro*
Panache Caffe | Amarin Thai | Coffee Shop*

Additional Great Stops

Powell's Sweet Shoppe | SusieCakes Bakery
Smitten Ice Cream | Amphora | Floral Arts

Appetizers & Dessert in the Plaza

T's Indian Restaurant & Bar
The Park Bistro and Bar
Lantern Catering Company | Millie's Kitchen
Whole Foods | Vitality Bowls | Boneheads BBQ
Lindsay Olives | The Hideout | Wine Thieves
Huckleberry Cafe

*New to Taste of Lafayette!

Tickets are Limited!
\$50/person, \$45 until May 6
<http://bit.ly/taste16>



Presented by the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce. Proceeds also benefit the Lafayette Community Foundation. Enhancing Life, Culture, Community.

The Writing Studio
A Camp for Young Writers

June 13-July 1
July 5-August 5

Join **CAMP YOUNG WRITERS** this summer as your children enter a world of **CREATIVE NARRATIVE** and **ABSORBING ESSAY-BASED WRITING PROJECTS**. Through grade appropriate classes and one-on-one sessions, students learn proper sentence structure, the elements of well-written essays, creative use of descriptive words, correct grammar, usage, and so much more.

CAMP YOUNG WRITERS is open to students in grades 3-12 who strive to improve their writing skills. Projects consist of first person narratives, historical biographies and literature analyses. Our camps will take place **June 13-July 1** and **July 5-August 5**; sessions will be held three days per week, 2-5 pm.

For further information, please call 925-385-0211 or visit us at www.lafayettewritingstudio.com.



3455 Golden Gate Way, Ste A, Lafayette (925) 385-0211

Draperies
Carpet
Blinds & Shades
Bedspreads
Upholstery
Shutters
Wallpapers




The Treasure Trove

Susan Cowell
Anna M. Webb

925-283-2252

3506H Mt. Diablo Blvd
(Next to McCaulou's in the courtyard behind Peet's Coffee.)

Hours:
Mon-Fri 10:00-5:00
Sat. by Appointment



Central Self-Storage

First Months Rent FREE
Any Size Unit!

3391 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette (925) 962-1940

- Access Hours 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Complete Moving & Packing Supplies
- Major Credit Cards Accepted
- Please call for details
- State of the Art Video Surveillance
- All Doors Alarmed
- Individualized Elevator Access
- Deliveries Accepted

FASTFRAME
EXPERT PICTURE FRAMING

1020 BROWN AVENUE
LAFAYETTE CA 94549
(925) 283-7620

OPEN MONDAY 10-5 and TUESDAY-SATURDAY 10-6

15% OFF WITH THIS AD



LAFAYETTE PHYSICAL THERAPY INC

Orthopedics • Sports Rehab • Geriatrics

Mention the Lamorinda Weekly for a
Complimentary Consultation

3468 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Ste B110, Lafayette, CA
925-284-6150 www.LafayettePT.com

Watch for Shop Orinda
May 18th
Call for Advertising
925.377.0977

sewnow!
fashion studio

Adult Workshops & Classes,
Kids Classes, Camps, Parties

+ Sewing Machines + Girl Scouts + Birthdays

NEW 3534 Golden Gate Way 283-7396 www.sewnow.com



Sports Editor Wanted

Lamorinda Weekly is looking for a Sports Editor for our bi-weekly newspaper. Time requirement is approximately 5-6 hours per week. Required Qualifications: Excellent writing and communication skills. Ethical and professional. Must be familiar with Lamorinda-area sports. Prior editing and newsroom experience helpful, but not required.

Contact: Lamorinda Weekly, PO Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570 | (925) 377-0977, wendy@lamorindaweekly.com | Attn: Wendy Scheck

St. Mary's Golf: WCC Champs Prepare for NCAA Championship Bid

By Dean Boerner

On the Saint Mary's College campus, amid high-profile programs like basketball and baseball, exists a bunch that lack in fanfare but brim with success. That group would be head coach Scott Hardy's golf team, now winners of three out of the last five WCC Championships.

That accomplishment came in Danville last month, when the Gaels obliterated the field at Blackhawk Country Club. They finished the contest 25-under par, leaving their closest competitor, Pepperdine, 23 strokes behind in the dust.

"When you play golf as a team sport, so much of it is about momentum," Hardy said. "We got off to a good start and started to build that confidence."

Like many great teams, the Gaels have a great player leading the way. Jonathan De Los Reyes, the WCC co-Player of the Year, shot a 64 the first day and nev-

er looked back. The senior shot 19-under par, 11 strokes better than the second-place finisher.

"Johnny is the first player I've had who really doesn't have any weaknesses," said Hardy, who's in his sixteenth year at Saint Mary's. "He can play well on any type of course, and I think that's what makes him such a good player."

But even the talent of De Los Reyes doesn't come close to solely explaining the Gaels' success on the course this season. From top to bottom, the Gaels can flat-out play.

"We're all just as capable as one another to shoot a good number," said sophomore Connor Blick. Blick, a native of Danville, finished in eight place overall at 2-under for the tournament.

Fellow sophomore Perry Cohen also shined in the championships, going 4-under and ending up tied for fifth. Out of the eight golfers who shot below par in the

tournament, three of them were Gaels. Junior Hunter Rappleye and sophomore Pavan Sagoo failed to crack the top ten, but they both had impressive showings throughout the season.

Rappleye finished tied for fifth in the tournament preceding the conference championships, while Sagoo set the lowest 54-hole score in program history during the fall, shooting a 197 in the Nick Watney Invitational.

"Our key is that we don't have a guy in our starting lineup ranked outside the top 400," explained Hardy. "There are 3000 Division I golfers, so to have all of ours in the top 400 is really solid. They're all capable."

The numbers support Hardy's claim. Although they're ranked a modest 51st in the nation, the Gaels sport the fifth-best scoring average in the nation at 72.00, and they've tallied a nation-best 584 birdies.

Now, after a program-high four tournament wins this season, the next step for Hardy's group will be the NCAA Regional Championships beginning on May 16.

While the Gaels are assured an automatic bid thanks to their conference victory, they don't learn until May 5 where they'll play. All they know for sure is that they'll be playing for spot in NCAA Championships, something they don't take lightly.

"I'm looking forward for a chance to play in Nationals," said De Los Reyes. "All I can look forward to is the chance to play in Nationals again, because that's really why we're playing."

De Los Reyes stands as the last player remaining from the 2013 team that reached that pinnacle. Younger players like Sagoo, who last year as a freshman performed well in Regionals, will also join in this year's quest.

"Obviously there's some really good teams there, and it's going to be a really good experience," said Sagoo.

Last season, the Gaels ended day one in fourth place, positioned nicely for a chance to be one of five teams that advanced to Nationals. They ended up finishing eighth, but the Gaels are eager to improve on that number.

"The ultimate goal of Nationals is so close," said Blick. "It's just a few good rounds away."

Hardy believes that as long as the Gaels play to their potential, they'll end up where they're supposed to be.

"We just need to get out of our own way," he stressed. "They're going to be nervous, but if they can just play golf and rely on the fact that we have five good players, I think we'll do fine."

Moraga Triathlon Results



Steve Fung, Orinda at the finishing line
Photos Gint Federas



Stephanie Williams, Moraga came in 25th



Elizabeth Kravtchenko, San Mateo first female



Former Lamorinda Weekly writer Andrea Firth

Open Top Finishes

Place	Name	City	Gender	Age Group	Time
1	Steve Fung	Orinda CA	M	1/14 40-44	1:06:00
2	Taylor Hockett	Rohnert Park CA	M	1/6 30-34	1:10:05
3	Dean Woerner	Martinez CA	M	1/18 50-54	1:11:33
4	Brad Crow	Danville CA	M	2/14 40-44	1:12:16
5	Steve Trutane	Albany CA	M	2/18 50-54	1:13:55
6	William Workman		M	1/17 45-49	1:14:00
7	Jon Waide		M	2/17 45-49	1:17:12
8	Nat Weber		M	1/7 55-59	1:17:13
9	Xavier Fripiat		M	3/17 45-49	1:17:41
10	Mikael Rudolfsen		M	3/14 40-44	1:18:26
11	Jim Shepherd	Lafayette CA	M	4/17 45-49	1:19:43
14	Elizabeth Kravtchenko	San Mateo CA	F	1/6 12-19	1:20:13

8 - 11 Year Olds

Place	Name	Time
1	Zoe Petty	14:04
2	Robbie Horst	14:25
3	Amanda Kayari	14:59
4	Matteo Petty	15:14
5	Carley Hudson	15:45
6	Alexandra Goett	16:00
7	Isaac Jamgotchian	16:02
8	Charlie Bonneville	16:13
9	Liesel Hilkemeyer	16:17
10	Ava Martinez	16:23

5 - 7 Year Olds

Place	Name	Total Time
1	Santiago Vignoles	6:51
2	Garrett Joyce	7:06
3	Madeline Phan	7:17
4	Joseph Goett	8:00
5	Andreas Rudolfsen	8:48
6	Ryan Williams	9:01
7	Sivani Merlo	9:18
8	Ryan Erickson	9:22
9	Eloise Gafni	9:27
10	Elliot Chesney-Adam	9:33

See all results at:
www.moragatri.com/

Relay Teams

Place	Name	Time
1	Dicks/Underwood/Hamilton	1:16:02
2	Berg/Keaton	1:16:40
3	Newby/Smith/Newby	1:22:59
4	Christensen/Christensen/Levine	1:48:44
5	Wolff/Keeter/Olsen	1:50:54

Submit stories to
sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com

(we prefer to receive your original photo file, minimum size: 200 dpi and 1200 pixels wide)

OBA 11U Boys Win St. Patty's Day Tournament

Submitted by Nikki Bird



The OBA 11U 680 baseball team won the All World Baseball's St. Patrick's Day Tournament in Fremont March 19-20.

Back, from left: Coach Todd Meyer, Manager Paul Dolan, Coach Sean O'Brien Middle row: Luke Duncan, Shepard Romary, John Williams, Louis Giles, Bennett Leary, Brian Dolan Front Row: Nathan Meyer, Max Friedman, Keoni Wong, Michael Bohm, Riley Bird Not pictured: Nolan O'Brien
Photo provided

Del Rey Taekwondo Winner

Submitted by Barry Mosteller



Photo Barry Mosteller

Barron Mosteller from Del Rey Elementary in Orinda won a Silver Medal at the California State Taekwondo Championship in Fresno recently. He fought flyweight under 30 kilograms in blue belt. He

qualified for the national Championship in Richmond, Va. He will be fighting this summer in the AAU Junior Olympics after winning gold at the AAU national qualifier.

Correction issue 4, April 20, 2016

2015-2016 DFAL All League, Winter Sports

The list for Boy's Basketball missed under Honorable Mention:

Jesse Marlow, junior (Acalanes)

Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 10 Issue 5 Wednesday, May 4, 2016



*Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian
...read on page D16*

Lafayette Juniors Kitchen Tour Cooks Up Delicious Designs

By Catherine Kauder



A stainless steel backsplash and industrial light fixtures mix modern and classic touches. Photo Todd Taylor Photography

Fans of beautiful kitchens, art, design and delicious food are in for a treat this year as the Lafayette Juniors host their 17th annual Kitchen Tour from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 14.

The tour will feature six beautifully constructed kitchens in homes around Lafayette with style influences as varied as farmhouse chic, mid-century ranch, timeless classic and traditional Cape Cod.

The Juniors are also highlighting local

women-owned businesses this year by serving appetizers prepared by Lafayette chef Aimee Ames and freshly-made cookies by local favorite, baked. Some homes on the tour will also feature works of art from Lafayette's Jennifer Perlmutter Gallery and unique tablescapes set by Effortless Hostess.

Among the kitchens on this year's tour is one often featured as the backdrop for television commercials and Pottery Barn catalogs. Homeowner Amy Peterson's light and airy kitchen mixes

modern and classic elements to create a tranquil yet stylish environment that is perfect for cooking and entertaining.

The kitchen has two honed Calacatta marble islands that provide a contrast to the industrial light fixtures and the stainless steel counter and backsplash behind the six-burner stove. Custom millwork built around the cooking area forms a mantle that holds a collection of green glass vases.

"I wanted something very clean and simple," says Peterson, who teaches at the Active Reading Center in Walnut Creek.

At one the end of the kitchen is an eating area with a banquette under a large picture window that looks out into a beautiful garden. The home's reclaimed white oak floors and soft palettes of grays, blues and yellows in the furniture add to the soothing environment. Modern touches, like Eames by Herman Miller wire chairs around a tile-top table, are contrasted with one-of-a-kind finds like a charming antique trolley bench in the hallway.

"I like mixing the modern with the traditional," says Peterson.

In the Reliez Valley section of Lafayette, homeowner Kelli Blocker designed her kitchen with the help of Lafayette's Premier Kitchens as part of a complete home renovation. Blocker transformed a tiny, 1950s kitchen into a large, inviting space that overlooks her family room and yard and is ideal for entertaining friends and family.

... continued on page D4



VLATKA BATHGATE



IF I HAD A BUYER FOR YOUR HOME WOULD YOU SELL IT?

Call me at 925 597 1573

Vlatka@BestLamorindaHomes.com

CalBRE#01390784



FOR SALE

5 Owl Hill Ct, Orinda

Breathtaking Mediterranean Style Estate!

Offered at \$2,995,000

FOR SALE

155 Erselia Trl, Alamo

Artist's Delight with park like yard

Offered at \$1,750,000



FOR SALE

24 Jennifer Highlands Ct, Lafayette

Entertainer's Dream home with yard

Offered at \$1,369,000



COMING SOON

35 Oak Rd, Orinda

Fairy Tale Setting

Offered at \$1,879,000



COMING SOON

3878 Paseo Grande, Moraga

**Highly desirable neighborhood
Offered at \$998,000**



**VLATKA CAN HELP YOU WITH BUYING OR SELLING YOUR HOME.
WWW.BESTLAMORINDAHOMES.COM**

©2016 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office is owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. CalBRE License # 01908304

Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

City	Last reported:	LOWEST AMOUNT:	HIGHEST AMOUNT:
LAFAYETTE	6	\$735,000	\$1,840,500
MORAGA	8	\$375,000	\$1,515,000
ORINDA	6	\$290,000	\$2,700,000

Home sales are compiled by Cal REsource, an Oakland real estate information company. Sale prices are computed from the county transfer tax information shown on the deeds that record at close of escrow and are published five to eight weeks after such recording. This information is obtained from public county records and is provided to us by California REsource. Neither Cal REsource nor this publication are liable for errors or omissions.

LAFAYETTE

- 18 Amanda Lane, \$1,425,000, 3 Bdrms, 1743 SqFt, 2006 YrBlt, 3-31-16;
Previous Sale: \$880,000, 04-06-10
- 3287 Gloria Terrace, \$1,840,500, 4 Bdrms, 2100 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 3-30-16;
Previous Sale: \$922,000, 09-01-15
- 1126 Hidalgo Court, \$1,335,000, 3 Bdrms, 2030 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 4-1-16
- 808 Las Trampas Road, \$735,000, 3 Bdrms, 1752 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 3-31-16;
Previous Sale: \$46,000, 03-20-75
- 1015 Timothy Lane, \$1,525,000, 4 Bdrms, 2254 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 3-30-16;
Previous Sale: \$90,000, 08-15-74
- 748 Upper Pond Court, \$988,000, 5 Bdrms, 2935 SqFt, 1996 YrBlt, 3-30-16

MORAGA

- 1909 Ascot Drive, \$725,000, 2 Bdrms, 1455 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 3-30-16;
Previous Sale: \$549,000, 10-08-09
- 14 Buckingham Drive, \$1,025,000, 3 Bdrms, 1560 SqFt, 1961 YrBlt, 3-25-16;
Previous Sale: \$675,000, 04-29-09
- 416 Deerfield Drive, \$1,450,000, 4 Bdrms, 2399 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 3-31-16;
Previous Sale: \$417,000, 04-26-96
- 2121 Donald Drive #5, \$375,000, 2 Bdrms, 1224 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 3-31-16;
Previous Sale: \$122,000, 07-10-89
- 294 Fernwood Drive, \$1,450,000, 5 Bdrms, 2502 SqFt, 1969 YrBlt, 3-29-16;
Previous Sale: \$549,000, 02-06-98
- 484 Kingsford Drive, \$1,515,000, 4 Bdrms, 2483 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 3-31-16;
Previous Sale: \$475,000, 04-13-93
- 651 Moraga Road #34, \$417,000, 2 Bdrms, 1144 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 3-25-16;
Previous Sale: \$150,000, 02-05-99
- 1601 St. Andrews Drive, \$875,000, 3 Bdrms, 1644 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 3-25-16;
Previous Sale: \$155,000, 12-01-78

ORINDA

- 19 Briones View, \$1,475,000, 3 Bdrms, 2850 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 4-1-16
- 8 El Sereno, \$2,700,000, 3 Bdrms, 3501 SqFt, 1935 YrBlt, 3-25-16;
Previous Sale: \$735,000, 05-14-98
- 314 La Espiral, \$1,175,000, 4 Bdrms, 2907 SqFt, 1935 YrBlt, 3-29-16
- 106 Las Vegas Road, \$1,225,000, 3 Bdrms, 1789 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 3-31-16;
Previous Sale: \$1,025,000, 07-09-09
- 11 Mariposa Lane, \$290,000, 4 Bdrms, 1740 SqFt, 1938 YrBlt, 3-30-16
- 46 Moraga Via, \$1,850,000, 3 Bdrms, 2740 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 3-29-16;
Previous Sale: \$379,000, 04-03-92



DUDUM REAL ESTATE GROUP

PROFESSIONALISM. INTEGRITY. RESULTS.

JULIE DEL SANTO
BROKER/OWNER



925.818.5500

THE CHURCHILL TEAM



SERETA: 925.998.4441
RANDY 925.787.4622

JON WOOD PROPERTIES



JON WOOD: 925.383.5384
HOLLY SIBLEY: 925.451.3105

SHERRY HUTCHENS



925.212.7617

TERRYLYNN FISHER



925.876.0966

BEN MILLER



925.558.5744

JANET POWELL



925.876.2399

MATT McLEOD



925.464.6500

TERESA ZOCCHI



925.360.8662

TINA FRECHMAN



925.915.0851

WE ARE PROUD TO WELCOME HOLLY KERSIS

Holly Kersis has been in real estate since she was 21 years old. She joins us with a proven track record of excellence in service and a loyal following. We are excited to partner with her in all that lies ahead and know that together...the best is yet to come!

HOLLY KERSIS

REALTOR®

925.381.9503

Holly@HollyKersis.com

CALBRE #01185730



148 RUDGEAR DRIVE, WALNUT CREEK

\$1,999,000



HOLLY KERSIS

925.381.9503

3360 SWEET DRIVE, LAFAYETTE

\$1,270,000



SERETA & RANDY CHURCHILL

925.998.4441 / 925.787.4622

1106 ROCK CREEK WAY, CONCORD

\$775,000



TERESA ZOCCHI

925.360.8662

1968 FAIR RIDGE COURT, WALNUT CREEK

\$950,000



BEN MILLER / SHERRY HUTCHENS

925.558.5744 / 925.212.7617

11 ROBBINS PLACE, ALAMO

CALL AGENT



JON WOOD PROPERTIES

925.383.5384 / 925.451.3105

1074 SPRINGSIDE ROAD, WALNUT CREEK

\$1,225,000



MATT McLEOD

925.464.6500



CALBRE #01882902

WWW.DUDUM.COM

Distinctive Properties



LAFAYETTE

999 OAK HILL RD., #100
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549
O: 925.284.1400 F: 925.284.1411

WALNUT CREEK

1910 OLYMPIC BLVD., #100
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596
O: 925.937.4000 F: 925.937.4001



Lafayette Juniors Kitchen Tour Cooks Up Delicious Designs

... continued from page D1



The maple cabinets are painted a creamy Cottage Lace and are accented with bronze hardware. Dark gray Neolith countertops line the edge of the kitchen while the large center island has a Burmese teak top with a hazelnut finish. The backsplash and wall space above the counters feature cream-colored 2x4 subway tiles, which are smaller than traditional subway tiles and add a bit of texture to the space.

Contemporary touches like a stainless steel farmhouse sink and industrial-style metal barstools give the kitchen a modern edge while still maintaining its warm, rustic feel.

“We wanted something light and bright but cozy,” says Blocker, who said that the size and functionality were what she liked most about her kitchen.

These two kitchens will be featured on this year’s tour along with four other homes located in Happy Valley, Reliez Valley, Hidden Oaks and the Trail neighborhood of Lafayette.

Tickets for the tour are available for sale to the general public for \$40 (\$35 tax deductible). Tickets can be purchased online at www.lafayettejuniors.org or at Premier Kitchens, 3373 Mt. Diablo Blvd., in Lafayette.

Proceeds from this year’s Kitchen Tour will go to support Lafayette Juniors’ four non-profit beneficiaries: Youth Homes, Diablo Ballet’s PEEK Outreach Program, the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, and Lamorinda Spirit Van. These organizations were selected for the exceptional support they provide to children, families and seniors in need throughout the East Bay.

Founded in 1953, Lafayette Juniors is a non-profit organization made up of local women dedicated to raising funds and supporting other non-profits that serve children, families, and seniors in need throughout Contra Costa and neighboring counties in the San Francisco area.



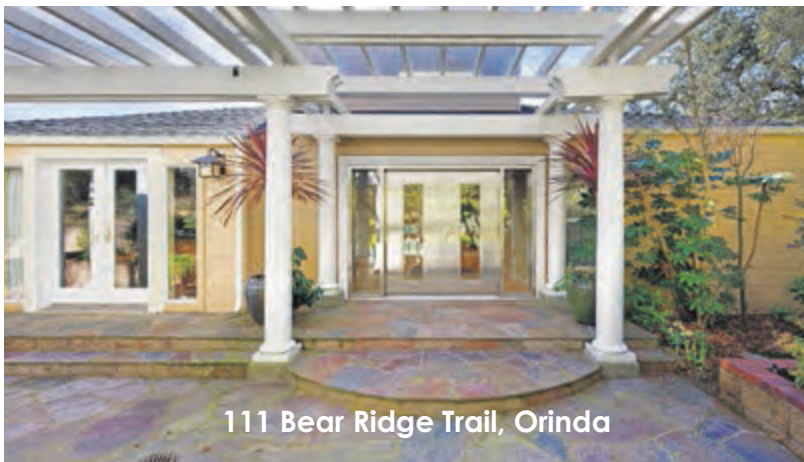
Above, the “Farmhouse Chic” look of the Blocker Kitchen. Below, the Peterson’s kitchen is Pottery Barn-ready. Photos Todd Taylor Photography





New Listing: 30 Tiana Terrace, Lafayette

3 BEDROOMS | 3.5 BATHROOMS | 4534 SQ. FT. | 1.92 ACRE | PLEASE CALL FOR PRICE



111 Bear Ridge Trail, Orinda

5 Bedrooms | 4.5 Bathrooms | 3952 Sq. Ft. | 1.22 Acre
Offered at \$1,799,000



68 Southwood Drive, Orinda

4 Bedrooms | 4.5 Bathrooms | 4170 Sq. Ft. | .72 Acre
Offered at \$2,675,000



CALBRE# 00903367

CLARK THOMPSON
REAL ESTATE BROKER
VILLAGE ASSOCIATES

Office: 925-254-8585 ct@clarkthompson.com
www.clarkthompson.com



Lafayette Juniors Kitchen Tour Cooks Up Delicious Designs

... continued from page D4



*The Blocker kitchen, with the large stained -teak island at the center, is ideal for entertaining.
At right, the Petersons' kitchen has two marble islands.*

Photos Ohlen Alexander



CalBRE# 01905614

Looking to Buy or Sell?

Chad Morrison

**INTERNATIONAL DIAMOND SOCIETY
BAY AREA TOP 100**

Direct: 925.253.4650

Mobile: 925.330.1416

chad.morrison@cbnorcal.com

www.sellingslamorinda.com

*I look forward to assisting
you with your real estate
needs in 2016*



©2016 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01908304.

WWW.HOLCENBERG.COM

Client satisfaction: a family tradition

Michelle and Wendy Holcenberg Present

Westside Alamo Dream Location

100 Via Copla, Alamo

Offered at \$1,650,000



In the heart of Alamo close to the Iron Horse Trail and Rancho Romero School lies the perfect home with space to spread out and enjoy the best the area has to offer. With five bedrooms (including one with its own entrance and full bath) and three and half bath on a large, level lot there's space for all. Features include hardwood flooring, granite countertops, vaulted ceilings, dual-pane windows, professional-grade stainless appliances and more.

New Listing

2588 Oak Rd. #239, Walnut Creek

\$489,000



2 bedroom,
2.5 bath upper-
unit condo in
sought-after
Ashford Court.
Top Walnut Creek
schools, close to
Bart. Backs to Iron
Horse Trail.
A great
opportunity!

Just Sold – Represented Seller



142 Selborne Way, Moraga \$1,127,000

Single-story on cul-de-sac with beautiful level yard. Hardwood, dual-pane windows, newer roof.

Just Sold – Represented Buyer



18 Amanda Lane, Lafayette \$1,425,000

Charming downtown living. 10-year-old home. Walk to shops, restaurants and more.



Michelle Holcenberg

michelle@holcenberg.com

925.253.4663

CalBRE#01373412

Wendy Holcenberg

wendy@holcenberg.com

925.253.4630

CalBRE#00637795



©2016 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01908304.

Spring inventory is blooming.

Call us today so we can help you find the perfect place to call home.

Stylish Solutions

New Trends Highlight Classic Luxury and Functionality

By Ann McDonald



Jean-Louis Deniot collection at Baker Furniture has some classic pieces. This chest is a favorite this spring. www.bakerfurniture.com

Welcome to May. I absolutely love this time of year, when the spring flowers are popping and the air is clear but still cool. It's the perfect time to start dreaming about fresh design options. This month I want to share highlights and relevant observations from my team's recent trip to High Point, N.C., so you, Stylish Suburbanite, are squarely in-the-know on the back-room world of interior design.

Every year, twice a year, designers and decorators descend upon High Point for one of the world's largest wholesale furniture markets. You must be an industry trade member to attend, and many showrooms require additional credentials for access — even after general registration. That's why recapping the trends we've seen is one of our most popular free webinar series. (The Spring Trend webinar has already passed and filled quickly. So you don't miss out next time, visit www.couturechateau.com and sign up for our email list.)

This season's top trends include fresh, clean lines and splashes of metal or color. They also include the classic quilting or channeling on upholstery, ala Chanel. These are both easy to live with. Clutter is put away, and frankly, they encourage "tidy," something my heart yearns for these days.

Spring, 2016: From traditional luxury showrooms like Baker Furniture to more accessible price points at Arteriors, the white-and-gold or white-and-brass looks were everywhere.

The new Jean-Louis Deniot collection at Baker showcased one of my favorite new pieces, the Heliodor Decorative Chest. From my designer's eye, it's a perfect piece because it works into a traditional home looking for a quick pop, and into a

completely modern space in all white.

At left is a photo of the white and brass chest. With subtle accents like doors cut as jewels, and practical inside drawers, this piece works from bedroom to office to entry hall. Top with traditional lamps, a blue and white pot of orchids or antique books to complete the look. Links are below, adjacent to photos.

My team saw the gold and brass trend in other places as well. I have always liked this look. Below is a press shot from Arteriors Home, trending their new collection of white and gold. I liked the picture because it gives some options from small ottomans to side tables and lamps.

When my husband and I remodeled our home in 2008 and everything was polished nickel, I put in brass. The looks from my suppliers was "eye roll, don't you know anything?" It was funny explaining to them, that brass would come around again, and that those of us in the know were actually buying and holding statement brass from the 1970s for savvy collecting clients. Needless to say, trust the designer who has been around a bit. I will keep to myself what we are buying and holding now but for a hint: take a look at this month's Veranda Magazine. See if you can spot a trend in the making.

The truth is, for many of us in the luxury market, brass and gold never went out; neither did hand-painted wallpaper. All you have to do is observe closely the design elements in major cities that hold their own, from Hong Kong to London to New York City. Good design never goes out of style.

... continued on page D12



Bunny Williams Home classic lamp. This is not a new introduction, but it is one of my favorite lamps as it works in many styles.

www.bunnywilliamshome.com



Just listed,
MARVELOUS RHEEM VALLEY MANOR



Just Listed

395 Fernwood, Moraga
5 Bedrooms, 3.5 Bathrooms, 2824+/- Sq Ft,
.399 Acres, 2 Car Garage, Pool, Spa
\$1,475,000

Coming Soon

54 E. Altarinda Dr., Orinda
 3074 +/- Sq Ft, 4 beds 3 baths, .37 acres
 Broker Tour 5/17 10-2, Open House 5/22 1-4

97 Meadow View Road, Orinda
 2135 Sq Ft, 3 Beds, 2.5 Baths, .26 acres
 Broker Tour 5/31 10-2, Open House 6/5 1-4

FINDING THE RIGHT FIT



AMYROSESMITH

Amy Rose Smith
 Village Associates
 93 Moraga Way
 Suite 103
 Orinda, CA 94563
 Phone: 925.212.3897
 Email: amy@amyrosesmith.com
 Web: www.amyrosesmith.com
 Web: www.iloveorinda.com
 CalBRE: #01855959





STILL #1 FOR A REASON 2008 THROUGH 2015



576 Silverado Drive, Lafayette • 1st Open Sun. 1-4!

Offered at \$1,465,000 • 576Silverado.com



600 Sky Hy Circle, Lafayette • 1st Open Sun. 1-4!

Offered at \$1,535,000 • 600SkyHyCircle.com



25 Old Millstone Lane, Lafayette • Just Listed ~ Call to View!

Offered at \$2,595,000 • 25OldMillstoneLane.com



1242 Panorama Drive, Lafayette • Open Sunday 1-4!

Call for Price • 1242PanoramaDrive.com



License #: 01866771

Dana Green

License #: 01482454



DanaGreenTeam.com | 925.339.1918



I believe in the art of living well.

305 Corte Gabriel, Moraga



Delight in this SUPER SHARP Moraga Town Home that lives like a single family home! With a premium location near shopping, schools, the Moraga Commons Park and Trail, it features 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, and approximately 2117 square feet per assessor.

Coming to market 5/13/16.

Offered at \$799,000



PATTI CAMRAS

REALTOR®

CalBRE# 01156248

925-899-9282

patti.camras@camoves.com

5 Moraga Way, Orinda

www.patticamras.com



©2016 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01908304.

Suzi O'Brien
real estate



163 Crestview Dr. Orinda

n
e
w

l
i
s
t
i
n
g



- Light filled home w/ updated baths & peaceful views
- 3BD+office • 2BA • 2247sq ft • views
- Open Sunday 1-4PM • \$1,098,000

71 Ardilla Rd. Orinda

p
e
n
d
i
n
g



- 1923 Orinda farmhouse w/ vintage meets modern look
- 3BD • 2.5BA • babbling brook • walk to town • \$1,098,000

Let me help you find your way home.

Suzi O'Brien
925.286.8520
suziobrien.com



©2016 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01908304.



BRYDON & IVES
REAL ESTATE TEAM

Carmel Charm

10 Karol Lane, Pleasant Hill



Situated on a lovely cul-de-sac that backs to Poet's Corner sits this absolutely enchanting turn-key "Carmel cottage" inspired home! From the white picket fence and quaint path to the front door, to the arched doorways and white wood slat ceilings, with the special custom reclaimed sliding wood barn door and delightful backyard, the warmth and character of this charming 1,771 +/- sq. ft. 3 bedroom + office / 2 bath home will warm your heart.

10KarolLane.com

Offered at: \$775,000

~ Coming Soon ~

Spectacular Views in Moraga

124 Santa Catalina Court, Moraga

4 bedrooms | 2.5 bath | 2653+/- sf. | 1.6+/- ac.

Call for more information

Lisa Brydon 925.285.8336 | Kristi Ives 925.788.8345

CalBRE#: 01408025
CalBRE#: 01367466

www.BrydonIvesTeam.com

BrydonIvesTeam@apr.com



Zestimate Schmestimate

By Andi Peterson Brown

I recently met with some prospective sellers to discuss putting their home on the market this summer. Like many sellers, they had printed out their home's Zillow Zestimate before our appointment. When I sat down, I saw it—on the table but off to the side, looming and waiting to pounce. I've done battle with the dreaded Zestimate before, and in fact, I have a handout for just such an occasion entitled *Why Zestimates are Inaccurate*. I had initially used stronger language in the headline, but I was advised over the shoulder by the husband that it was "off-putting."

In reality, I had already looked up the Zestimated value of their home and knew that they would be pleasantly surprised. My price opinion of their home was significantly higher, but oftentimes my opinion is lower than the Zestimate. A Zestimate is a home valuation and price created by zillow.com's algorithm. It is based purely on the numbers and recent sales in the area. While not always inaccurate, it is oftentimes inaccurate.

When I give my opinion on a home's value, not only do I think about recent comparable sales, I also take into consideration overall condition, appeal of layout and finish quality, lot usability, perceived negatives, deferred maintenance, a budget to get it ready for market, supply, demand, interest rates, the overall lending environment, and the overall economic environment. Zestimates don't take any of that into consideration, and that is why they su—, I mean are inaccurate.



CalBRE# 01738605

andi
PETERSON
brown

A CB Top Producer
AndiBrownHomes.com
925.818.4588



real local • real knowledge • real value

©2016 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01908304.

Stylish Solutions

Spring Trends Highlight Classic Luxury

... continued from page D8

The key to using traditional standards in design? Be careful to avoid inexpensive, poorly executed versions. There is nothing as bad as a poor copy of something that can only be executed properly by a true artist. From metalwork to hand-painted finishes, inlay to fabric, true skill shows. I always counsel clients to purchase the best they can afford.

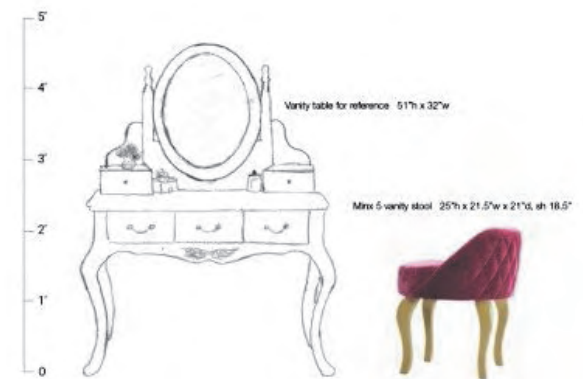
The quilt and channel. Arteriors has a channel-quilted line. The Christophe Sofa, at \$5,600, is a good price point for a mid-priced piece. Other brands showcased quilting as well. The Nathan Anthony vanity stool I find irresistible. Why? Because it can live at home with the most traditional Lamorinda designs as well as thrive in the contemporary hilltop estates nestled among us.

Enjoy these tips, Stylish Suburbanites. Until next month, live beautifully.



Orchids in a blue and white pot ready to display from Ethan Allen.

www.ethanallen.com



This piece works in several types of fabric from this classic velvet to a blue and white chintz or even quilted crewel. www.nafurniture.com



New Introduction Lamps by Christopher Spitzmiller would work in almost any décor style. www.christopherspitzmiller.com



Are you managing your own design project? Learn what you don't know that you don't know from someone who has been 25-plus years in the trenches of luxury design. Spend the day with Ann and learn how to manage your own luxury design project as lead designer, project manager or both. For more information on these power-packed days, email Ann at ann@couturechateau.com.

Ann McDonald, IIDA, NAPO, is the Founder/CEO of Couture Chateau, a luxury interior design firm in Orinda. For a complete blog post including other design ideas, visit www.couturechateau.com/blog.

Obtaining a Mortgage is Not Easy These Days!!

Let Mark Provide The Service and Expertise You Would Expect When Getting A Loan!!



Mark Zinman

Mortgage Broker/Owner

MZ Financial Group

415-203-6369

Mark@mzfinancialgroup.com

35 Williams Drive, Moraga

MZ FINANCIAL GROUP

Mark has been a Lamorinda Resident and Mortgage Broker for 15 years and would love to put that experience to work in handling your mortgage needs!

MZ Financial Group handles financing up to \$3,000,000. With Interest Rates at Historic Lows give Mark a call today to talk about your specific situation!

Equal Housing Opportunity. Loan Officer Mark Zinman | mark@mzfinancialgroup.com | CA Bureau of Real Estate License #01335252 | NMLS License #248181 | Pacific Mortgage Consultants Inc. | CA Bureau of Real Estate License #01378482 | NMLS License #2131

Village Associates is pleased to welcome Meara Culligan Dunsmore as their newest Associate.



Meara began her real estate career at Coldwell Banker in Walnut Creek followed by Alain Pinel in Orinda. Prior to earning her Realtor license, Meara worked for over a decade as an investor/manager of her own residential real estate portfolio. She brings an infectious passion and unparalleled expertise to her profession, working tirelessly to ensure that her clients realize both their personal and financial goals.

A Chicagoan by birth, Meara has lived in many parts of the US and UK but finally found her home after relocating to Lafayette with her husband and four children. A consummate professional with an extensive knowledge of the many facets of real estate, Meara offers her clients an outstanding level of service.

Meara enjoys being an active member of our community through her involvement with the Lafayette Junior Women's Club, PEO, and the various sport and school organizations that her children are involved with. She graduated magna cum laude from Boston University and holds a MSc in Geographic Information Systems from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

Meara Dunsmore

Cell: 925-282-0900

Office: 925-253-6469

meara@mearadunsmore.com

CalBRE License # 01969953



Giving Dreams an Address

THE Beaubelle GROUP

Orinda - 1.28-Acre Park-Like Setting



Designed with contemporary clean lines, an open floor plan and stylish finishes, this home connects effortlessly with inviting outdoor spaces.

The home features 5-bedrooms and 4-bathrooms. A large deck wraps around the home connecting an outdoor kitchen featuring a built-in gas grill and rotisserie, expansive patio, park-like yard, 3,500-sq.-ft lawn, bocce ball court and so much more. Offered at \$2,798,000



Glenn Beaubelle

925.254.1212

CABRE# 00678426



Finola Fellner

925.253.6335

CaBRE#01428834

TheBaubelleGroup.com

©2014 Coldwell Banker Real Estate L.L.C. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate L.L.C. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office is owned by a subsidiary of NRT L.L.C. CaBRE License # 01908304

REAL ESTATE CONSULTANTS AND INVESTMENT ADVISORS SINCE 1989
**Together Leslie & Michele have over 55 years of experience,
 and 4th generation Realtors.**

With a team of experienced property agents, we are able to provide the highest quality of service every customer deserves. We want to know more about you and your real estate needs. Contact us today for a Free home evaluation or any additional information and assistance you need. We are more than willing to serve you and guide you through the process of buying or selling a property in Lamorinda.

CONTACT US TODAY.



Manzone Team

Leslie & Michele Manzone

925.388.6056 | 925.222.5512

manzoneteam@gmail.com

manzoneteam.com

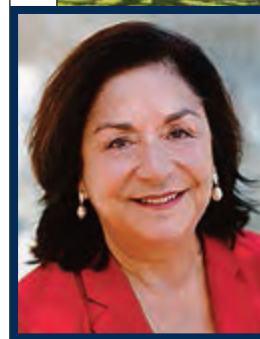
License #: 01120753 | 01028002



License #: 01866771

**VAL BRINGS VALUE IN REAL ESTATE
 AND THE COMMUNITY**

- Campolindo Football Hall of Fame Founding Chair Person 2008 to present.
- **9th Annual HOF Dinner is May 7**
- Campolindo Football Team Parent 3 years
- Stanley Middle School Jazz Liaison 2 years
- Lafayette Little League Vice President 2 years
- Burton Valley Teacher's Aide 1 year



Valerie Durantini

925.253.4657

www.valeriedurantini.com

CalBRE# 01376796



©2016 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office is owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. CalBRE License # 01908304

23 Carr Drive, Moraga



Totally updated 3 bedroom/2 bath (approx. 1519 sf) single story house with views. Open floor plan, hardwood floor, Quartz countertop, stainless steel appliances, Farmhouse kitchen sink, wine rack, LG Washer/Dryer, Premier Walk-in Tub w/ shower, dual pane windows, large workshop, near top schools, swimming club and shops.

Offered at \$995,000



Peter Liu

925-708-0947

www.PeterZLiu.com

CalBRE01460749



©2016 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. Real estate agents affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #01908304.

**Sold 14 Reliez Valley Court \$1,650,000
 Lafayette**

“Leslie’s guidance, local knowledge, attention to detail and commitment to supporting us were key to our success. Her personal contribution is truly appreciated. We have moved nine times. Leslie has set a new standard in excellence for what we will expect from all future realtors.”



14ReliezValleyCourt.com

Considering a Move in 2016? I specialize in providing my clients a full scale approach to selling including color, design and staging expertise.

Contact me today for a comprehensive plan to market and sell your home.



Lafayette | Moraga | Orinda

Leslie Lomond

Realtor, MBA and CFYH Certified Color Consultant

CalBRE# 01968517

650.799.2110

llomond@apr.com

www.apr.com/llomond



Local Expertise | Commitment to Customer Service | Cutting Edge Marketing & Design

One Of A Kind Burton Valley Estate!



Tucked away on over 2 acres yet close enough to walk to Burton Valley Elementary.

Main home: Custom built in 2003, 4,220 sq.ft., 4 bedrooms + office, 3.5 baths

Additional Carriage House: custom built in 2005, 1,200 sq.ft of amazing space...perfect for executive home office, fitness studio or kid play space

Offered for \$2,495,000

Shown by appointment only... contact Tara today



Tara Rochlin
Lamorinda Real Estate Specialist

www.TaraRochlin.com
925.586.3442
TaraRochlin@gmail.com
CalBRE#01330630



91 Orchard Road, Orinda

This extraordinary 4BR/3BA home has been thoughtfully remodeled with the finest quality materials and has been colorfully landscaped, striking a harmonious balance between home and garden. This tranquil refuge offers a variety of flowering plants, trees, vines, lawns, ponds, waterfalls, walkways, patios, terraces and verandas. Enjoy the outdoor fireplace and watch the sunset over the Berkeley hills or get inspired in the professional green house. Minutes to Meadow Swim & Tennis Club.

Offered at \$2,595,000 | 91OrchardRd.com



Paul & Virginia Ratto

925.998.9501
vvarni@pacunion.com
rattoandratto.com
License #: 00900621 | 01361537



Refinancing? Purchase? 2nd Home?

Home Lending in Lamorinda over 25 years.

Call Becca today!

Becca Romonek Loan Officer-Team Rider NMLS#1436604

Cell: **925.899.5758**
Becca.Romonek@prospectmtg.com
8 Camino Encinas, Suite 115 Orinda

Equal Housing Lender. Prospect Mortgage, LLC, NMLS ID #3296, (www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org) is a Delaware limited liability company, licensed by the Department of Business Oversight under the California Residential Mortgage Lending Act. This is not an offer for extension of credit or a commitment to lend. Terms and conditions apply. Additional loan programs may be available. This is not an offer to enter into a rate lock agreement under MN law, or any other applicable law. Call for details. 3/2015 NMLS ID # 1438399 Orinda Branch



PROSPECT
MORTGAGE



DAVID PIERCE

Helping Lamorinda Homeowners Since 1987

Direct: 925 254 5984

david.pierce@sothebysrealty.com

www.DavidPierce.net

CalBRE #00964185



Each Office is Independently Owned & Operated

Gen. Eng. Lic #971074

925.932.5432
www.sewerinspections.com

Sewer Inspections & Cleaning

Locally Owned & Operated

38 Years of Experience

Video Inspections & Locating

Sewers Unclogged

Overflow Protection Device Installation

Trenchless Replacements & Repairs

We let the video speak for itself!

Digging Deep

Spring Forward with Fresh Gardening Ideas This May

By Cynthia Brian

“Now every field is clothed with grass, and every tree with leaves; now the woods put forth their blossoms, and the year assumes its gay attire.” ~Virgil



A beautiful shade oasis of camellias and azaleas.

Photos Cynthia Brian

With all the rain we've enjoyed this season, spring has birthed the most spectacular garden displays experienced in years. The air is fragrant with the scent of jasmine, emerald green hills are decorated with golden poppies, and pretty peonies populate our plots. Songbirds chirp as they feather their nests, butterflies flit from blossom to bloom, lady beetles and bees are busy with their business. A lovely turkey feather poked out from under my fig bush by my living room window. When I went to grab it, I realized it was attached to a wild hen sitting on eggs. She wasn't even startled and I've continued to enjoy watching her daily.

Our natural world has found its equilibrium.

My Pearl's Premium lawn is finally looking lush and full. The secret was constant reseeded, daily moisture and netting to keep the birds at bay. This summer will tell how drought resistant the grass is. One thing is for certain, it has definitely forced out weeds and dandelions. Whereas I used to pick at least a hundred dandelions a day to feed the quail, I am now down to half a dozen or even less. Thus far I am impressed with this grass seed and will keep you posted as the dry weather sets in. (www.pearlspremium.com)

I've been busy planting seeds one by one, a very tedious task, as I'm not one to start my seedlings indoors. Instead I use an egg carton and pour the various seeds I want to plant into the egg holders, then, I meticulously plunge each tiny seed into its own hole. Some seeds, like Echinacea, are smaller than a pinpoint. One has to have serious dedication to growing a variety of specimens when sowing. My preferred method is to scatter a big bucket of seeds mixed with sand and see what thrives. Cinda McKinnon of Orinda has used this method successfully on her wild Mediterranean hillside.



A stunning palette of purple and orange highlights this Mediterranean-style garden of scattered poppy seeds, purple bearded iris, Santa Barbara daisy, California natives, and lavender in Cinda McKinnon's drought resistant garden in Orinda.

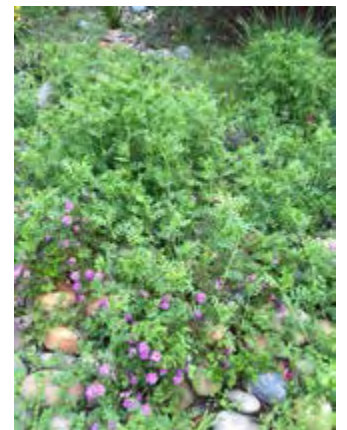
My March 23 article about cultivating a wildflower meadow (go to <http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1002/Digging-Deep-How-to-Cultivate-a-Wildflower-Meadow.html>) sparked immense interest from across the country. One of my favorite descriptive notes arrived from Ron in Texas who wrote:

“What a wonderful article on growing wildflowers. I've always loved wildflowers, remembering the trillium that carpeted the Wisconsin forests in the spring and the daisies, black-eyed Susans, and other wildflowers that covered any open field all summer long. Later, finding wild azalea in the Georgian woods and now, in Texas, going to see the bluebonnets and Indian paintbrush, as well as finding every vacant lot here in Houston filled with 7-foot tall sunflowers. Thanks to Lady Bird Johnson, planes seed most Texas highways with beautiful wildflowers largely in the spring before the heat and drought of summer and their beauty. I always let my yard grow wild in spring so that many wildflowers there can bloom and reseed.”

And that is the secret to spring wildflowers — allow them to bloom and reseed.

The simple pleasures of spring are for all of us to savor. Get moving and get into your garden.

... continued on page D18



Till your vetch into your garden soil to add nutrients.



A bowl of Beauty peony.



COMING SOON in Rossmoor!

Wonderful LEVEL-IN condo ... no stairs to entry!

Villa Robles floorplan

2 Bedrooms | 2 Bath

1521± square feet

Privacy and beautiful views from spacious open veranda

Attached garage

Call for details!



MARY BETH MACLENNAN
925.324.6246

TONY CONTE 925.708.1396

marybeth@mbtcpartners.com
tony@mbtcpartners.com

License # 01480008 | 00959101
Pacific Union # 01866771



✓ LAMORINDA ✓ ROSSMOOR ✓ GREATER EAST BAY



Reach 60,000+ in Lamorinda
Advertise in
Lamorinda Weekly
Call 925-377-0977 today

We print and deliver 26,000 copies every other week.

LAMORINDA
WEEKLY
Local newspaper delivered to Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda



Digging Deep ... continued from page D16

CYNTHIA BRIAN'S FRESH IDEAS:

REFRESH your dirt with a few yards of new, enriched top soil and compost. Good soil is the foundation for a healthy, happy landscape.

TILL your cover crops of vetch, mustard, clover, or fava beans into your soil. If they have grown to large to till, pull them out, run them over with a lawnmower, then return them to the soil for all of the nutrients they will provide your produce.

SEPARATE seeds in an egg carton for ease in sowing.

POKE holes in the soil with a pencil or stick to plant a variety of small seeds including sunflowers, hollyhock, cathedral bells, purple hyacinth beans and perennial sweet peas.

SOAK morning glory seeds for eight hours before planting or nick with a fingernail clipper to assist in rooting.

DISCOVER spring by scattering wildflower seeds. Allow them to bloom and reseed themselves for another display next season.

GATHER a bouquet of peonies or even a single stem to create a stunning and long lasting floral arrangement.

BUILD simple raised beds to grow your bounty of vegetables. Even a small 3 x 3 foot redwood box will provide space for plenty.

SHOP for vegetables and herbs at your favorite nursery or garden center. Tomatoes, peppers, squash, eggplant, watermelon, pumpkin, zucchini, beans and cucumbers are available in four-inch pots and six packs at reasonable prices.

PULL weeds on a continuous basis. Weeds zap the moisture from the plants we want. Don't let them form seed heads.



Peonies make fabulous cut flowers.

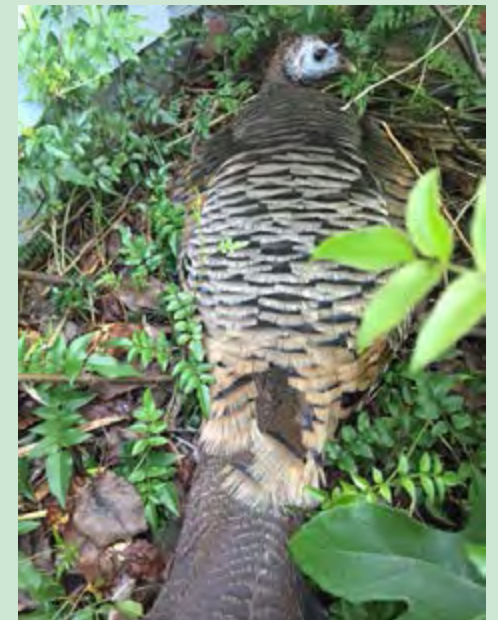
EMPTY standing water from pots, tires, neglected ponds, pools or any place where mosquito larvae will breed. With all the rain we've had this year, mosquitoes could spread West Nile virus. If you have a pond, the Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control will provide free mosquito fish by calling (925) 771-6196. California authorities are monitoring the activity of West Nile virus and request that any dead birds or squirrels be reported to them at (877) 968-2473.

SEED and reseed your lawns specifically when it's raining. Make sure to keep the seed moist until it sprouts. Pearl's Premium may be the answer for a lush, green, drought-resistant lawn. www.PearlsPremium.com

DANCE the snail stomp, a dance my children and I invented one very wet winter years ago. Go out at night with gloves on, flashlight in hand, and a bucket to pick up slugs and snails. Find an area to dump and dance. (If you don't like to dance, fill the bucket with soapy water and the dirty deed is done.)

TOUR gardens when you are not enjoying your personal backyard. Check the newspaper for garden tours around the Bay Area. You'll find inspiration in what others have designed and accomplished.

Enjoy the splendors of spring while you dream of a personal journey through nature.



A turkey hen sits on her eggs under a fig bush at Cynthia Brian's home.



Lic.: #611120

Family owned in
Moraga since 1987



*Your friendly neighborhood
arborists Darren and Lew Edwards*

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR

Time to Prune - Proper pruning is essential in developing a tree with a strong structure and desirable form. Trees that receive the appropriate pruning measures while they are young will require little corrective pruning when they mature.

Proper technique is essential. Each cut has the potential to change the growth of the tree. Poor pruning can cause damage that lasts for the life of the tree.

So don't wait until it's too late, have a complete inspection by a Certified Arborist at Advance Tree Service.

*Advance Tree Service
Your Authority on Trees.*

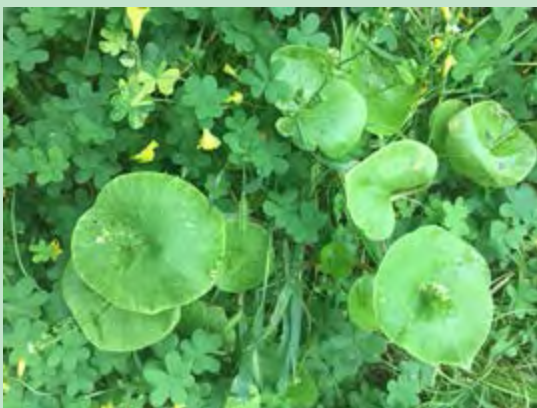


925-376-6528

advancetree@sbcglobal.net www.advancetree.com



Calla lilies and a Pearl's Premium lawn thriving in Lamorinda.



The crunchy round leaves of wild Miner's lettuce adds zing to salads.



Cynthia Brian welcomes spring to every garden.

Happy gardening. Happy growing!

©2016
Cynthia Brian
The Goddess Gardener
Starstyle® Productions, llc
Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com
www.GoddessGardener.com
925-377-STAR
Tune into Cynthia's Radio show at www.StarStyleRadio.com
Garden and plant consultations by appointment.

DESIGN
INSTALLATION
IRRIGATION
DRAINAGE
STONEMWORK
CONCRETE WORK
DECKS
FENCES
PATIOS
LAWNS
PONDS
CLEANUP &
HAULING

BLUE RIDGE



925-258-9233
CELL: 510-847-6160

LANDSCAPE COMPANY INC.
BLUE JAY FELDMAN
OWNER/OPERATOR
WWW.BLUERIDGELC.COM

LICENSED
INSURED
Lic# 818633



Get Out & Stay Out!
In Your New Outdoor Room



Let Garden Lights Landscape Development give you good reason to "Get Out and Stay Out" this summer.



BEST
LANDSCAPE
2013

Enlarge your living area with an outdoor kitchen or entertainment space complete with a built in barbecue and the warm glow of a stone or masonry fireplace.
Garden Lights Landscape Development, Inc. is a full service landscape & pool design build firm.
We design & install with just one call 925-254-4797 • www.gardenlightslandscape.com

Celebrating over 20 years of service in Lamorinda. Bonded – Licensed & Insured License# 702845 C27 & C53

McDonnell Nursery

shop now to receive McDonnell bucks



family owned since 1933

Mother's Day Gifts!

Benches • Garden Decor • House Plants • Gifts • Jewelry

www.mcdonnellnursery.com
196 Moraga Way • Orinda • (925) 254-3713 • Open Daily

Lamorinda's Leading Independent Real Estate Firm

ORINDA



New Price

15 Estates Drive Redesigned & renovated. Living, dining & island kitchen all in a "Great Room." 4bd/3ba + study/den. Hardwood floors. Patio & side yard. Close in location on .53 acre lot. Top rated Orinda schools. **\$1,595,000**

ORINDA



New Price

111 Bear Ridge Trail Gated 1.22ac lush knoll parcel. Custom 5bd/4.5ba, 3952sf home w/ light & bright rooms, walls of windows & high ceilings. Modern kitchen w/ informal eating area & adjoining family room. Views! **\$1,799,000**

ORINDA



New Price

68 Southwood Drive Beautiful fully renovated w/high-end features in/outside. Perfect for family & ideal entertaining all on one level. Views, privacy + close-in location. Separate studio suite of unmatched charm. **\$2,675,000**

MORAGA



New Listing

2121 Donald Drive #6 Desirable Moraga Manor 2 story, 2bd/1.5ba remodeled 1,224sf condo w/granite kitchen, frplc & patio. Steps from pool & designated parking. Close to shops, trails & Moraga's award winning schools! **\$445,000**

MORAGA



New Listing

202 Paseo Bernal Beautiful 3bd/3ba end unit w/vaulted ceiling, large downstairs family rm w/bdrm & updated bath, hdwd flrs throughout, inside laundry & attached 2-car gar. Walk to Safeway, park, trail & library. **\$799,000**

MORAGA



New Price

1875 School Street Great New Price! Popular nghbrhd in heart of Moraga. Walk to shops, middle schl, trails. Elem. schl bus stop across street. Family rm w/fireplace, wood floors, eat-in kitchen, formal dining room. **\$1,189,000**

MORAGA



New Listing

19 Lynwood Place Simply gorgeous lot w/amazing potential! 4 bed family home updated w/dual-paned wndws, newer kitchen, hdwd flrs, new roof, fresh paint. Great central loc. near park, schools, shops. **\$1,395,000**

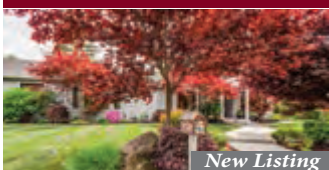
MORAGA



New Listing

395 Fernwood Drive Wonderful Harold Smith built home in Rheem Valley Manor. Custom gourmet kit. w/island, family rm w/hwd flrs, crtyd, pool & spa, trellis & BBQ. Private yet close to trail, downtown. Top schools! **\$1,475,000**

MORAGA



New Listing

400 Deerfield Drive Spacious single level 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath home in Camino Woods. Hardwood floors, new carpet, fresh paint, sparkling pool. Close to schools & Rancho Laguna Park. **\$1,685,000**

LAFAYETTE



New Listing

1820 Reliez Valley Road Modern Farmhouse in pastoral Reliez Valley. Remodeled single story 4bd/2.5ba on usable acre. Privacy with endless room for a pool, vineyard, horses, sports court, guest house. **\$1,995,000**

LAFAYETTE



New Listing

3461 Stage Coach Drive Amazing Baywood gated entry single-story 5bd/3.5ba, 3700+ sf home w/pool on level lot! Chef's gourmet kitchen/family room opens to pool/ gardens/ decks. Laf. schools w/buses K-8. **\$2,100,000**

LAFAYETTE



New Listing

3 Dead Horse Canyon Spectacular 2003 custom 4220sf home & apx. 1200sf 2005 out building on 2.47ac in Burton Valley. High ceilings, gourmet kit./fam rm, 1st flr mstr retreat. Wlk to elem. schl & swim club. **\$2,495,000**

LAFAYETTE



3184 Lucas Drive New construction 4+bd/3.5ba home by SpringHill Homes in Burton Valley w/open living spaces, gourmet kitchen, outstanding master, level lawn backs to open space, 3 car garage. **\$2,495,000**

LAFAYETTE



1155 Camino Vallecito Esheric Architectural Mid Century. Spectacular 2ac Happy Vly Estate. Beaut. updated, walls of glass, Fr. doors, high ceilings, pano views. Kit/fam rm, stunning liv/din rms, cabana/ba. Top schools. **\$3,825,000**

LAFAYETTE



5 Burton Vista Court Spectacular 7bd/9+ba, 8986sf estate w/ luxury amenities in all grand oversized spaces. Premium 2.25ac parcel w/sport court, pool & pavilion w/kitchen, dressing rooms & showers. **\$5,599,000**

PLEASANT HILL



New Listing

23 Carpenter Court Lovely 1768sf updated traditional home on cul-de-sac in sought after Hillsdale neighborhood. Spacious master w/views. Dual pane windows, plantation shutters. Private level yard. **\$789,000**



THE VILLAGE ASSOCIATES:

Ashley Battersby
Patricia Battersby
Shannon Conner
Meara Dunsmore

Joan Eggers
Linda Ehrich
Joan Evans

Linda S. Friedman
Marianne Greene
Dexter Honens II

Anne Knight
Susan Zeh Layng

Art Lehman
Charles Levine
Erin Martin

April Matthews
Hillary Murphy
Karen Murphy

Ben Olsen
Sue Olsen

Tara Rochlin
Jaime Roder
Altie Schmitt

Judy Schoenrock
Ann Sharf

Amy Rose Smith
Molly Smith

Jeff Snell
Lynda Snell

Clark Thompson
Angie Evans Traxinger

Ignacio Vega
Ann Ward

Dan Weil
Jenny Lyons Wilhite

Margaret Zucker



facebook.com/VillageAssociates

twitter.com/villageassoc

93 Moraga Way, Suite 103 • Orinda, CA 94563 • Phone: (925) 254-0505

Visit www.villageassociates.com Click on

Sunday Open Homes