

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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21st Annual Lafayette Art & Wine Music Festival

Saturday, Sept. 17 10-7 PM
Sunday, Sept. 18 10-6 PM

Downtown Lafayette

Live Music on Four Stages/ Kid Zone

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The Spazmatics - Sat. 5-7 p.m. Bank of the West Stage

The always-popular Lafayette Art & Wine Festival will be bigger this year, offering more bands, vendors and an additional Kids Zone. Photos Gint Federas

More on Tap at Art & Wine in '16

By Pippa Fisher

Now in its 21st year, the Lafayette Art, Wine and Music Festival, which takes place annually in downtown Lafayette on the third weekend of September, will be bigger than ever as it has been extended to include the eastbound side of Mt. Diablo Boulevard all the way up to Moraga Road.

This annual event, which is consistently voted one of the East Bay's top festivals, draws roughly 80,000 visitors from all over the bay during the weekend, with over 260 artist booths,

plus two kid zones, four live stages, food and one of the largest selections of wine, beer and ale of any San Francisco Bay Area festivals. Entry to the festival and access to the stages remains free, although patrons pay for drink tickets and food.

Proceeds support the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce's many programs and others, including Lafayette Partners in Education (LPIE) and local nonprofits. Jay Lifson, the chamber's executive director, spearheads the event.

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LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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The 12th Annual

Orinda Classic Car Show Weekend

Saturday, September 10th, 10am - 3pm

www.OrindaCarShow.com

Plan to Attend – Admission is FREE!

Moraga Native Hits it Out of the Park as MLB Network Host

By Nick Marnell



Matt Vaspersian grew up in Moraga. Photo MLB Network

For a fellow who never played organized baseball, either in high school, in college or professionally, MLB Network studio host and Moraga native Matt Vaspersian has risen to near the pinnacle of the baseball media profession.

"I wasn't interested enough to be competi-

tive and probably not good enough anyway," he said. Nonetheless, Vaspersian couldn't get enough baseball in his life, as he listened to Bill King broadcast the Oakland A's games on the radio through the 80s.

Vaspersian, 48, grew up in the Camino Pablo section of Moraga, attending Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School and Campolindo High School. "My best childhood memories are based on warm summer months, no air conditioning, playing outside until 9:30. It was a Rockwellian existence, safe and perfect. I never felt threatened," he said.

Not that he didn't push the limits. "One day at JM, as a bunch of us were leaving school, a girl came running onto campus shouting, 'Eddie Money is getting married!' It was right across the street, at St. Monica's, so we stormed into the church." An usher busted the miscreants, but displaying some empathy, he told the gang they could stay if they sat down and kept quiet.

Through high school Vaspersian worked at Eric's Rheem Shell station.

... continued on page A14

New Local Dads Group Focuses on Giving Back to Others

By Pippa Fisher



From left, Matt Griffin, Brian Britton, Colin Harter stand with their group's mascot, LAMA. Photo provided

Many Lamorinda families will say that fathers today are more involved than ever in their children's lives. But one local group of dads is taking it a step further, proving that they are not only helping out at home, but in the community at large.

It all started when a group of friends got together in January and the conversation turned to ways in which they individually give back to the community. They started to realize that, having concentrated most of their time establishing their careers, they could and should be doing more now to give back. From this conversation, Lamorinda Gives Back was born.

This small group of men each sent emails to encourage others who might be interested and before they knew it the group had grown to 75 men, 90 percent of whom are from within the Lamorinda area — and most of them dads — clearly demonstrating the need for such an organization.

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Delays in Moraga sinkhole and road repairs. – page A5	New artistic director takes over at Town Hall Theater. – page B1	Water polo teams hope to make a splash this season. – page C1	Photos of Fido and Fluffy liven up a home. – page D1
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Local man walks Lake Tahoe to aid vets.– page A8			



Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, Sept. 12, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 7 p.m. cancelled
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, Sept. 12, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

School Board Meetings

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

Lafayette School District

Wednesday, Sept. 14, 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 Aug. 14 to Aug. 20

Alarms	30
911 Calls (incl hang-ups)	7
Noise complaints	6
Traffic stops	103
Suspicious Circumstances	10
Suspicious Subjects	9
Suspicious Vehicles	9
Abandoned Vehicle	
3300 Block Moraga Blvd.	
3400 Block Moraga Blvd.	
Animal Cruelty	
3500 Block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
3500 Block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Burglary, Auto	
3400 Block Black Hawk Rd.	
3300 Block Springhill Rd.	
Battery	
3400 Block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Burglary, Commercial	
3400 Block School St.	
3700 Block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Burglary, Residential	
3100 Block Camino Colorados	
Civil Problem	
1100 Block Sierra Vista Way	
3300 Block N Lucille Ln.	
Police Department (2)	
3300 Block Reliez Highland Rd.	
Found Property	
St. Mary's Rd/Broadmoor Ct.	
Police Department	
Harassment	
Police Department	
Health & Safety Violation	
3500 Block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Indecent Exposure	
1000 Block Upper Happy Valley Rd.	
Juvenile Disturbance	
3100 Block Kingsley Pl.	
3200 Block Mt Diablo Ct.	
Lost Property	
1100 Block Nogales St.	
Neighbor Dispute	
1000 Block Lindsey Ct.	
Panhandling	
3300 Block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Police/Fire/EMS response	
3300 Block Las Huertas Rd.	
Public Nuisance	
3500 Block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Silver Dell Rd/Reliez Valley Rd.	
Reckless Driving	
Pleasant Hill Rd/Deer Hill Rd.	
Silverado Dr/Merriewood Dr.	
Moraga Rd/Silver Springs Rd.	
Upper Happy Valley Rd/Happy Valley Rd.	
Pleasant Hill Rd/Deer Hill Rd.	
Mildred Ln/S. Lucille Ln.	
Sweet Dr/Woodview Dr.	
Restraining Order Violation	
3300 Block Sweet Dr.	
Shoplifting	
3600 Block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
3500 Block Mt Diablo Blvd. (2x)	

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Lafayette Police Demonstrate Motorcycle Skills

By Pippa Fisher



An officer performs in competition last year. Photo Gint Federas

The perfect opportunity is coming to meet some local, everyday heroes as they compete on their police motorcycles against others

for the ultimate reward — bragging rights. Oh, and of course, get some training in the process.

From 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10 and Sunday, Sept. 11, the Lafayette Police Traffic Safety Division is hosting the second annual Lafayette Police Motorcycle Competition at Stanley Middle School. The competition is being held in honor of the fallen police officers of 9/11 and recent local fallen officers.

Proceeds from the event will go to the nonprofit organization, www.OurFallen.org, whose mission it is to provide financial relief to the families of fallen officers within 72 hours of their in-the-line-of-duty death.

Opening ceremonies will take

place at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday.

A classic car show sponsored by Lafayette Auto Body will also be held all day Sunday, Sept. 11 with food trucks and various vendors on site as well.

Last year's competition was held in conjunction with the Art and Wine Festival in the BART parking lot. There were 42 riders from all over the state and from as far away as Carson City, Nevada. Because of the success of last year's event, the number of officers participating this year is expected to double.

For more information and to see the schedule of specific events, go to www.lafayettepolice-motorcyclecompetition.com.

DRC Needs More Input Before Approving Creeks Project

By Pippa Fisher

The Lafayette design review commission asked the city creeks committee to provide more detailed information, including a more focused vision statement, before it endorses the Draft Downtown Creeks Plan, presented to the commission Aug. 22.

Will Elder, committee chairman, presented a draft that outlined plans to restore, beautify and repair the mile and a half of creeks that meander through Lafayette south of Mt. Diablo Boulevard. Running from Risa Road on the west of the boulevard to the gazebo by Golden Gate Way, the creeks border both privately and publicly owned land, preserving existing trees and riparian corridors. The committee seeks to create opportunities for public access and pathways, and to develop opportunities for creekside dining in the downtown area. The creeks committee collaborated with city planner Steve Goetz and landscape architect Gates and Associates to assemble the draft, available for inspection on the city website.

Following the presentation, the

commission answered previously submitted questions. Commissioner Gordon Chong said he would like to see the policies on standards for public and private areas of the creek, with a stronger focus on public areas. He said the commission needed a better sense of how maintenance issues will be handled.

Andre Ptasznski commission vice chair, said he wanted to see a more defined vision statement for the quality of work to be done.

And commissioner Richard Voss said the commission needed more information, expressing concern for what might happen during drought years.

Elder said that he appreciated the feedback. "It's been helpful," he said.

Bob Cleaver, commission chairman, expressed hope that the committee will be able to refine its downtown creeks plan over time so that the commission would be able to support it.

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City seeks volunteers for vacancies on the Design Review Commission Circulation Commission

The Lafayette City Council is soliciting applicants to fill key volunteer positions on:

The Design Review Commission. The five-member body is responsible for matters relating to aesthetics and the physical appearance of the city. The commission advises the staff, planning commission, and city council and acts on applications for design review including residential and commercial development projects.

Members of the design review commission are selected on the basis of education, training and experience in the fields of architecture, landscape architecture, design, city planning or a related field.

The Circulation Commission. The seven-member body reviews policy matters that affect the City's right-of-way and relate to the Circulation Element of the General Plan.

The Commission advises the city council on matters pertaining to traffic safety, on-street parking, and pedestrian sidewalks and bikeways.

Six of the seven members of the commission shall be residents of the city and shall represent specific neighborhoods as designated by the commission. The seventh member of the commission, who need not be a resident of the city, shall either own or operate a business in the downtown.

Individuals interested in these volunteer positions may obtain an application from the City's website at www.lovelafayette.org or call the City's Clerks Office at (925) 284-1968 to request an application be mailed to you. Completed applications must be received by 5:00 pm September 15th.

Flag Brigade to Mark 15th Anniversary of 9/11

By Pippa Fisher



The Flag Brigade will mark 15 years since 9/11. Photo Gint Federas

As it has done unfailingly since the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, the Lafayette Flag Brigade will mark this year's 15th anniversary with a remembrance and candlelight vigil on the El Curtola Bridge overcrossing, high above Highway 24.

This is a family oriented, educational and nonpolitical event. This year particularly its emphasis is on educating those younger than 20 years old who would have been too young to remember the events of 9/11. The bridge will feature educational displays, including a Sept. 11 and Sept. 12, 2001, newspaper headlines display booth. Free commemorative flags will be available for children.

The largest overpass flag display in the state is fully sanctioned by the California Highway Patrol as it has been for many years.

The remembrance starts at 4 p.m. and includes local Blue Star Moms, a special patriotic musical program and Lafayette Boy Scouts Troop 243, who will be presenting the colors. Local speakers will reflect on 9/11 and how it personally

affected them. This will include an open mic for those in attendance wishing to speak. As before, residents are encouraged to join in and to bring their special flag to display. The participants fly the flags in honor of those who died but also rally around the flag that unites all and defines us as Americans.

At dusk the candlelight vigil will begin. Since it is the 15th anniversary, the organizers are hoping to "pack the bridge." They anticipate this will be the largest candlelight vigil to date.

Jim Minder is the Lafayette Flag Brigade founder. "The words, 'never forget' are a reminder that history repeats itself, but they also represent a battle cry, much the same as 'remember Pearl Harbor' or 'remember the Alamo' were calls to arms," he says.

He says that over the years they have relied on volunteers to help and this year is no exception. If you would like to help, contact Patty O'Day at 925-209-5250.

To find out more, visit the website www.neverforget911.com.

Local Dads Helping Others

... continued from page A1

The board meets on a monthly basis, with the mission to provide social outreach around Lamorinda.

Brian Britton is president of the board, which consists of 14 members who come from a variety of backgrounds, from high-tech to law enforcement. This variety of background and talent is key to the huge potential for success of the new group. As Britton reflected on their first meetings he said they realized that, "Collectively, we can do more."

Britton said the board had identified the three main veins for their focus: education, battered women and children, and the under-privileged. While not governed by city limits, LGB benefits organizations mostly located in Contra Costa County. It is not affiliated with just one single charity and members have a direct influence on where resources are focused.

One of its first philanthropic activities was a clothing drive, collecting professional clothes to donate to Wardrobe for Opportunity, a nonprofit dedicated to assisting low-income individuals in their efforts to find employment. Lamorinda Gives Back collected over 250 articles of clothing from the one drive, providing clothing for 25 low-income people for job interviews.

Most recently in July LGB held its First Annual Summer Field Party with the fun theme of

"Bluegrass. Barbecue. Bourbon." Attended by 160 people and sponsored by several local businesses, they raised over \$20,000 for Shelter Inc., a local nonprofit focusing on housing. Future philanthropic events are in the planning stages.

"The need is not just financial," said board member Ryan Harley. He made the point that the group has plenty of manpower available and are prepared to give time also, for example painting, fixing and generally helping where needed. He said that there is a wealth of talent among the 75 members.

The organization even has its own mascot – a llama that named LAMA (derived from "Lamorinda").

There has been significant interest in Lamorinda Gives Back, especially since it opened up a "suggestions" section on its website giving people the opportunity to suggest recommendations on where to focus efforts.

Residents can sign up for its newsletter and find out more about upcoming activities and events on its website at www.lamorindagivesback.org.

Meanwhile, the group is planning a holiday event, which will be an opportunity to get together with friends and the community while benefitting a good cause.

These dads know what they're doing.

Update on Roundabout Financing

While the lowest bid came in higher than expected at \$1.7 million, the roundabout currently under construction at the intersection of Pleasant Hill Road and Olympic Boulevard is entirely funded by the Contra Costa Transportation Authority Measure J sales tax, according to Transportation Planner James Hinkamp. Voters overwhelmingly approved Measure J in 2004. It is a continuation of the county's half-cent sales tax that funds transportation projects. — C. Tyson

Lafayette School District Board to See New Faces

This coming November sees three candidates running for two vacant seats on the Lafayette School District board of trustees. Incumbents Jean Follmer and Nancy Wallace opted not to run again.

Candidates:

- Meredith Meade
- Robert Sturm
- Mark Kindhouse

Look for candidate interviews in the Oct. 5 Lamorinda Weekly.

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Moraga

Public Meetings

City Council

Wednesday, Sept. 14, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Planning Commission

Tuesday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, Sept. 12, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Moraga School District
Tuesday, Sept. 13, 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



Ongoing investigation 8/11/16

Hot car: the owner of a 2006 Porsche Cayenne reported the car stolen when the owner was out of state. Spicing up the Cayenne's disappearance: the vehicle is reportedly in possession of a Richmond auto body shop employee, who is attempting to register it in his name. The investigation is still cooking...

DUI arrest 8/11/16

The driver of a 2015 Ford pickup picked up an unwanted tail — a Moraga police officer — when the driver suddenly swerved into the officer's traffic lane. Not content with his first close encounter, the driver swerved toward and nearly struck several more vehicles innocently parked along Moraga Road. When finally corralled, the 63-year-old Castro Valley resident reportedly reeked of booze. He was arrested on DUI, taken to Martinez Detention Facility and booked.

Loud Party 8/13/16

How many party-goers does it take to make a party loud? Apparently only six. An anonymous tip told police of said party and Mr. Loud Homeowner was counselled about noise and issued a warning. He signed the notice. Quietly.

Suspicious Circumstances 8/14/16

When a Moraga resident noticed several mailboxes open nearby, he reviewed video recordings and called police about a white car with sunroof and spoiler. Police responded to the Moraga Way location and found miscellaneous mail dumped from Moraga, Dublin and Walnut Creek. Said mail was returned to sender — the U.S. Postal Service.

Larceny 8/15/16

The construction crew of a field office in the 500 block of Rheem Blvd doesn't have a leg to stand on, since person(s) unknown jacked the metal stairs from the front of their work trailer. The suspect(s) haven't been heard from since they've Boosted a Stairway to (their safe) Haven.

Residential burglary 8/15/16

Officers responding to report of a burglary on Beltin Place arrived to find an unlocked bedroom window as point of entry, and several bedrooms minus several possessions. The event is under investigation.

Auto/bicycle injury accident 8/15/16

A vehicle vs. bicycle collision

Moraga Center Homes Moves Closer to Final Approval

By Sophie Braccini

City Ventures has won another battle in the now four-year struggle with the Moraga community to build 36 townhomes at 221 Moraga Way.

The town council put its seal of approval on the end of the second step — part of Moraga's three step approval process — of the Moraga Center Homes development after it had stalled at the planning commission. A majority of the council members reasoned that the general plan in front of them complied with the conceptual plan they had previously approved and that it was their legal obligation to proceed.

Several legal arguments were raised to challenge the approval of the plan. Many residents have voiced their dislike of the project and 1,500 people signed a petition challenging it. But the town is legally required to review the plan because, as Mayor Mike Metcalf said, it is bound by the law and not at liberty to change rules discretionarily.

Opponents to the project understood it well. Planning Commissioner Kymberleigh Korpus had written a detailed argument to the council that reflected her legal take on the

issue (see www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1008/Moraga-Center-Homes-Plan-Grilled-by-Commission.html). To make sure that legal matters would be properly addressed, the town had asked attorney Michelle Kenyon to attend the meeting.

One argument is that this project should be subjected to residential development rules and not mixed-use (office and residential) rules as it had been indicated from the start. Staff acknowledged that the Moraga Center Specific Plan (MCSP) that rules the Moraga Center Homes property was not specific regarding that question. However, it is standard planning practice that parcels be ruled by their original designation and not their final use.

The arguments regarding the lack of conformity with the neighborhood and its "bulkiness" along a scenic corridor were rejected because the developer has already made substantial changes to accommodate all of the various requirements asked for by design review board and planning commission.

Resident Jay Tanner noted that

the requirements of the MCSP environmental impact report require further setback and more building separation than this development has. He was told that these rules do not apply to each project individually, but to the totality of the plan and that it has been determined that the plan as a whole is compliant with the EIR.

Several residents said they believe that this project is not compliant with several aspects of the General Plan. The issue here is that the MCSP has been found compliant to the plan. Challenging this compliance would be a completely different process.

Korpus had also argued that the review of the conceptual plan was a de novo hearing, meaning from the ground up. Kenyon disagreed, confirming that the only question the council should answer was whether this second stage of the approval process was compliant with what they had been required during the first phase.

"The council does not have the power to unilaterally amend the CDP (conceptual plan) at this stage," she said.

Ten residents spoke at the meeting, seven against the project and three in favor.

Councilmember Phil Arth simply stated that he had been convinced by the staff report and that he would approve the project. Vice mayor Dave Trotter confirmed his support of the MCSP that he helped develop and approve five years ago along with Metcalf, and they both supported the view that this stage of the planning process should only deal with the compliance with the previous one.

Councilmember Teresa Onoda had already voiced her reticence during the approval of the conceptual map of the Moraga Center Homes and opposed it this time around. Councilmember Roger Wykle also opposed the plan, indicating that there were elements that could have been improved at this stage, but he was not followed by other council members.

City staff members noted that the project now requires three additional approvals from the town: the Precise Development Plan, Final Design Review and Final Subdivision Map.

Moragans Want Safety, Open Space and Good Roads

By Sophie Braccini

It's always a good idea to ask your constituency how they perceive the quality of your service and what they value in what you offer. The Town of Moraga entrusted Godbe Research to do just that by polling a significant number of residents. The results say residents want to stay safe, to protect open space, and to repair storm drains and roads.

The results of the survey also give the idea that Moragans have a positive view of how the town is managed, that they are engaged, but want more efforts to attract businesses in Moraga.

Charles Hester, president of Godbe Research, says that Godbe polled 412 people, a representative sample of a population of 9,764 voters. He says that his company uses sampling and algorithms methods used by the best political pollsters and that the results obtained have only a 5 percent margin of error.

Using half phone interviews and half emails, the 412 respondents were asked to indicate what they thought are the most important public services, and how satisfied they were of the way the town handled them. Godbe created a

diagram called the importance/satisfaction matrix (at right), synthesizing both criteria. The top left are those services that are important and well served, the top right are well served but not as important, the bottom left are neither important nor well served, the bottom right are important but need improvement. In that quadrant are services in which people would want to see more town involvement.

The winner, both in term of importance and excellence is fast response to 911 calls. The next priority for residents is the preservation of open space and ridgelines. Taking care of the drainage system is also a top priority — as one could have anticipated after the sinkhole near the intersection of Rheem and Moraga Roads.



Importance/Satisfaction Matrix

Image provided

Rather surprisingly, residents registered a significant level of dissatisfaction regarding the state of the roads, when public works just finished its four-year repair cam-

paign using sales tax money that dramatically increased the pavement index for the town.

... continued on page A12

Pending in Moraga!



4 Dolores Court, Moraga

Located on a cul-du-sac in Carroll Ranch, this stunning townhouse has 3BR/3BA. This townhouse also has a fabulous floor plan and is conveniently located minutes from shopping, schools, parks and public transportation.

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Sinkhole Repair Delayed Until Spring

By Sophie Braccini

Moraga's Interim Town Manager Bob Priebe confirmed at the end of August that the repairs of the failed culvert at the intersection of Rheem Boulevard and Center Street will have to wait until next spring.

The town's public works team and contractors are simply patching the nine-inch conduit

to prevent flooding and further damage in that hole during the coming rainy season.

The lane configuration at this intersection should remain the same all winter. For more information see www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1013/Town-Faces-Delays-in-Sinkhole-Repair.

All-access Playground Confirmed at Commons

By Sophie Braccini

The Moraga Town Council decided that the all-abilities playground to be donated by the Moraga Rotary be installed at the Moraga Commons Park.

Council members said they preferred the more centrally located Commons than at Rancho Laguna Park, where it had first been envisioned.

The council indicated its desire to see the new structure installed close to the existing upper playground – the tot lot — and asked city staff to refine a configuration that would spare the mature trees that are now shading the existing play-

ground. The final resolution stated that the town would pay for the preparation work that is needed at the Commons, in the range of \$130,000, using developer fees.

Only councilmember Teresa Onoda stated her preference for installing the new playground for kids with all abilities at Rancho Laguna. She cited first cost reasons, and second because she expects that children on the spectrum of autism, for whom this park is also conceived, would enjoy a more peaceful environment.

Rheem Boulevard Closure Extended

By Sophie Braccini



The sign says it all: Rheem Boulevard will be closed longer. Photo Sophie Braccini

Rheem Boulevard south of Moraga Road will be closed until December, a month-and-a-half longer than the Town of Moraga originally anticipated.

The closure is due to construction of SummerHill Homes housing, who entered a partnership with the town to reconstruct the roadway.

Interim town manager, Bob Priebe said that his staff became aware of the delayed completion date when the public did. "The town will work to ensure that we receive more timely information on this project," he said, adding that the town's major interest is that this project be completed as designed to ensure a safe and lasting benefit to the community.

John Hickey, speaking for the builder, said that the delay was because the town requested to confirm some design components, and that the start of work was postponed by a month.

"Because of that and the Thanksgiving holiday, the completion date shifted from the end of October to the beginning of December," he said. "The roadway will be stabilized before the rainy season begins. ... Rainy weather after that could affect the preparation of the subgrade and the paving, but the work that we're doing to stabilize the roadway will already be in place."

The rainy season usually starts mid-October.

Four Candidates vie for Moraga School District Board

The term of three members of the Moraga School District Governing Board is expiring in November, and board member Shari Simon is not running for reelection. That leaves two incumbents for three positions; chair Richard Severy and Jim Obsitnik.

Of the three opened positions, two are for four-year terms, and one for two-year term. For this shorter mandate there is only one candidate, incumbent Obsitnik.

Incumbent candidate for four-year term:
Richard Severy

Other candidates for four-year-term:

David Harrison
Joe Rosenbaum
Look for candidate interviews in the Oct. 5 Lamorinda Weekly.

//
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Orinda

Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, Sept. 20, 7 p.m.
Library Auditorium, Orinda Library
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Planning Commission

Tuesday, Sept. 13, 7 p.m.
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,
Orinda Library

Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission

Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2016, 6:30 p.m.
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,
City Hall, 22 Orinda Way, Orinda

School Board Meetings

Orinda Unified School District
Monday, Sept. 12, 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 Orinda:

www.cityoforinda.org
Phone (925) 253-4200

Chamber of Commerce:

www.orindachamber.org

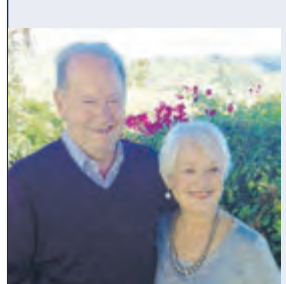
The Orinda Association:

www.orindaassociation.org



Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report August 7 to 20

Alarms	55
Noise complaints	6
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	6
Traffic stops	85
Suspicious Circumstances	8
Suspicious Subjects	15
Suspicious Vehicles	12
Abandoned Vehicle	
20 block Crescent Dr.	
Barking Dog	
60 block El Toyonal (3)	
20 block Monte Vista Rd. (2)	
Battery on police (felony)	
Theatre Square	
Burglary, Auto	
Wildcat Cyn, Rd./San Pablo Dam Rd.	
Burglary, misc.	
300 Camino Pablo	
Burglary, Residential	
40 block Las Palomas	
Credit Fraud	
10 block Fleetwood Ct.	
Civil	
20 block Ivy Dr.	
30 block La Campana Rd	
20 block Camino Sobrante	
Death, non-criminal	
70 block Loma Vista Dr.	
Disturbance	
Orinda Intermediate School (2)	
10 block Kittiwake Rd.	
Dispute	
50 block Bear Ridge Rd.	
20 block Estabueno Dr.	
30 block Fallen Leaf Terrace	
Drunk in Public	
Safeway	
DUI	
30 block Greenwood Ct.	
Camino Pablo/Orinda Way	
BevMo	
Felony	
Camino Pablo/Santa Maria Way	
Fireworks	
La Encinal/El Toyonal	
ID Theft	
100 block Camino Pablo	
Bank of America	
20 block Orinda Way	
40 block Sleepy Hollow Ln.	
Missing Adult	
20 block Oak Dr.	
20 block Crest View Terrace	
Police/Fire/ EMS	
200 block Rheem Blvd.	
40 block Southwood Dr.	
500 block Moraga Way	
Promiscuous Shooting	
Orinda Senior Village	
Public Nuisance	
Camino Pablo/Hwy 24	
Reckless Driving	
San Pablo Dam/Bear Creek Rds (2)	
Camino Pablo/Hwy 24	
St Stephen's Dr./Hwy 24	
San Pablo Dam Rd./Wildcat	
Sally Ann Rd./Parkway Ct.	
Theft, Petty	
90 block Acacia Dr.	
100 block Meadow View Rd.	
CVS Pharmacy	
20 block Camino Don Miguel	
Threats	
30 block Underhill Rd.	
Trespass	
Camino Sobrante/El Ribero	
Warrant Service/Arrest	
Starbucks	



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Adore Orinda? Show Your Love by Entering Your Photo

By Sora O'Doherty



Photos Sora o'Doherty

The city of Orinda is preparing to launch a new website early next year and is sponsoring a photo contest, "Adore Orinda," asking members of the community to submit exceptional photos that provide perspective on the city's vibrancy, vitality and viability.

Winning entries will be unveiled on the new city website, will receive recognition at a city council meeting and will be featured on the city's various media platforms — the Orinda Way Newsletter, Orinda Outlook and the city Activity Guide. Winners will be selected by representatives of the city.

Submitting a photo for the contest constitutes permission for the city to use your photograph either online or in print. Photographers will be credited and will retain the copyright for photos used.

The city seeks entries in four categories:
1) Parks and Open Space: any park and open space within city limits
2) Built Environment: downtown scenes, streetscapes, neighborhoods, hillsides.
3) Community Life: arts and culture, city events, night life, and recreation programs
4) Digitally Altered: must fit within one of the three categories listed

Except in category 4, photos may not have been altered with any computer software. Entrants may submit a photo in all four categories but may only submit one entry per category.
Entrants will be separated into two divisions, Youth (under 18) and Adult. Age is determined at the time of submission. Entrants under the age of 18 must have permission of a parent or legal guardian.
The rules specify that entries

must be suitable for display on a public website, and the city reserves the right to reject any entry due to its objectionable content such as the use of profanity, nudity, drug, alcohol or tobacco use, or cruelty to persons or animals.
Entries are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 4, and winners will be notified by Jan. 30.

Complete information on how to enter the contest is located at www.cityoforinda.app.box.com/s/fq55d6hnebvzma79rvqltu4sojh-8peg or by contacting Recreation Supervisor Sheena Wellman-Miner at sminer@cityoforinda.org or (925) 253-4207.



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OUSD Race: One Incumbent and Two Challengers

Three candidates will vie for two contested seats on the Orinda Union School District board of trustees in November. The district comprises Glorietta, Sleepy Hollow, Wagner Ranch and Del Ray elementary schools plus Orinda Intermediate School.
Incumbent Candidate:
Sarah Genn Butler
Other Candidates:
Hillary Weiner
Cara Rubinstein Hoxie
Look for candidate interviews in the Oct. 5 Lamorinda Weekly.



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Rainbow Flag Flies Proudly Again after Theft from St. Mark's

By Nick Marnell



A firefighter helps install a new rainbow flag.

Photo Andy Scheck

About 2,000 years ago, Jesus shocked his disciples with one of his most off-putting comments recorded in the Bible. "Do you think I have come to establish peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three." (Luke 12:51-52)

St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Orinda felt the sting of that division Aug. 12 when its rainbow flag — popularized as a symbol of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender pride and diversity — was stolen.

The church purchased the flag and displayed it at the Orinda Fourth of July parade. Afterward St. Mark's mounted the flag on the sign in front of the church on Moraga Way. Church officials wanted everyone driving by to see the flag and know that St. Mark's was a fully inclusive church.

"How sad," said the Rev. Michele Robbins, St. Mark's pastor. "How sad it is that not everyone is into inclusion."

Robbins said she went home that Friday, bummed, realizing that the thief probably had no use for the flag and that it was likely destroyed. She turned to Nextdoor, a website that connects neighbors within their communities, and posted the news of the loss.

The responses overwhelmed her:

"Awful! I pointed that flag out to my 13-year-old daughter this past weekend. She gave it the ultimate teen blessing - 'Cool.' If the flag is not found or returned, I hope the church members will raise another one."

"What a shame. If the church community decides to offer an award to catch the culprit, I'd gladly chip in money."

"I too was SO happy to see that rainbow flag in front of St. Mark's and want to see it back again ASAP! Please let us know if you are taking donations for a new one!"

"Seriously, who would steal from a church? We're sending a donation to help you put up another flag and thank you so much

for supporting the LGBT community."

On the following Sunday, Robbins and the congregation prayed for the person who took the flag. She tied in the scripture reading, explaining that Jesus knew that following his word would cause conflict and distress. "When you're disrupting and confronting you have to expect there will be division and conflict," she said, the division manifest in the St. Mark's community by the theft of the flag.

Within a week, enough donations poured in to not only purchase a new flag and assembly, but also to acquire a second, backup flag. On Aug. 31, Moraga-Orinda Fire District engineer-paramedic Jacob Airola and church trustee Brent Goetzl led the installation and the raising of the new St. Mark's rainbow flag.

Following the suggestion of the Nextdoor community, the crew positioned the flag higher on the sign than sat the original.

"I'm just happy to have it back up," Robbins said.

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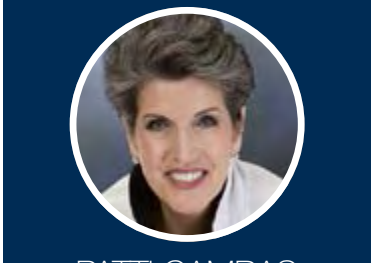
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—Raine Rude, Buyer & Seller, Oakland-Piedmont

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—Douglas R. Koenig, Buyer & Seller, Lafayette



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Fire Districts

Public Meetings

Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board of Directors
Wednesday, Sept. 21, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 7 canceled
Go to website for meeting location
For meeting times and agendas,
visit www.mofd.org

ConFire Board of Directors
Tuesday, Sept. 13, 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
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www.lamorindacert.org.

No Election for AUHSD Board

With longtime Acalanes Union High School District trustee Richard Whitmore deciding not to run again, it will be a quiet race for the AUHSD board, with just two open seats.

Incumbent Running:
Kathy Coppersmith
Other Candidate:
Craig Carl Cheslog

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Lafayette Man Walks Lake Tahoe to Support Vets

By Cathy Dausman



Ted Gallagher

Photo Cathy Dausman

Ted Gallagher's looks are pure Marine, from his closely cropped hair to his sturdy build. His firm handshake and impeccable manners belie a humble and somewhat private demeanor.

Gallagher's privacy, however, may be a thing of the past after he completes an eight-day loop on foot around Lake Tahoe beginning Sept. 10 to raise awareness of veteran suicide rates and raise funds for the veterans' organization Semper Fi.

Gallagher has always loved walking, hiking and trail running. His father was a veteran of World

War II, having served three tours in the Pacific theater; the elder Gallagher and his wife taught their son about giving back. It only becomes apparent how much Gallagher is giving back when he reveals that he has neither served in the military nor has family members who have served.

Still, the Lafayette man insists that veterans, the wounded and their families "deserve, in my opinion, the absolute best of the best." That may explain why Gallagher keeps upping his game on the Tahoe loop. The event "has grown far larger" than Gallagher expected when he

first decided to raise \$10,000 for Semper Fi, possibly by hiking the Lafayette Reservoir Nature Trail.

"Then I thought go big or go home" Gallagher said and the \$10,000 goal became \$25,000 and the location changed to Tahoe. That amount increased to \$50,000 and finally \$100,000. Gallagher has received at least 80 donations. An anonymous check for \$36,000 from a former Marine puts his current total at \$106,000 before he ever makes a footprint in the Tahoe basin.

"It never ceases to amaze us how creative our supporters have been," says Vanessa Keane. Keane, senior manager of community outreach and events for Semper Fi, says Gallagher's donation is "an incredible amount of money," especially considering the majority of their grants amount to less than \$1,000 per case. She said veterans with "invisible wounds" like traumatic brain injury or post-traumatic stress disorder may face a lifetime of recovery.

Gallagher's walk begins and ends at Homewood on the southern end of Lake Tahoe. His route takes him along streets, highways and walking trails. A work buddy will accompany him on the first day of

his hike but Gallagher expects to be solo for much of the event although he has invited "a ton of vets" to join him. He's packing water, jerky, almonds and power bars; his lodging is a combination of guest and motel rooms cobbled together for the event.

Gallagher calls his walk "The 72 for the 22 at elevation 62(00)," signifying the 72-plus miles he will hike to commemorate 22 veterans who take their lives daily; the last number references Lake Tahoe's 6,200 foot elevation.

Gallagher says that while "writing checks" is great, he gains deeper satisfaction from a physical challenge. Still, he insists, "I'm just a messenger."

Dollars — \$106,000 and counting so far — to donuts he's mistaken.

Semper Fi (www.semperfund.org) was established in 2004 to provide financial assistance and lifetime support for post 9/11 wounded, ill and injured service members and their families.

To see the Ted Gallagher website, visit www.fundraising.semperfund.org/fundraise?fcid=635878.

Many Wishes are Granted at Saint Mary's Fun Run

By Cathy Dausman

It was everything the Make-A-Wish Greater Bay Area Foundation could have wished for, and then some — blue skies on a summer Saturday and a 300-plus participant turnout for the annual East Bay Walk for Wishes fun run.

The fun run on Aug. 20 was the third such event on consecutive weekends in August (Petaluma hosted a walk Aug. 13; Mountain View held theirs Aug. 27) and the seventh event hosted at the Saint Mary's College campus.

"We try to make (the walks) an entertaining experience for the kids," said Make-A-Wish marketing director Jennifer Wilson.

And fun it was, as 43 Wish teams assembled to be treated to temporary tattoos, live DJ music, bagels and fruit and coffee compliments of the Moraga Police Department.

"It was an awesome turnout," said Make-A-Wish volunteer and former wish recipient Audrey Price of Lafayette (<http://tinyurl.com/hqefprf>), who volunteered for and walked the course with her family. "Star Wars" enactors from the Golden Gate Garrison's 501st Legion added an otherworldly presence as five members trooped in to the music of the Imperial March. Ten-year-old cancer patient Gavin Cano had his photo taken with family, friends and troopers under the start line minutes before learning he would have his wish granted — to swim

with dolphins in Oahu with his family.

The SMC event raised \$71,746, helping Make-A-Wish

Greater Bay Area grant 378 wishes this year, Wilson said.



Gavin Cano (being hugged) learns he will have his wish -- to travel to Hawaii with his family and swim with dolphins -- granted by Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Photo Cathy Dausman

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Orinda Motors Presents



The 12th Annual Orinda Classic Car Show Weekend

Friday Night Pre-Party,
September 9th, 6:00pm
"DANCING WITH THE CARS"

Saturday,
September 10th, 10am-3pm
ORINDA CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Exhibitors' Sponsor:



Entries by mail are now closed. Please go to www.OrindaCarShow.com for current entry information.

Join us as a spectator - Admission is FREE!

Enjoy vintage and modern exotic cars and motorcycles, food, music, and more! The show will be held in and around Orinda Motors, 63 Orinda Way.

Cruise in a Classic!

Donate \$10 and choose your ride for the Drive.



Enter Your Car and Buy Party Tickets Today at www.OrindaCarShow.com

These events benefit the Seniors Around Town transportation program, Educational Foundation of Orinda and other local charities. We would like to thank our partners for helping make these events happen: Orinda Association, Rotary Club of Orinda, Orinda Historical Society Museum, Chamber of Commerce, EFO, Orinda Arts Council and Seniors Around Town.

Event Schedule

Friday, September 9th, 6:00pm
"DANCING WITH THE CARS" FRIDAY NIGHT PRE-PARTY

The presenting sponsor for this great event is **Mechanics Bank**.

The Italian Job

Our all-inclusive event is Orinda's largest community-wide fundraiser, featuring "Italian Job"-capable Mini Coopers, molto belli Maseratis, not to mention favoloso Ferraris! Also enjoy Compari-infused cocktails, a hearty Italian dinner, an abbondanza of awesome auction items and dancing to the hits of (who else?) Dino!

This community-wide fundraiser benefits our schools, our seniors, the arts, our parks and recreation, and more!

Buy your tickets at:
www.OrindaCarShow.com
Space is limited so don't wait.
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Orinda Optometry Group
Oakland Zoo
Park Place Wealth Advisors

Special thanks to the Rotary Club of Orinda for producing this party!

ORINDA CLASSIC CAR SHOW SPONSORS



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Supporting Sponsors: 92.1 KKDV, Aetna, Alliant Insurance, Bay Alarm, Clark Thompson-Village Associates, Cobra Experience, Diablo Foods, DR. Jess Santucci, FedEx Office, John Muir Health, KRON 4 News at 10pm, La Hermandad de Los Andes Vineyards, Lamorinda Weekly, Mechanics Bank, Mercedes Benz of Walnut Creek, Merrill Lynch, Pacific Business Centers, Piccolo Napoli, Recuerdo Wines, Republic Services, Safeway, Sales Muscle, The Grubb Co., The Orinda News, Thompson Group Marketing

CLASSIC CAR SHOW WEEKEND PIT CREW

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Syd Anderson	Jill Gelster	Pete Michaelides	Mike Robinson
Nancy and Bob Bishop	Steve Giacomo	Ken Miller	Dayna and John Sayres
Barbara and Jack Bontemps	Karen Derr Gilbert	Jim Mitchell	Bob Schmalz
Boy Scout Troop 303	Susan and Steve Glynn	Ed Moffatt	Greg Sisk
Sue Breedlove	Kirk Haley	Sharon and Lou Parrague	Tom and Monica Steinberger
Tom Brzezinski	Steve Harwood	Tom Pearson	Steve Strand
Sheila and Scott Butler	Carolyn and Chip Herman	Allen Pennebaker	John Vanek
Betsy and Greg Chovanec	Sally Hogarty	Greg Pritchard	Craig Volpe
Steve Corbitt	Sylvia Jorgensen	Terry Ranahan	Marie and Bill Waterman
Bill Criswell	Stu Kahn	Debbie and Wayne Rechnitz	Kate Wiley
Frank Darling	Aileen and Mark Kazmierowski	Nina and Bill Ricks	Willow Bunting

Saturday
September 10th, 10am - 3pm
12TH ANNUAL ORINDA CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Free Admission

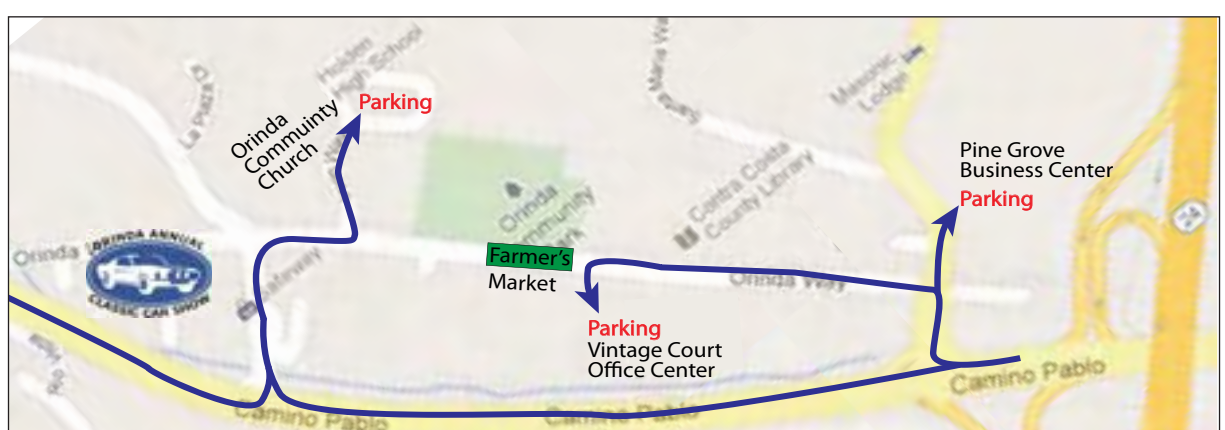
The presenting sponsor for this event is **Orinda Motors**.

- The show will be held in Orinda Village around Orinda Motors and on Orinda Way.
- 200 Classic and modern exotic cars as well as unique motorcycles
- Lamorinda Idol Winners Performance at Noon
- Arriving at 1pm, there will be an outstanding exhibit of vintage and modern ferraris - including a 1965 275 GTB Competition.
- Shaded seating to enjoy lunch and refreshments from the Car Show BBQ Booth
- Loard's Ice Cream and Candy
- Ride in the Drive of Classic Cars at 3pm
- Buy a 2016 Car Show T-Shirt

Proceeds benefit local charities: Seniors Around Town, Educational Foundation of Orinda, Orinda Historical Society Museum, Orinda Association, and other local charities

CLASSIC CAR SHOW PARKING

- Orinda Community Church and Holden High School, Irwin Way
- Vintage Office Building, Orinda Way
- Pine Grove Business Center, Santa Maria Way



Orinda Annual Classic Car Show Sat. Sept. 10th Admission is FREE!



Lafayette art & wine festival Saturday Sept. 17 and Sunday Sept. 18

Saturday, Sept. 17th 10-7 PM Sunday, Sept. 18th 10-6 PM Downtown Lafayette



- FREE**
- Admission
 - Parking at BART
 - Shuttle to event
 - Bike Valet Parking



- Parking at the Festival:**
- East BART Parking Lot
 - Handicap parking, 3614 Mt Diablo Blvd (Walgreen site)
 - Bike parking, 81 Lafayette Circle

4 LIVE STAGES -- 2 FULL DAYS

Kid's Stage	Bank of the West Stage	Fiesta Stage	Premium Wine Stage
Saturday- 17th 12:30 - 1 Lamorinda Idol Finalists 1 - 2 Lamorinda Idol Finalists 3 - 4 Lamorinda Theatre Academy Performing Ensemble Sunday- 18th 10:30 - 11:30 Lamorinda Theatre Academy- Soloists 11:30 - 12 All That Entertainment & Team Pink Dance 12:30 - 1:15 BREAK/Red House Band Set up (Stage Cleared) 1:15 - 5:45 Red House Kids Bands	Saturday -17th 10:30 - 12:00 Cover's Cup Winner 12:30 - 2:00 Bay Bridge Beat 2:30 - 4:30 East Bay Mudd 5:00 - 7:00 The Spazmatics Sunday - 18th 10:00 - 12:30 Red House Jam 1:00 - 3:00 Lumberyard 4:00 - 6:00 Evolution	Saturday- 17th 10:30 - 12:00 Dominant 7 12:30 - 2:00 Juke Joint 2:30 - 4:30 Zebop! 5:00 - 7:00 Super Huey Sunday- 18th 10:00 - 10:30 Women Sing 11:00-12:30 Bob Athaide and Friends 1:00 - 3:00 Extra Large 4:00 - 6:00 Life in the Fast Lane	Saturday -17th 12:00 - 1:30 The Rippers 2:00 - 4:00 Long Train Running 4:30 - 6:30 Other People's Money Sunday - 18th 12:00 - 1:30 Bistro Mustache 2:00 - 4:00 Savannah Blu 4:30 - 6:00 Queens and Thieves

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- 2 Kid's Zones
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Letters to the Editor

Traffic Concerns at Happy Valley School

Dear Editor,
The traffic on Happy Valley Road near the school is an accident waiting to happen. The one side of the street restricted waiting should be revisited, as this has added to the overcrowded congested car, bicycle, pedestrian and dog-walking situation.

It would be helpful to have an article highlighting the seriousness of this issue. The Lafayette authorities should install a competent guard directing traffic at Happy Valley School during school hours to prevent a child from being killed or seriously injured. Bicycle safety is an issue that needs to be addressed. Young people typically lack judgment and take risks. Kids on bikes sharing the road with trucks, SUV's, cars, pedestrians is a potentially tragic situation. Happy Valley School is on a two-lane street that has a typically active traffic situation with a student body of 500-plus students. I hope that this can be addressed before a tragic accident.

Marlene Cowan
Lafayette

A Poem: Blind Curves

I am blank as the bank of earth receding from my vision. Small rocks and branches survive the light traffic, and sudden bicycles slowly climb in the opposing direction, with the random car accelerating around them at the first brief, straight opportunity.

I coast, on the merits of gravity and some taps on the gas, from a vista of rolling hills, scattered ranch houses, and the reservoir down in late summer, through overhanging trees, some dying from the drought, listening to triumphant rock and roll,

secure in my knowledge of the drive, confident the way ahead is clear past each bend, as it has always been, on a well-engineered road that can handle the infrequent winter storm, and all I have to do is speed through one more curve to get to the flats.

David Walter Robertson
Orinda

\$15 Minimum Wage is de facto Racism

Dear Editor,
The unemployment rate for black youth is more than 30 percent, double the rate of not only other youth groups, but of ANY other group. These youngsters need learner jobs to build work skills and lives not involving chronic unemployment — or prison.

Nationally, food service businesses provide most of those jobs at \$9-\$10 per hour. If these youngsters' skills do not warrant even these pay rates, how does \$15 make them more employable?

Nationally, the food service industry labor cost is 30 percent of total costs. Net income averages 3 percent of revenues. Fifteen dollars an hour (50 percent over the \$10 average), raises labor costs to 45 percent and total costs to more than 112 percent of total revenue. Raising prices may well prompt customers, the ONLY source of sales-revenues, to say "Fuggetaboutit." The enterprise will then reduce job numbers, eliminate a service, somehow make the fewer employees more efficient, automate repetitive tasks, or close down. What will NOT happen is that these unemployed kids will get a job.

Laws requiring actions that predictably cause "disparate adverse impacts" on these vulnerable teens seem to equate to flat-out de facto government-ordered racism. How? Long-standing federal labor laws clearly state, "disparate impact holds that employment practices may be considered discriminatory if they have a disproportionate 'adverse impact' on ... a protected class." Making it so much harder to enter the job market "adversely impacts" these "protected class" young people.

Arrogantly pronouncing a law "good" without considering the predictably negative ramifications makes for self-congratulatory conversation but is truly socially irresponsible. It is tragic that those who force such action do not themselves suffer the consequences, as these kids do; and as their potential employers do.

The Congressional Business Office (CBO) warns 500,000 jobs will be lost if Federal minimum wage rises to \$10 per hour.

So, how, exactly, does \$15 per hour add jobs?

Joe Moran
Orinda

City Ventures Violates Town's Plans

The approval of City Ventures' Moraga Center Townhomes by the town council (3-2) on Aug. 24 was based on misinformation. Lack of due diligence was shocking. I have heard the word "lawlessness."

At a July Planning Commission meeting, commissioner Kymberleigh Korpus listed numerous concerns with the process and violation of plans, codes and character. Two other commissioners voted no.

The planning department refused to answer Ms. Korpus' questions. The town council chose not to address them.

Although Dave Trotter expressed concerns for "legality," he voted with City Ventures. Teresa Onoda and Roger Wykle voted

no. It appears the council based their decisions upon misinformation. The town attorney said there was only one option — to vote for the appeal, for City Ventures, yet in the meeting report, it listed several options!

A resident presented a clause from the Moraga Center Specific Plan EIR. It requires one story houses and at least one 50-foot corridor along the scenic corridor. This has three stories, 10-foot building separations and 25-foot corridors with duplex/triplexes at the end of each corridor. The town always claimed MCTH lies within this EIR, and no specific EIR was needed. When asked about the EIR conditions, the town attorney apparently debunked it, mumbling something about a recent document.

The town chose not to continue the discussion for a later date. Why the rush, when the plans and character are at stake?

The town did not make modifications that would eliminate the fire department's opposition. The fire department voted against it and requested less units.

The project did not meet requirements for the town to vacate the offer of dedication for the easement.

The town planner explains these massive buildings are new and being "introduced" to Moraga. They have never been in Moraga because they violate the plans, codes and semi-rural character.

Previously, the council admitted it violates building separations, setting a precedence for other developers to violate our plans.

One council member ran because of watching residents' frustration with City Ventures. Now Korpus is running because of this project's questionable process.

Write and take action Moraga residents!

Margaret Gee
Moraga

Will Roundabout Really Help?

Dear Editor,
I am sure that the roundabout will "address congestion and delays," but I fail to under-

stand how this will occur when there are plans to put a stoplight at the top of Reliez Station Road. I can only imagine the delays this will cause in both directions and cannot understand who thought this one up.

Judie Howard
Moraga

Smith Has Credentials for MOFD Board

Dear Editor,
Victoria Smith, who will retire from the Orinda City Council in December, has made a significant contribution to Orinda over many years as a volunteer and elected official.

And she is not stopping there. She has announced her candidacy for Moraga Orinda Fire District Director for District 5.

Victoria is well qualified to serve on the MOFD board given her 12 years of experience in maintaining Orinda's fiscal health. Throughout her tenure, which included the Great Recession, the city created balanced budgets and produced cumulative operating surpluses that strengthened reserves and funded critical capital improvement projects.

MOFD needs the experienced fiscal oversight that Victoria Smith offers. I'm with her.

Bob Burt
Orinda

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

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More on Tap at Art & Wine in '16

As City Manager Steve Falk says, "We're fortunate to have such a great Chamber of Commerce in Lafayette. Jay Lifson and his small crew do an amazing job putting on this fun and safe event for all to enjoy."

But despite its growth to one of the largest annual festivals in Contra Costa County, it remains very much a local, community-based event strongly featuring local talent, wines, foods, artists and musicians and relying heavily on local volunteers.

The festival has four stages with continuous music – all free – featuring local musicians and bands, including many returning favorites such as Bob Athayde and

Friends, The Spazmatics and many others. Among the new local talent this year will be The Riplers, featuring local high school teacher Tom Duffy.

"I try to have a mix of bands that are crowd favorites (many of which have been performing for several years) and new bands that I feel will appeal to our guests," says one of the event chairs, Brian Aiello. "I think it's important to have both – people enjoy the familiar and will come to the festival with friends to see a favorite performer year after year; but presenting new bands that have not performed in the area keeps things fresh."

Most people recognize the festival is the place to go for art, but

be sure to check out the "Local Artist Alley," located on Lafayette Circle, featuring fine artists from Lafayette, Orinda and Moraga.

In addition to the many locally grown wines and beers and the more than 20 of Lafayette's top restaurants found within the festival, this year there will be many other festival food vendors and local food trucks. Nancy Clark is a returning vendor who owns Street Dogs, a hot dog food truck.

"We have been doing the Lafayette Art & Wine Festival for many years and we always look forward to coming back," she says. "People are so friendly and they come from all over the Bay Area. There is so much to do and see there - art, wine, food, music and just enjoying the day in beautiful downtown Lafayette!"

While the music, art, food and wine appeal to the adults, for the children it is the Kids' Zone, provided by Back Yard Carnivals, and a second Kids' Zone has been added. This year's new area on Mount Diablo will include two hamster ball pools and a gold mining game. The Kids' Zone in Fiesta Square will include a 90-foot slide this year.

The Kids' Stage will feature performances from the students

of the Lamorinda Theater Academy. The schedule for these performances and for all the musical line-up is available on the official Art & Wine festival website.

Not publicized but very much local and into the fun spirit of the whole event, Mark Shaw, an 18-year veteran Lafayette real estate broker who happens to have a talent and passion for entertaining, spends his Friday and Saturday evenings from 6:30-8 p.m. of the festival weekend chauffeuring restaurant-goers in the downtown area within the festival footprint. He is the one dressed as Frank Sinatra, driving a six-seater golf cart, known as the hospitality shuttle cart, serenading his passengers. This will be his third year doing it. He says that it is a big hit especially with the kids. Shaw says he enjoys, "Meeting new people, making more friends and getting to know the community."

And it is all about community. In talking to the many people it takes to put on a festival of this magnitude, it quickly becomes apparent that they depend heavily on a huge array of volunteers. But even beyond that Aiello says, "The commitment by the volunteers is great, but there is also a deep desire to make this a great event. I

... continued from page A1

really don't know how the committee (about 40 people) evolved into such a caring group. It's so much more than a group of people that meet every once in a while to put on a show. We truly enjoy seeing, interacting with and encouraging each other. Quite a phenomenon." Volunteers are still needed, he said.

The 2016 Lafayette Art & Wine Festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 17, and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 18, in downtown Lafayette.

Lifson said of his favorite part of the festival: "Friday night we close the streets and build a village. At sunrise on Saturday, like magic the downtown has transformed into a charming street scene filled with amazing art and crafts. Monday morning, the streets are back to normal as if nothing ever happened. Love Lafayette but leave only your footprints!"

To volunteer or to find specific schedules and more information — including details of the sweepstakes prize, JetSuiteX tickets and the beautiful, locally handcrafted one-of-a-kind teardrop trailer raffle prize provided by the Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary Club — go to the official website www.lafayettefestival.com.

... continued from page A4

tem or the development of a Long term vision for the town — would be ready to contribute financially to improvements.

Hester answered that this type of questioning was completely different than a satisfaction survey. Mayor Mike Metcalf added that the next steps would be to look into open space, storm drainage and other needs that are important to residents and get price tags on them. "And then see if people are ready to pay for it," he said.



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Moraga

Moraga Survey

This roads program does not include the arterials such as Moraga Way, Moraga Road or Rheem Boulevard, streets that are badly impacted at this time on different segments.

Attracting more interesting businesses in Moraga is the topic that registers the lowest satisfaction while being of importance to residents.

The survey also assessed residents' information level and participation at events. Newspapers are in the lead with 60 percent of residents indicating they get their

information that way, and over 80 percent of residents feel that the information they get is accurate and impactful. The survey also shows a high level of involvement of residents in local events such as the Pear & Wine Festival (coming up on Saturday, Sept. 24).

The council members who listened to Hester's report on Aug. 24 were fast to ask him if residents who had indicated an issue was a high priority and needed improvement — such as the storm drain sys-

Business Bites

Compiled by Peggy Spear

New Development Director at Las Trampas



Victoria Gallagher is the new Development Director at Las Trampas School, Inc. in Lafayette.

Gallagher is originally from the Los Angeles area but says she fell in love with the East Bay after receiving her Bachelor's Degree in English from Saint Mary's College in Moraga. She

worked in fund development at The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society for seven years where she managed teams of fundraising hikers and thousands of walkers at Walnut Creek's Light the Night Walk.

After serving on the board of Las Trampas and working closely with former development director Kathy Merchant, Gallagher was compelled to come on board full-time when Merchant decided to shift into semi-retirement. Gallagher met the clients and family member that Las Trampas serves and knew that raising funds for the organization would be a rewarding new role.

Las Trampas supports adults with developmental disabilities to discover their capabilities and to lead full lives in their home, at work, and in the community. For more information, visit www.lastrampas.org.

Moraga's Employee of the Month



From left, Kevin Reneau, Moraga Rotary President; Cathi Corsi, Si Si's owner; Hannah Mattioda; Wendy Scheck, Moraga Chamber President. Photo provided

Hannah Mattioda, a barista and front counter customer service representative at Si Si's Cafe, has been named the Moraga Employee of the Month for August.

Mattioda has been serving Moraga customers for the past two years and has helped create the warm, friendly environment at the coffee establishment.

"Hannah is not only extremely reliable but also

has been just great in interacting with our customers," said Si Si's owner Cathy Corsi. "She keeps things organized and clean and always has time to have conversations with our customers. We are very lucky at Si Si's to have her working for us."

In winning the award, the Moraga Rotary and Chamber of Commerce will award Mattioda a gift card to Safeway as well as a gift card to The Graze restaurant in Moraga. Mattioda will be presented with his award and gifts at the September 13 Moraga Rotary meeting at Saint Mary's College

Chamber Music

Lafayette Chamber of Commerce

www.lafayettechamber.org (925) 284-7404

Ready for the Reservoir Run?

It's time to register for the popular Lafayette Reservoir Run, to be held Sunday, Oct. 30, 2016. For more information to participate or volunteer, visit the Lafayette Chamber's website at www.lafayettechamber.org

Coffee with the Mayor

Join us for Coffee with the Mayor with Mayor Mark Mitchell from 8 to 9 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 23 in the Chamber Conference Room. This meeting is open to everyone. Please park on the street.

Moraga Chamber of Commerce

www.moragachamber.org (925) 323-6524

Click at Lunch

Learn the importance of digital strategies and social media at the Entrepreneur's Lunch & Learn event, with guest speaker Robin S. Fox. 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7 at Amoroma, 360 Park Street, Moraga. Email kathe@moragachamber.org to register. Cost is \$10.

Tee-up for a Good Cause

Don't miss the fifth annual Golf and Tennis Tournament and Fundraiser on Monday, Sept. 19 at the Moraga Country Club. For more information, visit with chamber website at www.moragachamber.com.

Orinda Chamber of Commerce

www.orindachamber.org (925) 254-3909

Start Your Engines!

Don't forget Dancing with the Cars, a gala evening that supports local charities, on Friday, Sept. 9. The theme is "The Italian Job." Then on Saturday, Sept. 10, it's the Classic Car Show from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Orinda Village. For more information, visit www.orindarotary.org.

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

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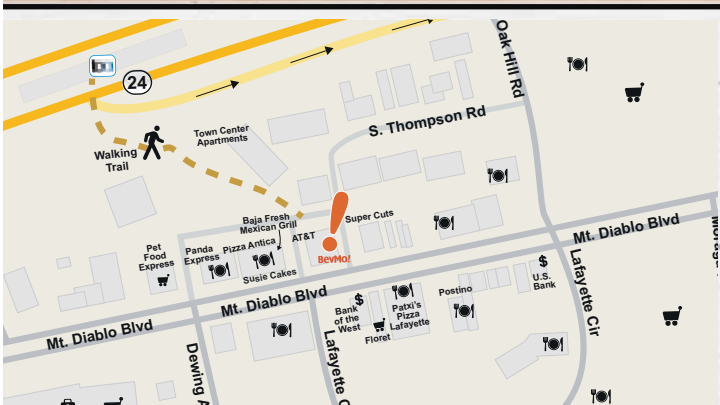
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Moraga Native is MLB Network Host

... continued from page A1

"It was the center of my social world, not Campo," he said. "I made good friends there, whom I still see."

Vasgersian returns to Moraga at least twice a year; his parents live in the same house where he was raised. "When I come back, it's hard to see how run-down the Rheem Shopping Center is," Vasgersian said. "And the Moraga Tennis Club. It was a vibrant, alive place, now closed, abandoned, in disrepair." He contemplated purchasing the club, but he moved on further along than kicking the tires.

Vasgersian's broadcasting career began shortly after he graduated with a communications degree from USC in 1989. "I was a volunteer at an Armenian summer camp," he said. "A fellow volunteer mentioned that he needed a play-by-play announcer for a baseball team he owned in Huntington, West Virginia. It became my first gig."

He ascended through every level of professional baseball, starting with his first major play-by-play job for a minor league team in the California desert, then to El Paso, to Syracuse, to Tucson. "The hotels were uninhabitable, the bus rides were torture, but what a perfect training ground," Vasgersian

said. He named Ken Brett, owner of the High Desert franchise, as his mentor and top influence. "He was always encouraging, always telling me to just be myself," he said.

After five years doing television for the Milwaukee Brewers and seven years with the San Diego Padres, Vasgersian switched in January 2009 to the MLB Network start-up. "Play-by-play is such a debilitating lifestyle, especially with a family," he said. "When I do games on the network and see the local team announcers, I am amazed I was able to do that for so many years."

Vasgersian co-hosts the network morning show MLB Central, and he does play-by-play for many of the network showcase games. He has broadcast the Olympics for NBC, baseball and NFL football for Fox and college football's FedEx Orange Bowl and the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl. His announcing style features a smooth, straight delivery, without the gimmickry and hysterical home run calls that define many of his peers.

Well, at least most of the time.

While in San Diego, Vasgersian impersonated lead singer Geddy Lee of Rush and sang the lyrics to "Fly by Night" as he described a Padres' home run to the TV au-

dience. (It's worth checking out on YouTube.) Several years later Lee — a huge Toronto Blue Jays fan — appeared on MLB Central, listened to the home run call and told Vasgersian that he nailed it. "Awesome!" Lee said. Vasgersian pointed to that endorsement as the highlight of his seven years with the network — probably not surprising coming from the kid who crashed Eddie Money's wedding.

Vasgersian lives in New Jersey but still harbors a soft spot for the A's. "The product is more important than people think," he said. "I'm tired of hearing about money. The A's were a top-drawer team in the 80s and they can be again. And I resent the tinkering with the roster. I just wish they could sustain it."

There is little doubt that Moraga is firmly embedded in Vasgersian's art, even more so now that he is married with three children. "I'd love to find a community for my family just like Moraga, if not Moraga," Vasgersian said.

With the new owners promising improvements and upgrades to the Rheem Shopping Center, it may be just the thing to lure Vasgersian back home.

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New Artistic Director for Town Hall Theater

By Sophie Braccini



Suzie Shepard has been onstage and behind-the-scenes for Town Hall. Photo Sophie Braccini

It's been only two years since Joel Roster became artistic director at Lafayette's Town Hall Theater. But the young director, actor and educator was given a hard-to-resist opportunity that is taking him further west on a new adventure. To replace him, the theater's board has asked Suzie Shepard to become interim director — at least to lead the coming season.

The shows have already been lined up and the directors chosen, and Shepard says she will focus on getting audiences in the seats and concentrate on fundraising.

Town Hall audiences know Shepard for the many roles she played there, always bringing forth her vivaciousness and delightful positive energy. She was Edwin Drood in the eponymous play, she played Veronica in "God of Carnage," and in "Company" she was Amy — a role for which she received a Shelly Award.

But the most brilliant actors do not necessarily make the cut for theater artistic direction. The reasons why the board asked Shepard to take the helm are to be found off the stage. Besides her acting career, Shepard had a life in academia in the area of recreation. Her undergraduate degree was in theater arts, and she focused her graduate degree on the study of the creative process. She eventually became a lecturer at San Jose State.

"I helped to design a course on how to create a meaningful life by engaging in the creative process throughout one's life span," says Shepard, "When people are engaged in a creative project that inspires them, they derive from it a sense of self-realization and focus less on aging."

Because of her research and interests, when the theater's board of directors went on a retreat a

year ago to focus their strategy and structure, they asked her to facilitate the meeting. Then she also worked with staff during their three-year goal setting and strategic planning session.

"I think that it was then a natural choice for the board to offer me the interim position," says Shepard. The new artistic director is slipping in shoes that have been nicely warmed by Roster: the full 2016-17 season is ready to go.

"They have got the art right," says Shepard. "My job now is to get the people in the door and reignite the fundraising."

Roster will take over as the Conservatory Production Associate at Berkeley Playhouse, "essentially the production manager for their youth theatre program," he said. THT had been a fertile growing ground for Roster who started there as an actor, led the education program, directed many plays before taking over as artistic director. But even if Roster called the Lafayette theater his home for 13 years, even if he met his wife there (Ginny Wehrmeister, who continues as education director), he could not say no to the new opportunity.

He introduces Shepard as a wonderful, dynamic supporter of Town Hall, who has dazzled audiences in a number of plays there. "She is an absolute treasure of a human being, and a brilliant artist," he adds.

The first play of the THT season, opening Oct. 1, is "The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance." Shepard says that the play, with this very masculine title, is an intriguing and multi-faceted story that speaks of love, literacy and our past history in the western United States.

"It takes place between 1890 and 1910 on the west frontier where old settlers and new people

from the east and their modernistic views are being confronted," she explains with excitement.

She also brags about "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" that will be co-directed by Lynda Divito, an equity actress from the "Rosemary Clooney Musical" at the Center REPeritory Company, coming with a New-York background. She'll co-direct along with THT's Justin Dupuis.

"We will showcase local children in the show. It is very fun, 50 minutes long, a perfect family outing for the holidays," says Shepard.

Later in the season she adds that Liz Curtis, whom she considers to be the most amazing jazz singer in the community, will be the lead of "Smokey Joe's Cafe."

The last show of the season will be Oscar Wilde's "A Woman of No Importance," directed by Susan Hovi, who also directed "God of Carnage" at THT.

As far as continuing with the artistic direction past this first season, Shepard is prudent. She says it is like a marriage. "Both the board and I have to decide if this is a good match for a long term relationship," she says.

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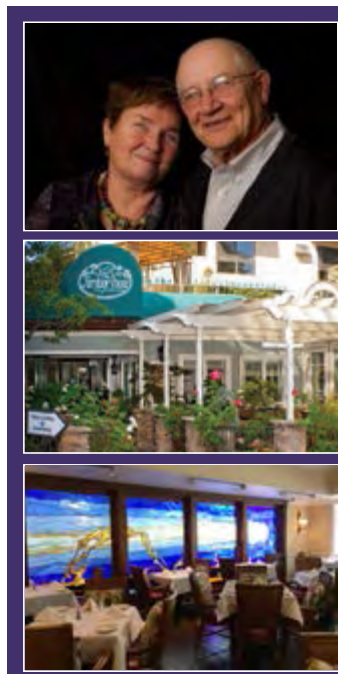
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Opening Night Feature Film:

Miles
 USA 2016 - Comedy/Drama - 90 min
 Director: Nathan Adloff

Opening Night Short Film:

The Story of Percival Pilts
 Australia 2015
 Animation 8 min
 Director: John Lewis

Festival Schedule:

Orinda Theatre – Friday September 9
 12:30 PM – Shorts Program A – Make Us Laugh
 2:00 PM – 2016 CAIFF Composer Contest
 4:00 PM – Short and Feature film
 6:30 PM – Short and Feature film
 8:30 PM – Short and Feature Film

Rheem Theatre – Saturday September 10
 10:00 AM – Iron Filmmaker Contest
 11:30 AM – Documentary
 1:30 PM – Shorts Program B – Crimes and Misdemeanors
 3:00 PM – Children's Program
 5:30 PM – Short and Feature Film
 8:00 PM – Short and Feature Film

Castro Theatre – Saturday September 10
 1:00 PM – Short and Feature Film
 3:30 PM – Short and Feature Film
 6:30 PM – Short and Feature Film
 9:00 PM – Feature Film

Orinda Theatre – Sunday September 11
 12:00 PM – Shorts Program C – Love and Friendship
 1:45 PM – Short and Feature Film
 4:00 PM – Short and Feature Film
 6:15 PM – Feature Film
 8:30 PM – Documentary

Rheem Theatre – Monday September 12
 6:30 PM – Bay Area Documentary Program
 7:15 PM – The World We Live In Documentary Program

Rheem Theatre – Tuesday September 13
 6:30 PM – Sapporo Short Fest Showcase
 7:30 PM – CAIFF 2016 Audience Award Winner

Rheem Theatre – Wednesday September 14
 6:30 PM – 2016 Slate Award Best Film Winner's
 7:30 PM – 2016 Slate Award Short Feature Film Winner

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This Lafayette Artist is Off The Wall

By Sophie Braccini



A Tony Zorich's sculpture.

Photo provided

Tony Zorich is a fine representative of "Outsider Art." Fearless and full of vital energy, his creations overflow with the joy of being alive. From Sept. 8 to Oct. 1 his colorful work is on display at Jennifer Perlmutter gallery in Lafayette.

Perlmutter very appropriately called the fall exhibit "Off The Wall." At the first level the 3D sculptures made of glass, fiberglass, wood and wire seem to literally emerge from the walls on which they are hung. The second meaning, wild and eccentric, is also very appropriate for the creations of this man who used to be a builder — he has "flipped" homes in the area for

the past 20 years, even before the term existed, and one day decided that he could and would produce art.

Zorich's first piece was a copy of Van Gogh's vase of flowers. He had never learned to draw.

"I started doing it. I wanted to do it, so I did it, and that's all," he says. Now Zorich continues his painting in the Fauvism vein (Van Gogh, Seurat, Gauguin, Cézanne), but also does sculptures, which is what Perlmutter is showing. He is also in the process of doing street art, and he has done performance art, with over 4,000 blue lights on a suit he wore at Burning Man. There too he constructed a 10-foot tall sculpture of an individual emerging from the sand. He plans to display it in Lafayette at some point in the future.

Some of the sculptures that will be on display in the Lafayette Gallery are made of wood, wire, paper and resin, with a little bit of oil painting.

"Some of his art is figurative, some is completely abstract," says Perlmutter, who just recently met the artist. She adds that he is a real Lafayette treasure. "Not only is his

house full of art, but he also has a studio in town," she adds. She met Zorich when he came in her gallery one day. "That's what happen when you have a place like this, artists just come in and talk to you," she says.

Zorich says that his work is all about having fun. "Anything I want to do and that seems fun, I figure out a way to do it," he says, adding that he constantly has ideas for new creations and projects, "I have so many ideas, I will never finish them all." He says that he makes about two pieces a week, just because he is compelled to do it. He has not yet thought much about selling his art.

Perlmutter and Zorich had a nice time installing two very large fiberglass fishes that light up at night outside of the gallery. "Those are so fun, and I will add balloons for the Art & Wine Festival," says Perlmutter.

Jennifer Perlmutter Gallery is located 3620 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, and is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday, and by appointment. For more information visit www.jenniferperlmuttergallery.com.

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Looking Good in Lamorinda

Vintage and Velvet Highlight Fall Fashions

By Moya Stone

Fall is the biggest season for fashion, when we all look forward to adding new pieces to our wardrobes as well as pulling out old favorites. So, what's up for fall 2016?

Velvet is all the rage again in dresses, skirts and jackets for day and evening. It seems capelets were around not that long ago but they're back and a good layering choice for our microclimates. And hoodies are back, although they never really left us. For 2016 they've graduated from casual sweatshirts to chic jackets and sweaters, plus we're actually sporting the hood part for a cozy look on those chilly early mornings.

Now here's a 1960s throwback - jumpers. Super cute and easy to wear, jumpers in lightweight wool plaids and solid colors are a new silhouette for the season. Acces-



Photo provided

sories include embellished gloves, bold chokers and structured handbags with extra wide shoulder straps, called "guitar straps"

"Of the moment fashion trends seem to be animal prints, especially, coats and jackets," says Barbara Grigg, vintage fashion stylist and dealer. "They seem to transcend every era and always feel chic and hip!" Speaking of vintage, coming up Sept. 10-11 is the Vintage Fashion Expo at the Hall of Flowers in San Francisco. Thirty years strong, the Expo gathers over 50 select dealers from around the country who offer for sale quality vintage clothing and accessories for men, women and children. Visit www.vintageexpo.com for more information.

Recently I stumbled upon Monaluna, a new fabric store in Walnut Creek. Shop owner Jennifer Moore designs all the fabrics with a flair for whimsy and color. Due out this fall are two new collections including Simple Life, a Scandinavian inspired line in blue and white with touches of warm red. Cottage Garden is a homage to European gardens and comes in warm colors of indigo and gray with images of hedgehogs, foxes, mushrooms and ladybugs. Miller works only with certified organic cotton in poplin, knit, barkcloth and corduroy. Time for a sewing project? Check out the website for upcoming promotions and events: www.monaluna.com.

Earlier this year I decided to learn once and for all how to sew and I've been taking classes with local designer Kamal Ragbotra through Mt. Diablo Adult Educa-

tion in Pleasant Hill. This semester Ragbotra is teaching Introduction to Sewing, in which students will learn the basics of threading a sewing machine needle, bobbins, tension adjustment, fabric options and much more. Projects include a choice of a simple skirt, pajama bottoms or an apron. Inspired? Class starts in September: www.mdae-mdusd-ca.schoolloop.com.

Kids can get a start learning to sew at SewNow Fashion Studio in Lafayette. "Our fan-favorite for fall is always the Halloween class," says owner Susan Goldie. "Students start with a personal sketch and work with SewNow! instructors to create and customize patterns, add details like embroidery, grommets, and fur, and then finish with the ultimate one-of-a-kind costume - always ready in time for Halloween." Check the website for the class schedule: www.sewnow.com/index.html

I know we're all thinking about those fall shoes and our number one favorite: boots. Now is a good time to pull them out of the closet and give a close inspection. Do they need a little TLC? A shine? A new sole? We are lucky to have three shoe repair shops in the area, all known for doing excellent work: One Stop Shoe Care and Smith's Shoe Repair in Lafayette and Orinda Shoe Service in Orinda. Show a little love to your shoes and they'll love you back by looking like new.

Have fun with your fashions this season and go forth in style.

Moya Stone is a fashion writer and blogger at OverDressedforlife.com.



Saint Mary's College Museum of Art Two New Exhibitions

September 18 - December 18



Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums

The American Soldier, A Photographic Tribute

This is a dramatic exhibition of photographs from the Civil War to the War in Iraq that captures the essence of American soldiering, ever since the birth of photography when the camera became a notebook to history.

Sponsored by EADS North America
Sponsored by and presented by Business of Entertainment Inc. Cyma Rubin, producer and curator



Opening Day Program:
Lecture by Curator and Producer, Cyma Rubin.
Sunday, September 18, 3:00pm, Soda Center



September 18 - December 11

Social Justice, Its Happens to One It Happens To All

This international exhibition showcases 43 artists on the themes of social justice. Art is used as weapons in the fight for human rights to shine a light on the conditions of the oppressed.



Photo Credit: Xian Mei Qui, The Bird Cage

Public Hours:
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Two Striking Exhibits Highlight Fall Semester at SMC's Museum of Art

By A.K. Carroll



Eric Almanza

Art has the power to amuse, anger, intrigue and inspire. It can bind a community together or divide it in two, serve as a catalyst for conversation or the impetus of a movement. Exhibitions don't make it into galleries simply by chance, but through careful curation and arduous selection.

This fall the Saint Mary's College Museum of Art — a local gem tucked in the back of SMC's campus — will simultaneously house two professionally-curated exhibitions, "The American Soldier" (open through Dec. 18) and "Social Justice: It Happens to One, It Happens to All" (open through Dec. 11), both of which were selected with a nod toward the upcoming election. The exhibitions will kick off on Sunday, Sept. 18 with an opening reception (see sidebar). Other curators and artists will also be present.

According to Kyla Porter Tynes, gallery manager at SMC, the curatorial committee looks for exhibitions that are, "interesting, timely, and appropriate for the campus and community." Tynes believes that these two exhibitions will appeal as much to the local community as they will to the college campus. Both have the capacity to reframe common perceptions and serve as conversational catalysts.

"The art really speaks to the viewer," said Tynes. "(It) evokes

empathy or causes an impetus for change. Each piece stands on its own, and, viewed in their entirety, they speak to the (larger) topic."

"Social Justice: It Happens to One, It Happens to All"

For curators Karen Gutfreund and Sherri Cornett, that larger topic is social justice. Their exhibition, "Social Justice: It Happens to One, It Happens to All," raises the question of how we create a more just and free world for ourselves and future generations.

"Art and museum galleries give us a permissible venue in which to process and meditate on the tragedies around us and in the larger world," the curators write in their catalog. They wanted to create an exhibit that would present opportunities for reflection, dialog, connection and community engagement.

Following the incarceration of a Connecticut woman who had enrolled her son in an out-of-district kindergarten, Gutfreund and Cornett started brainstorming around artistic reactions to current social, economic and political issues. Tynes reached out to them with a proposition for an exhibition, and the women sent out national call for artwork. Two years later, the exhibition is debuting.

The show, which consists of 43 installed pieces and a looped slideshow of an additional 46 works, was created by a broad demographic of artists with diverse

backgrounds. The topics of the exhibition range from abuse, to education access, to race, immigration and homelessness.

"It's a lot to absorb," said Cornett, "Which is part of why it's up for three months."

As a special kick-off to the exhibition, over 15 of the artists will join a panel discussion on art and social justice from 2-2:45 p.m. on Sept. 18, prior to the opening reception in SMC's Soda Center. The discussion will include a video.

"It's going to be really powerful to have those artists in the room, answering questions of why they do what they do and how they go into social justice work," said Cornett.

"The American Soldier"

Tony- and Emmy-award winning curator, director, writer and producer Cyma Rubin, curator and producer of "The American Soldier," will also speak at the reception. An exhibition of 116 photographs that covers nine wars from the Civil War to Iraq, "The American Soldier" is both a visual progression and a tribute to US military.

The exhibition has been viewed by over a million people during its installations in presidential libraries, universities, museums and history centers.

... continued on page B5



Xian Mei Qiu, The Bird Cage



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Opening Receptions

Visit "The American Soldier" and "Social Justice: It Happens to One, It Happens to All" at Saint Mary's College Museum of Art. Exhibits open at 11 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 18. The opening reception for "Social Justice" will be from 1:15-2 p.m. with a conversation with the artists. The opening reception for "The American Soldier" will be at 2 p.m. with a lecture by producer and curator Cyma Rubin. The museum is located at 1928 St. Mary's Rd. in Moraga and is open from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Admission is \$5 for all adults. Youth (K-12), military veterans, and SMC faculty, staff and students are free. For more information, visit www.stmarys-ca.edu/saint-marys-college-museum-of-art/come-visit.

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Girl Scouts Earn Bronze Award by Bucking Stereotypes

Submitted by Allison Curletto



From left, Sasha Krigel, Allison Curletto, Bettina Curletto, Ava Curletto, Andrey Cox, Dawn Manley and "Fire"

For the past year, Junior Girl Scout Troop 33544 of Lafayette has been learning a lot about the outdoors. While following their "Get Moving" Girl Scout journey, this group of fifth-grade girls from Happy Valley and Springhill schools decided something important: Girls don't get outdoors as much as they should.

With the distractions of electronics and the stereotype that real camping and hiking is tough and scary and is a better suited for boys, girls don't get out in nature and get dirty. Troop 33544 changed that for themselves while earning the highest award a Junior Girl Scout can receive, the Bronze Award, creating a model for other girls to follow.

The girls raised funds by selling nuts, magazines and cookies so they were able to buy their camping needs as well as their journey books and skills patches. They researched and planned two field trips and a two-day camping trip to Mt. Diablo State Park. They practiced setting up tents and cooking over a fire. They met with park rangers and learned about the local geology and

biology and even wrote a book detailing advice on camping and hiking spots as well as the fauna and flora of the park.

They became advocates for animals native to Mt. Diablo State Park and dedicated \$200 of their fundraising money to benefit the Alexander Lindsay Wildlife Experience, experts in helping local native animals in need.

By the end of their journey, they had earned their Animal Habitat, Digital Photography, Outdoor Cooking, Camping, and First Aid skills badges as well as all components of their "Get Moving" Journey and their certificate for their Bronze Award.

They celebrated in June with a trip to the Alexander Lindsay Wildlife Experience where Dawn Manley, director of Animal Encounters, arranged a private tour and encounter with "Fire," a red tailed hawk. The girls presented their \$200 gift to Manley and enjoyed a family picnic in Larkey Park.

A copy of their book is available to view through the Lafayette Service Unit of Girl Scouts.

Moraga Lions Award Pride Honors

Submitted by Dan Hagan

The Moraga Lions Club honored its annual Pride Awards winners recently. The recipients are featured in the photos below. Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School winners will be featured in our Sept. 21 issue.



Orinda Intermediate School: From left, parents Mark Swinton and Sydney Swinton, recipient Lorree Swinton, Orinda Intermediate School Principal Michael Randall, Dan Hagan of the Moraga Lions, recipient Mkalayna Chang and her father, Fred Chang.



St. Perpetua: From left, parent Mariela Gamboa, recipient James Jolin, Dan Hagan of the Moraga Lions, recipient Natalie Goodwin, her mother Kelly Goodwin, and teacher Hedi Schwarck.



Stanley Middle School: Back row, from left, Stanley staff Victoria Shegolan, Rachel Pledger, Tiffany Sullivan, Michele Murphy and Alyssa Reddam. Front row, from left, parents Peter Stelzer, Karen Hadler, recipient Kate Stelzer, Dan Hagan of the Moraga Lions, recipient Riley Richmond, Christina Rosefield and principal David Schrag.

Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary Builds Teardrop Trailer for Charity

Submitted by Thomas Black



Members of Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary show the prototype of a custom-made teardrop trailer they are building from scratch.

Photo provided

The Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary put on their work gloves to construct a custom-made teardrop trailer.

When completed it will be raffled as a club fundraiser. The working prototype will debut Sept. 17-18 at the Lafayette Art & Wine Festival. The cabin of the finished product will be constructed of varnished sapele mahogany, with ash accents. Tickets, which may be purchased at the festival, are

\$20 each or six for \$100.

The club is known to many as producers of not one but two artisan-crafted canoes, both of which were huge successes as fundraisers. As with the canoes, trailer raffle proceeds will help support a variety of ongoing community-service programs, including Interfaith Housing, Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Counties, Las Trampas and HOME team.

Lamorinda Village Receives \$7,500 Donation from DWM

Submitted by Anne Ornelas



From left, Anne Ornelas, executive director of Lamorinda Village, and Robert Jacques, senior vice president of wealth strategy at Destination Wealth Management.

Lamorinda Village, which allows senior Lamorinda residents to remain in their homes with independence, engagement with others, and access to services, was recently awarded \$7,500 grant by Destination Wealth Management.

"Lamorinda Village is a perfect match for our values," said DWM's Robert K. Jacques, senior vice president and partner, wealth strategy, in a July 14 award ceremony.

Launched in 2015 after several years of planning and research on the needs of local seniors, Lamorinda Village is a grassroots nonprofit membership organization that combines the efforts of its members, staff and volunteers to provide services such as trans-

portation, changing light bulbs, computer assistance, a handyman, garden help, pet sitters, and companionship. For larger and more extensive projects or jobs such as plumbing and electrical work, the Village offers referrals to screened companies and professionals. The Village also sponsors workshops, social activities, and educational events for members and guests from the community.

For more information about how Lamorinda Village serves seniors in Lafayette, Moraga, and Orinda, go to the website at www.LamorindaVillage.org or contact them by email at info@LamorindaVillage.org.

KCMV Provides Backpacks to Monument Crisis Center

Submitted by Barry Behr



From left, Kiwanis members Sonny Tsuboi, Tim Freeman and Steve Woehleke stand in front of the Kiwanis banner and a table covered with backpacks full of school supplies.

Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley presented back-to-school backpacks to 30 at-risk and disadvantaged kindergarten through third graders whose families are registered clients of Monument Crisis Center.

The backpacks were filled with school supplies that the children will need during the new fall and spring term. Preparing these

well-supplied back packs is part of the ongoing support to the Monument Crisis Center that is provided throughout the year by Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley. For more information about Kiwanis' activities and community service, please visit the club's website at www.moragavalleykiwanis.org.

Community Service: 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.

Two Striking Exhibits Highlight Fall Semester at SMC's Museum of Art

... continued from page B3

"I've always had an interest in American military history," said Rubin. "It seemed (like) a natural thing for me to do."

During her process, Rubin viewed over 4000 photographs. "You have a concept (that) you try to follow and things change along the way," said Rubin. "You find something you never thought you'd find."

One such discovery was a Civil War-era photo featuring a group of women dressed in mock uniforms. "They were volunteers," said Rubin. "No one asked what their social background was and it turned out the group was

made up of debutants and prostitutes. That was a real discovery."

Several narratives are constructed throughout the exhibition. "I felt I had to tell a story within each war," said Rubin. "I tried to get as many of the elements into each war as I could. One of the most beautiful tells the story in one photo of what peace in Iraq could be like."

It is Rubin's hope that viewers will allow themselves to enter into these stories alongside the soldiers. "When you take a photo, that moment of time is there — it doesn't change," said Rubin. "You can step right in."

Scouts Fete Beloved Scoutmaster at his 'Retirement'

Submitted By Barbara Weikert



Scoutmaster Eric Jorgensen and his wife Sylvia.

Photo provided

Eric Jorgensen, Scoutmaster for Orinda's Boy Scout Troop 237, was recently recognized at his "retirement" celebration. For the past 10 years, Jorgensen has served as the troop's Scoutmaster, spending countless hours on camping trips and outings, at weekly scout meetings, teaching scouts outdoor skills, assisting with merit badges and rank advancement, and demonstrating by example how to live by the Scout Oath and Law.

Under Jorgensen's leadership,

over 60 scouts have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, which is the highest rank in Boy Scouts, and he will continue to work with other Scouts in their quest to earn the Eagle rank.

Jorgensen, an Eagle Scout himself, began volunteering with Troop 4 in Berkeley before becoming Cubmaster of Pack 212 in Orinda. He became an assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 237 in 2006 before taking over the Scoutmaster reins in 2007.

In Memory

Philip Walter Everist

11/04/1930 - 08/22/2016



Philip Walter Everist, 85, of Galesburg, Ill., passed away peacefully Monday Aug. 22 at the Brookdale Senior Living Center in Danville, California. Phil grew up in Galesburg, Illinois, attending Galesburg High School where he was an excellent student and standout on the baseball, basketball and golf teams. Upon graduation he attended the

University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind., and was a member of the Fighting Irish Varsity Golf team.

After graduating with honors from Notre Dame in 1952 Phil entered the U.S. Navy Officer Training School and became a Naval Aviator. He served the U.S. Navy for 11 years flying many planes including the first carrier based supersonic fighter the Grumman F1 F11 Tiger. Phil was also an instructor at the Naval Fleet Air Gunnery School which would later become Top Gun.

While in the Navy he met and married Virginia L. Scanlan of Algona, Iowa. They were married 57 years and had four children: Shannan, Jeff, Paula and Kirk. After his Naval career Phil went to work in the steel business where he was a sales representative, manager and executive for over 34 years, working for Kaiser Steel and Oregon Steel.

Phil was an avid golfer and could regularly be found walking the course at Orinda and Moraga Country Clubs. He loved to read and found great joy in watching his children's activities. He was a regular at the many pools, courts and fields they competed on.

Phil was preceded in death by his parents, Walter and Rose Everist; and his wife, Ginny. He is survived by his sister Mary-Ann Barkach, of Farmington Hills, MI; children Shannan (Chris) Edwards of Pleasanton, CA, Jeff (Tracy) Everist of Houston, TX, Paula Everist of San Diego, and Kirk Everist of Alamo; grandchildren Marissa, Sabina, and Cameron Rocke, Adam, Mason, Troy and Drake Everist, Stacy (Sydney) and Brandon Terry, and Keira Everist; and great-grandchildren Arthur and Jameson Terry.

A memorial service was held in his honor at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 1 at Santa Maria Church in Orinda, and was followed at the parish by a celebration of his life.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to Vitas Hospice Healthcare, 355 Lennon Ln., Suite 150, Walnut Creek CA. 94598.



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Not to be missed Not to be missed

ART

The American Soldier, A Photographic Tribute, an exhibition of 116 photographs, from the Civil War to the War in Iraq, will open at 11 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 18 in the Saint Mary's College Museum of Art along with a second exhibit Social Justice, It Happens to One It Happens to All which will open the same day. Both exhibits are previewed in our article page B3. The Saint Mary's College Museum of Art is open Wednesday-Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is \$5. Children and military members are admitted free.

Valley Art Gallery presents their featured artist Peter McNeill, running through Sept. 9. McNeill is an accomplished figurative and landscape artist who lives and works in Walnut Creek and draws inspiration from many different locales. To learn more and see the work of all its artists, visit www.valleyartgallery.org.

The Moraga Art Gallery announces Creative Contrasts, a new exhibit featuring George Ehrenhaft's serene watercolor paintings inspired by California's incomparable outdoor world, and featured guest artists, David and Reed Bowman's brass and copper objects. The exhibit runs from Aug. 17 to Oct. 22 and includes works by the gallery's 16 member artists and several guest artists.

The Diablo Fine Art Gallery will host an open house from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10. Many former members of the Lafayette Gallery (which closed last March after 17 years in Lafayette) will be featured. Artist will be exhibiting their work outside the Gallery and throughout the Palos Verdes Mall. In addition, visitors will be able to watch while some artists work on their creations. The Gallery is located at 1535 Palos Verdes Mall in Walnut Creek (Lunardi's Shopping Center); (925) 933-4278.

Valley Stitchers & Fiber Artist Guild will have their first meeting of the 2016-2017 season from 10 a.m. to noon on Sept. 12 at the Faith Lutheran Church, 50 Woodworth Ln., Pleasant Hill. As a guild, its goals are to provide the opportunity for members to explore all forms of textile arts and further the highest possible design standards in these arts. Visitors are welcome to attend at \$5 per meeting, and encouraged to join at any time. The September speaker will be Trish Goldberg who is a Bay Area tapestry artist.

Jennifer Perlmutter Gallery Presents Off The Wall, from Sept. 8 through Oct. 1, with an artist reception from 7:30 to 9 p.m. on Sept. 8. This tongue-in-cheek art exhibit will show colorful works of glass, fiberglass, wood, and wire, all 3D art that pops off the wall and can be "off the wall" in character. Artists: Tim Sharman, Karen Olsen-Dunn, Vivien Hart, Tony Zorich, Dan Rider.

MUSIC

Local band The Rippers will play at Metro Lafayette at 9 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 9. Reservations on the patio are recommended to ensure a good seat. Call (925) 284-4422 ext 3 or visit www.metrolafayette.com.

At Lamorinda Music in Lafayette, the ensemble Ya Layl will play a concert of Middle Eastern music at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10. This will be a varied program of Arabic, Turkish, Sephardic, Armenian and other music performed by Sarah Michael, kanun, Peter Maund, percussion and Suellen Primost, cello with Niko Bakulich, bass. From lively dance tunes to modal improvisations, Michael plays her current favorite tunes on the middle eastern zither. Tickets and information at yalayl.brownpapertickets.com.

In a not-to-be-missed season premiere, the Gold Coast Chamber Players launch their 2016-17 season with the first of five concerts, Oboe-Centric, at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24, featuring oboist Mingjia Liu, Principal Oboe of San Francisco Opera. Mingjia is one of the leading oboe players in the US and his expressive style and virtuosity has made him one of Gold Coast's most popular musicians! Ticket price includes complimentary champagne, a pre-concert talk at 7 p.m., and a reception with the musicians following the performance. Tickets and more information are available at www.gcplayers.org and by phone at (925) 283-3728. Limited seating, please reserve early.

THEATER

Role Players Ensemble presents Edward Albee's Seascape, winner of the 1975 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Seascape, directed by George Maguire, runs at the Village Theatre in Danville through Sept. 18, at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and at 2 p.m. on Sunday. The show will lead off the 17th annual Eugene O'Neill Festival, which includes a Role Players co-production of O'Neill's The Emperor Jones at the Tao House National Historic Site (more information at www.eugeneoneill.org).

California Shakespeare Theater presents "Othello" on previews Sept. 14 through 16 at California Shakespeare Theater, 100 California Shakespeare Theater Way, Orinda. Cal Shakes director Eric Ting will face our society's fear of "the other" head on with this provocative rendition of Shakespeare's famous tragedy Cost: \$20-\$84. For more info and show times see www.calshakes.org, call (510) 548-3422 or email info@calshakes.org.

LECTURE & LITERATURE

Enjoy the Saint Mary's College Creative Writing Reading Series with MFA in creative writing faculty at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 14 in the Hagerty Lounge, Saint Mary's campus.

KIDS, PARENTS & TEENS

The Lafayette Library & Learning Center presents GIANT Jenga from 4 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 28 in the Amphitheater. Play giant Jenga (made out of soda boxes) outside!

The Lafayette Library & Learning Center presents Cupcake Wars from 3:30 to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 20 in the Arts & Science room. Participants will be provided three unfrosted cupcakes. They will be asked to make cupcakes that are inspired by or related to a book of their choosing. Four winners will be chosen. Prizes include a cupcake and a book. For more information or to register visit www.tinyurl.com/LAFcupcakewars.

FESTIVALS

The California Independent Film Festival opens Thursday, Sept 8 at the Rheem and Orinda Theatres. Visit www.CAIFF.org for full schedule and tickets.

Don't miss the 12th Annual Orinda Classic Car Show Weekend: "Dancing with the Cars." Pre-party, 6 p.m. Friday Sept. 9; Classic Car Show, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10. Enter your car and buy party tickets today at www.Orinda-CarShow.com. These events benefit the Seniors Around Town transportation program, Educational Foundation of Orinda and other local charities.

Lafayette Chamber of Commerce presents Lafayette Art & Wine Festival 2016 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 17 and from noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18 in downtown Lafayette, 3553 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette. The award-winning art, wine and music festival runs two days, features four

stages, 20 cover bands, 260-plus artists and a KidZone. There will be Food, wine and beer. Free admission. Near BART. For more info see www.lafayettefestival.com, call (925) 284-7404 or email festival@lafayettechamber.org.

The Middle Eastern Festival is from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept 24, and from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday Sept. 25 at 501 Moraga Way, Orinda. Enjoy fabulous food, entertainment, folk dancing, a craft bazar and more. Plus fun and games for children of all ages. Sponsored by St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church. Visit www.stjohnorinda.org or call (925) 258-4255.

Mobility Matters Spaghetti Hop, Birthday bash and Fundraiser - Support Our Services and Celebrate Our CEO's (ElaineWelch) 70th Birthday from 4 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette. Tickets: \$35 per person, adults only. 925.284.2207 email: office@mobilitymatterscc.com. Space is limited, RSVP early to ensure your seat.

OTHER

The Lafayette Flag Brigade's 15th Annual 9/11 Remembrance and Candlelight Vigil from is from 4 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 11 at the El Curtola Bridge, above Hwy. 24 in Lafayette. See article page A3.

Five Best Foods for Women Over 50. Meet nutrition expert Jill West at The American Association of University Women Showcase, "Celebrating Us," at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20 at the Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way, Orinda. In addition, AAUW-OML will be celebrating its 60th year of service to the Lamorinda community. For more information, visit the AAUW-OML website, www.oml-ca.aauw.net.

ElderConsult Geriatric Medicine, a medical practice that addresses the challenging medical and behavioral issues often facing older patients and their families, will be hosting a conference for families and elder care professionals on overcoming the challenges of early dementia. The conference will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 22 at the Orinda Masonic Center at 9 Altarinda Road, Orinda. The fee is \$25 for general admissions and \$45 for CEU units for selected professionals: Nurses, RCFE Administrators, Nursing Home Administrators, CNA/HHA, Geriatric Care Managers. Registration is required. Go to elderconsult.com to register.

Las Trampas invites you to a fun event for the entire family that also supports a good cause. You can walk, roll or run at the seventh annual Walk n' Roll one-mile or 5K from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 24, on the Lafayette-Moraga Trail at 3460 Lana Lane. Registration fee of \$25 includes tee-shirt, raffle, Whole Foods bag, games by KKDV and Backyard Carnivals, refreshments and entertainment by the KKDV van and Bread & Roses. You can register online at www.las-trampas.org.

Walnut Creek Walk to End Alzheimer's is at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 1 at Heather Farm Park 1301 North San Carlos Drive, Walnut Creek. Registration opens at 7:30 a.m. Walkers can register individually or start teams with friends, family or coworkers. Register online at www.act.alz.org/Walnut-Creek2016.

... continued on next page

Please submit:
Events:

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MOVIE REVIEW

Film Clips

Mary Wilson is a Diamond of a Star

By Derek Zemrak

It all starts Sept. 8, at 6 p.m. at the Rheem Theatre, in Moraga – the opening night of the 19th annual California Independent Film Festival. The evening will begin with a mixer that includes wine, beer, meat platters and gourmet cheeses from Cine Cuvée of Orinda and also select sushi from Sushi Fighter of Moraga.

Following the mixer, the 2016 Slate Awards will be presented to filmmakers from around the world. Also, CAIFF will be presenting the 2016 Diamond Award to music legend Mary Wilson. The Diamond Award honors a female for her contribution to the entertainment industry. Who better to receive the Diamond Award than Wilson, cofounder of the Supremes who, as a Motown legend, paved the road for women in the music industry? In the 1960s there were three major rock and roll icons, Elvis, The Beatles and The Supremes. The Supremes had 12 number-one hits and were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1988.

Wilson became a bestselling author in 1986, when she released her memoirs in “Dreamgirl: My Life as a Supreme.” “Dreamgirl” remains the best-selling rock and roll autobiography ever published. The book was the inspiration for the Broadway hit, “Dreamgirls.” In 2006, “Dreamgirls” made it to the big screen – receiving eight Oscar nominations and winning two: Jennifer Hudson for Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role, and Best Achievement in Sound Mixing.

Wilson’s humanitarian efforts are also supreme. Her lecture series, “Dare to Dream,” has inspired thousands of young people to pursue their dreams and goals in life. She is an advocate for women’s health in developing countries and has raised substantial funds for AIDS and HIV awareness. In 2003, she was named by then-United States Secretary of State Colin Powell to serve as one of nine Goodwill Ambassadors to the world.

Come join CAIFF at Opening Night as we honor Wilson with the 2016 Diamond Award.

Film & Filmmaker Spotlight - The ‘Red Maple Leaf’ and Frank D’Angelo

By Lindsay Pirkle, CAIFF Director



The “Red Maple Leaf” is an official selection at the California Independent Film Festival, screening at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10 at the Rheem Theatre, 350 Park St., Moraga.

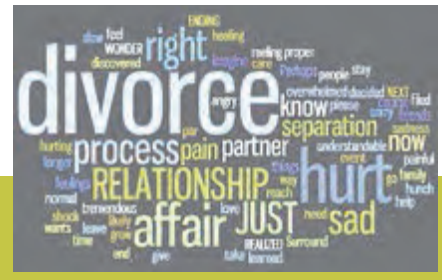
The film is about the daughter of a U.S. Ambassador who is snatched from under the nose of her Secret Service detail in Ottawa. While the American authorities search for answers with pressure coming at them from every side, Canada and the U.S. fight over jurisdiction, while seasoned RCMP veteran Alfonso Palermo puts everything aside to find the missing girl.

Frank D’Angelo —a seasoned filmmaker and actor — wrote, produced, directed and acted in the film with a cast of outstanding Oscar-winning and nominated actors including Martin Landau, James Caan, Mira Sorvino, Kris Kristofferson, Paul Sorvino, Michael Parè, Armand Assante, Eric Roberts, Daniel Baldwin, Marc Blucas, Laurie Fortier and many others. The film is also dedicated to Robert Loggia and Doris Roberts, as it was the last film that both these two great actors starred in.

Actors from the film will be available for a meet-and-greet before and after the screening. Tickets to the 19th Annual California Independent Film Festival and can be purchased online at www.caiff.org or at the Rheem and Orinda Theatre box offices.

See you at the festival!

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Service Clubs Announcements

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

September 9
A big welcome to Rotary District 5160 Governor, Fred Colligen.

September 16
Uber talented Charles (Cal) Lee, tells all.

At the Lafayette Arts and Wine Festival, come to see How a fantastic, Teardrop Trailer, comes to be

Not to be missed

GARDEN

Lafayette Community Garden and Outdoor Learning Center Gardeners’ Guide to Saving Seeds is from 3 to 4 p.m. on Sept. 10. Trish Clifford, UC Master Gardener of Contra Costa County, will offer a presentation about how to save seeds from your vegetable garden and how to organize a seed swap to share seeds. Classes are free, however, a \$5 donation is appreciated. To register please visit www.lafayettecommunitygarden.org.

Lafayette Garden Club is excited to present speaker Ann Ralph, author of “Grow a Little Fruit Tree: Simple Pruning Techniques for Small-Space, Easy Harvest Fruit Trees.” Ralph is a horticulturist, nursery woman, and teacher. Her program and discussion will be Fruit Trees Simplified: Easy Harvest Pruning. Timed pruning offers a revolutionary approach to fruit tree care. She will cover fruit tree basics: the logic of pruning, how to prune for short stature and easy har-

vest, easy training, seasonal routines, and pest and disease control. The meeting is from 9:45 a.m. to noon on Sept. 8. 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette. Visitors are welcome. Please email Carolyn Poetzsch at cpoetzsch@gmail.com

The Walnut Creek Garden Club’s monthly meeting will be at 10 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 12 in the Camellia Room at Heather Farm located at 1540 Marchbanks Road, Walnut Creek. Nate Bradley, owner of Amphora in Lafayette with discuss Olive Oil: Myths, Misconceptions & Fraud. There will be tastings and opportunity to purchase. Business meeting is at 10 a.m., social is from 10:30 to 11 a.m., and the program is at 11 a.m.

The Moraga Garden Club Meeting will be held 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Sep. 15 at the Holy Trinity Church, 1700 School Street, Moraga. The guest speaker will be Dustin Strobel, Manager of Sloat Nursery in Dan-

ville. The topic of his discussion will be “Fall Planting/Spring Color.” All interested parties are welcome.

Explore the Natural Beauty of the Pease Family Trail, from 3 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 25 at the Lafayette Community Garden, 3932 Mt Diablo Blvd. (Across from and just west of Lafayette Reservoir.) Join science teacher Janet Thomas for a talk and a short walk along the Pease Family Nature trail, located at the back of the Lafayette Community Garden along Lafayette Creek. This event is open to all ages and the walk is not strenuous. To register for classes please visit www.lafayettecommunitygarden.org.

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Thoughtful Food

Zucchini Ribbons Add Flavor and Texture to this End-of-Summer Salad

By Susie Iventosch



Zucchini Ribbon Salad

Photo Susie Iventosch

This time of year home gardeners seem to discover a plethora of zucchini popping up in their veggie gardens. There are only so

many ways to prepare zucchini, and we've tried many of them from simply sautéing or grilling it to making zucchini pancakes, zuc-

chini bread and even chocolate-zucchini cake.

This is yet another fun way to serve it, by using the zucchini raw as a base for salad. I used my potato peeler to cut the zucchini into ribbons and then tossed the zucchini with arugula and tomatoes — another bountiful crop this time of year. From there, you can add whatever cheese or nuts you like. I used toasted pine nuts and crumbled goat cheese. A store-bought dressing will do, but there is a simple recipe for homemade shallot vinaigrette below.

Also, mark your calendars for the seventh annual Orinda Olive Festival, which will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Oct. 2 in the Wagner Ranch Nature Area. We will provide more information about the event in the next issue.

Zucchini Ribbon Salad

(Serves 4)

INGREDIENTS

- 1-2 medium zucchini, ends trimmed and cut into ribbons with a mandolin or a potato peeler
- 2 cups arugula leaves
- 4 tomatoes, cut into small wedges or to desired size
- 1/3 cup crumbled goat cheese
- 2 tablespoons pine nuts, toasted

Dressing

- 1 shallot, finely chopped and caramelized in 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tsp. Dijon mustard
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
- 2 Tbsp. champagne vinegar
- 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/2 tsp. dried thyme, or 1 teaspoon fresh thyme minced
- 1/2 tsp. salt (I almost always use Himalayan pink salt these days)
- 1/2 tsp. freshly ground black pepper

Place all ingredients in a container with a tight-fitting lid. Shake well and refrigerate until ready to use.

DIRECTIONS

Place arugula in a salad bowl and put the zucchini ribbons on top. Arrange tomato wedges around the edges for presentation. Sprinkle pine nuts and goat cheese crumbles over the top. Drizzle dressing over and toss.

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.



Doing College

More Doesn't Necessarily Mean Better in the Application Process

By Elizabeth LaScala

As a college admissions advisor in Lafayette I am often asked "If 10 percent of applicants are accepted to the most selective schools, doesn't that mean I will have a better than 1 in 10 chance of getting into one of them if I apply to all of them?"

Many college-bound high school students would like to think this was true, but unfortunately, applying to more highly selective schools (schools with ultra-low acceptance rates) does not increase your chances of being accepted to one of them. If we college advisors could dispel the "more is better" myth and guide students toward selecting colleges that are their best matches, families would enjoy far less stress and far better results every spring.

College admissions rates have little to do with the probability you will be admitted to any school. If a college has a 10 percent admit rate and someone applies with a 3.7 GPA or even a 4.0, middling essays, a few extracurricular activities but nothing remarkable, and no legacy, athletic or other "hook," he would not have a 1 in 10 chance of admission. This student likely would have a zero chance of admission. No matter how many schools with low admit rates that student applies to, there is very little chance of admission. A 10 percent admit rate does not mean every applicant has a 1 in 10 chance of admission. It means that 100 (or slightly fewer) of 1000 applicants could be offered admission; 900 will not.

Each college application is unique. Each application to each college that a student has on her list

is independent of each of the other applications submitted. Admissions officers at highly selective colleges will expect to see high quality as a foundation to any application. A serious candidate is expected to provide a very strong high school transcript, test scores that positively correlate with the excellence achieved on the transcript, well-written, well-conceived essays that show an authentic voice and respond fully to the prompt, and a sincere, consistent demonstrated interest in their school. Other factors include a very strong record of extracurricular involvements that build upon the applicant's special abilities and talents (sometimes known as "hooks") and personal and career-related interests. For the most selective schools, talents and achievements should be recognized beyond the local and regional levels.

It should be noted, however, that each admissions office considers how these achievements and strengths relate to the type of class that college is constructing that cycle. Most highly selective colleges craft classes with eyes towards having a diversity of students with a variety of academic interests and talents. When so many applicants have the same interests — for example, going pre-law or pre-med or pursuing a degree in engineering — it would not be surprising for an admissions office to choose those who present the best credentials as well as the strongest hooks.

College advisors can best help their students by analyzing and understanding admissions trends as well as the cultures at highly

selective schools. They can also help them to understand that, even when their credentials are strong, they must present them well and with authenticity in essays and interviews. College advisors can help their students to understand the level of competition that they face from peers nationally and worldwide that they do not know. Most important, independent educational consultants can help their students to understand that their best matches will include colleges where the odds of gaining admission are far more in their favor, and they can enjoy four happy, successful and productive years.



Elizabeth LaScala, PhD, brings decades of admissions expertise to personally guide each student through applying to well-matched colleges, making each step more manageable and less stressful. She has placed hundreds of students in the most prestigious colleges and universities in the U.S. Reach her at (925) 385-0562 (office) or (925) 330-8801 (mobile), or online at www.doingcollege.com or Elizabeth@doingcollege.com.



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LAMORINDA SPORTS

Local Boys Water Polo Teams Get Set for League Play and Beyond

By Karl Busheck



Casey Conrad - of Acalanes shooting

Photo Gint Federas

As Miramonte prepares to play in the Diablo Athletic League – one of the strongest conferences in NCS – the Mats don't know exactly where they stand. Soon enough, they will.

"We go down to Southern California on (Sept.) 15 and play in a really elite tournament against some of the top teams in the state – right off the bat," said head coach James Lathrop.

The Mats will be taking part in the Elite 8 – one of the premier tournaments in the nation. Harvard Westlake in Studio City is the site of the competition, which features eight of the best programs in the country. That list also includes Mater Dei, who along with Harvard Westlake have battled for California supremacy in recent years.

"We'll get a good test really early on to kind of see where we're at and how we stack up against some of the top teams in the state," Lathrop said. "I think that will hopefully put us in a good spot moving forward into our league schedule (when) we play the bulk of our games."

After the Elite 8, Miramonte plays its first nonconference match against San Ramon Valley in

Danville on Sept. 21. The Mats visit Northgate in Walnut Creek on Sept. 28 to open DAL play.

While recognizing that the seniors will be vital for the Mats, Lathrop pointed to the deep roster as one of the team's most important attributes.

"I think we're expecting to get contributions from a variety of players from a variety of grades," Lathrop said. "Like we have guys in our starting lineup from every grade. So, we rely on the seniors for leadership, but we really do have a wealth of talent from different grades and I think we're trying to be strong as a whole."

The rival Campolindo Cougars, who topped the Mats in last fall's NCS Division I quarterfinals before beating Sir Francis Drake in the championship, also know how crucial the senior contingent will be to the success of the squad.

"Our senior class is always expected to lead," head coach Miles Price explained. "Our three captains are all seniors."

Like Lathrop, Price also has high hopes for the younger members of his roster.

"I think we will have some breakout leaders in other areas,"

Price said. "I'm excited to see who they are. For now we rely on our past experience."

Before taking part in their DAL opener against Acalanes at home on Oct. 5, Campolindo will play a five-match nonconference schedule. Once the league season arrives, the Cougars will be able to zero in on their top target.

"The goal this season is the same as every season: Win NCS," Price said. "Outside of the pool we have plenty of goals surrounding sending players to college and maintaining GPA's in school. In the pool we have one goal, win."

Price also knows that obstacles will arise as the Cougars aim for back-to-back NCS titles.

"The high school season is always tough from a timing standpoint," Price said. "It goes by really fast. If we stay focused on the goal at hand any challenge we run into will result in a lesson learned and better us for the playoffs."

Like the neighboring Mats and Cougars, the Acalanes Dons have lofty ambitions for the season – from the nonconference portion of the schedule to the playoffs.

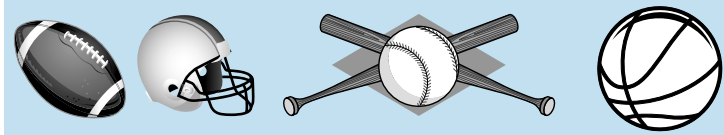
"The expectations every season is to win league and section titles," head coach Clarke Tamariki said. "We expect the kids to work hard to execute what we teach them and the results will take care of themselves."

For Acalanes, who lost in last season's NCS semifinals to Sir Francis Drake – the No. 1 overall seed – Casey Conrad and Brad Robison are the team's senior captains. Conrad, Robison and the rest of the Dons play four nonleague matches before opening DAL play with trip to Las Lomas on Sept. 28.

By the time DAL play begins, Tamariki hopes that all of his players will be in sync.

"What we teach the boys is very simple but takes work and communication," Tamariki said. "The challenge is to trust each other and communicate."

Youth Sports Registration



Lamorinda Lacrosse Club



Registration for the Spring 2017 season will open on **Sept. 15** to returning players. **New player registration will open Oct. 1.** Please go to www.lamorindalacrosse.com for more information and details regarding spring registration and fall ball clinics. Contact Jin Peavey at lamorindalaxops@gmail.com if you have any questions.

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Volleyball Teams Prepare to Battle in Competitive League

By Karl Buscheck



Campolindo hopes to be on top of the league this year...

Photos Gint Federas

The new season brings new challenges for the Campolindo girls volleyball team – the runner-up in last fall's NCS Division III title match. The team's objective remains the same.

"Our goal is to be on the top of the league at the end of the year," explained head coach John Vuong.

That's where Vuong's squad has been at the end of each of the past four seasons. The difference is this year marks the first time the Cougars are playing in the top division of the newly-formed Diablo Athletic League.

The division also includes Miramonte, Acalanes, Las Lomas, Northgate and College Park. Vuong – 2015 East Bay girls volleyball coach of the year – anticipates that the competition will be fierce.

"I think the top five could be pretty much even across," Vuong said. "This year, based on what I saw so far, it's going to be tough to fight for that first-place spot.

While navigating the new league setting remains the top priority for now, the playoffs

will also pose a new hurdle for Campolindo.

"Hopefully (we) get another shot at winning in the postseason an NCS (title)," Vuong said. "They moved us up to Division II, so that would be all new teams that we'd be facing."

The Cougars, who lost 3-2 to Monte Vista in Danville in their opening match on Aug. 30 and who beat Foothill 3-1 in Pleasanton on Sept. 1, can call on a core of veteran players. The talented senior class includes Lauren Pak, Jamie Brown, Janelle Gong, Sabrina Smith and Emily VanKoll.

"Those are our leaders this year," Vuong said. "They've been on the team for a few years, so we're going to depend on them a lot in leading and guiding us to the end."

Acalanes not only is playing in a new league but also has a new coach.

"They've done a great job so far in learning my system and learning the things that I teach," said head coach Ernie Rodriguez. "(They've done) absolutely a phenomenal job in coming in and wanting to learn

every day."

The Dons began the season by beating Deer Valley 3-1 in Antioch on Aug. 30 and edging Monte Vista 3-2 on Sept. 1 on the road. Acalanes begins the league portion of the schedule with a trip to Miramonte on Sept. 27.

Rodriguez will be leaning on the senior quartet of Parker Jones, Alex Matson, Devin Grobeck and Melissa Elliott.

"The four seniors are absolutely what I call the catalysts of this team," Rodriguez said.

The group will also help guide the younger members of the team and unlock the team's potential.

"We're full of talent," Rodriguez said. "But talent is as good as it is on paper unless we show it on the actual volleyball court."

Like their rivals, the Mats also have big plans for the fall.

"We want to finish strong in league and qualify for NCS," said head coach Lisa

Bachtold. "We want to have a strong seed going into NCS, and make it past the second round which is where we have been knocked out the past three years."

As Miramonte angles to build on its past postseason runs, the Mats will look to Caroline Schafer as the squad's pillar. Schafer has been a four-year varsity player for the Mats.

"Caroline is an incredible athlete and an incredible teammate," Bachtold said. "She's committed to UC Berkeley to play beach volleyball next year."

This year, Schafer will help the Mats, who beat Albany 3-0 at home on Aug. 30 and who defeated Granada 3-0 on Sept. 1 in Livermore, get the most out of a young squad.

"We added seven new players to the roster this year and had some key positions to replace," Bachtold said. "Building chemistry early in the season will be important for our success."



... if they can make it past division rivals like Acalanes.

Miramonte and Campo Girls Water Polo Make Division I Jump

By Karl Buscheck



Members of the Miramonte girls water polo team hope for a title repeat. Photo Gint Federas

Miramonte head coach Noel Murphy drew a comparison to the NBA when asked to describe his squad – the reigning NCS champs.

"We're not the Houston Rockets where James Harden just comes down and shoots every single time," Murphy said. "We're more like the Golden State Warriors. We look to pass to the open man and everybody gets involved. And that's how we win."

Last year, that approach brought the Mats the NCS Division II title. If the team is going to claim another section crown, they'll have to do so against a new set of competitors, after getting bumped up to Division I.

"It's going to be extremely competitive. It's going to be enjoyable. It's going to be a dogfight," said Murphy, whose Mats began the league season with a trip to Northgate on

Sept. 28. "And we look forward to the challenge."

The Mats have five juniors who are returning as starters. All five – Skylar Savar, Kelly Murphy, Carson Broad, Katrina Drake and Grace Tehaney – were All-League, All-East Bay and All-Northern California last year. Tehaney was also the MVP of the league.

"They're all D-1 prospects – no doubt about it. They're going to be playing in college somewhere in two years," Murphy said. "But it's more of a – they're very good teammates. They (work) together very well."

Campolindo was the team that lost to the Mats last November in the NCS title match in Lafayette. Like the Mats, the Cougars have been pushed up to Division I this fall.

... continued on page C3

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Magic Soccer '04 Boys Round Out Summer Season

Submitted by Greg Davis



Front row from left, Cooper Bohlig, Ryan Koepp, Riley Bonner, Drake DeBiasse, Nick Rogers, Grant Scanlan. Back row from left, Benjamin Lacayo, Levi Phillips, Paulo Obnial, Roman Hamed, Mason Archer, Jack Cusumano, Brennan Hamilton, Evan Persinger. Photo provided

The California Magic '04 Boys brought their Spring/Summer season to a successful conclusion with an appearance at the Creek Cup in Walnut Creek on Aug 20-21.

"Beginning with the Manteca FC Spring Invitational (April 23-24), the boys have increasingly demonstrated the skills we practice in training," said Coach Michael Jacobs. The team reached the semi-finals in both Manteca and the CUFA tournament in Lake Tahoe (June 18-19). They also played in the America Scores Beach Soccer Blast on San Francis-

co's Ocean Beach on June 26 and the Puma Seawolf tournament in Rohnert Park July 23.

"We have been working on our passing game and tactical awareness and the team is really coming together and playing with a lot of confidence," Jacobs added.

The boys opened the Fall League season with a 7-3 win in competing with the San Pablo United Jaguars. "I look forward to continued achievement of our goals as we continue Fall league and state cup qualifying matches," Jacobs said.

LMSC Boys U14 Win at SLO

Submitted by Juliandra Rittman



Back row from left, Johnny Brents, Ryan Nickens, Max Rittmann, Miles Bergman, Nick Govea, Danilo Mendoza, Jonathan Montoya-Castro, Sebastian Calderon, Cole Hink, Cole Curtis and coach Masood Ahmadi. Front row from left, Oliver Flynn, Nikolas Laredo, Tony Guzman, Jonas Dao, Brendan McCulloch, Jorah Delbanco, Greg Kornuth. Photo provided

The Lamorinda Soccer Club boys U14 Navy team finished on top at the San Luis Obispo Summer Classic in August, winning the Premier division.

In Memory of Coach Mazi - U13 Eclipse Team Wins San Ramon Soccerfest Tourney

Submitted by Karen Coane



Back row from left, Chris Morrison, Nicholas Eppinger, Cooper Lenahan, Michael Coane, Lucas Hendriks, Justin Simpson, coach Tarek Alameddine, and Logan Simpson. Front row from left, Sam Smith, Collin Krznic, Mason Fara, Cole Foster, Willy Hodder, Theo Schmitt, Cyrus Peyvan; not pictured: James McIntyre, Gideon Johnson, Nate Powers and Zachary Snyder. Photo provided

In memory of their beloved coach, Mazi Maghsoodnia, the East Bay Eclipse U13 lunar boys soccer team defeated Union City 3-1 for the championship at the San Ramon Soccerfest tournament on Sunday, Aug. 28.

Lafayette Teen Will Represent U.S. at Tap Olympics in Germany

Submitted by Jason Bezis



Fifteen-year-old Kaia Koehler of Lafayette was selected for the world tap dancing competition in Germany. Photo provided

Each year, thousands of dancers from around the globe compete at the International Dance Organization Tap World Championships in Riesa, Germany, with hope of

winning the ultimate prize: a world champion medal. The IDO World Championships are an Olympic-style event where only the best tap dancers are selected to represent their countries.

Kaia Koehler, a 15 year-old Miramonte High School student who lives with her mother in Lafayette, will be a part of the USA Dance Team as a Female Junior Soloist this December at the World Championships. She will attend the event with her tap teacher, Jonathan Mercer, and her mother. "I'm honored to be a part of this prestigious event, to meet inspirational tappers from all around the world, and to express my passion for tap dancing," Kaia says. "The competition will be very fierce, but I'm looking forward to the challenge." She will compete her tap solo "Sound and Color" against 80 other dancers in her category.

"This is an amazing opportunity for Kaia, who is an extremely hard working and caring dancer, to take her passion for tapping all the way to Germany," says her mother Darja. A GoFundMe account is accepting donations to cover trip expenses: www.gofundme.com/2ac5srrs (or search on "Dance Kaia" at GoFundMe.com).



Girls Water Polo

... continued from page C2



The Campolindo team is returning most of its players this year.

Photo Gint Federas

"With most of our players returning from last year, we expect to be among the top teams again this season," said head coach Kim Everist. "It should be a fun and exciting year."

The Cougars compete in four nonleague matches before beginning the Diablo Athletic League schedule with a rivalry showdown against Acalanes on Oct. 5 at home.

"We have a strong senior group who will lead the way in Becca Buck, Carlie Crumbaugh, Kari Jensen and Olivia Price, with an experienced team of juniors and sophomores by their side," Everist said.

With no shortage of talent – and experience – in the pool, the Cougars have all the elements needed to make another postseason push in the upcoming months.

"This team expects a lot from themselves," Everist said. "Just having fun and keeping it simple will be key to their success."

Acalanes boasts a roster that is even younger than the junior-led Mats or the runner-up Cougars. The Dons have three freshman on the varsity roster – the highest total since head coach Misha Buchel took over the program back in 2005.

"We graduated well over half of our goals and minutes played from last year's team," Buchel explained. "In the early part of the season we have a lot to figure out – which lineups to play and what roles players will have."

Acalanes has already played a pair of non-DAL matches, beating St. Vincent-St. Patrick at home 22-0 on Aug. 23 and losing to Drake 9-6 on the road on Aug. 31.

As the Dons gain experience through the six-match nonconference slate, Buchel will rely on sophomore Lexi Rowell and junior Bella Wentzel to help anchor the lineup.

"They are the two returners that had the biggest roles from last year," Buchel said. "And both really improved over the last nine months during their club seasons."

With the DAL seasons looming, Buchel knows that staying mentally strong will be of the utmost importance for his young Dons.

"The biggest challenge is going to be maintaining confidence individually and as a group," Buchel said. "We're going to make mistakes early in the season. The key is for us to use those for growth rather than have it shake our belief in ourselves."

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Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 10 Issue 14 Wednesday, September 7, 2016



Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian

...read on page D16

Picturing the Paw-fect Pet Photo

By Diane Claytor



Barbara Brady-Smith photographs dogs in her home studio.

Photo provided

“Mom, you need a passion in your life.” This sentence, spoken by Barbara Brady-Smith’s daughter several years ago, was the beginning of a life-changing adventure. “At the time she said it,” Brady-Smith laughingly acknowledges, “I felt like poking her little eyes out. But then I realized she was right.”

A native of Southern California, Brady-

Smith came to Berkeley to attend college. She fell in love with the area (as well as with her husband, Scott) and never left, moving to Lafayette in 1984. At the time, Brady-Smith, a self-described “math-nerd,” was working for Wells Fargo Bank, eventually becoming an executive vice president. At 40 years old, Brady-Smith left the world of banking, “because, fortunately, I could afford to,” she said gratefully. Her mother had

moved in with them, her daughter, Chrissy, was entering middle school, and, “I figured it was the perfect time for me to stay home and dedicate myself to my family,” she happily recalls.

Looking for a fulfilling hobby, Brady-Smith decided to explore digital photography, which, at the time, was in its infancy. She attended classes and read books. She learned everything she could. With both her daughter and high school coach-husband heavily involved in Campolindo sports, Brady-Smith started photographing their teams.

“I started with a digital camera that was lousy at low light and lousy at action sports,” she says. But cameras got better and so did Brady-Smith.

“I loved that instant gratification of immediately seeing the pictures,” she says. Becoming intrigued with lighting and the digital post-production process, Brady-Smith again took classes and read more books, learning about Photoshop and Lightroom. And then she volunteered, taking pictures of sporting events, choir performances and class activities. “It was such fun,” Brady-Smith said.

“So, several years later, when Chrissy noticed that I seemed bored and in need of something more, I realized that what had started out as a hobby – digital photography, studio work, lighting and post-processing – had become something I really loved doing.”

... continued on page D4

Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

City	Last reported:	LOWEST AMOUNT:	HIGHEST AMOUNT:
LAFAYETTE	10	\$940,000	\$2,960,000
MORAGA	8	\$305,000	\$1,525,000
ORINDA	12	\$750,000	\$2,695,000

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

3405 Goyak Drive, \$1,565,000, 4 Bdrms, 2061 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 8-11-16; Previous Sale: \$1,225,000, 03-29-07
 3682 Hastings Court, \$1,585,000, 4 Bdrms, 2174 SqFt, 1960 YrBlt, 8-4-16
 521 McBride Drive, \$1,225,000, 4 Bdrms, 2017 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 8-12-16
 3201 Ortega Avenue, \$1,065,000, 3 Bdrms, 1809 SqFt, 1946 YrBlt, 8-11-16
 3807 Palo Alto Drive, \$2,960,000, 4 Bdrms, 4292 SqFt, 1979 YrBlt, 8-5-16
 1400 Reliez Valley Road, \$1,562,000, 4 Bdrms, 2657 SqFt, 1975 YrBlt, 8-8-16
 1262 Sunset Loop, \$940,000, 2 Bdrms, 1459 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 8-9-16
 3263 Withers Avenue, \$1,155,000, 3 Bdrms, 1650 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 8-9-16; Previous Sale: \$899,000, 10-20-05
 1003 Woodbury Road #103, \$1,220,000, 2 Bdrms, 1638 SqFt, 2015 YrBlt, 8-4-16
 10 Shreve Lane, \$1,100,000, 4 Bdrms, 2035 SqFt, 2013 YrBlt, 8-11-16

MORAGA

2129 Ascot Drive #2, \$415,000, 2 Bdrms, 1314 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 8-12-16; Previous Sale: \$156,000, 08-07-90
 51 Ascot Place, \$765,000, 2 Bdrms, 1379 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 8-5-16; Previous Sale: \$628,000, 06-26-07
 780 Augusta Drive, \$1,525,000, 3 Bdrms, 2430 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 8-10-16
 326 Calle La Montana, \$1,000,000, 4 Bdrms, 2424 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 8-11-16; Previous Sale: \$355,000, 04-25-88
 1396 Camino Peral, \$685,000, 3 Bdrms, 1440 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 8-5-16; Previous Sale: \$575,000, 11-08-06
 2133 Donald Drive #14, \$305,000, 1 Bdrms, 560 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 8-10-16; Previous Sale: \$122,000, 03-01-11
 172 Miramonte Drive, \$610,000, 3 Bdrms, 1913 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 8-4-16; Previous Sale: \$449,000, 09-20-12
 3878 Paseo Grande, \$1,087,000, 4 Bdrms, 2008 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 8-5-16; Previous Sale: \$739,000, 09-04-02



...continued on page D12

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Picturing the Paw-fect Pet Photo

... continued from page D1



A picture taken at the Lafayette Community Park, one of Barbara Brady-Smith's favorite locations.

Photos provided

While taking pictures of people was good, she stated, "It was photographing animals that I really loved." Share the Joy Photography, a boutique business dedicated "to photographing pets" was created and Brady-Smith was off and running.

"Boutique' is a good word for it," Brady-Smith says, "because it's so specific to pets and their families." She takes pictures in her Lafayette home studio, in clients' homes and outdoors – "from Half Moon Bay to Bodega Bay," she says. "Most of what I do is local and the Lafayette Community Park is one of my favorite spots." She knows the park inside and out and knows "the best place to be at every time of day and every time of year" to capture the very best picture.

While Brady-Smith mostly photographs dogs and cats, she has taken pictures of just about every type of pet – birds, horses, bunnies and turtles.



One of Barbara Brady-Smith's favorite photos, showing off the personality of this family of pups.

Her most unusual pet photo was of a snake, she reported, "one that actually disappeared in my yard, only to be found several months later, just lounging in the sun." She's never been bitten or scratched, she states proudly. As one very satisfied client said, Brady-Smith's "compassion, kindness, patience and humor... make her a pleasure to work with. From the moment she met my dogs, they had a bond."

Brady-Smith also offers memory sessions for animals diagnosed with a fatal illness. "Often the animal isn't expected to live much longer and its owner wants a great picture to hold onto," Brady-Smith said. "We do whatever the animal is capable of – some dogs have had to be carried but they're still having fun, getting treats. And I'm creating an image that the owner will love forever.

"My process is very customer-oriented," Brady-Smith says. "I start with a consultation, meeting both the pet and its human, learning about the animal's personality and what types of pictures are wanted. After the photography session, I edit, again meet with the client and do the post-processing work." The final products are all top of the line, "museum quality," she said. "These photos are an investment; they are pictures that will last a lifetime."

In addition to photographing pets, Brady-Smith, a certified professional and master photographer, teaches others how to do the same. She typically teaches five sold-out classes a year, many of which are sponsored by various professional photographer organizations. She is also in the process of producing a book, "Hug Tails – Portraits of Therapy Pets," "documenting the amazing peace and joy these animals bring..." Additionally, Brady-Smith volunteers her photographic talents to non-profit animal groups to help them find forever homes for their residents.

Brady-Smith, who has won numerous international and national photography awards, acknowledges that she's absolutely reinvented herself, stating "I wake up every morning, so excited. I never would have imagined myself doing this – and loving it so much."

Tips and Tricks for a Great Pet Photo

A quick look at social media tells the story: everyone takes – and posts – pictures of their pets. Professional pet photographer Barbara Brady-Smith of Share the Joy Photography offers some tips and tricks for making these pictures truly share-worthy:

1. Prep your pet — a good brushing and wiping around eyes is a great way to start.
2. Watch your lighting. If outside on a bright day, head into the shade. The best light is in the morning or early evening, not in the middle of the day.
3. Calling your pet's name is not the best way to get its attention; it will likely cause it to run toward you. Instead, shake a treat bag, squeak a toy or say a favorite word ("treat," "ride" "walk") to get it to look at you.
4. Most people tend to take pictures looking down on their pet. Rethink your angles. Try getting on the ground and photographing up at your pet.
5. Owners often forget that pets can be emotional sponges. If you stress about picture taking, your pet will, too. Instead, laugh a lot, reward with treats and show your pet lots of love between pictures. This will make it fun for both of you!



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Feng Shui

Create an Inviting Front Entrance

By Michele Duffy



Red front doors like this Moraga home are considered the best Feng Shui since red is protective and also attracts Qi, or life, towards the home.

Photo Michele Duffy

Fall is almost in full swing and here come all the fabulous fall gatherings. With that anticipation of home entertaining, what better time to review the Feng Shui of the powerful front entrance?

In Feng Shui we call the front entrance the “Mouth of Qi/Chi” or the main entryway where the Qi enters the structure. It is akin to the way each of us takes nourishment into our mouths so that our whole body is supported, nourished and fed. Sometimes the front entrance is called the “Doorway to Good Fortune” or the “Doorway of Opportunities” since this is again the main portal of energy into the home.

We also always overlay the Feng Shui Bagua map over the home from the front entrance, even if residents enter most days through a garage or secondary door.

The front entrance of a residence creates a first impression for you, for others, and for unlimited opportunities to come your way. It sets the intention for the rest of your home and every time you drive up to home your house either emanates an aura of success, abundance and pride, or a feeling of disarray, laziness and misfortune.

Think about when you are on holiday and drive up to the entrance of a hotel entrance — what goes through your mind immediately? You look at the maintenance of the building, landscaping, parking lot, the number of staff around, and all of surrounding influences of your first impression. You make many evaluations instantaneously and either you are elated or incredibly annoyed. When the hotel driveway welcomes you with beautiful trees, colorful flowers, a grand water fountain and a friendly doorman, you are happy before you have even stepped foot in your room. It is not a coincidence that most of the building budget goes into creating as lavish a first impression as possible.

In the same way, your home must welcome you, your family, your guests and all of your opportunities with loving, open arms. Before these “opportunities” ring the doorbell, your goal is to flood them with beauty, happiness and harmony. While they wait for you to answer the door, give them multiple reasons to generate positive thoughts about you. Create a home that glimmers and stands out from the rest.

Step outside your door. What do you see? What do you hear? Does the outside of your home emanate beauty? Notice the upkeep of the paint, roof and landscaping and keep in mind that a home that is clean and well cared for leaves a lasting impression. The trees, shrubs, and flowers should be thriving and well-trimmed. A cluttered yard or overhanging, tangled weed growth creates the same sort of stuck Qi (energy) outside in your yard as it does inside (ying) your home. The inside should always reflect the outside (yang) so if it’s neat inside your home, it should be tidy outside in your yard, so balance is achieved and you have an uplifting view of outside from inside your home.

The path leading up to your home must be easily accessible. Clear away bicycles, trash, garbage bins, dead plants, newspapers, water bottles, and repair broken or leaky sprinklers.

... continued on page D14



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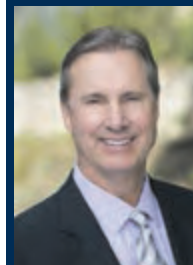
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Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

... continued from page D2

ORINDA

78 Claremont Avenue, \$1,030,000, 3 Bdrms, 1478 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 8-12-16;

Previous Sale: \$339,000, 04-14-94

15 Estates Drive, \$1,520,000, 4 Bdrms, 2240 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 8-4-16

36 Hacienda Circle, \$1,475,000, 5 Bdrms, 3073 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 8-4-16

117 Ivy Drive, \$1,705,000, 5 Bdrms, 2572 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 8-10-16;

Previous Sale: \$1,370,000, 10-02-07

21 Lost Valley Drive, \$1,900,000, 4 Bdrms, 3824 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 8-4-16

57 Meadow View Road, \$920,000, 3 Bdrms, 1774 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 8-12-16

44 Oak Drive, \$750,000, 3 Bdrms, 2584 SqFt, 1939 YrBlt, 8-5-16

18 Ramona Drive, \$1,275,000, 4 Bdrms, 1992 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 8-5-16; Previous Sale: \$829,000, 02-13-07

407 Ridge Gate Road, \$1,310,500, 2 Bdrms, 2153 SqFt, 1980 YrBlt, 8-10-16

14 Sycamore Road, \$1,850,000, 3 Bdrms, 3582 SqFt, 1946 YrBlt, 8-8-16; Previous Sale: \$1,650,000, 08-08-14

40 Valley View Road, \$2,695,000, 4 Bdrms, 3480 SqFt, 1960 YrBlt, 8-12-16; Previous Sale: \$2,298,000, 07-31-07

23 Wilder Road, \$1,925,000, 4 Bdrms, 3380 SqFt, 2015 YrBlt, 8-12-16



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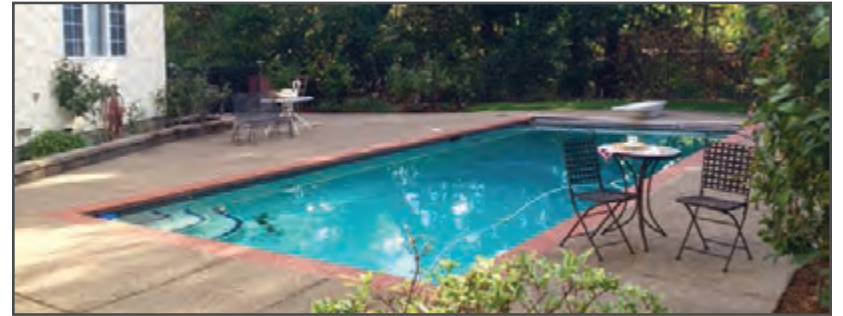
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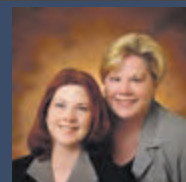
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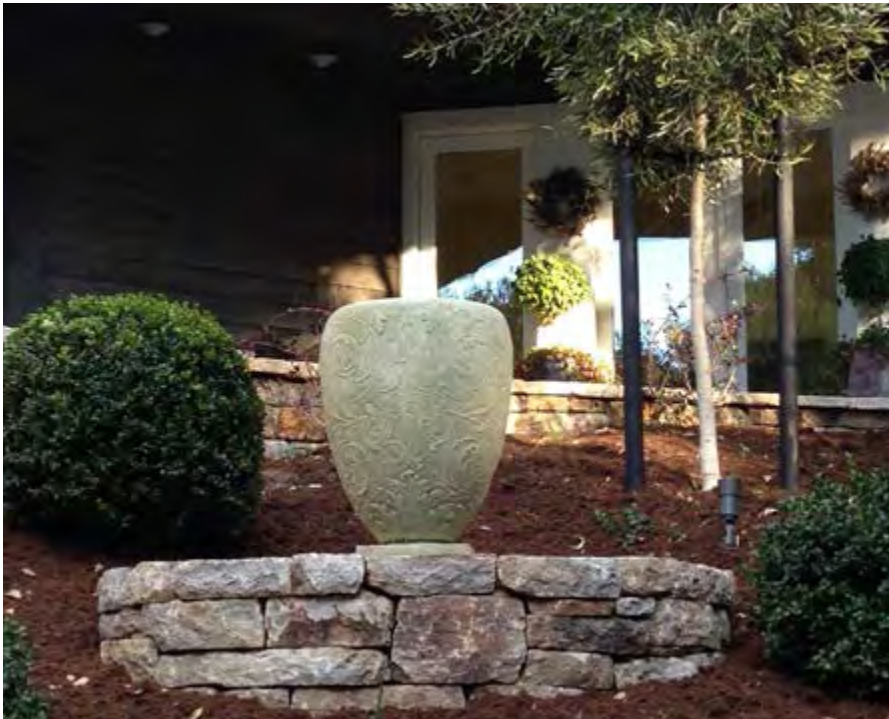
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Feng Shui

Create an Inviting Front Entrance

... continued from page D10



Water features like at this Orinda home, attract money flow and life towards the home.

Here are some basic Feng Shui tips for powerful entrances:

- Clear clutter from the yard, pathway and front porch to allow energy to flow into the home. No old gardening wellingtons, newspapers or children's toys. Also clear away all spider webs with a broom and keep your front stoop spotless.
- Repaint the front door a bright, cheerful color. Red is the Feng Shui color for prosperity and abundance. Green is the color of nature and money.
- Place a tall, healthy plant on either side of your front door. It should not block the entrance.
- Hang white lights around the front porch to attract attention to golden opportunities.
- Install a water fountain on the right side of the main door to bring fortunate energy in every time you open the door.
- Place a statue to bring stability, blessings and protection to the home. This can be a ceramic angel, a friendly animal such as rabbit (love), deer (longevity) or turtle (health). Cultural artifacts such as a stone Buddha are also great to ground the front entrance but Buddhas are sacred art and must be shown great respect, so place a small table or flat rock or piece of driftwood under the Buddha so there is elevation off the ground.
- Buy a colorful welcome mat with red to attract the qi into the home. Red is a color that stands out and gets noticed and this is desirable at the front entranceway. Then imagine that the moment visitors step the lovely welcome mat that their love for you is heightened.

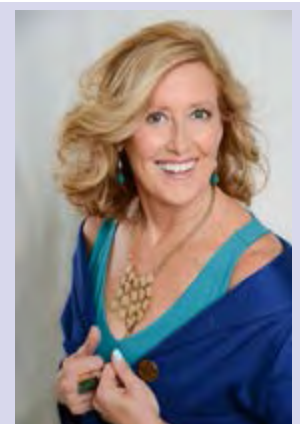
- If you energize, clean and prepare your front entrance now it will create much greater clarity to layer the many upcoming fall and winter seasonal decorations. Just remember to remove each set of decorations after the holiday has passed to reflect living in the moment.

... continued on next page

<p>WEALTH & PROSPERITY "Gratitude"</p> <p>REAR LEFT</p> <p><u>Wood</u> Blues, purple & reds</p>	<p>FAME & REPUTATION "Integrity"</p> <p>REAR MIDDLE</p> <p><u>Fire</u> Reds</p>	<p>LOVE & MARRIAGE "Receptivity"</p> <p>REAR RIGHT</p> <p><u>Earth</u> Reds, pinks, & whites</p>
<p>HEALTH & FAMILY "Strength"</p> <p>MIDDLE LEFT</p> <p><u>Wood</u> Blues & Greens</p>	<p>CENTER "Earth"</p> <p>Yellow & earth tones</p>	<p>CREATIVITY & CHILDREN "Joy"</p> <p>MIDDLE RIGHT</p> <p><u>Metal</u> White & Pastels</p>
<p>KNOWLEDGE & SELF CULTIVATION "Stillness"</p> <p>FRONT LEFT</p> <p><u>Earth</u> Black, blues & greens</p>	<p>CAREER "Depth"</p> <p>FRONT MIDDLE</p> <p><u>Water</u> Black & dark tones</p>	<p>HELPFUL PEOPLE & TRAVEL "Synchronicity"</p> <p>FRONT RIGHT</p> <p><u>Metal</u> White, grey & black</p>

The Bagua Map: Front Door

Michele Duffy, BTB M.F.S. is an Orinda resident who, since 1999, enjoys creating "Space as Medicine" Feng Shui one space at a time, as well as hiking in nature, cooking, and spending time with her family; Canyon Ranch Feng Shui Master, International Feng Shui Guild (IFSG) Red Ribbon Professional. To schedule a professional 2015 Feng Shui Consultation, contact Michele at (520) 647-4887 or send an email to spaceharmony@gmail.com.



THE NOBLE CHRYSANTHEMUM



Using seasonal foliage, color and plants is excellent Feng Shui and the Feng Shui symbol for fall are chrysanthemums.

Chrysanthemums have more of an oriental origin where people in the nobility have been planting them for years, but they also have become very popular in the west. Because this flower is still favored by the rich and noble in China, other people, common people, were prohibited from growing this plant. As time passed, however, views about the chrysanthemums changed and it became part of Feng Shui. Having chrysanthemums at your front entrance attracts abundance and happiness.

Chrysanthemums are highly regarded because they are associated with a long life of ease, constancy, faithfulness and goodwill. Chrysanthemums seen so abundantly in floral shops and in fall gardens represent bumper harvests, abundant joy and a long, fruitful life. Placed at your front entrance symbolizes health and long life for your home. Chrysanthemums are thought to bring laughter and happiness into the home.

Chrysanthemums are excellent indoors as air filters, are easy to care for and last much longer than cut flowers.

Place Chrysanthemums to also attract wealth Qi, particularly when moving into a new home, beginning a new undertaking or at the beginning of the New Year.

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Digging Deep

A Short Romp in the Ruth Bancroft Gardens

By Cynthia Brian

"Who cares if I'm not around? If I don't plant it, then nobody will get to see it!" — Ruth Bancroft



This opuntia prickly pear cactus in the Ruth Bancroft Garden bears purple tuna fruit ready to be tasted.

Photos Cynthia Brian

Since as long as I can remember I have always said that I wanted to live to be 108 years old. Why I chose that number I have no idea as I had never met anyone who lived to be 108...until this week when I met Ruth Bancroft, creator of the Ruth Bancroft Gardens in Walnut Creek. Ruth turned 108 years young on Sept. 2 and I was privileged enough to celebrate her birthday with bubbly and her favorite chocolate cake in her masterpiece dry gardens that she began planting in the 1970s.

Bancroft's gardening passion began as a child in Berkeley. When she moved through the tunnel to Walnut Creek she became a "collector." Her efforts, trials, tribulations and experiences along the way are chronicled in the new Timber Press book, "The Bold Dry Garden," penned by Johanna Silver, the garden editor

of Sunset magazine, and photographed by Marion Brenner. With the entire West Coast on drought alert, the Ruth Bancroft Gardens are a model for low-water plantscaping. If you have ever been curious about succulents, cacti, yuccas, and other desert plants that will flourish in the East Bay, this beautiful book will become an essential reference guide.

Our local water company states that water use was 24 percent less in 2015 than it was in 2014, saving enough water to fill the Oakland Coliseum 71 times! As homeowners rip out lawns in favor of xeriscaping, we'll focus on the benefits of adding low maintenance, low water use plants and planting them NOW in your garden.

Although I have a lifetime of gardening experience, I'm not sure that I will ever become an expert

in any one area of horticulture, as gardens are living, breathing, evolving, growing entities that are constantly changing. What I adore about Bancroft's garden is this consistent evolution. Each time I visit, a new vista or display greets me, even from the same specimens as the first visit. The colors, textures and sizes are in perpetual motion, from California natives to the canopy of trees, the rosettes of terrestrial bromeliads to the swords of the yuccas.

Here are a few of Bancroft's prized collection that you can grow in your garden for your benefit and that of your great-grandchildren's children.

Aeoniums: One of the most popular plants of all of the succulents, aeoniums have lovely fleshy rosettes that will reach towards the heavens, mound in purgatory or cascade towards hell. They prefer a bit of shade and are easy to cultivate and grow in the ground and in containers.

... continued on page D18



Encephalartos horridus was Ruth Bancroft's first cycad—very prickly and scary plant.



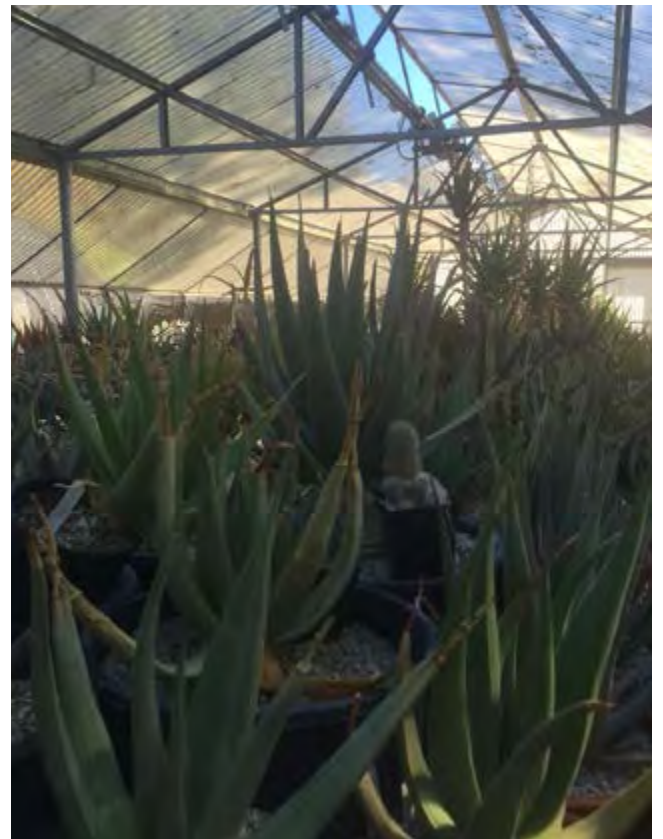
These full-grown yuccas frame the desert-like environment in this area of Ruth Bancroft's garden.



This aqua blue aeonium is stunning in a vintage Mexican bowl.



The pond is restorative and soothing.



A world renowned succulent expert, Brian Kemble breeds South African aloes seeking the bumpiest and bluest in the Ruth Bancroft propagation greenhouse.

A Short Romp in the Ruth Bancroft Gardens ... continued from page D16

Yuccas: These sword-shaped plants are native to the Americas and the Caribbean and like hot, dry regions. In their natural habitat they are pollinated by the yucca moth. Although yuccas are grown mostly for ornamental use, many species use the seeds, flowers, stems and sometimes the roots for food and medicine.

Echeveria: Many of the most beautiful small succulents are echeveria, often confused with aeoniums because of their rosettes. Their leaf colors are brilliantly hued and they boast flowers in red, orange, white, yellow, purple, and pink. They grow well between rocks and are a terrific ground cover or garden filler. Most echeveria species hail from Mexico.

Sedums: A hardy perennial with thick, fleshy leaves and stems and clusters of pretty flowers, sedums are most popular for groundcovers, borders and rock gardens. They require minimal to no care at all, are easy to propagate from cuttings, and are drought resistant.

Aloe: The best-friend plant for anyone with a sunburn, cut or bite, aloe is known as nature's soothing succulent. Aloes relieve itching and irritation on the skin, and reduces redness and swelling by inhibiting the body's release of histamine. In a garden, aloes bloom in bright colors of red, orange and yellow with over 500 species ranging from tiny to tree height. These unfussy favorites are a "must have" in any garden or container.

Agave: With over 200 species native to the Americas, agaves are diverse in colors, shapes, sizes, and spines. Agaves are sculptural. They can be a focal point in a landscape



A variety of succulents including aloes boast the colors of autumn.

Photo Cynthia Brian



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The ideal time to plant trees and shrubs is during the dormant season—in the fall after their leaves drop or early spring before bud breaks. Weather conditions are cool and allow plants to establish roots in the new location. The proper handling during planting is essential to ensure a healthy future for new trees and shrubs.

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or can mix well with other plantings. Before planting an agave, make sure to read the label to determine the final size of the plant. Some agaves have a full-grown diameter of 13 to 14 feet while others remain small and compact.

Barrel Cactus: Always armed with heavy spines and prominent ribs, barrel cacti are known as the "fierce or wild cactus." Flowers always grow at the top without spines. Native Americans boiled the flowers to eat like cabbage. The fruits are considered inedible. Barrel cacti add a fascinating form to any landscape when planted in circles or artistic ways.

Prickly Pear Cactus: Optunias, commonly called prickly pear cactus, have yellow, red, purple or orange fruit that is delicious and sold in stores as tuna. The paddles are called Nopales and used in many ethnic recipes. The soluble fibers of both the fruit and the paddles are considered to stabilize blood sugar. These cacti make a great fence to keep out human and animal invaders as the spines are tiny and very sharp. My sister surrounded her property with optunias that bore enough fruit for a weekly farmer's market booth.

Although I've concentrated on the desert plants, the Ruth Bancroft Garden reveals a softer side with riffs of bulbs, wildflowers, grasses and California natives. A visit to the Ruth Bancroft Garden is a must-do for anyone interested in learning more about dry and drought tolerant gardening. We are fortunate to have one of the nation's most renowned public gardens literally in our backyard with a collection of rare specimens available for sale that will enhance your landscape while saving precious water. Visit www.RuthBancroftGarden.org for more information.

Embrace your sense of curiosity. Employ a few of Ruth Bancroft's dry gardening specimens. Gardens are a legacy to our future and the time to plant is today. In 108 years, who will be enjoying your garden?

Happy Gardening and Happy Growing!



Ruth Bancroft, 108 years old, and Cynthia Brian at her birthday celebration.

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244 El Toyonal Forever views across Orinda to Mt. Diablo. Delightful living spaces on 2 levels w/modern remodeled kitchen; living rm & dining rm open to outside w/extensive decking/ views. Bonus offices. **\$1,299,000**

ORINDA



16 La Cintilla Exquisite OCC 6bd/6ba two story residence located on a private oak-studded .30 acre lot. Vaulted ceilings, open floor plan, gourmet kitchen, spacious game rm & private au-pair guest suite. **\$1,999,000**

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5 Oak Arbor Road Prime Oak Arbor living at it's best! Traditional European spectacular home w/quality features in/outside w/grand-scale rms of exceptional space, light + access outdoors. Gorgeous setting! **\$2,799,000**

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160 Camino Don Miguel Spectacular Spanish Mediterranean 5bd/5.5ba 5851sf home overlooks the 4th hole of OCC. Rebuilt from ground up in 1996. Resort quality pool & spa, gardens & views. **\$4,795,000**

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MORAGA



New Listing

1186 Moraga Road 4bd/2ba home with 1802 square feet on .67 acre. Conveniently located close to shopping, park, trails and library. **\$799,000**

MORAGA



New Listing

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MORAGA



9 Shannon Court Sanders Ranch estate property over 1.5 acres, 4966 sq. ft., Chef 's kitchen, hardwood, new carpet, fresh paint, pool, ideal indoor/ outdoor living spaces. **\$3,125,000**

LAFAYETTE



New Listing

1322 Sunset Loop Fabulous Mid-Century cottage w/traditional flare. Charming 3bd/1ba, open kitchen w/adj. dining area. Living rm w/wall of glass & fireplace. Patio, deck & level lawn. Top rated schools & great fwy access. **\$799,000**

LAFAYETTE



3 Dollis Park Road Large 4bd/3.5ba, 4090 sq. ft. home w/ideal functional floor plan. Lovely kitchen/ family rm + bonus rec. rm. Luxurious master suite. Great guest bedroom w/bath is ideal for separation of space. **\$1,595,000**

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