

Four generations on one block



Photos provided

The tract of homes on Ponderosa Lane was built in and around a walnut orchard in 1950. To this day, no matter how many times the road has been repaved, you can still see the sinkholes where the trees once stood.

By John T. Miller

Betty Crawford, who at 90 years old still lives in the Saranap home she and her husband Cal purchased in 1956, says she is truly blessed to have her great-grandchildren moving in just three doors down from her house.

Her granddaughter Kayla and her husband Wes Andrews purchased the home with the help of Kayla's parents, Tim and Donna Crawford.

The house, a complete fixer-upper, was rescued just a few weeks away from foreclosure with a last minute offer to the previous owner, whose husband had passed away eight months previous.

Tim, who retired in 2018 and sold his successful business – Unique Elevator Interiors – devoted himself full time to fixing up the house. In late July, Kayla and her family moved in.

Monopoly anyone?

The Crawfords already had a history on Ponderosa Lane, where in the late '70s, Betty

and Cal played a real life version of Monopoly, buying the house next door to them and renting to their daughter Jeanette and her husband Jim, and also buying the house across the street with Tim and his wife Donna moving in.

In addition, back in that same decade, this magical lane in Saranap boasted four sets of grandparents with their offspring living on the same block. The Babysitter's Union put up a protest, but there was no need to go outside family for coverage.

Jim and Jeanette raised three boys and then eventually bought and sold their house, moving all of five houses up the street. Tim and Donna did the same and moved a half-mile away on Freeman Road. However, they are only six houses down if you travel through their backyards and get a little muddy in Las Trampas Creek.

"It's wonderful to have the great grandchildren pop in and out," says Betty.

... continued on Page D4



The new kids on the block, from left: Nora, Lilly, and Harley, play King of the Hill on a mound of dirt in front of their new home. Their great grandmother, Betty Crawford, lives just three houses down the street.

Looking to Make Your Next Move?



Promises Kept - Records Broken

I pride myself on putting the best deals together for my clients.

I value relationships that are forged from working together on the right plan for all home buyers and sellers.

Top producing Realtor in Lamorinda

More 5-star reviews than any other Realtor in Lamorinda

Over 20 years experience in real estate, new construction and house rehab.

Comprehensive customer engagement plan for all listings including:

- Home audit
- Staging
- Design overview

Contact me today to get started on your next big move: 925-878-5869

COMPASS

Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 01527235. All material presented on this site is for informational purposes only. Information is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is not guaranteed. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal without notice may occur. Nothing herein shall be construed as legal, accounting or other professional advice outside the realm of real estate brokerage. Intended to solicit property already listed. Nothing herein shall be construed as legal, accounting or other professional advice outside the realm of real estate brokerage.

paddykehoeteam.com



Paddy Kehoe
925.878.5869
paddy@paddykehoeteam.com
DRE 01894345



Claudia Gohler
925.765.8081
claudia.gohler@compass.com
DRE 01995498



Mary Staten
925.890.6875
mary.staten@compass.com
DRE 01947354



Dave Schurhoff
925.997.9569
dave.schurhoff@compass.com
DRE 01834201



Leslie Lomond
650.799.2110
leslie.lomond@compass.com
DRE 01968517



Four generations on one block



Photo provided

The Crawford clan in the late '90s. Back row, from left: Paul, Sean, Candy, David, Ryan Crawford and Andy Baird; middle: Tim, Cal, Betty Crawford, Jim and Tyler Baird; front: Donna, Kayla, T.J. Crawford, Jeanette and John Baird. Not pictured is Katie Crawford who was away at school. The family has been a major presence on Ponderosa Lane since the mid-'50s.

... continued from Page D1

"What more can I ask for? I am one blessed person." Betty related how she grew up with family in Oakland. Her in-laws lived across the street, her mother had a house in back and her sister lived next door. "We called it the Crawford Compound."

Kayla was 5 when her parents sold the house on Ponderosa Lane, and says she never got over it. She remembers playing Manhunt in the neighborhood and the skate ramp across the street at her cousins' house.

"Every time we visited Grandma Betty I wished I still lived in the neighborhood," says Kayla.

Now, almost 25 years later, she does. And, from her front yard, she can watch her kids walk up the street and knock on Grandma Betty's door in their 21st century version of the Crawford Compound.

Other tidbits

Betty and Cal Crawford purchased their house in 1956 for \$13,000. They were the third owner in five years. It is now worth more than \$1 million. The original price of

the homes was \$9,000 in 1950, but for \$75 extra dollars you could get a brick fireplace.

Kayla and Wes Andrews' new home is one of the few in the vicinity to still have its original floor plan – three bedroom, one bath, 1200-square feet including the garage.

Andrews is a member of the family that owns and runs the popular Sideboard Restaurant in Lafayette.

One other family has had four generations on the block, but Grandma and Grandpa predeceased the Clarks before the great grandchildren were born.

Open Sunday 2-4pm



2 El Caminito, Orinda



4 bd | 3 ba | 2861 sqft | .27 ac
Nestled on a knoll by Lake Cascade so
convenient to The Club, downtown, BART
and commute.

Offered at 1,840,000



CLARK THOMPSON
REAL ESTATE BROKER
VILLAGE ASSOCIATES
CALBRE# 00903367

Office: 925-254-8585 | ct@clarkthompson.com
www.clarkthompson.com





161 Holly Lane, Orinda

5 bed | 4.5 bath | 3030 sqft | .58 acres | \$1,975,000
 Custom contemporary home with panoramic views of Mount Diablo, with vaulted ceilings, expansive decks. Close to town, shopping, freeway and BART.



John Nash
 925.330.9474
 john@johnbnash.com
 www.johnbnash.com
 DRE# 01995244



Lamorinda home sales recorded

... continued from Page D2

MORAGA continued

- 1121 Larch Avenue, \$1,206,500, 4 Bdrms, 1934 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 08-13-19,
 Previous Sale: \$320,000, 09-01-91
- 82 Marie Place, \$1,200,000, 4 Bdrms, 2203 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 08-21-19,
 Previous Sale: \$134,500, 07-01-78
- 651 Moraga Road #24, \$512,000, 2 Bdrms, 1144 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 08-16-19,
 Previous Sale: \$442,000, 06-16-17
- 1565 Moraga Way, \$720,000, 2 Bdrms, 1522 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 08-20-19,
 Previous Sale: \$680,000, 05-03-18
- 1893 School Street, \$1,568,500, 4 Bdrms, 3065 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 08-16-19,
 Previous Sale: \$852,000, 04-27-03
- 218 Willowbrook Lane, \$1,969,000, 4 Bdrms, 3174 SqFt, 2017 YrBlt, 08-21-19,
 Previous Sale: \$2,074,000, 03-14-18

ORINDA

- 55 Berkeley Avenue, \$885,000, 3 Bdrms, 2995 SqFt, 1961 YrBlt, 08-12-19,
 Previous Sale: \$315,000, 08-01-88
- 2 Camino Del Diablo, \$1,300,000, 6 Bdrms, 2904 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 08-21-19,
 Previous Sale: \$150,000, 07-01-78
- 52 Camino Don Miguel, \$1,800,000, 4 Bdrms, 2434 SqFt, 2016 YrBlt, 08-20-19,
 Previous Sale: \$1,700,000, 01-25-17
- 114 Camino Don Miguel, \$2,275,000, 5 Bdrms, 3411 SqFt, 1938 YrBlt, 08-20-19
- 5 Canyon View Drive, \$3,650,000, 4 Bdrms, 4672 SqFt, 2003 YrBlt, 08-20-19,
 Previous Sale: \$3,450,000, 09-27-11
- 96 Claremont Avenue, \$820,000, 2 Bdrms, 1672 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 08-15-19,
 Previous Sale: \$765,000, 07-07-15
- 15 Crescent Drive, \$1,390,000, 4 Bdrms, 2699 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 08-23-19
- 59 Donna Maria Way, \$1,305,000, 3 Bdrms, 1474 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 08-16-19
- 54 Hazel Tree Ridge, \$1,468,000, 3 Bdrms, 2385 SqFt, 2014 YrBlt, 08-23-19,
 Previous Sale: \$1,400,000, 07-06-15
- 19 Hillcrest Drive, \$1,425,000, 3 Bdrms, 2408 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 08-16-19,
 Previous Sale: \$840,000, 07-02-09
- 76 La Cuesta Road, \$975,000, 3 Bdrms, 1762 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 08-23-19,
 Previous Sale: \$532,500, 08-23-99
- 39 Las Vegas Road, \$1,500,000, 3 Bdrms, 1781 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 08-23-19,
 Previous Sale: \$850,000, 08-15-03
- 59 Longridge Road, \$960,000, 3 Bdrms, 2423 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 08-13-19,
 Previous Sale: \$479,000, 05-05-00
- 65 Mira Loma Road, \$1,350,000, 2 Bdrms, 2888 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 08-20-19
- 121 Rheem Boulevard, \$905,000, 4 Bdrms, 1568 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 08-20-19,
 Previous Sale: \$50,000, 08-04-99
- 6 Sager Court, \$1,100,000, 3 Bdrms, 1614 SqFt, 1958 YrBlt, 08-23-19
- 1 Sycamore Road, \$2,925,000, 5 Bdrms, 3977 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 08-19-19,
 Previous Sale: \$1,828,500, 06-19-12
- 80 Via Floreado, \$1,260,000, 4 Bdrms, 2040 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 08-16-19,
 Previous Sale: \$795,000, 08-16-12



Ann Newton Cane a.newtoncane ggsir.com AnnNewtonCane.com



FALL INTO THIS charming, custom Orinda home



Emily Estrada
Village Associates
925.708.8116
emily@amyrosesmith.com
www.amyrosesmith.com
CalBRE# 01942438

FINDING THE Right FIT



Amy Rose Smith
Village Associates
925.212.3897
amy@amyrosesmith.com
www.amyrosesmith.com
CalBRE: #01855959



bellavista

SUMMERH

STARTING AT
\$1,954,000

MOVE IN READY HOMES



SUMMERHILL HOMESSM



Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for October

Benvenuto to Butchart Gardens



Photo Cynthia Brian

The Sunken Garden Lake echoed the lily pond of Monet's Garden in Giverny, France.

By Cynthia Brian

"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers." – L.M. Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*
O Canada!

After a hot summer of weeding, pruning, mowing, cleaning, composting and tidying my plots, traveling to Victoria in British Columbia was a welcome respite. Despite the cold and inclement weather on Vancouver Island, we set out to explore the extraordinary National Historic Site of Canada in Brentwood Bay known as The Butchart Gardens.

In 1904, the Butchart family built their home amongst sheltered Tod Inlet surrounded by forests and fields in an area where there were limestone deposits, the perfect conditions for establishing a cement plant. They named the location "Benvenuto," meaning "welcome" in Italian. Mr. Butchart's first barge load of cement sailed from the inlet in 1905 for sale to Canadian cities. As rocks were gathered and piled in select locations and soil was brought in by the wagonloads, the quarry soon metamorphosed into the show-stopping sunken gardens. Every site for planting was meticulously chosen and a lake was created from the deepest part of the quarry, fed by a waterfall and stream.

Still owned and maintained by the Butchart family, the 55 acres of gardens continue to evolve, expand and attract. Over a million visitors a year flock to this oasis of calm and beauty. Today separate gardens include the Rose, Italian, Mediterranean, Japanese and Sunken Garden. Numerous waterscapes abound. There are boat tours at Butchart Cove, fireworks in the evening, restaurants, tea time, and even a Carousel with 30 hand-carved animals that delight children and kids-at-heart alike.

Although I was enamored by the entire landscape, it was the Sunken Garden that captured my imagination. As an avid and very diligent gardener, I can only imagine the amount of labor that was involved in creating a lush and elegant horticultural masterpiece from a rough, grim, grey quarry of jagged rocks. As I meandered around the paths admiring the handiwork of years of devotion from hundreds of talented plant smiths, I was thrilled to see that the gorgeous flowers blooming in the beds and cascading over the stone banks, were plants that I grow in my California garden. Dahlias, roses, begonias, New Guinea impatiens, cannas, camellias, salvias, rhododendrons, geraniums, petunias, hydrangeas, alliums, acanthus, astilbes, arums, snapdragons, zinnias, euphorbias, fuchsias, heliotropes, hostas, lantanas, marigolds, and even an entire swatch of deep green shamrocks, also known as oxalis, blanketed this serene environment.

... continued on next Page



The entrance to Butchart Gardens boasts 100 Years of Blooms, actually 115!

Cynthia Brian's Garden Guide for October

CONTINUE watering your yard. Your plants need the moisture now more than ever.

VISIT a public garden for inspiration and ideas.

REFRIGERATE your spring bulbs for the next six weeks.

RAKE falling leaves to add to your compost pile.

PRUNE fruit trees after the harvest.

FERTILIZE begonias and roses to prolong the blooming period.

READ a garden book. May I suggest, "Growing with the Goddess Gardener," available at www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store

TAKE a break. The tough landscaping projects start in two weeks!

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.



A border of dahlias of many varieties and sizes were in full bloom.



The plant that stumped Cynthia Brian: a tropical popcorn plant.



A colorful collage of Cuphea, the cigar plant with Angelonia, and tuberosa orange begonias.



Look closely to see the honeybee on this rare violet lace cap hydrangea.

Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for October

Benvenuto to Butchart Gardens

... continued from Page D13

Wherever I travel, I seek out gardens that will inspire and instruct me to be a better steward of our earth. Butchart Gardens is exquisitely and elegantly designed. With a plethora of water features including streams, lakes, waterfalls and fountains, I was transported to a place of sheer joy and tranquility. Totem poles, bronzes, statuary, and whimsical moss-covered wire sculptures offer a nod to the artistic value of landscaping. To walk in the footsteps of those who lived a hundred years ago knowing that they lavished love on this land, preserving it for posterity as well as the enjoyment and education of the general public was simultaneously humbling and enlightening.

Life was created in a garden. A garden is life unfolding. I returned to my California countryside as October beckons with the changing of the foliage wardrobe and, motivated by my sojourn, immediately got to work with a spark of a new beginning for digging deeper. Although my property will unlikely ever be a Butchart or Giverny, it is my personalized refuge of sweet repose.

O Canada, thank you. Benvenuto October.

McDonnell Nursery

October Sale!

family owned since 1933

25% off Perennials, Trees and Shrubs

Also find special pricing on
select garden decor.

*Pumpkin
Patch*

www.mcdonnellnursery.com

196 Moraga Way • Orinda • (925) 254-3713 • Open Daily

Cynthia Brian takes in the view surrounded by wax leaf begonias and a backdrop of the Ross Fountain and lake.

Cynthia Brian, The Goddess Gardener, raised in the vineyards of Napa County, is a New York Times best-selling author, actor, radio personality, speaker, media and writing coach as well as the Founder and Executive Director of Be the Star You Are!@ 501 c3.

Tune into Cynthia's Radio show and order her books at www.StarStyleRadio.com.

Buy a copy of her new books, Growing with the Goddess Gardener and Be the Star You Are! Millennials to Boomers at www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store.

Hire Cynthia for projects, consults, and lectures.
Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com
www.GoddessGardener.com

On  (Stay Out!)
In Your New Outdoor Room

We design & install with just one call 925-254-4797 • www.gardenlightslandscape.com

LAMORINDA'S LEADING INDEPENDENT REAL ESTATE FIRM

ORINDA



New Listing

65 California Avenue

Exquisite, one of a kind estate home, on a gated secluded, Orinda Country Club cul-de-sac lot with great views.

\$1,274,000

ORINDA



155 Cañon Drive

Light filled 3 bed/3 bath home on .67 acres, ample entertaining space both inside & out.

\$1,399,000

ORINDA



15 Easton Court

Comfortable & secluded 4 bed/2 bath with vaulted ceilings, granite counter tops & a vast backyard.

\$1,495,000

ORINDA



41 Diablo View Road

3 bed/3.5 bath, 2764 sqft pristinely maintained home. Set into the landscape & surrounded by nature.

\$1,595,000

ORINDA



271 Orchard Road

Updated & expanded rancher in the heart of Orinda. Large lawn, patio, sport court & rooftop deck.

\$1,695,000

ORINDA



8 Santa Lucia

Lovely 5 bed/ 5 bath restored Spanish style home with quality features & craftsmanship.

\$1,795,000

ORINDA



19 Donald Drive

Serene 3297 sqft garden oasis with panoramic views, luxurious interiors & numerous meditative retreats.

\$1,795,000

ORINDA

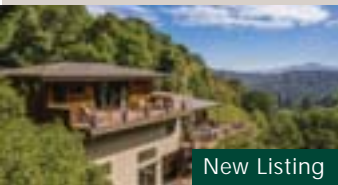


2 El Caminito

4 bed/ 3 baths, 2861 sqft home in a coveted Orinda Country Club neighborhood with views of Lake Cascade.

\$1,840,000

ORINDA



New Listing

161 Holly Lane

Custom contemporary 5 bed/ 4.5 bath home on .58 acres with panoramic views of Mount Diablo.

\$1,975,000

ORINDA



383 Miner Road

Beautiful Orinda Country Club Cape Cod Home, renovated & updated throughout on 1.32 acres w/ 5 bed/3 baths, 4023 sqft.

\$2,550,000

ORINDA



48 Oak Drive

Elegant 4 bed/3.5 bath two level new construction home with remarkable views from terrace decks.

\$2,599,000

ORINDA



13 Gardiner Court

Custom craftsman home. 6 Bed/4.5 bath with spectacular views, flat play areas, & stunning infinity pool.

\$3,595,000

ORINDA

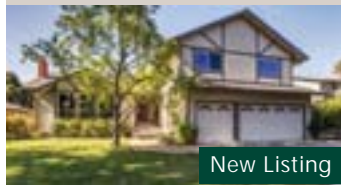


57 Charles Hill Road

A new SpringHill Homes masterpiece! 5 bed/5 baths +2 half baths with an open floor plan on a .75 acre lot.

\$4,395,000

WALNUT CREEK



New Listing

2074 Stratton Road

Charming, walk friendly neighborhood. Gorgeous wood floors, pool, 3 car garage, and an open floor plan.

\$1,150,000

DANVILLE



807 Waingarth Way

Traditional 4 bed/ 3 bath remodeled 3,439 sqft home featuring private .23 acre yard located near top K-12 Danville schools.

\$1,549,000

ALAMO



New Listing

370 South Avenue

4 bed/ 3 bath on 1.28 acres -Top Alamo westside location - close to town/schools/hiking trails/Iron Horse Trail & more.

\$2,695,000

The Village Associates:

Ashley Battersby
Patricia Battersby
Shannon Conner
Meara Dunsmore

Linda Ehrich
Emily Estrada

Joan Evans
Linda Friedman
Dexter Honens II

Anne Knight
Susan Layng

Charles Levine
April Matthews
Hillary Murphy

Karen Murphy
John Nash

Altie Schmitt
Judy Schoenrock

Ann Sharf
Amy Rose Smith

Molly Smith
Jeff Snell

Lynda Snell
Steve Stahle

Clark Thompson
Angie Evans Traxinger

Ignacio Vega
Ann Ward

Jenny Lyons Wilhite
Margaret Zucker

facebook.com/VillageAssociates
twitter.com/villageassoc
instagram.com/VillageAssociates

93 Moraga Way, Suite 103 • Orinda, CA 94563 • Phone: (925) 254-0505
Visit www.villageassociates.com Click on **Sunday Open Homes**

Village
ASSOCIATES

It's Village. Of Course.

DRE#01301392