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A blanket of gold covers Lamorinda hillsides.

Photo A. Scheck

# Spring blooms offer respite during difficult time

With Lamorinda residents under a shelter-in-place order, many are able to hit the trails for solitary walks while still keeping the required six-foot distance from others to avoid spread of the novel coronavirus, and are finding an abundance of color – especially the golden poppy – on hillsides and along walking trails.

According to our gardening guru, Cynthia Brian, the March rains and cooler temperatures

have created a boom of wildflower growth, and we may soon start to see our local hillsides graced with a poppy superbloom. Turn off the TV, close the computer and put down the phone to take some time to drink in the colors of spring. Gather branches of blooms to make arrangements (see Cynthia's story on page D1), or simply pay attention to the colors around you while making the weekly trip to the grocery or the pharmacy.

Spring reminds us all of renewal and the hope of good things to come. In the words of author Ann Bradstreet, "If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome." As we slow our lives during this crisis, we can all be grateful that we live in Lamorinda – one of the most beautiful areas in California.

– J. Wake

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# On the front lines at senior living facilities



Photo Sophie Braccini

A Moraga Royale caregiver gardens with a resident.

By Sophie Braccini

Caregivers at senior living facilities are on the front lines in the fight for safety in Lamorinda and beyond. Staff is mobilized at these establishments 24/7, applying the utmost precautions to support the most vulnerable population.

At Moraga Royale, Dianne Wilson explains that admission of new residents and tours have been interrupted. She worked with the owner of Berg Communities to establish the procedures for the group's four residences, talking to professionals including her brother-in-law who works for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and gathering as much information as possible.

The first line of defense happens when staff members arrive. They change into fresh clean uniforms, their shoes are disinfected and they scrub their hands thoroughly. Throughout the day everything such as door knobs and elevator buttons are disinfected, including supplies coming in. The mail, for example, is wiped with disinfectant as it arrives and waits for 24 hours before it is delivered to the residents.

... continued on Page A8

**Lamorinda Weekly to stop production during SIP**

After much consideration, we have decided to halt the paper during the remainder of the shelter-in-place order. We hope to be back on your driveway again soon!

Lamorinda Weekly Team



**Civic News A1-A10**

City services continue in three Lamorinda cities - Page A3, A5 and A6

**Fire Districts A8**

First responders prepared for COVID-19 calls - Page A8

**Life in Lamorinda B1-B4**

Surprise find at Sibley leads to interesting speculation - Page B1



**Sports C1-C2**

Diablo Athletic League's list of top athletes - Page C2



**Our Homes D1-D8**

Spring bloom bouquets and gardening tips for those stuck at home - Page D1

