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Photos Sora O'Doherty

Orinda's 40th annual Fourth of July fest

Parade, food, book sale, fun run, music, and more

By Sora O'Doherty

The 40th official celebration of Independence Day will be kicked off in Orinda with a burrito breakfast—a change from the usual pancake breakfast—from 7:30 to 10 a.m. at Library Plaza. At 7:55 a.m. there will be a flag raising ceremony, and 8 a.m. will mark the start of the Fun Run for a Reason. At 9 a.m. the Library book sale begins, and the parade itself starts in the Theatre District at 10 a.m., continuing on to the Village side of town.

Following the parade, there will be music in Orinda Community Park beginning at 11:30 a.m. The Czech Tabor/Orinda Sister City Foundation will be hosting a beer booth, and food will be provided

by four food trucks: Golden Gate Gyro, El Gran Taco Loco, Ike's Grill, and Ceviche & Co.

Billed as the "best hometown parade and community events, the day will be presented by The Orinda Association in partnership with many generous sponsors and volunteers. The City of Orinda also provides assistance.

This year the Orinda Association has resurrected the student-designed commemorative Fourth of July T-Shirt for 2024. This year's artist is Kellen Ha, a fourth grader from Wagner Ranch. His winning design is a flag filled map of Orinda and an image of the iconic Orinda Theatre.

4th of July activities in Moraga

- In the Commons Park
 11 a.m.: dog parade
 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.: community booths
 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.: inflatable jumpies
 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.: food, wine, & beer booths
 noon - 4 p.m.: family activities
 On stage at the bandshell
 6:45 p.m.: National Anthem & Mayor's Welcome
 7:00 p.m.: House Rockers (concert)
 9:30 p.m.: Firework Spectacular (start time is estimated)
 Registration and info at: www.moragarec.com

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Canyon's phone service restored as Moraga gets hit

By Chris Lavin

After more than a week without landlines, AT&T has restored service to more than 100 residents of Canyon. Thieves had cut and stolen about 500 feet of telephone cable along Canyon Road near Moraga, presumably to sell the copper within it.

The most recent cutting and theft of phone line occurred near the intersection of Moraga Road and Corliss Drives in the early hours of June 28.

"It's an epidemic," said Jonathan Goodwin, who has lived in Canyon for 32 years.

"Theft and vandalism of critical communications infrastructure are serious matters that disrupt essential services for our customers, public safety and the community at large," AT&T said by email. "We're actively working with local law enforcement as they investigate to find those responsible."

AT&T is trying to find the culprits. The company is offering a reward of \$10,000 for specific and detailed information that leads to arrest and conviction for copper cable thefts or the attempted sale or purchase of stolen copper cable in Contra Costa County. ... continued on Page 5



Photo Chris Lavin

Maryann Hardwicke of Canyon holds her "spaghetti" nest that didn't route phone or Internet service for 12 days. The rest of the community suffered, too. "It was terrible," she said.

Historic day for Orinda: Friends of Joaquin Moraga Adobe now own the building

By Sora O'Doherty

Although the building isn't quite ready to regularly open to the public, the Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe held a ribbon cutting ceremony and preview on Saturday June 29, to celebrate the purchase of the building. Visitors, including Orinda Mayor Darlene Gee, were allowed to enter the building and admire the amazing rehabilitation of the oldest existing building in Contra Costa County. The ribbon was cut by Bobbie Landers, who instigated the drive to save the Adobe, and Board member Lance Beeson, who is a direct descendant of the Moraga family.

Unable to attend the Saturday ceremony, State Senator Steve Glazer came on the preceding Friday to present to the board of the Friends a check for a \$250,000 State Park grant, to reimburse half of the purchase price of the building. ... continued on Page 6



Photo Sora O'Doherty

State Senator Steve Glazer, center, presents a check to the Directors of the Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe. From left to right, Bobbie Landers, Margaret Beck, Teresa Long, Lance Beeson, Jeff Boero, Kent Long, Tania DeGroot, and Peter Capri.

Civic News

Orinda's private roads and drains – Page 7

Public Safety

Fire Chief to retire – Page 7

Life in Lamorinda

Tom Preston Memorial Fitness Zone in Moraga opens – Page 12



Sports

Baseball friendship leads to the new Oakland Ballers – Page 11



Our Homes OH1-OH12

Red white, and blue in the garden – Page OH1





See public meetings schedule on these pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements
City of Lafayette:
 www.lovelafayette.org
 Phone: (925) 284-1968
Chamber of Commerce:
 www.lafayettechamber.org

Lafayette Public Meetings

City Council

Regular Meeting: Monday, July 8, 7 p.m.
 Lafayette Library & Learning Center-Don Tatzin Community Hall

Planning Commission Meeting

Monday, July 15 7 p.m.
 Lafayette Library & Learning Center-Don Tatzin Community Hall

Design Review

Monday, July 8, 7 p.m.
 Lafayette Library & Learning Center-Arts & Science Discovery Room

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COMPASS



Rotary LamorindaSunrise.org

Young singers dazzle at Lamorinda Idol performance in Lafayette

By Elaine Borden Chandler



Photo Elaine Borden Chandler

Lila Weis and Mia Cortesio harmonize together with "My Love, My Life" from Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again.

On Friday evening, 31 Lamorinda students waited with anticipation in Lafayette Plaza while around them their friends and families settled down on picnic blankets. Little children chased after one another around their seated parents, takeout boxes were ripped open and bags of cut watermelon were hauled out of huge wicker baskets, and families eagerly tried to find on a space the shady half of the lawn. It was the last Rock the Plaza of 2024 and the crowd had come to see the singers

of Lamorinda Idol perform.

Lamorinda Idol is a singing program where local students compete to win in eight categories. These singers have already gone through auditions in May and are now working towards the final competition in August. On this day, they performed their competition songs in Lafayette. Students ranged from students of Acalanes to Wagner Ranch and from boisterous elementary school students to seasoned high school se-

niors. Svea Peterson, who opened the performance and received whoops for her fantastic sustained note in "Gravity", has won seven different awards in past competitions.

Not only was the skill of the students incredible, the variety of songs performed was impressive. The most popular choices were pop songs and Broadway tunes. Miles Peter, a third grader from Wagner Ranch with a soft husky speaking voice and belting singing voice, sang "I Just Can't Wait to Be King" from The Lion King. Quinn Pennington, after giving a fantastic rendition of Olivia Newton-John's "Magic", bluntly commented on how her background music was about to abruptly cut off, to the crowd's amusement. Margaret Meckes superbly handled the R&B stylings of Nancy Wilson's 1964 hit "How Glad I Am." Vedita Rajaraman shyly danced while she confidently sang Whitney Houston's "I Wanna Dance with Somebody." Colette

Goodman, who earlier had performed "Defying Gravity" with Cara Impallomeni and Ceci Bayley, wistfully sang "Ring of Keys" from the Broadway musical Fun Home.

Jolie Xu was one of the singers this year, performing the song "Stay" with her friend, neighbor, and classmate Collette Burke. While the girls sang skillfully on stage, Xu's sister and friend scampered about in the crowd with big smiles and signs that said "Go Jolie and Coco!" Xu was a finalist in last year's Lamorinda Idol and said that this year she had less stage fright. "I really like singing so when I heard about this competition I wanted to do it because I thought it was a good experience and fun," she explained and then added with a mischievous smile, "Also kind of because there was a prize."

The audience was enthusiastic and relaxed, alternating between chatting amongst themselves and watching the singers pull out all the stops.

... continued on Page 10

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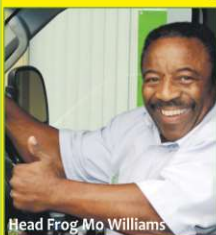
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Families enjoyed Lamorinda Safety Fair and Ham Radio's "Field Day"

By Sora O'Doherty

The Lamorinda Safety Fair joined the Lamorinda Area Radio Interest Group (LARIG), on Saturday, June 22 at the Lafayette Reservoir. While LARIG was conducting their annual Field Day, other local agencies set up tables and brought exhibits to demonstrate how they are addressing local safety issues, to raise awareness and disseminate important information.

Some of the groups represented were the Lafayette Police Department, Moraga Orinda Fire Department, Contra

Costa Fire, the Contra Costa Sheriff's office, and Lamorinda Community Emergency Response Team (CERT.) There was a plethora of trucks to explore at the event, from fire trucks to communications trucks to search and rescue rigs. East Bay Regional Parks was represented, as they have their own police and fire departments, including two helicopters.

Families were able to get on the air with local ham radio operators, see specialized fire fighting gear up close, learn to perform CPR, meet first responders, and browse



Photo Sora O'Doherty

Lafayette resident Levi Newman, age four, really enjoyed meeting the firemen of ConFire and exploring their truck.

the public safety exhibits with plenty of free giveaways.

Radio fans could talk to ham radio operators from around the world during Field Day, which is an annual event where 40,000 radio hobbyists set up temporary radio stations in public places to demonstrate their skills in emergency radio communications and practice for a real disaster response. LARIG pitched tents and erected different types of antennas to see how many ra-

dio contacts they could make with field gear, including batteries, solar panels, and generators.

Al Archangel, LARIG's president, explained that everyone was able to join the fun of making radio calls with a special Get-On-The-Air station that was operating just for this event. "This was a great event for youngsters and oldsters alike and a way to explore ham radio and also see the latest in public safety gear and emergency response preparations," he said.

Creekside Weekend Couples Retreat
 October 4th, 5th, and 6th
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- **Meals:** Continental breakfast and lunch provided each day.
- **Location:** Creekside cottage in Lafayette, CA

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- **Website:** darrellchristian.com/couples-retreat/
- **Email at:** CouplesRetreatswithDr.C@gmail.com • **Phone:** (925) 935-8646
- **Couples Blog:** darrellchristian.com/blog/

Correction: "Summer Fun 101" in the June 19 issue suggested joining a book club at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center, but at this time they do not have a book club to join. However, Reasonable Books in Lafayette has a book club on the last Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.

An Interview with bestselling Author Joyce Maynard

By Lou Fancher



Joyce Maynard

Photo provided

In an interview held the week before an appearance June 25 as the Distinguished Speaker in the Lafayette library's popular series of author presentations, New York Times bestselling writer Joyce Maynard's storytelling energy is earnest, effusive, intricate, and overwhelmingly honest. Born 70 years ago, first published at age 13, and, most prominently, at age 18 in 1972, when her "An Eighteen Year Old Looks Back on Life" essay became a New York Times cover story.

Speaking about the upcoming book launch of her latest novel, "How the Light Gets In", a sequel to "Count the Ways" (2021), Maynard says, "I had no intention of writing a sequel. When I wrote the last page of 'Count the Ways', I thought I was saying good bye to those characters. It was readers who told me in no uncertain terms that the story of Eleanor wasn't done. They said they had yelled out loud at Eleanor and knew she wasn't taking care of herself. They said she was a self-sacrificing woman, which is of course, what a lot of women do. They said you can't just leave her there, we need to see what happens next."

"I love this character, Eleanor, and had to think long and hard about what should happen in her life. Even though she's not me, she's near my age and has lived through many of the same things I have: a young marriage, raising children as a single parent, launching them in the world, and the death of a first marriage. I've been living with these characters since 2018 and they are like family. They're real and dear to me: I found I had missed them."

Maynard says she may not have the book sales figures of John Grisham, but the people who read her books have a passion for her stories she will never trade. "I'm so excited to take this book out to share. An authentic story with characters who struggle through real things helps people. If I name a single formative experience that has shaped who I am as a writer, it is that I grew up in a family of spectacularly articulate people who talked about art, music, politics, literature, religion and even sex, but never spoke of the thing happening every night in our house, which was that my father got drunk, and every morning we pretended that hadn't happened."

If Maynard is like a supercharged magnet to readers, the same mechanism was at work in March 2020. Scheduled to run a memoir workshop in Guatemala, 16 women showed up in the small village hotel she had booked. Two days after the president of

Guatemala said the airport would be closing, eight women immediately flew home. Eight women stayed for 12 days, until the workshop ended and the U.S. State Department announced a plane would take U.S. citizens home. Six students departed and the two women who remained beyond ended up staying—with Maynard—for six months.

"We stayed by choice. It was the most magical time of my life. I recognized the world was in terrible pain, but for a writer, it was extraordinary. I was outdoors in my garden with these two wonderful young women and I completely rewrote 'Count the Ways'. Every night, we'd make a fabulous meal and sit by the edge of the water, look up at stars, light candles. I would read out loud to them from the novel and when I finished it, they said, "You need to write something else for us." That became the next novel, "The Bird Hotel."

Maynard was reminded by the experience how much she loves to read out loud, to feel immersed in the world and everyday lives of her readers. "My book goes off to a publisher and then somebody buys it," she says. "In Guatemala, I could read out loud and feel the connection between what I wrote and what they took in. The other thing that was great is that I knew every day climbing the steps to my little writing house, that the men would be using their hammers and shovels. I fit into the world of workers and the direct relationship between what my work and what families were able to eat that night. I'm going back (soon) to write a sequel to The Bird Hotel because I want that feeling again."

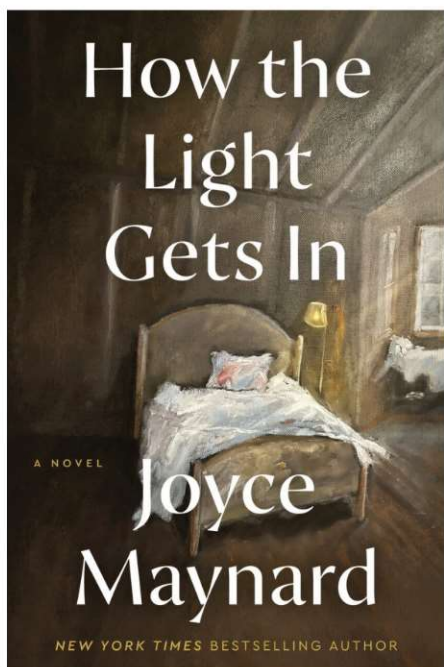
These simple experiences—mutual tastes and star-gazing at a meal, listening to shared sounds as workers pound nails and Maynard hammers out words on a keyboard—mirror Maynard's connections to the voices of her characters.

"I turn the floor over to my characters. I set them in motion and then, I don't control what they do. I'm regularly surprised by what happens. It's like the process of parenthood. If you're wise, you protect them, support, and encourage them, but they become their own people. That happens with my characters and at some point, they're off to the races and I'm chasing along behind."

The "chase," in the case of "How The Light Gets In", involved one daughter who chooses to become estranged from her mother, chapters in which contemporary politics and events enter the scene, and a second daughter who is transgender. "I never inject a 'hot topic' to make a book of-the-moment. This is a family who happens to have a child who recognizes they were born into a body that wasn't one they matched. I know and have listened hard to a lot of stories told by at least 20 to 30 women at my workshops with children who have transitioned."

Former president Donald Trump and climate change are also minor elements in the novel and Maynard anticipates some flack. "I have already heard people criticize it because they say its political. This book doesn't express my views; that's not my role. My role as a fiction writer is to portray the world of my characters. I could no more set a novel during the Trump years and not mention him than I could set a novel in France in 1939 and not mention WWII. My work is very America and I always want to show my characters beyond their kitchens, and living rooms. My books are a personal way of experiencing global events."

Anticipating with tremendous enthusiasm the book launch at the Lafayette library, Maynard says she is likely to read an excerpt from a chapter titled, The Definition of a Good Mother. "I'm eager to hear from readers, so I don't want to just read and give a performance. But the passage I know I'll read in Lafayette is short and it's Eleanor's meditation on this phrase we toss out so lightly. Is there such a thing as a "good mother?" And what's a bad mother? I'll read that because I love to sing but I'm not a good singer. Reading out loud is the closest I have to singing a song and this is my song."



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Chamber of Commerce:
www.moragachamber.org
Moraga Citizens' Network:
www.moragacitizensnetwork.org

Town Council Meetings:
Wed., July 10, 6:30 p.m.
Planning Commission: Tuesday, July 16, 6:30 p.m.
Parks and Recreation Commission:
Mon., July 8, 6:30 p.m.

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community. Send a letter to the editor:
letters@lamorindaweekly.com



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Town Council approves Moraga Road/Campolindo Drive Traffic Safety Study

By Vera Kochan

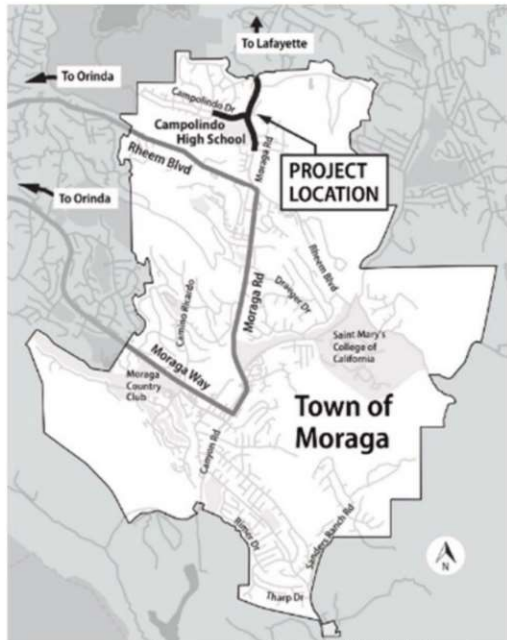


Image courtesy Moraga Public Works Department

The Moraga Road and Campolindo Drive Traffic Safety Study has been accepted as complete by the Town Council, who approved the safety improvements identified in the study and authorized staff to begin implementation as part of the 2024 Street Rehabilitation Pro-

ject. Residents in the area have expressed concerns regarding various traffic situations that have made it difficult for them to safely maneuver their vehicles during peak congestion hours. As a result, in December 2023, the council autho-

riized hiring a consultant, Parametrix, Inc., to perform a safety study.

According to a June 26 staff report by Moraga's Public Works Director/Town Engineer Shawn Knapp, Senior Engineer Nate Levine, and Assistant Engineer Yao Miao, Parametrix's goals were to: "engage the community to understand their traffic congestion and safety concerns; recommend multimodal traffic modifications to improve safety, circulation, and access within the project extent along Moraga Road and Campolindo High School drop-off and pick-up areas, parking lot driveways, and adjacent intersections; and recommend measures to improve driver sight distance and/or slow traffic along Moraga Road to improve safety for drivers exiting Corte Santa Clara onto Moraga Road."

As a result of the study, staff met with the Campolindo Home Owners Association in April 2024, and agreed to paint red curbs and "No Parking" signage at strategic crosswalks in order to address residents' concerns regarding pedestrian safety.

Additional traffic safety meetings with the public yielded a variety of solutions. Parametrix's Moraga Road recommendations included three stages of improvements. Near-Term Improvements are to install painted bulb-outs with raised posts at specific crosswalks; and re-stripe Moraga Road for bike lanes, reduce lane widths, and update crosswalk markings.

Mid-Term Improvements would upgrade the Moraga Road/Campolindo Drive traffic signal system, and replace the Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon with a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon, also known as a High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk. A Long-Term Improvement would involve a study reconstructing the Moraga Road west side sidewalk via a multi-use path from Campolindo Drive to Rheem Boulevard. This is expected to be evaluated as part of the Livable Moraga Road project.

In order to address residents' concerns along Corte Santa Clara Court regarding difficulty exiting onto Moraga Road, a Near-Term Improvement is to install "Keep Clear" markings at the intersection and trim or remove existing shrubs/trees to increase driver sight lines. Additional sight line analysis is necessary in order to minimize the number of trees needing removal with the cooperation of property owners.

The eventual Palos Colorados 123-unit residential development is already on the town's radar with a Mid-Term Improvement of further study concerning ingress/egress locations to better fit the roadway alignment. Long-Term Improvements would be to install a traffic signal at the Palos Colorados subdivision entrance with Moraga Road; and to coordinate traffic signals with others along Moraga Road to provide travel gaps to allow for easier egress from Corte Santa Clara Court.

Campolindo Drive's neighborhood expressed concerns with vehicular speeding, student parking and partially blocking driveways, and pedestrian safety near the Campolindo Cabana Swim Club. Near-Term Improvements would be to install painted bulb-outs with raised posts at specific crosswalks, and add parking prohibitions and reconstructed curb ramps on Campolindo Drive for improved pedestrian safety. Mid-Term Improvements involve an upgrade of the Moraga Road/Campolindo Drive traffic signal system (incorporate with Smart Signals project), develop a travel demand management plan with Campolindo High School Administration, and consider a residential parking permit system.

The Near-Term Improvements are part of the 2024 Street Rehabilitation Project and re-considered change order requests totaling approximately \$28,500. The staff report states, "There is no fiscal impact to the adopted Fiscal Year 2023/24 budget as the Moraga Road and Campolindo Drive Traffic Safety Study was funded through the Minor Traffic Safety Program of the \$50,000 budget allocated with Measure J Funds. Parametrix's final study services cost, including completing additional community outreach and exhibit support for change orders along with possible additional work to address any Town Council comments, if any, is expected to be \$47,009."

TOWN OF MORAGA FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

IN THE COMMONS

11:00 am Dog Parade
Pre-register online at moragarec.com
Register day-of | 9:30 - 10:30am | Bandshell

11:00 am - 4:00 pm Community Booths

11:00 am - 4:00 pm Inflatable Jumpies
Sponsored by Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley

11:00 am - 8:00 pm Food, Wine, & Beer Booths
Including patriotic favorites prepared by Lamorinda Lions Club & Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley

12:00 pm - 4:00 pm Family Activities
Live entertainment, all-American games, & more Pop by The Town Sports Experience hosted by The Town FC

ON STAGE AT THE BANDSHELL

6:45 pm National Anthem & Mayor's Welcome

7:00 pm House Rockers (Concert)

9:30 pm Firework Spectacular (Start time is estimated)

SUPPORT THE FIREWORKS

Donate to the Buy-A-Rocket Fireworks fundraising campaign and keep this patriotic Moraga tradition! Help reach the \$30,000 goal by donating at moragarec.com

THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2024 MORAGA COMMONS PARK

www.moragarec.com



Hacienda Nights brings the food trucks

By Vera Kochan



Photo Vera Kochan

Locals enjoy the first Hacienda Nights of the season

You can tell that summer fun is in the air – literally – by the mouth-watering scents wafting from the Hacienda de las Flores area. Yes, it's time for Hacienda Nights, and that means a variety of food trucks to please any palate.

Families and couples, young and old, came to enjoy the season's inaugural food fest on June 18. Cousins

Maine Lobster, Ofie's Kitchen (hotdogs, hamburgers, and fries), Ceviche & Co. (Latin bites), Mama's Shawarma (wraps and kebobs), Bombzies BBQ (Asian fusion), P's Philly's (cheesesteak sandwiches), Kona Ice (shaved ice), and Canyon Club Brewery were the food trucks on hand.

Moraga's Parks and Recreation Department

Recreation Coordinator Donald Scully estimated the first event attendance was approximately 300 people.

Two more Hacienda Nights are on tap for this summer. The July 16 food trucks scheduled are: Ofies Kitchen, Golden Gate Gyro (halal street food), Bombzies BBQ, Los Rockeros (Mexico City-style street food), Global Express (Italian menu), Canyon Club Brewery, and Tangelo (frozen yogurt). The Aug. 6 expected food trucks are: Cousins Maine Lobster, Ceviche & Co., P's Philly's, Golden Gate Gyro, Los Rockeros, Rock Club Gyro (Latin-flavored burgers), Canyon Club Brewery, and Tangelo. Both events, will also be held at the Hacienda's 2100 Donald Dr. location between 5 and 9 p.m. For more information visit: moragarec.com.

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Earlier Town Council meetings on the horizon in Moraga

By Vera Kochan

The Town Council is expected to authorize an earlier start time to its meetings, moving them up an hour from the current 6:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. In order to do this, the Ordinance needs to be approved during the next Town Council meeting scheduled for July 10. The chain of events would then require an update to

the Town Council Protocols through a Resolution. Conveniently, a Resolution amending the Town Council Protocols was adopted during the Council's June 26 meeting in favor of the new 5:30 p.m. meeting time. The new meeting start time will become effective 30 days pending the final adoption on July 10.

It wasn't that long ago when Moraga's council meetings began at 7 p.m. and would often last to 11 p.m. In February 2021, the meetings were moved to 6:30 p.m. in the hopes that they would conclude before 10:30 p.m.

According to the June 26 staff report by Town Clerk Amy Heavener,

"There are pros and cons to starting a Council meeting at 5:30 p.m. On the pro side, the Town organization will reduce costs and improve efficiencies associated with staff overtime, additional consultant costs, utilities, etc. Council members, and members of the public, will be able to conduct business earlier in the

evening and return to their families at a more reasonable hour."

The report continued, "On the con side, council members, and members of the public, will have a shorter break between their daytime employment and the start of a council meeting. This may make it harder to eat dinner, or take care of

work and/or family and personal matters before the council meeting."

It was noted during the June 26 meeting, that many of California's municipalities have shifted their council meetings to earlier start times due to technological advances that provide constituents with remote viewing capabilities.

Spotting mis/disinformation in media during the upcoming elections

By Vera Kochan

With so many sources of nefarious news to filter through and artificial intelligence capabilities on the rise, how can the average voter learn to spot fake news when it comes to election information?

The Moraga Library offered a "Mis/Disinformation: Election Edition" presentation on June 25 that was sponsored by The League of Women Voters Diablo Valley (LWV), with the intention of teaching voters "how to spot fake news, fact-check sources, and navigate the complexities of today's media landscape."

In order to start the evening on a trustworthy note, the slide presentation began with a statement identifying LWV as, "a non-partisan organization encourag-

ing informed and active participation in government. The League never endorses or opposes candidates or political parties. We influence public policy through education and advocacy."

LWV representatives Martha Van Orshoven and Paul Derksen's presentation reminded attendees that "it's all about where you get your news from and if you believe what you hear." They added that often information is presented out of context in order to weave together material that could be conceived as true. AI capabilities have become so sophisticated that it's nearly impossible to tell if images have been faked.

Van Orshoven explained that "Misinforma-

tion" is the sharing of false information without the intent to harm.

"Disinformation" involves creating and sharing false information with the intent to harm or mislead. "Malinformation" is based on fact but used out of context with the intent to harm or mislead. She also put forth that AI uses applications that perform complex tasks that once required human input, such as Machine Learning -- (Alexa/SIRI) or Deep Learning -- more information received much faster and foundationally relies on data from humans.

Depending on the age group, voters' news sources come in various types of media form: 18-29 year olds primarily rely on news web-

sites/apps, pod casts, and search engines; 30-49 year olds overall prefer search engines and television, with a smattering of news websites/apps and pod casts; 50-64 year olds look to search engines and television; and the 65+ age group relies the heaviest on television with a bit of search engines and newspapers. All age groups have been known to get their news from print or radio, but the statistics were not overwhelming. Also, knowing where various news sources lean is a good indicator of what type of information bias the voter can expect. The categories typically fall under: left, lean left, center, lean right, and right.

Van Orshoven discussed the five standards

of credible journalism which includes using multiple sources, verifying sources, avoiding obvious bias, providing context, and balanced reporting.

Derksen brought up various ways to spot "Mis/Disinformation" through researching the source and cross-checking the information, checking the date and domain, reading past the headline and examining an article's content, and being wary of emotionally charged content. He also stated that if a story offers links, follow them. If there are no links, no quotations, or no references, it could be a red flag warning to fake news. He added, if an image looks suspicious use a reverse search en-

gine such as TinEye (tin-eye.com) or Google Images (lens.google.com) for verification.

There are several sources for trustworthy election information. The Secretary of State website is: sos.ca.gov. Another is the website for the County Elections Office: contra-costavote.gov. LWV provides a website that gives all voting information: vote411.org. Contra Costa County offers a website (secure-election.org) that explains the 48-step verification process it uses to secure elections by securing technology, facilities, processes and people.

Moraga Police are investigating a series of thefts and burglaries

On Sunday June 30 about 6:30 a.m., Moraga Police received a call of suspicious persons who were trying car door handles and looking into parked vehicles in the Rimer/Camino Pablo/Larch neighborhoods. When officers responded to the area, they located the subjects entering a garage on Larch. The suspects were able to get into a grey Lexus and drove out of the area at a high rate of speed. Offi-

cers pursued the vehicle on Canyon Road, but discontinued the pursuit because of safety concerns.

Officers found that the subjects drove a stolen Lexus into Town and entered at least 15 different unlocked vehicles throughout those neighborhoods. Unfortunately, some of those vehicles had garage door remote controls inside, allowing the suspects access to garages, through

which they were able to enter residences. We are currently investigating all of the incidents and coordinating with other jurisdictions where these individuals also committed crimes.

For those of you in the Rimer/Camino Pablo/Larch neighborhoods who have security cameras, please check your cameras during the 6:00 to 6:30 a.m. time period and look for recordings of individuals who

are checking car door handles or garage doors or of a grey Lexus cruising by your home. If you have these recordings, please contact us via Dispatch at 925-284-5010.

For everyone in town, please ensure that you keep your vehicle and house doors closed and locked when you are not using them. Please do not store valuables in your vehicles -- even those things that may not be valuable to you,

but may appear to be valuable to someone else. Please also be aware of your surroundings and report any suspicious persons to the Moraga Police by calling Dispatch at 925-284-5010 (for emergencies, dial 9-1-1).

Remember that criminals are not dumb -- they like to go places where they can easily steal things and escape. If we work together and make it difficult for them

by ensuring that vehicles and houses are secure, they will hopefully realize that it is not easy to commit crimes in Moraga and go somewhere else.

Thank you for helping keep Moraga a safe community.
Provided by the Moraga Police Department

Canyon's phone service restored as Moraga gets hit

... continued from Page 1

Tipsters with information can remain anonymous and should call local law enforcement or AT&T Asset Protection Hotline Group at (800) 807-4205.

Remote areas -- and sometimes not-so-remote, like Orinda -- have been experiencing phone wire thefts of great magnitude. The

Lamorinda area has joined the ranks of Pinole and Hercules, which also experienced loss of wire, and therefore telephone and DSL (direct service line) service, in June. While most suburban communities are sometimes able to reroute 911 calls, Canyon is too isolated for such an option.

"If this had occurred during fire weather,"

Goodwin said. "We would be out of luck." Many would be unable to call neighbors or alert the community in case of any emergency. "It was terrible for me," Goodwin said. "It was 12 days!"

Similar to the trend of catalytic converter theft, Canyon was hit by thieves likely trying to sell the copper wire from the phone lines. Recycling centers will buy

whole phone lines and strip them for the copper within, which sells for about \$3.25 per pound. Canyon's phone lines are believed to have been taken by vandals climbing up redwood trees to cut the lines, which were then cut into 6-foot sections.

Phone service has long been tricky in Canyon, where even today wireless internet service can be sketchy. In many parts of the unincorporated community, only AT&T has worked. Many residents rely only on landlines for communication and internet service through DSL. Even many Canyonites who have cell phones couldn't rely on them for backup.

Longtime resident Erik Olafsson cannot get cell reception in his house, so the 12 days without proved a problem. He had to go out his front door and climb a 150-foot hill to get reception, and has longtime friends he talks with almost daily.

"It was a lot of trips up that hill," he said.

Hammond St. Neighbors Celebrate Leo Saephan's retirement after 38 years of mail carrier service

Submitted by Sherilyn Hagan



Back row: Jim Kneis, Robert Holloway, Lauren Acevedo, Tom VonderBrink, Greg Costa, Scott Reynolds ; Front row: Mark Zemsch, Kim Zemsch Mailman Leo Saephan, Sherilyn Hagan, Kris Costa

Photo Dan Hagan



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Orinda Library Auditorium

Planning Commission
Tuesday, July 9, 7 p.m.
Orinda Library Auditorium

Supplemental Sales Tax Oversight Commission
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Sarge Littlehale Community Room, 22 Orinda Way

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Historic day for Orinda: Friends of Joaquin Moraga Adobe now own the building



The Joaquin Moraga Adobe 1841

Photos Sora O'Doherty

... continued from Page 1

Glazer praised the friends for their accomplishment and for having the education of youth as the central focus of the project, "Your work to bring this to life, it isn't just about our kids, its about our adults too, learning and remembering. It's a touchstone and I thank you all so much for bringing this to life. It would have been easy to just have it torn down and call it progress."

For those who had witnessed the decline of the building, which had fallen into desuetude, crumbling and covered with graffiti, the transformation into a beautiful five room building was stunning. It had been impossible to imagine the fandangos said to have been hosted there when it was the home of the Moragas, but now the vision is inviting.

The building cannot be "restored," to its original condition, but has been rehabilitated to approximate how it was around 1848. The red-wood plank floors have been replicated, the adobe walls smoothly plastered and painted an off white that opens up the five rooms. Entering the building through the impressive double doors, one first comes into the large parlor, well lit by large windows and electric light.

Historically, there were no fireplaces within the Adobe, and the cooking was done outdoors. So there is not a kitchen per se, but there is a large dining room, which will feature traditional food preparation items and a period dining table. In addition to the parlor and dining room, there is a room that will house the museum exhibits, including an audio-visual presentation. Another room has been dedicated as the Bruzzone Gallery, in honor of that family's large donation, which will feature rotating exhibits. There is also a bedroom, but no bathroom, although public restrooms have been built on the property.

The views from the Orinda hilltop that is home to the Adobe are breathtaking. When it was the home of Joaquin Moraga and his family, they could see almost all of their property from the hilltop. Their rancho extended from Orinda into Moraga, and Lafayette. Today, standing in the open doorway or on the porch, one gets a sweeping view from Mount Diablo to the Las Trampas ridge.

The land around the Adobe has not yet been landscaped, but will feature native plants and an arbor with grapes that trace their DNA to the 1700s and the missions of California. A paved path has been installed that sweeps around the entire building, allowing handicapped access. There will be a patio paved with the bricks that people purchased as a way to fund the project, surrounded by a low wall where people will be able to sit and admire the views.

At the back of the Adobe, where the cooking would have been done in the past, there will be a fenced area for use by school groups touring the adobe. This land was freed up when several rooms that had been appended to the Adobe were taken down to get it back to its 1848 footprint.

During the 15 year task, inspired by Bobbie Landers, the Friends were relentless fund raisers in order to purchase the building from J&J Ranch, the developer of the surrounding 20 or so acres. J&J agreed to sell the Adobe and its parcel to the non-profit group if they could raise the \$500,000 purchase price by 2021. J&J also agreed to rehabilitate the building. If the Friends had failed to buy it, the building would have become a clubhouse for the housing development.

Having completed the purchase, the Friends are now moving on to managing the building and making it available to the public. The memorandum of understanding under which they were allow to purchase the building provides for no more than

30 open days per year. The Friends hope in particular to have the building used as an educational site by school children.

The Joaquin Moraga Adobe is of historical interest not only to Orinda, where it is located, but to Moraga as well. The Moraga Historical Society raised \$100,000 towards the purchase of the building. The site on Adobe Road is on the border of the two municipalities in the hills above Del Rey elementary school. In the near distance, a swath of green is part of the Moraga County Club.

The building is an excellent example of Monterey Colonial architecture of the 1840s. It is rich in details, such as the original crown moldings, that were brought from the eastern states by trading ships that came to purchase hides from California.

Rancho life was very much influenced by the California Gold Rush and the Mexican American War, according to Friends President Kent Long and his wife Teresa, who have been a huge part of the Friends from its inception.

Rancho families had the rug pulled out from under them, so to speak, by the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which ended the war in 1848 and under which Mexico ceded California and other lands to the United States. The Moragas had to enter into long and costly legal proceedings to keep their home and land, and ultimately went bankrupt and lost everything, in part owing to unscrupulous lawyers.

The Joaquin Moraga Adobe was recognized as a California Landmark in 1954 and as a historical landmark by the City of Orinda in 1995. Although the original plaques were stolen, reproductions have recently been donated by the local Acalanes chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Now that the Adobe is surrounded by occupied homes and outfitted with a high level security system, the vandalism that plagued the building in the past has ceased.

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Contentious matter of private roads and drains again on Orinda's agenda

By Sora O'Doherty

Having been in abeyance during and since the Covid pandemic, the issue of Orinda's private roads and drains recently returned to the fore. The City Council's Subcommittee on Infrastructure brought a report to the Council at its June 18 meeting presenting its initial work program, as was requested by the council.

Upon establishing the Council's Infrastructure Subcommittee, which is composed of Mayor Darlene Gee and the Vice Mayor, Latika Malkani, the full Council had requested that a draft initial work program be presented to the Council early in the subcommittee's work. After meeting twice, the subcommittee provided a draft work program to the full Council in advance of the next scheduled subcommittee meeting.

Council member Inga Miller spoke to the issue at length during the meeting. One of her points was that she found it hard to not be a member of the subcommittee. "I haven't felt comfortable with the way that our staff has been treated at those meetings," she said, "and I don't believe that it shows us in a very good light with our public." Mayor Darlene Gee responded, "I'm having a really hard time understanding, having been there, what occurred that would be considered mistreating the staff." Gee also disagreed with a suggestion by Miller that the subcommittee was dividing the community. She said, "I wanted this subcommittee in order to be able to provide a forum, to try to find a way

to bring more of the community together on a critical issue to the city." Miller countered with, "Maybe you're bringing people together... but that's not what I'm hearing on the street."

Miller, in further comments, said that "people believe that what you have promised is to bring their private roads into the public system" and that "it's a bad sign in government if your leaders aren't being honest with you," suggesting that perhaps the matter was just a campaign issue.

The council accepted public comments on the work plan, although Council Member Brandyn Iverson noted that the comments did not actually address the work plan, but expressed opinions about the current situation in Orinda vis a vis the fairness of having private roads or the potential problems with private drains that handle many gallons of water that flow off public property.

The subcommittee subsequently met on June 25 and reviewed the council's suggestions for revising the work plan, which had passed the city council unanimously. After discussion, the work plan was revised to provide two areas to be addressed, as had been suggested by council member Iverson. The revised work plan was scheduled to be reviewed by the full council on July 2, after this issue went to press.

The revised work plan covers two areas. Background and education will explore constraints, existing resources, and current rules and regulations to develop a list of possible solutions. This will include

reviewing and discussing an updated map of public and private roads, longer-term funding and financial resources, and existing resolution 59-18 on private road acceptance policy. This area will also include getting the lay of the land regarding stormwater law, drainage, owner responsibilities/liabilities, and changes in law. Developing a range of possible alternatives with some sense of which ones, if any, seem worth pursuing is listed as a deliverable.

Other tasks are mapping the entire city public and private storm drain system and updating the Homeowner Guide. Another task is to conduct a needs assessment opinion survey of private road homeowners. In addition, the subcommittee will explore ideas to assist private road neighborhoods and develop and discuss possible options and tools to balance the needs of public and private roads.

The subcommittee is tasked with creating a formal knowledge base for all stakeholders with well-organized, summary information to reduce confusion and/or future need for a task force.

At the subcommittee meeting, several speakers brought up issues regarding their neighborhoods. Some of these are already being looked at by the city manager and staff, and were deemed not relevant to the subcommittee's work. The subcommittee received a staff report from the city manager and also heard from the Director of Public Works, Scott Christie, and City Engineer Sivakumar Natarajan.

The agenda included the Orinda Road Ownership Map, which currently shows public and private roads, in addition to public easements and roads that are presumed to be either public or private. The last category of roads shown is private with pavement management by the city under a five year renewable maintenance agreement.

Christie explained the history of public road acceptance under Contra Costa County and the City of Orinda after it was incorporated in 1985. City Manager David Biggs emphasized that there is much that is unknown about why some roads became private roads, and said that if anyone had documentation showing that their road should be public, they should bring it to the city for review.

The subcommittee agreed to recommend to the city council a complete review of the condition of private roads using the same methodology as for public roads. This would consist of using the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Pavement Management Technical Assistance Program, Street-Saver software, and an assessment of field conditions by the city engineering staff. The matter will

be brought to the city council at a future meeting.

Assessing all private drains would be a more expensive project, and the subcommittee plans to consider that in the future.

The city is gathering private road information, including the map, on its website for easy access by residents. This can be found at www.cityoforinda.org/601/Private-Road-Information

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MOFD Chief David Winnacker leaving for private sector

By Sora O'Doherty



Photo Sora O'Doherty

David Winnacker

After serving as Fire Chief of the Moraga Orinda Fire District for seven years, David Winnacker has announced that he is retiring to "pursue opportunities in the private sector." The chief noted that his retirement comes after 21 years in uniform. He will continue to serve until the end of the year, hopefully enabling some shared time with a new chief to allow for a seamless transition.

In approving its annual budget on June 19, the board added a deputy fire chief posi-

tion to continue increased engagement in state and regional issues associated with fire/rescue operations, wildfire risk reduction and interoperability.

In his resignation letter, presented to the MOFD Board at the end of May, Winnacker said that he was very proud "of the steps we have taken to bring MOFD into a position of regional and statewide leadership in a number of areas. Among other achievements, it is worth noting the work done by the Fire District, our public agency partners, and the community to develop and implement a comprehensive approach to wildfire risk reduction."

He continued, "Leading the Fire District has been an incredibly rewarding endeavor, and I have great pride in the high standards to which our members hold themselves. The firefighters

who answer the call night and day are committed to our community, and the long tradition of providing the highest level of service MOFD represents. It is of the highest importance that this commitment is not overlooked or allowed to languish as the District expands into other areas of service delivery."

The outgoing chief also identified priorities to ensure a smooth transition, including professional development of key district staff, progress toward the remodel of Station 45, completion of Standards of Cover study, substantial completion of the Tunnel East Bay Hills Fuel Break, enhancement of MOFD's prescribed fire program to ensure long-term success, completion of ongoing discussions with large landowning entities within the fire district and completion of labor negotiations.

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The next classes are on July 18 in the Moraga Library and August 8 at the Lafayette Community Center.

Lamorinda CERT Foundation is a 501(c)(3) foundation supporting Lamorinda CERT

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Orinda's Troop 303 honors seven Eagle Scouts

Submitted by Mariah Finegan



Photo provided

Pictured from left: Nick Eng, Julian Rustigian, David Kepkep, Paul Stephan, Lucas Peterson, Collin Finegan, and Ethan Kong.

On May 18 Boy Scouts of America Troop 303B in Orinda celebrated seven Scouts who recently earned the highest rank in Scouting at an Eagle Court of Honor held at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. The Eagle Scouts whose achievement was recognized included Miramonte High School student: Nick Eng, Collin Finegan, David Kepkep, Ethan Kong, Lucas Peterson, Julian Rustigian, and Paul Stephan.

The Boy Scouts of America, a youth development organization founded in 1910, strives to offer a fun program that promotes ethical foundations, citizenship training, and physical and mental fitness. A Scout's years long jour-

ney to the Eagle rank culminates in the Eagle Service Project, which requires Scouts to plan, execute, and lead a project that benefits the community.

Nick Eng's project included repairing a culvert and constructing a drainage trench to help protect Holy Shepard Lutheran Church's facilities from flooding from heavy rains. Collin Finegan restored and improved the Nature Trail connecting the local neighborhood to Orinda Oaks Park and the Mulholland Ridge Trail. David Kepkep refurbished and built benches for The Creek Youth Center's after school program in Walnut Creek. Ethan Kong constructed

a storage shed for organizing outdoor equipment at St. Stephen's Preschool and Paul Stephan rebuilt an 80 ft section of wood fencing at St Stephen's Episcopal Church in Orinda. Miramonte High School benefited from two projects: Lucas Peterson constructed a decomposed gravel walkway leading to a basketball court and Julian Rustigian replaced five wood benches in a popular campus lunch area.

The commitment and service of this group of Eagle Scouts was recognized by the Office of the Congressman Mark DeSaulnier, the Office of Senator Steve Glazer, and the Office of Orinda Mayor Darlene Gee. Additionally, they each received an American flag that had flown over the U.S. Capitol. The Eagle Scouts would like to express their gratitude to their parents, Scout leaders, community members, and fellow Scouts who have supported them along their challenging journey of growth and adventure. Orinda's Troop 303 serves both boys and girls.

Troop 246 honors new Eagle Scouts

Submitted by David Chng



Photo David Chng

From left: Blaise Clancy, Alex Chng and Cole Hickey

Moraga Troop 246 held an Eagle Court of Honor on May 19 to recognize three Scouts who achieved Scouting's highest rank. As part of the requirements to earn the rank, a capstone Eagle Project is required.

Blaise Clancy (Campolindo Junior) did a garden project to benefit Camino Pablo Elementary School where he attended K-5. Alex Chng (Campolindo Sophomore) researched, curated, and delivered

fifty care bags with useful tools for early stage patients of ALS, a neurodegenerative disease that affects nerves in the spinal cord and brain. He chose the project in memory of his grandfather who passed from the disease in 2015. Cole Hickey (Campolindo Senior) furnished an apartment for a family facing housing challenges at Hope Solutions, a local housing support organization.

Basketball team gives to the Food Bank

Submitted by Brad Hilsabeck

The Acalanes basketball program recently conducted a fundraiser for the Lafayette Boys Basketball Association. Rather than raising money just for themselves, the boys wanted to support a worthy cause - The Food Bank of

Contra Costa and Solano.

Over the last three weeks, the boys raised money outside of Diablo Foods, Philz Coffee in Lafayette, and Lunardi's in Walnut Creek. The boys were able to raise more than \$10,000, half

of which they will give to the Food Bank.

More than 600 donors in the community gave to this cause - the generosity of this community toward the high school and the Food Bank is truly inspiring.

Letters to the editor

Private Roads

Dear Editor,

The June 19 letter "Private Road Subsidy" contains factual errors, beginning with the allegation that private road residents "purchased their homes at discounted prices (since homes and lots on private roads are cheaper than similar ones on public roads)". A perusal of prices and a tally of the Assessor rolls, indicates just the opposite - higher typical purchase prices and a 29% higher assessed average valuation for homes on private roads. For example, some of Orinda's more expensive homes, such as in Wilder, are on private roads. Orinda's 5,509 residences on public roads represent approximately 73% (\$6.282 billion, or \$1,140,315 per home) of Orinda's \$8.587 billion 2022/23 residential tax base, while its 1,570 residences on private roads represent 27% (\$2.304 billion, or \$1,467,516 per home).

However, the true irony is in Mr. Flagg's claim that

some private road residents are demanding a "subsidy". He completely omits the fact that some private road residents have been continuously providing a subsidy to the rest of Orinda's residents by being required to personally maintain and replace, under their "private" roads, public-works-scale drainage structures that are fed high volume public storm water collected, concentrated, and diverted from public roads, all the while paying taxes to relieve "public" residents of these same expenses. Private road residents also pay their full share of the taxes to repay the road bonds used to repair public residential streets like the one Mr. Flagg lives on. It would be fair to end this subsidization, currently

forced only onto private road residents, of these complex drains - a practice which also poses a fiscal risk to all Orinda residents. Adoption of these roads could also qualify Orinda for added grant and return-to-source funding, and improved FEMA accessibility in the event of a disaster involving one of these "private" roads or drains. I invite Mr. Flagg to meet for coffee on my "private" road and review detailed records showing how we provide concentrated drainage of a public road system, and personally pay for it for the benefit of all Orindans.

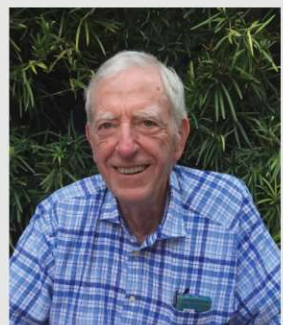
Sincerely,
Joel Libove
Orinda

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 must be factually accurate. Lamorinda Weekly reserves the right to refuse publishing a letter submission. Visit www.lamorindaweekly.com for submission guidelines. Email: letters@lamorindaweekly.com; Regular mail: Lamorinda Weekly, 1480 Moraga Road STE C #202, Moraga, CA 94556

In Memory

William Harrison Broach

June 15, 1935 - June 20, 2024



William Harrison Broach, a ramblin' wreck from Georgia Tech and a heck of an engineer, left this world on June 20, 2024, in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, with his beloved wife Barbara and daughter Mary by his side. He was 89. The cause of death was congestive heart failure.

Born in Atlanta, Georgia on June 15, 1935 to Helen Baumgartner Broach and Raymond Charles Broach, Bill was the youngest of four siblings. He grew up in Macon and though he traveled the world, the red clay earth of Georgia always meant home to him. After attending Georgia Tech on a ROTC scholarship, Bill graduated in 1957 with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. He earned his MBA from Alabama's Samford University (happily confused with "Stanford" whenever he spoke about his education). In a career that spanned 50 years, he climbed the corporate ladder at General Electric to head the division of Western States, then left to run a solar energy company, worked briefly as a commodities broker, and finally served as a U.S. Bankruptcy Trustee. He was particularly well suited to this last post, where he met people facing one of the worst moments of their lives and treated each one with fairness, compassion, and respect. His most famous client was M.C. Hammer, who gave Bill an unexpected interest in rap music. His two takeaways from his long and varied career were: 1) treating people well pays big dividends, and 2) when faced with a choice between moving and staying put, always make the move, because in movement lies opportunity.

Bill had a deep interest in people, places, and ideas. He loved fast cars, every dog on the planet, tinkering, fixing broken appliances, and watching college football, especially Georgia Tech vs. Georgia. His other favorite preoccupations were a good game of tennis or bridge, a bargain, any new technology, country music, Mary See's chocolates, ice cream floats, his wife's cooking, and Costco. He always said he wanted his ashes scattered at the local Costco parking lot (sorry, Dad).

With his children and grandchildren, Bill was a font of wisdom and opinions. He was known for sending long emails about appliance maintenance, tax deductions, and the best time to take Social Security. To his nine beloved grandchildren, he was their adored "Granddaddy." When they were little, he plied them with sweets, coached them in card games like "Old Hilly," and loved hearing about their school projects and sports tournaments. When they were older, he taught them intricate bridge conventions and gave tips on everything from car insurance to career strategy.

Bill considered himself a very lucky man, but those he left behind are even luckier to have known and loved him. He was loyal to a fault. He had a boundless curiosity and a generous sense of humor. He valued his family and friends above all else, and there was nothing that delighted him more than hearing from a far-flung friend or relative. He was a Southern gentleman and a prince of a fellow.

When Bill married his true love, Barbara Lomont Broach, in 1960, they embarked on a life best captured by their favorite song, George Jones's "Walk Through This World With Me." They moved nine times, living in places as diverse as Brighton, England and Birmingham, Alabama, but the place they loved best was their adopted home of California. They settled in Lafayette for 43 years, enjoying long bike rides; outings to San Francisco, Mendocino, or the wine country with Barbara's sister Annette; and duplicate bridge games and dinner parties with friends - not to mention frequent travel to faraway places. They were each other's steadfast companion and support, right to the end.

Ever the engineer, Bill approached his own death as a problem to be solved, as precise as a mathematical equation. For the past eleven years, Parkinson's had whittled away his physical capacities, with his body rebelling at even the smallest tasks. But on June 20th, when he quickly and quietly exited this world, his body finally did exactly what he wanted.

Bill is survived by his wife of 63 years, Barbara Broach, his three children Mark (Kate Kiguradze), Elise, and Mary Broach (Chris Urheim); his nine grandchildren: Sophie, Julia, and Elliot Broach (Fangfang Lee); Zoe, Harrison, and Grace Wheeler; and Ellen, Jane (Tom Kelly), and Margaret Urheim; his sister Frances King; and a cherished bounty of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A family celebration-of-life is planned for the summer. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Parkinson's Foundation, <https://www.parkinson.org/> Or reach out to a dear friend or family member you haven't talked to in a while. That would please Bill Broach no end.

Public Safety

Emergency response:
Emergency: 24 Hours 911
Police Dispatch: 24 Hours
925-284-5010

Nixle: Text your zip code to 888777 or www.nixle.com
Lafayette Police Department:
3471 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
925-283-3680

Chief of Police, Ben Alldritt
925-299-3221
Police Department Tip Line
945497ip@gmail.com

Police Department Traffic Issues
945497Traffic@gmail.com
Moraga Police Department:
329 Rheem Blvd., 925-888-7055

Chief of Police, Jon King ext. 7049
Orinda Police Department:
22 Orinda Way 925-254-6820

Chief of Police, Ryan Sullivan
925-254-6820
Orindatip@cityoforinda.org

Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report

June 9 - June 22

Alarms 38
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 11
Traffic 70
Suspicious Circumstances 9

Suspicious Subject 15
Suspicious Vehicle 8
Service to Citizen 27
Patrol Req./Security Check 19
Public/School Assembly Check 1

Supplemental Report 18
Vacation House Check 30
Welfare Check 14
Ordinance Violation 3

Vehicle violations
Auto Burglary 800 Block Mountain View Dr.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor 3700 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)
800 Block Rosedale Ave.
1300 Block Reliez Valley Rd. (3)
700 Block Moraga Rd.

Reckless Driving Stanley Blvd./Deer Hill Rd.
Springhill Rd./Martino Rd.
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
3100 Block Cordova Way

Other criminal activity
Fraud False Pretenses 3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
3100 Block Stanwood Ln
3400 Block Mt. Diablo Apt 104

Grand Theft 1200 Block Monticello Rd.
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Identity Theft 3300 Block Silver Springs Ct.

Misc Burglary 1700 Block Toyon Rd.
Petty Theft 1300 Block Summit Rd.
700 Block John Way
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Petty Theft From Veh 1200 Block Barrott Rd.
Shoplift 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Nuisance to the Community
Disturbance-fight 3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Disturbing The Peace 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Loud Music 1300 Block Reliez Valley Rd.
3400 Block La Caminita (2)
Loud Noise 3500 Block Moraga Blvd. (2)
700 Block Solana Dr.

900 Block Moraga Rd.
900 Block Village Center
1400 Block Pleasant Hill Rd.

Loud Party 600 Block Los Palos Dr.
Rancho View Dr./Pleasant Hill Rd.

Public Nuisance 900 Block Moraga Rd.
900 Block East St.
800 Block Rosedale Ave.

Vandalism 3300 Block Moraga Blvd.
Other
Animal Cruelty 4000 Block Valente Ct.

Unwanted Guest 3600 Block Bickerstaff St.
3300 Block Betty Ln
Violation Restraining Ord 600 Block Doreen Way
400 Block Helen Ave.
1000 Block Oak Hill Rd.
4100 Block Hidden Valley Rd.

Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report

June 18 - June 24

Alarms 3
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 30
Traffic 30
Suspicious Circumstances 1

Suspicious Subject 0
Suspicious Vehicle 2
Service to Citizen 15
Patrol Req./Security Check 10
Public/School Assembly Check 4

Supplemental Report 25
Vacation House Check 0
Welfare Check 1
Ordinance Violation 1

Vehicle violations
Dui Misd 10 Block Julianna Ct.
Excessive Speed Moraga Rd./Campolindo Dr.
Moraga Rd./Ascot Dr.
Rheem Center Ifo Homegoods
700 Block Parking Lot

Moraga Rd./Donald Dr.
Moraga Rd./Corliss Dr.
Moraga Dr./Alhambra Wy, Pin
Moraga Rd./Lucas Dr.
Moraga Way/Coral Dr., Ori

Other criminal activity
Rape St Marys College
Nuisance to the Community
Disturbing The Peace Rancho Laguna Park

Loud Music Paseo Del Rio/Calle La Mesa
Rancho Laguna Park Homegoods
Loud Noise Donald Dr./Moraga Rd.

Vandalism St Marys College
Other
Threats Homegoods

ORINDA POLICE

Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report

June 9 - June 15

Alarms 24
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 4
Traffic 32
Suspicious Circumstances 1

Suspicious Subject 2
Suspicious Vehicle 2
Service to Citizen 24
Patrol Req./Security Check 6
Public/School Assembly Check 2

Supplemental Report 1
Vacation House Check 0
Welfare Check 3
Ordinance Violation 2

Vehicle violations
Accident Property Wilder Rd.
Reckless Driving Moraga Wy/Meadowlands Ct.

Tc - Property Damage Wilder Sports Fields
Other criminal activity
Shoplift Camino Pablo
Warrant Arrest 60 Block Oak Rd.
Wb Sr 24 At St Stephens Dr.

Warrant Service 60 Block Oak Rd. (2)
Nuisance to the Community
Loud Music 100 Block Crest View Dr.
Loud Noise 10 Block Silverwood Ct.

Loud Party 100 Block Via Floreado (2)
Public Nuisance 10 Block Avenida De Orinda

Other
Unwanted Guest 50 Block Moraga Way

Hummus — the great dip you can't get enough of

By Susie Iventosch



Photo Susie Iventosch

Since we published the Festive Lemon Hummus recipe a few months ago, I've been experimenting with new variations of hummus, using different veggies and different beans. One of my new favorites is this olive hummus made with cannellini beans, Kalamata olives, and just a few anchovy olives. If you're not an

olive fan, this dish is not for you, but if you are, you are going to love it! The cannellini beans add a slightly different flavor and texture from the regular garbanzo beans, and they pair so well with the olives. For this hummus, you need no added salt, since olives are already salty.

Hummus is so quick

and easy to make, especially if you use canned beans, which I always do. It's a lot of fun to try different combinations of ingredients and some-time during the year,

we will feature roasted red pepper hummus, followed by a Mexican style pinto bean hummus.

This hummus is great as a dip served with raw veggies or pita bread, but it's also the perfect ac-

companiment for lamb burgers or lamb chops. We recently made lamb burgers, seasoned with fresh rosemary and oregano, topped with melted goat cheese and olive tapenade served on

brioche buns, with this Kalamata Olive Hummus on the side. Oh my. It was such a stellar combination of flavors — very Mediterranean. I hope you love this as much as my family does!

Kalamata Olive Hummus

INGREDIENTS

- 2 tbsp. tahini (use more if you love tahini)
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 (14.5 oz.) can cannellini beans (or Great Northern Beans)
- 8-10 anchovy-stuffed olives, halved or quartered
- 3/4 cup Kalamata olives, pitted, halved, or quartered
- 3 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil (divided)
- 1/4 cup parsley for garnish

DIRECTIONS

Drain the cannellini beans in a colander and rinse with fresh water. Cut the olives into halves or quarters. Place the tahini, lemon juice and garlic in the bowl of the food processor. Process until very smooth, about 1-2 minutes. Add the olives to the food processor and process until smooth. Next add the beans, 1/3 of them at a time, processing until smooth after each addition. Scrape down the sides of the bowl with a rubber spatula as needed. Finally, add 2 tbsp. olive oil and blend well. If the hummus is too thick, add a tiny bit of ice water, 1 tablespoon at a time until desired consistency. Usually, given the liquid from the olives, you won't need to add any added liquid.

To serve, spoon the mixture into a flat bowl. Using the back of a spoon, make little canals in the hummus by starting on the outside of the bowl and working your way to the center of the bowl. Drizzle the remaining olive oil in the cavities and garnish with minced parsley.



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. Or visit <https://treksandbites.com>

Recent Ribbon Cuttings from the Lafayette Chamber



On June 11, the Lafayette Chamber welcomed Vintage Vida to downtown Lafayette. Owner Carmen Guerrero, alongside family and friends, the City of Lafayette Mayor Gina Dawson and Chamber President Katie Santos cut the ribbon and toasted to the grand opening complete with peace sign balloon art. Visit Vintage Vida at 3581 Mt. Diablo Blvd for vintage items for your home and more.



On June 12, the Lafayette Chamber welcomed Barrel Shoppe to Lafayette. Owner Matt Hagel welcomed friends, family, the City, representative Antoinette St John from Rebecca Bauer-Kahan's office, and fellow Chamber members to experience this new single barrel spirits retailer at 3430 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette.

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Not to be missed

Art

The Lamorinda Arts Council presents paintings by Christina Baal, Molly Gleason-Kodama, Michiko Sakai and Raku ceramics by Mary Leigh Miller in the Art Gallery at the Orinda Library starting July 1. The public is invited to an artist reception held in their honor on Saturday, July 6 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. where light refreshments will be served. Closed Sundays. For more information email gallery@LamorindaArts.org, call (925) 359.9940 or visit <http://lamorindaarts.org/galleries-2>.

The Lamorinda Arts Council invites you to meet Leslie Golden in the Art Gallery at Wilder on Sunday, July 7 at a reception in her honor from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. where light refreshments will be served. Enjoy her "Laura's Lantern Inspired by John Singer Sargent," a 16" x 20" oil on canvas echoing the bespoke dresses and rarefied lighting in Sargent's famous work. Visit the Art Gallery at Wilder July 8 to Aug. 2, Monday

through Friday from 3 to 5 p.m., closed Saturday and Sundays. For more information go to <https://LamorindaArts.org/galleries-2>, email info@LamorindaArts.org or call (925) 359.9940.

Valley Art Gallery presents: My Places in the Sun, oil paintings by Maria SantoStefano. Runs through Aug. 3. Valley Art Gallery, 1661 Botelho Drive, Suite 110 Walnut Creek; <https://valleyartgallery.org>

Music

2024 Concert at the Moraga Commons Park schedule: 4 July: House-rockers – Rock & Soul (7 p.m. Concert) 11 July: Mumbo Gumbo – Genre-bending Americana & Musical Stew 18 July: Steve Hanson & Carousel Cowboys – Modern Country 25 July: Purple Ones – Prince Tribute 1 Aug: Native Elements – Reggae 8 Aug: Traveling Wilburys Revue – E.L.O, Orbison, Harrison, Dylan Tribute 15 Aug: 3 Day Weekend – Motown, R&B, Classic Rock 6:30-8:30 P.M. (Uno) at The Moraga Commons Band Shell.

Orinda – Concerts are held at the Orinda Community Park on Thursday night from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Call (925) 254.2445 for information. Thursday, July 11 – Lamorinda Idol; Thursday, July 25 – Aug. Reed Band; Thursday, Aug. 1 – Tin Man; Thursday, Aug. 15 – Vintage Jukebox; Thursday, Aug. 29 – Spill the Wine; Thursday, Sept. 12 – Patron

Outdoor Concert—Bring a picnic, chair, and/or blanket to enjoy an evening of music in the oak grove behind Lafayette Christian Church, 584 Glenside Drive on July 13, 6 to 8 p.m. Front Porch Music will be presenting local musicians playing folk, country, and bluegrass music.

Lamorinda Idol performance on Wednesday, July 31. from 6 to 8 p.m. live at the Moraga Commons for a special event, sponsored by Moraga Art in Public Spaces and Lamorinda Arts Council. Bring a picnic and enjoy an evening of Idol's solo and group performers. Wonderful for the whole family. Free to the public.

Not to be missed

Literature

Art Embraces Poetry: July 20, Poetry Readings and 3 Minute Open Mic at Town Hall Theatre on July 20. Listen to poets Gail Rudd Entekin, Jim Guninshan, and Linda Riedel, plus artist Emily Bennett from Acalanes High School, who will display her artwork from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. A 3 Minute Open Mic runs from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. on a first-come, first served basis. Reception follows in lobby with a No Host Bar at Town Hall Theatre, 3535 School Street, Lafayette 94549. Free. Questions? Call (925) 359-9940 or visit <https://LamorindaArts.org/art-embraces-words>.

Join Tom Steyer at Orinda Books to celebrate the release of his new book, "Cheaper, Faster, Better", on Wednesday, July 24, at 6 p.m. Tom Steyer describes how we can win the war on climate. He shows how capitalism can be used to scale climate progress, debunks arguments made by climate deniers, and provides an inspirational call to make stabilizing

our planet part of our life's work. Information at www.orindabooks.com.

Other

Mocktails & Cocktails Sunday July 28, 4 to 6 p.m. at Tutu's Lafayette, 53 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette. Join friends of the Lamorinda Arts Council for some words with creative makers. Look for their knockoff Picassoesque poster of surrealist Dora Maar – that's us! No host bar. Just show up. Questions? Call (925) 359.9940.

Garden

Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour presents an online talk in the "You Can Do It!" series: You Can Do It: 10 Steps to Creating a Bird-Friendly Garden (Online). Presenter: Brian Dirking. Tuesday, July 23, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Register at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdqRZ-CSO9Rgv1wxAjYKY37vjB8OYcDbkPx9QJzaD-BI8wa_w/viewform. This interactive online workshop will explore gardening from a bird's perspective and then delve into the ten elements that can transform your garden into a bird paradise.

Please submit events to: calendar@lamorindaweekly.com

Young singers dazzle at Lamorinda Idol performance in Lafayette

... continued from Page 2

The parents of a particular singer could always be located because they would either be beaming with uncontrollable delight or have their phone out, filming their child with steady hands and serious expressions. However, it was more than just families who came. Many people throughout the community came to support singers they knew. Kim Bertolini came to support her neighbor Susie Lien, who sang "The Square Root of Possible." "She has her performance third," said Bertolini, pointing out a high-spirited Lien from where she sat on a bench in a blue dress and bronze sunglasses. "We have a Whatsapp group called 'Let's Support Susie.'"

The performance also included surprise appearances from Nejla Ackdoe-Pagey and Lleyton Allen, multiple time winners of past Lamorinda Idols. Ackdoe-Pagey sang "Remedy" by Adele, soulfully gazing out over the crowd. She was followed by Allen, who sang "You'll Be Back" from

Hamilton, complete with British accent. After their performances, they encouraged interested students to participate in Lamorinda Idol. "If you think something is cool, and you feel cool doing it too and you want to try it, just go for it," said Ackdoe-Pagey. Lleyton Allen added, "Just do it — really get up there and do it right. Why do half of it? If you really do like it, if it's a passion of yours and you really want to do it, just do it!"

The evening was closed out by Lila Weis and Mia Cortesio singing "My Love, My Life" as the sun finally dipped under the horizon. As the last wave of applause ended, Harwood stepped on stage and reminded the audience of the judged final performance on Aug. 18. "So long, and see you next time," he said and the crowd, cheerful and cool in the summer evening, folded up their picnic blankets, hugged and congratulated singers, and walked back to their cars.

More information on Lamorinda Idol can be found at <https://lamorindaarts.org/idol-2/>.

Lamorinda Weekly

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Contact us: Letters to the editor (max 350 words): letters@lamorindaweekly.com Delivery issues: homedelivery@lamorindaweekly.com Event listings: calendar@lamorindaweekly.com General interest stories/Business press releases/Community Service: storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com Sport stories/pictures: sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com **Publishers/Owners:** Andy and Wendy Scheck; andy@lamorindaweekly.com, wendy@lamorindaweekly.com **Editor:** Jaya Griggs; jaya@lamorindaweekly.com **Advertising:** 925-377-0977, Wendy Scheck; wendy@lamorindaweekly.com **Staff Writers:** Vera Kochan; vera@lamorindaweekly.com, Sora O'Doherty; sora@lamorindaweekly.com, Jon Kingdon; sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com, Digging Deep: Cynthia Brian; Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com Food: Susie Iventosch; suziventosch@gmail.com **Contributing Writers:** Conrad Bassett, Sophie Braccini, Diane Claytor, Jenn Freedman, Moya Stone, Alison Burns, Linda Fodrini-Johnson, Elizabeth LaScala, Lou Fancher, Sharon K. Sobotta, Ashley Dong, Jim Hurley, Casey Scheiner, Toris Jaeger; **Photos:** Tod Fierner, Jeff Heyman **Mailing address:** Lamorinda Weekly, 1480 Moraga Road STE C #202, Moraga, CA 94556, Phone: 925-377-0977; email: info@lamorindaweekly.com web: www.lamorindaweekly.com

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Lafayette native launches professional baseball team

The Oakland Ballers- a Bay Area team to rally around

By Jon Kingdon



Photo provided

Bryan Carmel with the legendary Hal The Hot Dog Guy

There's a quote by American author Wendelin Van Draanen that says, "You never forget your first love." For Lafayette native Bryan Carmel and his classmate at College Prep High School, Chicago native and long-time Oakland resident, Paul Freedman, that love was baseball. "Our friendship was formed being A's fans and baseball was a bonding experience for us," Freedman said.

Like most kids, Carmel was a collector of baseball cards and memorabilia, and he had a more direct connection with the Oakland A's. "My mom ran preschools in Alamo and Danville where a number of the A's players sent their kids," Carmel said. "I would work there over the summer as a teacher's helper, and I would get autographs from the players when they would come in with their kids."

Carmel would graduate from Columbia University with a major in religion and writing, and stayed in New York for fifteen years, starting a career in television, comedy, and documentaries and met his wife Anamay who was in law school. "I was working in TV in New York and had an opportunity to move to LA for a job as a development exec and have been working in LA ever since as a writer, producer, and creative executive," Carmel said. "I've been raising my kids in LA, but my heart has always been in the Bay Area where I grew up."

Despite having lived in baseball hotbeds, Carmel stayed true to his Bay Area sports roots and was taken aback when he learned of the A's potential departure from Oakland: "In June 2023, I was working on a movie project and the entire industry shut down with the strikes, and it was then that I got the news that the Oakland A's were really going to leave town. I was very frustrated at how the media has been portraying Oakland and San Francisco as big coastal cities that are completely broken and that's just not the Oakland that I know and love."

Freedman has been a very successful entrepreneur in education technology and has started a number of very successful companies

and had just exited from his last company. "Paul and I had always wanted to do something together and in June, out of the blue, he called me and said we should start a baseball team and I said 'Yes, absolutely' and we became completely obsessed with this project."

And from this simple phone call, the Oakland Ballers were on their way to becoming an established team. Carmel and Freedman came away very impressed at the efforts by the East Bay fans in their efforts to try and keep the team in Oakland. "We saw the energy around the 'sell movement,' and it was incredibly inspiring to see that type of fan activation," Carmel said.

Having seen the Raiders leave the city twice and the Warriors leave for San Francisco, the A's departure was a final blow for Carmel and Freedman. "We felt that a new pro baseball team that helps the East Bay would start a new chapter for baseball that would give the people of Oakland something to rally around," Carmel said. "Sports teams are the institutions that bring us together at a time when we're more divided than ever along political, social, and economic lines. It just felt untenable that a city as great as Oakland with a wonderful fan base would not have a baseball team."

Despite limited knowledge on how to create a baseball team, Freedman and Carmel brought the tools and skills developed from their respective careers. "At the start, people did not take us seriously though our wives were incredibly supportive through this adventure," Carmel said. "It was an interesting marriage between Paul and myself. We're both not afraid to look at a blank page and that's what it takes. We saw it as a business that's grounded in kind of a movement because we were trying to create a paradigm shift in the way that communities and sports teams work together and coexist."

Again, unlike most teams, the plan was for the Oakland Ballers to be more than just a bunch of players with the city's name on their jerseys. "We established the principles of what our

team would be about: bringing diverse communities together, and knowing that the real value of a team can't be measured in a balance sheet—it's the fan base. The fans are what creates the value of the team and we wanted a team where we were centering the fans in every aspect of the organization."

Freedman and Carmel did not want to be affiliated with any major league team, so the choice was to join one of the four independent minor league teams – The Atlantic League, The Frontier League, The American Association, or the Pioneer League. "We got an agent to represent us and received offers from the leagues, but the Pioneer league was our first choice because it's an innovative league," Carmel said. "For example, instead of extra innings, we'll have a home-run derby where each team has a batter that has two minutes to hit the most homeruns."

They now had to find a facility to play the games. Laney College has very fine facilities but did not have a sufficient amount of seating. At the press conference announcement about the creation of the Oakland Ballers, Freddie Morris from the city of Oakland raised the possibility of the team playing at Raimondi Park in West Oakland, "It was a real opportunity to show what can happen when private citizens, community members, and the city and neighbors actually work together and to prove everybody wrong that said that you can't get anything done in Oakland," Carmel said.

Raimondi Park was named in honor of Ernie Raimondi, a minor league baseball player who grew up in Oakland and was killed in World War II. "We had an Ernie Raimondi night, and we got his grandson to be our ceremonial first batter, along with 70 members of the Raimondi family being at the game," Carmel said. "The community has been very welcoming and it's been a very rewarding and positive experience with the team, the stadium, and the community."

It was important that the stadium stayed with the team's core principles from a design perspective. "We engaged with the community, and we learned what not to do from the other local baseball team," Carmel said. "We built relationships with the community groups and went door-to-door with Carroll Fife, who represents West Oakland, connecting us with our neighbors, making sure to address any concerns that they might have with the ballpark. Our whole vision is to have each game feel like a block party around a baseball game, people just having fun running into neighbors and friends. A big part of our mission is to support local sports and youth sports. When the Ballers aren't using the facility, the plan is for the field to be available for the community to sign up to use."


There were others that shared the same vision and helped to provide \$1.6 million to upgrade the park's facilities. "We have 53 investors and even members of the Haas family who were great stewards of baseball in Oakland," Carmel said. "Walter Haas's legacy is all about the community and they're all baseball people that want baseball to continue in Oakland."

As for putting the team together, luck smiled down upon them. "We were able to connect with Don Wakamatsu who's an icon in baseball as a player, coach, and manager, along with being a great guy that grew up in Hayward," Carmel said. "Don found the idea of giving baseball a new life in Oakland really appealing to him and he jumped on this journey with us as our head of baseball operations, bringing his rolodex from a 40-year career in baseball and told him that his job was to build the team and hire the coaches. Paul and I then hired Tyler Peterson as our Assistant General Manager and the rest of the staff. Tyler had previously worked with the Rocky Mountain Vibes of the Pioneer league as their head of player scouting and exposure and also worked with the PAC 12 network and he brought all his printouts and an encyclopedic knowledge of the best college players."

The Ballers play six games a week, only taking Mondays off. "It's a brutal schedule, but they're young guys and they're used to it," Carmel said. "They've got great attitudes, and they're just happy to have a shot. And you know, they do have a shot. We've lost four players to major league teams already. That's a compliment to our personnel department but it is annoying losing some of our best players."

... continued on Page 12

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Opening Celebration of the Tom Preston Fitness Memorial

By Elaine Borden Chandler



Photo Elaine Borden Chandler

Andy Boggeri, Bobbie Preston, Mackenzie Brady, Renata Sos, Mayor Teresa Onoda, and Vice Mayor Steve Woehleke officially open the Tom Preston Memorial Fitness Zone on Sunday, June 23.

At noon on June 23, the opening celebration of the Tom Preston Memorial Fitness Zone at Rancho Laguna Park was slowly growing. Families stood in the summer sun examining and testing the eight pieces of exercise equipment which comprise the fitness zone. Most of the people went over to the adjacent picnic tables shaded by a ring of redwoods. Watching over the scene

from a redwood was a framed photograph of a man. He smiled brilliantly out to the crowd, wearing a black cowboy outfit complete with hat and watch chain. Somebody had taped a little caption next to his left hand proclaiming, "Motion is the lotion."

The photograph was of Tom Preston, a Moraga resident who passed away in May last year, and in whose memory

his wife Bobbie Preston has created the fitness zone. Dressed in a breezy white dress and cat eye sunglasses, she walked around the party warmly greeting visitors. She was inspired to make this fitness zone in Tom's memory because of his passion for exercise — he worked out every day in Rancho Laguna Park.

"Tom was the kindest man I've ever met.

He had an infectious smile that made everybody feel welcome and heard," said Bobbie Preston. "It was a lot of fun." To create a fitness memorial would be unexpected for most people. However, both Bobbie and Tom are renowned for their incredible generosity, from assisting Afghan refugees to helping create the Rancho Laguna Monarch Garden. "With Bobbie, there's no surprises because she has already done so many surprises," said Teresa Onoda, Moraga's mayor. "And Tom — I would always refer to Tom as Bobbie's Tom because she would make it happen and but he would do the heavy lifting."

By 12:30 the party was in full swing. Andy Boggeri, who built the Fitness Zone, acted as grill master for the day, cooking burgers and sausages. People loaded their plates and chatted with each other, pointing at and taking pictures of the adjacent fitness zone. "Folsom Prison Blues" floated through the air as more and more visitors filled up the tables.

The Moraga-Orinda Fire Department gave a presentation to the crowd on how to use an

automatic external defibrillator (AED), which is a device that can be used to deliver a shock to a heart to restore regular rhythm. The installation of the fitness zone included a new AED at the entrance of Rancho Laguna Park.

As they finished eating the food, a common topic of conversation that could be heard were memories of Tom and Bobbie. "As they finished eating the food, a common topic of conversation that could be heard was memories of Tom and Bobbie. Julie Stagg, who co-founded "Moraga for Monarchs" with Preston, spoke of how monarch butterflies are seen as returning souls in certain Mexican cultures. "When Tom first passed, it was really hard on Bobbie and all of us. And we hadn't had a monarch at the Monarch Garden in a while. Jessica [Fleming], Bobbie, and I were down at the garden and we were saying, 'Come on, Tom!' And all of a sudden, this monarch was there like, Here I am!"

At 1:30 p.m., everyone moved over to the entrance to the Fitness Zone and stood in a semicircle as Bobbie Preston gave a speech. "Tom died doing what he loved

to do. He was at a three-week fitness camp in Utah. When he was admitted to the ER, he was listed as John Doe, 60. He was 81 — and he would have loved that," she said to chuckles from the crowd. She then thanked everyone who had helped with both the party and the creation of the fitness zone. Mayor Teresa Onoda, with help from Vice Mayor Steve Woehleke and last year's mayor Renata Sos, wielded a pair of huge scissors to cut the red ribbon and officially accept the park on behalf of Moraga. Next, Boggeri spoke on how incredible Bobbie Preston was and reminded the crowd to donate to the fitness zone. Preston took the microphone one last time and urged the crowd to become familiar with how to use an AED. "I felt really strongly that an AED be included in this project," she said into the echoing microphone. "If there had been an AED at the pool where Tom passed out in the water, he would be alive today." She then thanked the crowd, who applauded and dispersed into the park.

The new Oakland Ballers

... continued from Page 11

The team is recompensed for the players and the team is giving a portion of that money to a community group.

The attendance has

been good, but the Ballers are still trying to unlock more audiences, including from Contra Costa. "My friend Josh Lateiner brought his family and he said how it only took 20 minutes to

get to the game and he was able to park right across the street. We're trying to get the message out that going to a Ballers game is accessible, affordable, safe, and a fun thing to do as a family."

So, what has Carmel learned so far? "We live in a time where our social institutions are really dissolving in a way that scares me for the future of children, and it can be disillusioning. However,

this adventure has renewed my faith in the fact that people want to connect with each other; they want to be part of something that's bigger than themselves and they want to participate in

things that don't have to do with their self-interest. At a time when self-interest seems like it's the religion of the United States, it's nice to see that people still want to be part of something bigger."

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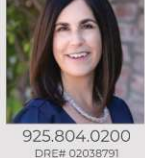
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WENDY MEANS

Lamorinda

OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 18 Issue 9 Wednesday, July 3, 2024



Things to get rid of right now

... read on Page OH4

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Freedom flowers

By Cynthia Brian

Photos Cynthia Brian



Midnight blue agapanthus shine in the July landscape.

“Just living isn’t enough,” said the butterfly. “One must also have sunshine, freedom, and a little flower.” Hans Christian Andersen

When we think of July, Independence Day looms large. Parades, barbecues, family gatherings, music, pool parties, fireworks, and flying the red, white, and blue are all part of the entertainment.

We have plenty of sunshine and since just living isn’t enough, what do freedom and flowers have in common?

Both are linked to beauty and an enhanced lifestyle. Flowers connect us to nature and thrill us with their glorious colors, textures, forms, and scents. The beauty of freedom is that we live life with ease. We make choices, feel liberated, and can express ourselves without fear. Both flowers and freedom are fleeting and fragile. They are not free. If we don’t care for and protect these precious gifts, they will wilt and die.

To celebrate our national pride, have fun with what I call “freedom” flowers, fruits, vegetables, and accessories that reflect our loyalty to “Old Glory”. Plant an American flag garden with a pattern using red and white flowers for the stripes, with blue flowers punctuated by small white flowers to mimic the stars. Create a patriotic theme in a mixed border with large blocks of the three colors, or decorate with curated urns and con-



Impatiens in red and white are excellent freedom flowers.

tainers. Add string lights that flicker red, white, and blue, place tiny American flags throughout the garden, or raise a large banner on a flag-pole as a focal point. Add a red birdhouse and incorporate windchimes or statuary in unexpected places in the landscape that complement the theme. Don’t forget festive tablecloths, patio pillows, and blanket throws as decorative and utilitarian elements! Add nutrition with bowls of fruit, and platters of vegetables with dips and chips for a cheerful culinary celebration.

Here are a few ideas for the flowers, fruits, and vegetables to utilize in your garden, plant in pots on your patio or porch, and decorate for this July holiday.

... continued on Page OH8

Alpine strawberries are a delicious addition to salads.



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COMPASS

Lamorinda home sales recorded

City	Last reported	Lowest amount	Highest amount
LAFAYETTE	23	\$1,250,000	\$5,500,000
MORAGA	7	\$455,000	\$2,200,000
ORINDA	12	\$1,462,500	\$3,600,000

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

- 3557 Boyer Circle, \$2,950,000, 4 Bdrms, 2488 SqFt, 1932 YrBlt, 05-28-24,
Previous Sale: \$1,365,000, 11-23-21
- 1058 Buchan Drive, \$1,600,000, 4 Bdrms, 1924 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 05-22-24
- 2 Evergreen Court, \$1,805,000, 3 Bdrms, 2055 SqFt, 1947 YrBlt, 05-29-24,
Previous Sale: \$150,000, 08-01-86
- 3151 Gloria Terrace, \$2,006,000, 4 Bdrms, 1991 SqFt, 1961 YrBlt, 05-20-24
- 4022 Happy Valley Road, \$3,000,000, 4 Bdrms, 2619 SqFt, 1947 YrBlt, 05-22-24,
Previous Sale: \$609,000, 06-01-88
- 4034 Happy Valley Road, \$5,500,000, 5 Bdrms, 3904 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 05-29-24,
Previous Sale: \$3,225,000, 06-29-18
- 3890 Happy Valley Road, \$3,910,000, 3 Bdrms, 3608 SqFt, 1939 YrBlt, 05-24-24
- 15 Hartwood Court, \$3,000,000, 4 Bdrms, 2442 SqFt, 1961 YrBlt, 05-29-24
- 681 Jennie Court, \$1,500,000, 5 Bdrms, 1600 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 05-31-24
- 704 Las Trampas Road, \$3,150,000, 4 Bdrms, 2992 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 05-24-24,
Previous Sale: \$3,250,000, 10-20-21
- 3439 Little Lane, \$2,000,000, 3 Bdrms, 1321 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 05-24-24,
Previous Sale: \$1,225,000, 07-23-18
- 594 Michael Lane, \$1,930,000, 3 Bdrms, 1842 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 05-29-24,
Previous Sale: \$955,000, 10-13-05
- 8 Mountain View Lane, \$2,400,000, 4 Bdrms, 3728 SqFt, 1989 YrBlt, 05-28-24
- 2551 Olympic Boulevard, \$1,730,000, 3 Bdrms, 1593 SqFt,
1948 YrBlt, 05-31-24, Previous Sale: \$1,100,000, 07-02-19
- 3950 Rancho Road, \$2,400,000, 4 Bdrms, 2325 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 05-30-24
- 381 Read Drive, \$2,820,000, 6 Bdrms, 4498 SqFt, 1986 YrBlt, 05-23-24
- 29 Sanford Lane, \$4,400,000, 5 Bdrms, 5150 SqFt, 2007 YrBlt, 05-30-24,
Previous Sale: \$3,800,000, 02-22-21
- 759 Solana Drive, \$2,160,000, 4 Bdrms, 2858 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 05-21-24
- 3552 South Silver Springs Road, \$2,475,000, 4 Bdrms, 1891 SqFt,
1956 YrBlt, 05-29-24
- 41 Sunrise Lane, \$1,590,000, 5 Bdrms, 2424 SqFt, 1989 YrBlt, 05-23-24,
Previous Sale: \$1,325,000, 04-14-21
- 3194 Surmont Drive, \$1,250,000, 4 Bdrms, 2168 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 05-24-24
- 1035 North Thompson Road #A, \$2,050,000, 4 Bdrms, 2966 SqFt,
1998 YrBlt, 05-31-24
- 3664 West Road, \$1,250,000, 3 Bdrms, 1290 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 05-23-24,
Previous Sale: \$750,000, 10-11-06

... continued on Page OH8

Homes Sold 2024 Year To Date

Opportunities abound in this current market!



3911 Happy Valley Rd, Lafayette-\$7,350,000



4082 Happy Valley Rd, Lafayette-\$3,350,000



704 Las Trampas, Lafayette-\$3,150,000



51 La Cuesta Rd, Orinda-\$3,300,000



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12 Ramona Dr, Orinda-\$1,400,000



224 Rainbow Ln, Pleasant Hill-\$1,205,000



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Organizing tips: top 12 things you can easily get rid of right now

By Jennifer Raftis, CPO®



Photo Shutterstock

I often receive calls from clients who are overwhelmed by the amount of items they have in their homes and garages and don't know how to start editing their belongings. I compiled this list based on items I often find in my clients' homes that take up space but may not be needed anymore. This list of items that you can get rid of right now is a recommended start to your decluttering journey.

1. Bags, Backpacks and Totes (plastic, paper, cloth, canvas). I feel your pain on these items; they are useful, and, therefore, hard to get rid of. I recommend culling them to an amount that you are comfortable with and have room for, and sticking with that number. It takes real discipline to recycle bags as they come in!

2. Old Electronics - Our old phones, laptops, Ipads, chargers, cables are usually in a box in the garage because most people don't know how to dispose of them and/or erase the information. All three Lamorinda communities have Republic Services for their trash/recycling. You can get information about how to safely recycle and dispose of electronics at www.republicservices.com/residents/recycling-and-solid-waste/e-waste.

3. Anything Broken - I find many items - usually in the garage -- such as furniture and appliances, as well as clothing that all need some type of repair. These items are usually delayed decisions; I recommend assigning an end date for this task, and any items that aren't dealt with by the deadline are let go.

4. Tupperware and Food Storage Containers - The lids are not coming back and the stains from the spaghetti sauce are not going to come out. Take out every single piece of tupperware you own, match all the lids, and do a quality exam. Recycle these items now and replace them with a more environmentally friendly version such as glass containers.

5. Worn-out Towels and Linens - If you have tattered towels and linens, it might be time to donate them to the local animal shelter and purchase some new ones, be good to yourself!

6. Socks - Yes, it's time to weed through the sock drawer. It really can be done in half an hour! (The missing socks are hiding somewhere with the missing Tupperware lids).

7. Expired Food - I recommend pulling everything out from your pantry all at once. As you are disposing of the expired food, keep a note of all items you want to replace.

8. Expired Medication - Again, pull everything out all at once and keep a note of items that need to be replaced such as Tylenol or Advil. If you have expired prescription medication, I suggest removing or covering up the label that contains your personal information. The bottle can typically be recycled and any pills that are left can be put in a plastic bag and disposed of at a designated drop-off location for free at one of these locations.

- Town of Moraga, Police Department, 329 Rheem Boulevard, Moraga

- City of Orinda, Police Department, 22 Orinda Way, Orinda

- City of Lafayette, Police Department, 3471 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette

9. Old Magazines/Newspapers - I recommend tearing out the recipe or information you wanted to save from the magazine or paper, or possibly taking a photo of it and storing it in an album on your phone for future reference. Keep in mind that the information becomes outdated very quickly. Recycle, recycle and recycle those magazines and newspapers!

10. Paint/Toxic Products - Don't let these

products pile up in your home and in your garage, they multiply very quickly. Put a date on your calendar to take them to the toxic waste center. It can be helpful to record the paint color and the room it was painted in before you dispose of the paint can.

11. Excess Cooking Utensils - Pull out all the utensils, put all duplicates together, and see what you can donate or maybe even replace for newer, more efficient items. Most homes I've worked in have at least eight spatulas.

12. Clothing - If you don't have a donation container in your closet, you should; it will make it easier to let the items go that you are not wearing. If you have designer clothing that you no longer want, you can try to consign the items. Here are a couple of local clothing consignment options.

- Designs 2 Consign, Moraga
- ReCHIC, Orinda

Every item you release makes room for more space in your home or something that can better fit your current life right now. This will help give your mind and your home a perfect spring reset.

Professional Organizer, Jennifer Raftis, CPO® founded Efficiency Matters, LLC to help you with all of your organizing needs for your home and business. She is a Certified Professional Organizer and an active board member with NAPO, National Association of Productivity and Organizing Professionals.

She is also an independent representative for The Container Store and has expertise in designing closets, garages, pantries, playrooms and more. In addition, she is a Corporate Organizing and Productivity Consultant and has worked with Fortune 500 companies across the U.S. Another large part of her business is move management especially working with seniors who are downsizing. She and her husband have lived in Moraga for 30 years, raising 3 kids and working countless volunteer hours with many local non-profit organizations and schools. Jennifer@efficiencymattersllc.com, 925-698-3756 www.efficiencymattersllc.com





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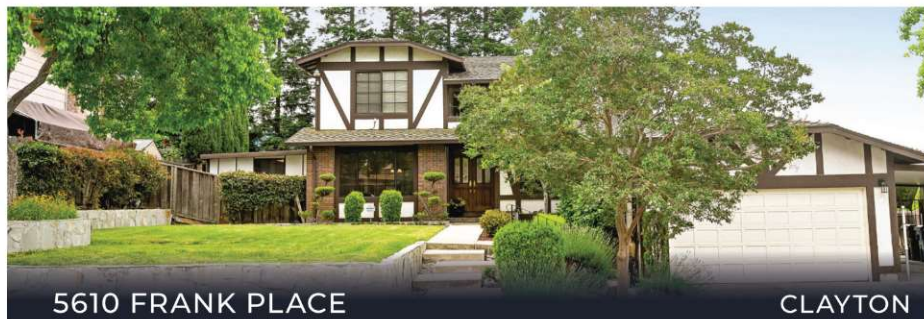


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4 BED | 3 BATH | 2,734 SQ. FT. *Listed for \$1,795,000 | Sold for \$2,475,000*

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DRE # 01921705



Cat Watters

925.548.2232

DRE # 02058702



Leslie Whitney

510.388.5794

DRE # 01950037

NOT PICTURED

Marie Lloyd

925.255.6300

DRE # 0957122

Diane Petek

925.876.1195

DRE # 01703677

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Freedom flowers

... continued from Page OH 1

Here are a few ideas for the flowers, fruits, and vegetables to utilize in your garden, plant in pots on your patio or porch, and decorate for this July holiday.

....continued on page OH 10

<i>Choices for RED</i>	Radishes	<i>include:</i>
<i>include:</i>	Red potatoes	FLOWERS
FLOWERS	Red onions	Magnolias
Roses	Rhubarb	Petunias
Salvia	<i>Choices for Blue</i>	Roses
Hollyhocks	<i>include:</i>	Gardenias
Impatiens	FLOWERS	Lilies
Petunias	Hydrangeas	Peonies
Zinnias	Bachelor Buttons	Impatiens
Snapdragons	Iris	FRUIT
FRUIT	Forget-me-nots	White peaches
Cherries	Lobelia	White mulberries
Plums	Delphiniums	Thompson seedless
Watermelon	Agapanthus	grapes
Strawberries	FRUIT	VEGETABLES
Apples	Elderberries	Cauliflower
Raspberries	Concord grapes	Jicama
Red grapes	Blueberries	Turnips
VEGETABLES	Damson plums	Garlic
Tomatoes	VEGETABLES	White onions
Red bell peppers	Blue corn	Fennel bulb
Chili peppers	<i>Choices for White</i>	Parsnips



Photo Cynthia Brian

Blue elderberries look elegant on display and are delicious in jams.

Lamorinda home sales recorded

... continued from Page OH2

MORAGA

- 146 Ascot Court #1, \$580,000, 2 Bdrms, 945 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 05-28-24, Previous Sale: \$470,000, 07-09-18
- 2059 Ascot Drive #112, \$455,000, 1 Bdrms, 713 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 05-24-24, Previous Sale: \$420,000, 06-02-21
- 152 Draeger Drive, \$1,200,000, 4 Bdrms, 1551 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 05-23-24
- 1236 Larch Avenue, \$1,725,000, 4 Bdrms, 2162 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 05-28-24
- 18 Newberry Place, \$1,650,000, 4 Bdrms, 3282 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 05-21-24, Previous Sale: \$529,000, 06-01-90
- 1873 Saint Andrews Drive, \$2,200,000, 4 Bdrms, 2883 SqFt, 1983 YrBlt, 05-29-24, Previous Sale: \$1,537,500, 01-10-18
- 3 Via Barcelona, \$1,125,000, 3 Bdrms, 2417 SqFt, 1987 YrBlt, 05-31-24, Previous Sale: \$955,000, 11-09-21

ORINDA

- 6 Del Mar Court, \$3,150,000, 4 Bdrms, 3368 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 05-30-24, Previous Sale: \$1,562,500, 10-07-03
- 2 Hacienda Circle, \$2,360,000, 3 Bdrms, 2206 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 05-29-24, Previous Sale: \$1,412,000, 08-28-15
- 4 Highland Court, \$1,462,500, 2 Bdrms, 2350 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 05-31-24
- 41 La Noria, \$3,600,000, 5 Bdrms, 4117 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 05-20-24, Previous Sale: \$2,062,500, 07-10-03
- 214 Moraga Way, \$2,350,000, 4 Bdrms, 3320 SqFt, 1904 YrBlt, 05-28-24, Previous Sale: \$1,625,000, 05-14-08
- 12 Orchard Road, \$1,887,000, 4 Bdrms, 2263 SqFt, 1937 YrBlt, 05-22-24, Previous Sale: \$1,050,000, 07-19-06
- 33 Rheem Boulevard, \$2,340,000, 4 Bdrms, 2112 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 05-22-24
- 12 Richard Court, \$2,600,000, 4 Bdrms, 2415 SqFt, 1940 YrBlt, 05-20-24, Previous Sale: \$1,450,000, 09-21-16
- 33 Southwood Drive, \$2,195,000, 3 Bdrms, 2965 SqFt, 1938 YrBlt, 05-31-24, Previous Sale: \$1,380,000, 04-26-13
- 93 Tarry Lane, \$2,660,000, 3 Bdrms, 2231 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 05-28-24, Previous Sale: \$1,500,000, 08-24-23
- 44 Valencia Road, \$1,910,000, 4 Bdrms, 2476 SqFt, 1947 YrBlt, 05-30-24, Previous Sale: \$1,605,000, 03-16-18
- 3 Whitehall Drive, \$1,585,000, 3 Bdrms, 1620 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 05-30-24, Previous Sale: \$1,150,000, 11-06-23



SWEETNESS

in Sleepy Hollow, Orinda



188 Lombardy Lane, Orinda - \$3,495,000

Fabulous home in Sleepy Hollow with an ideal floor plan and private backyard. Perfect for indoor/outdoor living and entertaining with L-shaped layout featuring living/dining combo and eat-in kitchen/great room, all with French doors to the backyard.

Backyard oasis includes salt water pool/spa, outdoor bathroom, lawn, play area, chicken coop, and outdoor entertainment amenities. For gardeners: raised beds, rain collection system, and fruit trees.

Eat-in kitchen has center island, breakfast nook, high-end appliances, and backyard views. Main level includes en-suite bedroom, two additional bedrooms, and hall bathroom. Upstairs primary suite features balcony, spa bathroom, and walk-in closet. Fifth bedroom ideal for nursery or office.

Highlights: designer finishes, built-in speakers, Tesla power walls, solar panels, and hardwired internet. Excellent location near top schools, park, trails, and towns of Orinda and Lafayette.

An outdoor lover's dream!

5 <i>Bed</i>	4 <i>Bath</i>	.76 <i>Acre</i>
±3,648 <i>Sq ft</i>	1 <i>Wow Pool</i>	100% <i>Amazing!</i>

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Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Freedom flowers

Photos Cynthia Brian



Blue urns are highlighted by white and red petunias.



A mixed border garden with a gurgling wall fountain.



Blue hydrangeas make a statement in the garden or a bouquet.

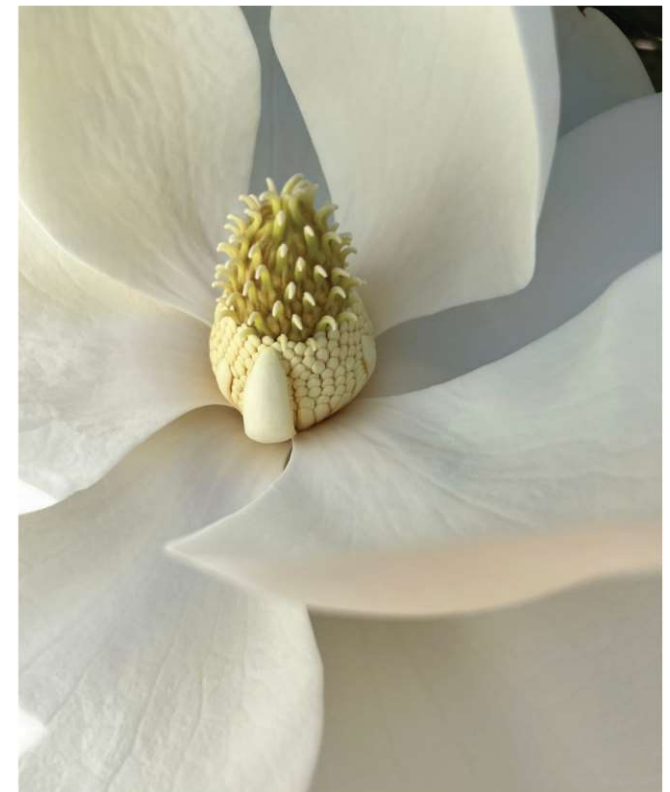
... continued from Page OH 8

Although it is a little silly, I like to sparkle on our country's birthday. The marvelous memories of the past fourth of July family and friend gatherings bring big smiles to my face. As I read historical biographies, I am cognizant of the bravery and sacrifices of the men and women who helped in our fight for freedom from 1776 until the present. Did they enjoy some of the same flowers, fruits, and vegetables that we relish today?

Just living is never enough. Oscar Wilde may have said it best. He wrote, "With freedom, books, flowers, and the moon, who could not be happy?"

Appreciate the sunshine, the moon, the flowers, and our freedom.

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing. Happy Independence Day!



A white magnolia bloom appears as art.

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Cynthia Brian sparkles in red, white, and blue.

For more gardening advice for all seasons, check out Growing with the Goddess Gardener at <https://www.CynthiaBrian.com/books>. Raised in the vineyards of Napa County, Cynthia Brian 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 which was just honored as the 2024 Nonprofit of the Year by the Moraga Chamber of Commerce. Tune into Cynthia's StarStyle® Radio Broadcast at www.StarStyleRadio.com. Her newest children's picture book, Books in the Barnyard: Oh Deer! from the series, Stella Bella's Barnyard Adventures is available for discounted pre-sales at <https://www.CynthiaBrian.com/online-store>. Hire Cynthia for writing projects, garden consults, and inspirational lectures. Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com <https://www.CynthiaBrian.com>

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188 Lombardy Ln, Orinda

5 Bd | 4 Ba | 3948 Sqft | \$3,495,000
Fabulous home in coveted Sleepy Hollow w/ a wonderful floor plan & spectacular private backyard!



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6 Bd | 4.5 Ba | 4552 Sqft | \$3,250,000
Totally renovated & updated in 2013, this light filled 6 bd/ 4.5 ba w/ bonus room & possible au-pair suite is a fabulous place to call home.



New Listing!

27 Moraga Via, Orinda

4 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 2980 Sqft | \$2,495,000
This 4 bd/2.5 ba contemporary home features 2980 sf on a peaceful .64-acre lot w/ a perfect floor plan!



135 Camino Pablo, Orinda

4 Bd | 4 Ba | 2832 Sqft | \$2,495,000
Rare 4 bd/4 ba 2832 sf mid-century modern stunner sits on a large, private 1.57 acre fully usable lot, & has the ability to expand!



5 Shadow Creek Ln, Orinda

4 Bd | 3 Ba | 3812 Sqft | \$2,395,000
Welcome to this stunning, 4 bd/3 ba mid-century style gem in the heart of Orinda's desirable Glorietta neighborhood!



Pending!

10 La Cresta, Orinda

4 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 2753 Sqft | \$2,350,000
Absolutely stunning views, home & yard! Updated 4 bd/2.5 ba, 2753 sqft on .4 acre!



Pending!

15 Lost Valley Dr, Orinda

2 Bd | 2 Ba | 3022 Sqft | \$2,295,000
Step into a fairytale with this charming, single-level storybook home on a sprawling 1-acre lot!



New Listing!

53 Via Floreado, Orinda

5 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 2851 Sqft | \$1,795,000
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42 Hillcrest Dr, Orinda

4 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 2664 Sqft | \$1,795,000
California dreaming in the heart of Glorietta. Spacious two story home on a premium lot!



7 Los Conejos, Orinda

3 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 2173 Sqft | \$1,695,000
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New Listing!

16 Via Barcelona, Moraga

3 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 2114 Sqft | \$1,100,000
Elegant spacious 3 bd/2.5 townhome in beautiful condition in a central location!



1072 Mountain View Blvd, Walnut Creek

5 Bd | 4.5 Ba | 3486 Sqft | \$3,100,000
Incredible opportunity to move into a brand new home in Walnut Heights, one of Walnut Creek's most desirable locations!



1428 Quail View Cir, Walnut Creek

3 Bd | 3.5 Ba | 2154 Sqft | \$1,195,000
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