Lamorinda

OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly

Volume 18

Issue 16

Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2024



Lamorinda Home Sales

read on Page OH2

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Dear Deer!

By Cynthia Brian



Bucks in the orchard.

Photos Cynthia Brian

"We are part of the earth, and it is part of us... the deer, the horse, the great eagle: these are our brothers." – Chief Seattle.

Now that fall has arrived, foraging deer have become a nuisance in suburban gardens. The Columbian Blacktail was abundant during the 18th century in California. The population plummeted after the Goldrush due to over-hunting for venison and rawhide. The Department of Fish and Game speculates that between 1900-1910, fewer than 300,000 deer of all species roamed the state. In 1907, deer hunting was regulated, resulting in deer residents soaring to over a million by the 1940s. The decline of the horned herbivores began when fire suppression increased, agricultural plots swelled, and wildlands became suburban developments. Yet, the dear deer acclimated to their new environment and today claim our gardens as their favorite restaurants.

As I've been busy with garden consultations this past month, the issue of deer damage continues to be a major concern. The hills are dry, edible resources have diminished, and the most inviting source of delectable treats grows in our private landscapes. Oh deer!

As a child, I remember going out into the orchards and vineyards on



The deer love agapanthus but know that oleander is poisonous.

our farm at dusk every September evening to scare the herds as they could easily devour a year's harvest. All the methods we tried didn't work until we built fences surrounding the property.

I have always admired these beautiful, gentle creatures, and I enjoy watching the big bucks in the hills, sometimes sparring. In the spring when the mothers show their fawns where the newly sprouted green weeds are growing, I am doubly delighted. As much as I enjoy these wild, peaceful prowlers, like all gardeners, I don't want them devouring my plants.

It is essential to be clear. There is NO DEER-PROOF plant. If the animal is hungry enough, it will eat anything. The only deer-proof garden is a fenced garden. In this article, I'll share a few strategies for you to attempt. However, I reiterate, that the only foolproof method is to fence your yard. Since most people don't fence their front gardens, I am including a list of plants that deer relish munching and a list of plants they prefer not to consume, although they'll eat the new, tender shoots of most. Keep this handy list as a reference as you plan to plant.

... continued on Page OH8

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POPULAR MORAGA RIDGE | 1157 ALTA MESA DRIVE HILLTOP END UNIT | \$1,250,000 | 3 BD | 2 BA | 1,954 SF



MORAGA | ENTERTAINERS PARADISE | 11 CAMELFORD COURT \$1,795,000 | 3 BD | 2.5 BA | 1,957 SF | .25 AC



ORINDA | MT. DIABLO VIEWS | 42 TAPPAN LANE SLEEPY HOLLOW NEIGHBORHOOD | \$6,895,000 | 5 BD | 6.5 BA OFFICE | 8,096 SF | 2.26 AC



LAFAYETTE | ESTATE LOT | DESIRABLE RELIEZ VALLEY ROAD LOCATION 1 STERLING HEIGHTS LANE | \$995,000 | 2.74 AC



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City	Last reported	Lowest amount	Highest amount
LAFAYETTE	8	\$685,500	\$2,800,000
MORAGA	12	\$679,000	\$3,200,000
ORINDA	12	\$875,000	\$2,500,000

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

- 914 Brown Avenue, \$685,500, 2 Bdrms, 1024 SqFt, 2022 YrBlt, 08-16-24
- 953 Carol Lane, \$1,750,000, 5 Bdrms, 2023 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 08-12-24, Previous Sale: \$253,000, 09-01-88
- 1850 Del Rio Drive, \$1,308,000, 4 Bdrms, 1757 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 08-13-24, Previous Sale: \$990,000, 06-01-16
- 411 Donegal Way, \$1,450,000, 3 Bdrms, 1548 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 08-23-24, Previous Sale: \$1,041,000, 03-12-24
- 3097 Hedaro Court, \$1,625,000, 4 Bdrms, 1955 SgFt, 1954 YrBlt, 08-21-24, Previous Sale: \$875,000, 09-10-13
- 617 Murray Lane, \$2,800,000, 5 Bdrms, 3399 SgFt, 1989 YrBlt, 08-12-24, Previous Sale: \$620,000, 09-01-89
- 23 Shreve Lane, \$1,202,000, 4 Bdrms, 2035 SqFt, 2013 YrBlt, 08-23-24 3110 Sweetbrier Circle, \$1,555,000, 3 Bdrms, 1429 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 08-19-24

- 119 Ascot Court #2, \$679,000, 2 Bdrms, 1140 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 08-13-24, Previous Sale: \$520,000, 08-30-18
- 936 Augusta Drive, \$1,600,000, 3 Bdrms, 2470 SqFt, 1988 YrBlt, 08-12-24, Previous Sale: \$765,000, 03-15-12
- 251 Calle La Montana, \$1,900,000, 4 Bdrms, 2423 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 08-14-24
- 3911 Campolindo Drive, \$1,750,000, 4 Bdrms, 2337 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 08-12-24
- 320 Deerfield Drive, \$1,752,000, 4 Bdrms, 2588 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 08-15-24
- 411 Fernwood Drive, \$1,654,500, 4 Bdrms, 2019 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 08-16-24
- 17 Hammond Place, \$1,600,000, 3 Bdrms, 1580 SgFt, 1959 YrBlt, 08-12-24, Previous Sale: \$218,000, 02-01-88
- 3 Julianna Court, \$3,200,000, 4 Bdrms, 3983 SqFt, 1988 YrBlt, 08-15-24, Previous Sale: \$2,320,000, 06-20-17
- 176 Natalie Drive, \$1,700,000, 3 Bdrms, 1552 SqFt, 1968 YrBlt, 08-16-24, Previous Sale: \$850,000, 10-02-19
- 3 Peralta Court, \$1,845,000, 4 Bdrms, 2735 SqFt, 1987 YrBlt, 08-13-24, Previous Sale: \$1,050,000, 03-25-13
- 1720 Saint Andrews Drive, \$1,310,000, 3 Bdrms, 2039 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 08-20-24
- 415 Stonefield Place, \$1,925,000, 4 Bdrms, 2187 SqFt, 1968 YrBlt, 08-19-24, Previous Sale: \$1,285,000, 06-24-13

- 237 Glorietta Boulevard, \$2,500,000, 3 Bdrms, 3013 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 08-14-24, Previous Sale: \$2,450,000, 04-07-23
- 102 Glorietta Boulevard, \$1,250,000, 3 Bdrms, 1412 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 08-14-24, Previous Sale: \$1,050,000, 06-10-24
- 6 Irving Lane, \$2,015,000, 3 Bdrms, 2592 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 08-12-24
- 6 Lloyd Lane, \$1,800,000, 3 Bdrms, 2049 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 08-23-24, Previous Sale: \$1,460,000, 10-09-19
- 14 Los Altos Road, \$875,000, 2 Bdrms, 1460 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 08-14-24
- 3 Los Conejos, \$1,820,000, 5 Bdrms, 2888 SqFt, 1940 YrBlt, 08-16-24, Previous Sale: \$1,340,000, 12-14-16
- 15 Miramonte Road, \$1,450,000, 3 Bdrms, 1736 SqFt, 1983 YrBlt, 08-19-24, Previous Sale: \$308,000, 08-01-87
- 43 Monte Vista Road, \$1,750,000, 3 Bdrms, 1845 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 08-13-24
- 27 Moraga Viax, \$2,350,000, 4 Bdrms, 2980 SqFt, 1969 YrBlt, 08-19-24, Previous Sale: \$2,020,000, 05-24-18
- 230 Moraga Way, \$1,750,000, 2 Bdrms, 2709 SqFt, 1946 YrBlt, 08-12-24
- 578 Tahos Road, \$2,368,000, 4 Bdrms, 2574 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 08-20-24, Previous Sale: \$1,860,000, 12-26-19
- 25 Via Floreado, \$1,400,000, 3 Bdrms, 1524 SqFt, 1977 YrBlt, 08-15-24, Previous Sale: \$1,100,000, 09-09-15











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4 BED | 3.5 BATH | 3,615 SQ. FT. KELLY CRAWFORD JEANNETTE BETTENCOURT

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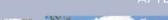




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5 BED | 3 BATH | 2,330 SQ. FT. KELLY CRAWFORD

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KELLY CRAWFORD | VANGUARD TOP PRODUCER 2023

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian **Dear Deer!**

... continued from Page OH1

What plants are deer attracted to?

Deer enjoy sweet, soft, delicate plants that won't annoy their tongues or their sensitive palates.

If you want to offer deer a bountiful buffet, these are a few of the plants they gravitate to:

Agapanthus	Sunflower		
Pansies	Crocus		
Daylilies	Gerbera		
Hosta	Hydrangea		
Violas	Rhododendror		
Violets	Azalea		
Dahlia	Hibiscus		
Tulips	Clematis		

Hollyhock spina
Morning glory Bean
Blackberries Cabb
English ivy Brock
Grape vines Beets
Kiwi Carro
Peas Corn
Greens (lettuce,

spinach, chard)
Beans
Cabbage
Broccoli
Beets
Carrot tops



Deer do not like blanket flowers.



Rhododendrons are delicious desserts for horned herbivores.



Ornamental grasses do not appeal to the deer palate.

Deer-Resistant Species

In general, marauding stags and does stays away from strong-smelling, bitter-tasting, fuzzy, leathery, spiny, toxic, and fibrous foliage. They will eat these as a last resort because no flower or leaf is deer-proof. They innately know what plants are poisonous. If you want to deter deer from dining chez yous, try planting the selections below.

Natives:
Yarrow
Manzanita
Sage (salvias)
Pot marigolds
California poppies
Milkweed
Ferns
California Fuchsia
Deer Grass
Pink flowering currant
Elderberry
Blue-eyed grass
California lilac
(ceanothus)
Grevillea (peaches and
cream)
Muhly grass
Jerusalem sage
Other Perennial
Plants:
Bee Balm
Lavender
Catmint
Society Garlic
Ornamental onion
Echinacea
Hardy Geranium
Pinks
Astilbe
Red hot poker
Peony
Dusty Miller
Lambs ear
Hellebore
Penstemon
Digitalis (Foxglove)
Sea Foam Statice
Ferns
Coral Bells (Heuchera)
Coreopsis (Tickseed)
Russian Sage
Sea Holly
*** 11

Nasturtiums Kangaroo Paw Cosmos Rudbeckia Lantana Gaillardia (Blanket flower) Camellia Sweet Alyssum Dicentra (Bleeding Heart) Primrose **Bulbs**: Crocosmia Wild leeks **Daffodils** Iris Allium Dutch iris Crocus

Woodland hyacinth **Naked Ladies** Anemone Annuals: Verbena Snapdragon Marigold **Bachelor Buttons** Calendula Annual Vinca Lobelia Larkspur Tobacco Stock Strawflower Mexican Sunflower Zinnia Nasturtium **Bushes:** Boxwood **Butterfly Bush** Viburnum

Deutzia

Rose of Sharon

Daphne Lilac Weigela Chinese Fringe flowers Barberry Russian Sage Silky Dogwood Vines: Passionflower Pink Bower Vine Other Grasses: (many grasses are not recommended due to being fire-prone) Lomandra grass Mexican Feather grass Zebra grass Fountain grass New Zealand flax **Egyptian Papyrus** Mondo grass Blue Oat grass



Strawflowers, known as paper daisies, are too rough and scratchy to entice deer diners.

Nigella





Looking to own a home in Lafayette? New Construction Below market-rate home available at Woodbury Highlands!



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2300 Ward Street

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Wonderfully remodeled Craftsman home nestled in a coveted, central South Berkeley location. This 4BD/2BA/1,426 sq ft home offers a newly renovated kitchen, updated bathrooms, gleaming hardwood floors, and sun filled rooms. Flexible and open floorplan, living room with a fireplace, and a formal dining with a passthrough window to the kitchen. Ideally located near everything - Elmwood shops and restaurants, Cal campus, BART, Berkeley Bowl, Whole Foods, Alta Bates, and close to NOBE, Rockridge, and Temescal amenities. A perfect blend of classic style home with modern amenities sited in the heart of South Berkeley.

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WALNUT CREEK 27Edgemont.com



4 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,195± SF | .34± AC Offered at \$1,795,000

Magical Mid Century with Mt Diablo Views





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5340 Broadway Terrace #408

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3 BD | 2 BA | 1,087± SF Offered at \$815,000

Amazing New Price! Stunning, Contemporary 3BD,2BA, and 1087±SF condo in an ideal Rockridge location. Open and versatile floor plan with stylishly updated kitchen and bathrooms, new dual paned windows, private balcony with views make this move in ready. Amazing location near College Avenue vibrant mix of restaurants, boutiques, coffee shops, markets, the Claremont Country Club, and close to Rockridge BART, and AC Transit/TransBay bus line. Your wonderful urban paradise awaits!

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COMPASS

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian **Dear Deer!**





The hellebores may protect the azalea in the forefront from dining deer.

Foxglove, AKA digitalis is toxic to deer.

... continued from Page OH8

Deer Deterrents

Many people have experimented with deer deterrents. Other than allowing your dogs to roam the perimeter, installing fencing around the area, or putting wire around every single plant, I have not found that any of these worked. Give any a try and let me know if you are successful.

- 1. Sprays that include rotten eggs, panther urine, garlic, and soap. If sprayed everywhere every few days, you might be in luck. Deer Away and Liquid Fence have been mentioned as effective when used according to directions.
- 2. Motion-activate sprinklers. They do work to scare the deer away, but I hate wasting a drop of water.
- 3. Whirly flags or spin wheels, but you'd need a dozen or more.
- 4. Shaved soap, usually Irish Spring. I think the herbivores loved the clean scent.

When the foraging pickings are slim, the deer adapt to whatever is available. In autumn, deer lack sustainable food resources. Our lush landscapes are extremely attractive to them. As you decide what to plant this season, select smartly and with the knowledge that no plant is deer-proof.

We are all part of this earth. Do your best to get along with our nature's brothers and sisters.

Dear deer!

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.



Because of their waxy leaves and strong fragrance, tangerines and all citrus trees are deer-resistant.



Agaves deter deer, even in pots on sheds.

Standing Water Problems Eliminated Sump Pump Service, Repairs & Replacement Drainage Inspections & Reports Retaining Walls Page 1 Page 1 Page 2 Page 2 Page 2 Page 2 Page 2 Page 3 Page 4 Page 3 Page 4 Page 3 Page 4 Page



Cynthia Brian in the autumn garden.

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 at https://www.CynthiaBrian.com/online-store. Hire Cynthia for writing projects, garden consults, and inspirational lectures. Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com https://www.CynthiaBrian.com



LAMORINDA'S LEADING INDEPENDENT REAL ESTATE FIRM



60 Coachwood Terrace, Orinda 7 Bd | 5.5 Ba | 6602 Sqft | \$6,995,000

This secluded 7 bd/ 5.5 ba property offers views & a European vibe w/ close to town convenience & excellent schools!



11 Idvll Court, Orinda

6+ Bd | 4.5 Ba | 4020 Sqft | \$2,795,000

Located at the end of a cul-de-sac on a generous .67 acre, this home enjoys over 4000 soft of living w/ a pool & sports court!



650 Glorietta Blvd, Lafavette

3 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 2265 Soft | \$1.850.000

Serene & private setting w great yard & pool, at end of cul-de-sac in superb, close-in neighborhood. Happy Valley Elem!



6681 Charing Cross Road, Oakland 3 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 2199 Sqft | \$1,295,000

This sleek Hiller Highlands townhome seamlessly combines comfort & style w/ its functional split-level design.



27 Orinda View Road, Orinda

5 Bd | 5.5 Ba | 5335 Sqft | \$5,150,000

This private 5 bd/ 5.5 ba retreat is above it all. offering unobstructed sweeping views out nearly every window!



16 Honey Hill Road, Orinda

2 Bd | 2 Ba | 1960 Sqft | \$1,550,000

Orinda Mid Century, single story with walls of glass and concrete floors throughout!



1760 Reliez Valley Road, Lafayette

3 Bd | 3 Ba | 3055 Total Sqft | \$1,598,000

Charming Reliez Valley 3055 sq ft home, private location, 1st time on market in 25 years!



357 Tracy Way, Alamo

4 Bd + Office | 2.5 Ba | 3279 Sqft | \$1,995,000

A rare opportunity for country club living in this expansive home within walking distance of the prestigious Round Hill Country Club!



291 Monte Vista Ridge Road, Orinda

5 Bd | 4.5 Ba | 5576 Sqft | \$4,250,000

This exquisite home combines luxury, comfort, quality, privacy, & convenience to SF & top tier Orinda schools



76 La Cuesta Road, Orinda

3 Bd | 2 Ba | 1762 Sqft | \$1,395,000

Va-Va-Views! This stylishly updated Orinda home is immersed in nature & a peaceful escape, yet right in town.



655 Augusta Drive, Moraga

2 Bd | 3.5 Ba | 2352 Sqft | \$1,495,000

This lovely townhome situated in desirable MCC offers vaulted ceilings & French doors leading to a patio perfect for entertaining!



1167 Kaski Lane, Concord

4 Bd | 3.5 Ba | 2237 Sqft | \$1,189,000

Fall in love with this beautifully updated, 4 bd/ 3 ba, single-level home w/ an ideal layout!



523 Miner Road, Orinda

5 Bd | 4 Ba | 3945 Sqft | \$3,750,000

Experience luxury living in this modern architecture masterpiece, designed by Bud Evenson & stylishly remodeled in 2015.



Stylish retreat in Happy Valley hills w/ views from every room! 3771 sq ft, 4 bd + office,





1200 Leisure Lane Unit 4, Walnut Creek

2 Bd | 1 Ba | 1262 Sqft | \$450.000

Bright, charming 2 bd/ 1 ba condo conveniently nestled within the vibrant & serene community of Rossmoor



5722 Lewis Way, Concord

4 Bd | 2 Ba | 1919 Sqft | \$1,030,000

Situated in the Dana Farms neighborhood, this single level rancher has a great floor plan & wonderful indoor/outdoor flow!



24 La Campana Road, Orinda

4 Bd | 3 Ba | 3858 Sqft | \$3,495,000

In the heart of the OCC neighborhood, this custom 4 bd/ 3 ba home offers breathtaking views from the glass walled verandal



1087 Rahara Drive, Lafavette

3 Bd | 3 Ba | 2685 Sqft | \$2,595,000

This expansive 3 bd/ 3 ba home spans 2,685 sf on a generous 0.56-acre lot in the coveted Happy Valley neighborhood.



6915 Ridgewood Drive, Oakland 3 Bd | 2 Ba | 1464 Saft | \$1,495,000

On a private lot, set within a verdant garden oasis, this Montclair gem offers modern luxury & tranquility!



201 Hidden Creek Court, Martinez

3 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 1382 Sqft | \$640,000

Darling updated 3bd/2.5ba condo with private fenced-in patio close to commute & shopping!

The Village Associates:

Ashley Battersby • Shannon Conner • Meara Dunsmore • Linda Ehrich • Emily Estrada • Joan Evans • Linda Friedman • Liz Gallagher Claudia Gohler • Ari Hatton • Gillian Judge Hogan • Dexter Honens II • Christina Linezo • April Matthews • Hillary Murphy • Karen Murphy John Nash • Altie Schmitt • Ann Sharf • Amy Rose Smith • Molly Smith • Jeff Snell • Lynda Snell • Alexis Thompson • Clark Thompson

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