

Lamorinda

OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly

Volume 18

Issue 18

Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2024



Lamorinda Home Sales

... read on Page OH6

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian Mum is the Word!

By Cynthia Brian



The fear factor is real in this zombie garden.

Photos Cynthia Brian

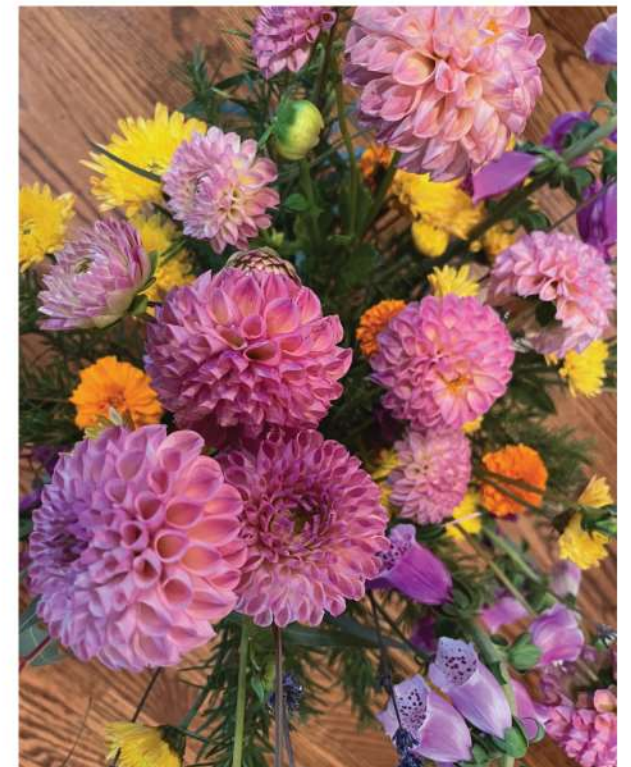
"I go to visit the chrysanthemums. They are indeed, the most universal, the most diverse of flowers." Comte Maurice Maeterlinck, Nobel

Prize-Winning Belgian Author

This Halloween while kids are prowling the neighborhoods as Wolverine, Deadpool,

Beetlejuice, Ghostbusters, Disney characters, or Taylor Swift, gardeners will be costuming their landscapes with the indomitable chrysanthemum. One of the most popular flowers in the world, "mums" as they are called, come in a wide variety of colors, shapes, and sizes. Blooming in fall when most of the garden is preparing for a long winter's nap, chrysanthemums are hardy, versatile, and vibrant.

Year after year, the mums in my garden bloom in shades of cream, yellow, purple, burgundy, and pink, attracting a plethora of pollinators. ... continued on Page OH6



Pink pompon mums in an arrangement with spoon yellow mums, rosemary, marigolds, and digitalis.

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Lamorinda home sales recorded

City	Last reported	Lowest amount	Highest amount
LAFAYETTE	12	\$755,000	\$4,500,000
MORAGA	6	\$685,500	\$2,058,000
ORINDA	8	\$535,000	\$2,900,000

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

- 930 Acalanes Road, \$1,700,000, 5 Bdrms, 2277 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 09-16-24,
Previous Sale: \$1,345,000, 09-03-14
- 4110 Happy Valley Road, \$4,500,000, 6 Bdrms, 5654 SqFt, 2000 YrBlt, 09-16-24,
Previous Sale: \$1,000,000, 06-11-99
- 3261 Marlene Drive, \$755,000, 2 Bdrms, 1160 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 09-20-24,
Previous Sale: \$700,000, 08-31-20
- 14 Nephi Court, \$1,300,000, 3 Bdrms, 1984 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 09-16-24
- 2780 West Newell Avenue, \$3,075,000, 4 Bdrms, 3478 SqFt,
2021 YrBlt, 09-18-24, Previous Sale: \$225,000, 03-29-18
- 3393 Orchard Valley Lane, \$1,300,000, 3 Bdrms, 1184 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 09-19-24
- 3161 Plymouth Road, \$1,150,000, 4 Bdrms, 1837 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 09-20-24
- 1857 Reliez Valley Road, \$1,735,000, 3 Bdrms, 2729 SqFt, 1978 YrBlt, 09-09-24
- 348 Shire Oaks Court, \$2,000,000, 4 Bdrms, 1545 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 09-10-24,
Previous Sale: \$1,040,000, 10-23-15
- 953 Stow Lane, \$1,650,000, 3 Bdrms, 1506 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 09-09-24,
Previous Sale: \$10,000, 08-01-85
- 4026 Tilden Lane, \$2,390,000, 3 Bdrms, 2616 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 09-13-24
- 95 Woodbury Highlands Court #17, \$1,498,000, 3 Bdrms, 1856 SqFt,
2022 YrBlt, 09-18-24

MORAGA

- 23 Arroyo Drive, \$1,642,000, 5 Bdrms, 2632 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 09-18-24
- 2135 Ascot Drive #7, \$685,500, 2 Bdrms, 1643 SqFt, 1969 YrBlt, 09-11-24,
Previous Sale: \$290,000, 03-15-11
- 54 Miramonte Drive, \$745,000, 3 Bdrms, 1248 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 09-16-24,
Previous Sale: \$525,000, 06-13-05
- 237 Rheem Boulevard, \$1,660,000, 3 Bdrms, 2457 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 09-18-24,
Previous Sale: \$272,000, 09-01-88
- 1152 Sanders Drive, \$1,575,000, 3 Bdrms, 2045 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 09-12-24
- 26 Sea Pines Street, \$2,058,000, 3 Bdrms, 2828 SqFt, 1982 YrBlt, 09-10-24,
Previous Sale: \$1,317,500, 09-13-17

ORINDA

- 67 Brookwood Road #21, \$535,000, 2 Bdrms, 897 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 09-09-24
- 5 Cielo Court, \$2,700,000, 4 Bdrms, 3117 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 09-09-24
- 32 Moraga Viax, \$2,230,000, 3 Bdrms, 3064 SqFt, 1977 YrBlt, 09-09-24
- 417 Moraga Way, \$1,615,000, 3 Bdrms, 2007 SqFt, 2018 YrBlt, 09-13-24,
Previous Sale: \$80,000, 11-06-15
- 11 Overhill Court, \$1,600,000, 5 Bdrms, 3650 SqFt, 1982 YrBlt, 09-18-24
- 5 Poco Paseo, \$1,910,000, 4 Bdrms, 2128 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 09-09-24,
Previous Sale: \$1,150,000, 09-27-23
- 9 Tarry Lane, \$2,900,000, 4 Bdrms, 3183 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 09-11-24,
Previous Sale: \$332,000, 12-01-85
- 23 Wildwood Road, \$1,300,000, 2 Bdrms, 1617 SqFt, 1934 YrBlt, 09-20-24,
Previous Sale: \$460,000, 05-22-12



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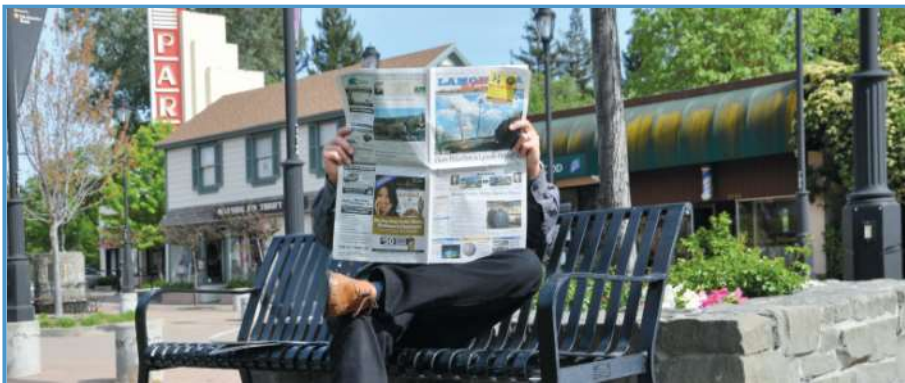
Interest rates and rent control in different areas may affect your investment plans. Stay informed about the upcoming changes. I can guide you through the exchange process.

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Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian Mum is the Word!



A bush of purple mums. Photos Cynthia Brian

... continued from Page OH1

The blooms are long-lasting, and the plants are low maintenance. Cutting mums for floral arrangements and bouquets assures that my house is always filled with spicy scents and sweet style.

Native to Asia, China was the first to cultivate chrysanthemums over 2500 years ago for their medicinal properties, though I'm not sure how they were used as medicine, as the entire plant is considered toxic to people and pets. Although mums have been a mainstay of funeral wreaths in the United States, globally they represent rich symbolism in many other cultures. Today in Asia, mums symbolize longevity, vitality, and immortality. It is thought that this resilient flower with its brilliant colors equates to the everlasting nature of life and honors our ancestors.

In Japan, the chrysanthemum is revered for its blooming beauty representing perfection and rejuvenation. The Kiku Matsuri or Chrysanthemum Festival honors this noble plant with the Imperial family using it as the respectful image of their lineage.



A fountain decorated for fall with pumpkins, gourds, and squash.

It was in the 17th century that mums were introduced into European culture, where they quickly enamored gardeners as cut flowers. Chrysanthemums became associated with romance, affection, sincerity, and love.

At this time of year, as Halloween approaches, chrysanthemums take on an added role. They bring positive energy and good luck to ward off the demons and negative energy of the ghosts, gremlins, and goblins.

Although the best time to plant mums is possibly spring, I prefer to buy small 4-inch pots of hardy blooming chrysanthemums now so that I can coordinate my garden color scheme with my outdoor décor. Nurseries and garden centers have many types to choose from, so choose the varieties that most interest you. You'll find pompons, anemones, spoons, and even newer series, each with different leaf and flower petals. Plant in a location that receives full sunlight, which is six to eight hours per day. Protect them from windy areas. Mums prefer slightly acidic soil enriched with organic matter that drains well. They don't like to be waterlogged, but they don't like being completely dry either. Keep the soil moist. Pinching the tips of young plants helps them grow bushier with increased buds. As our temperatures drop, mulch around the base of the plants to protect the roots.

Enjoy the blooms for eight to 12 weeks, sometimes more. When flowers fade as winter arrives, cut back the foliage to the ground. These perennials will resurrect next year, offering you another season of optimism. Their normal life cycle is four to five years, but you can increase your odds of growing eternal hardy mums by dividing the roots every three to four years or cultivating by stem cuttings in the spring. If you love the mums you are growing, doing this will get you identical copies.

... continued on next Page



This garden boasts a variety of mums in the bud.



A variety of colorful chrysanthemums with greens of mock orange make a fragrant floral display.



Cynthia Brian wishes you a Happy Halloween.

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>

Mums look gorgeous in pots placed on the patio or porch. Flowers can be as tiny as a quarter or as large as a plate. They are great in borders and beds and can grow to three feet tall and two feet wide. You might need to stake your plants if they get too big. It is important to note that chrysanthemums that are bought in florist foil will be great for indoors or as a holiday gift, but most likely will not have the toughness to be transplanted in the garden. If you want mums for your landscape, buy them at a nursery.

With minimal care, your mums will thrive and be the stars of your fall garden, alongside the growing gourds, pumpkins, and of course the spooky skeletons, scarecrows, zombies, and Jack-o-Lanterns of a Halloween graveyard.

Visit your chrysanthemums and revel in a safe and scary Halloween! Mum is the word! Happy Gardening. Happy Growing! Happy Halloween

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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.



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.



24 La Campana Road, Orinda
4 Bd | 3 Ba | 3858 Sqft | \$3,495,000

In the heart of the OCC neighborhood, this custom home offers breathtaking views from the glass walled veranda!



11 Idyll Court, Orinda
6+ Bd | 4.5 Ba | 4020 Sqft | \$2,695,000

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



New Listing!

111 Coral Drive, Orinda
4 Bd | 2 Ba | 1548 Sqft | \$1,550,000

Darling home in a coveted Orinda neighborhood. Park-like yard, walk to top rated schools. Fantastic inside & out!



152 Ravenhill Road, Orinda
3 Bd | 3 Ba | 2546 Sqft | \$1,550,000

Located in the prestigious Orindawoods development this modern light-filled townhome is stunningly updated!



New Listing!

51 Persimmon Walk, Orinda
3 Bd | 2 Ba | 1528 Sqft | \$1,475,000

This home is one of the most desirable in Orinda Grove due to its location, 10' ceilings, pristine condition & fab floor plan on one level.



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.



3930 Quail Ridge Road, Lafayette
4 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 3771 Sqft | \$2,850,000

Stylish retreat in Happy Valley hills offers a sparkling pool, wine room, greenhouse & views from every room all on 1+ acre!



3235 Mt. Diablo Blvd #104, Lafayette
2 Bd + Office | 2 Ba | 2148 Sqft | \$1,895,000

Luxury single-level condo on a cul-de-sac features hardwood flooring, beamed ceilings, Anderson windows & so much more!



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!



New Listing!

3141 McNutt Avenue, Walnut Creek
4 Bd | 2 Ba | 1579 Sqft | \$1,195,000

Bright & cheery single level home on idyllic tree lined street. Gorgeous kitchen, hardwood floor, hot tub, firepit & so much more!



Pending!

1860 Tice Creek #13443, Walnut Creek
2 Bd | 2 Ba | 1141 Sqft | \$775,000

This centrally located Waterford condo offers an open floorplan & the ideal blend of comfort and convenience!



1600 Oakmont Drive #6, Walnut Creek
2 Bd | 1.5 Ba | 1058 Sqft | \$550,000

Enjoy this lovely, bright unit which fits laminate flooring, quartzite countertops & an open atrium patio!



1200 Leisure Lane Unit 4, Walnut Creek
2 Bd | 1 Ba | 1262 Sqft | \$450,000

Bright, charming condo conveniently nestled within the vibrant & serene community of Rossmoor!



Lease!

1937 Highridge Court, Walnut Creek
4 Bd | 2.5 Ba | 2549 Sqft | \$4,800/mo.

This spacious townhome in Summit Ridge fits stainless steel appliances, spacious primary suite & large family room w/ sliding glass doors to a private fenced in yard!



Lease!

4655 Harbord Drive, Oakland
4 Bd | 3 Ba | 2027 Sqft | \$7,500/mo.

This beautifully maintained home in the heart of Upper Rockridge boasts stunning Bay views, an abundance of natural light, & classic architectural details!



2631 Danville Blvd, Alamo
4 Bd | 5.5 Ba | 4507 Sqft | \$1,995,000

This rare opportunity features an amazing .6 acre flat, gated lot backing to the Iron Horse Trail in prime westside Alamo!



1167 Kaski Lane, Concord
4 Bd | 3 Ba | 2237 Sqft | \$1,149,000

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