

# LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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Volume 01; Issue 12

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Wednesday, July 25, 2007



Photo by Andy Scheck

## Orinda's Saturday Market

... see story on page 12

### Food Scrap Recycling – Giving Back to Nature

By Sophie Braccini

The Contra Costa County Solid Waste Authority will launch a Food Scrap Recycling program in Lamorinda on September 1st. For Bart Carr, composting is second nature. In his Lafayette home the practice allows him to turn food scraps into rich soil amendment for the family garden. Carr is also the Composting Program Coordinator for the Contra Costa County Solid Waste Authority and has been conducting classes and interviews on the subject across Lamorinda.

The goal of the Food Scrap Recycling Program is to reduce the waste that goes to our landfills and to further incorporate sustainability into our way of life. Residents can collect their food scraps and paper items in small kitchen containers ("pails") provided by the CCCSWA and then transfer the materials to their Green yard waste carts for the usual

weekly collection. Carr has held classes and meetings with Homeowners Associations and the general public to determine which kitchen container would be most user-friendly for the community. The "Norseman Kitchen Container" was chosen by a majority of residents because it closes tightly, avoiding odors. Coming this August, you'll find your new container perched on top of your green recycling cart with a User's Guide inside.

You'll be able to recycle all of your food waste, including fruit, vegetables, breads, cereal, dairy, meat (even bones), coffee grounds/filters, tea bags and food-soiled paper products (e.g. towels, plates, napkins, pizza boxes and lunch sacks). Items that cannot be composted are plastics, glass, metal, liquids and pet waste. ...

... continued on page 7



Bart Carr empties the pail in the green yard waste cart

### Old Friends, New Records at Lafayette City Swim Meet

By Kevin D. Shallat

Aside from the raucous atmosphere and the life sized trophies, swimmers were competing for bragging rights for the city at the annual Lafayette City Meet on Saturday and Sunday, July 14 and 15 at Acalanes High School. The atmosphere was electric as swimmers from Las Trampas, LMYA, Oakwood Athletic Club, Rancho Colorados, Springbrook, and Sun Valley Swim Team competed against their friends, teammates, and classmates.

Springbrook captured the most high point trophies over the weekend, accounting for eight of the potential 13 individual high point trophies. Springbrook's impressive trophy count helped secure first place for overall points in the Lafayette City Meet, finishing with 786.5 points. Coming in second place was Rancho Colorados, with 454.5 points. Sun Valley secured third with 384.

... continued on page 14

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### Race Day Lafayette

By Mike F. Foley

For me, nothing quite compares to the speed and exhilaration one feels racing bicycles at top speeds.

At 38, with nine races under my belt this season, it's been almost six years since I've considered myself a competitive road racer, though I'd never stopped riding.

I'm registered for Pro 1/2 category in the third annual Lafayette Criterium, where some of the top racers in the state will be competing. With a DNF (did not finish) in both of the last two races at Davis and San Rafael respectively, I am due for a decent placing this day.

Straddling my bike waiting for the start, grouped together with 47 other spandex-clad athletes, I am feeling those familiar pre-race jitters. Glancing around, I recognize some good riders and some very strong sprinters. Everybody always looks 'fast' on the start line.

My whole family is here: it's the first time my young nephews Shane and Brice will see me race. I wanted to make a good showing. My brother-in-law Pat, a long-time runner, says, "You guys look like you're just pedaling around out there. Why don't you just go out and win?"

... continued on page 15



Mike F. Foley

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# Lamorinda Community, Calendar, Agendas, Notes, News

# Lafayette

Calendar	
City Council	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Monday, Aug 13	
Planning Comm.	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Thursday, Aug 2	
Design Review	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Tuesday, Aug 7	
Park, Trails, Rec.	7pm
Community Center 500 St Mary's Road Wednesday, Aug 8	
Circulation	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road Monday, Aug 20	
Emergency Prep.	9:15am
City Offices 3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Suite 265 Wednesday, Aug 8	
Senior Services	3:30pm
Community Center, Alder Room 500 St Mary's Road Thursday, July 26	

check online:  
Town of Lafayette:  
<http://www.ci.lafayette.ca.us>  
for:  
• all meeting notes  
• calendar updates  
Chamber of Commerce:  
<http://www.lafayettechamber.org>  
for:  
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• upcoming events



**Grand Theft 7/07**  
Roller bag with lap top valued at \$2000 inside was found missing from unlocked car parked in the driveway of Sky Hi Circle residence overnight. No suspects, no leads or witnesses.

**Bike Stolen 7/10**  
Lucas Circle. At 7:30 pm, middle aged male left his garage door open due to the heat, intending to close it before retiring for the night, but forgot. Older model white mountain bike valued at \$300 was discovered missing at 7:30 am the next morning. No suspects or witnesses.

**Food Flung 7/17**  
Silver Springs Rd. Neighbor checking on house, discovered a large amount of food products spread on and around the residence, driveway and car while the residents were on vacation. A former classmate of high school aged daughter is suspected.

**Wallet lifted 7/17**  
Unknown suspect entered unlocked vehicle parked at Springbrook Pool Parking lot and took wallet from purse left on front passenger seat.

## New Library and Learning Center Board Seeks Members

**By Lee Borrowman**  
The Lafayette Community Foundation (LCF), having completed their highly successful capital campaign, raising \$12.5 million to help the building of the new library in Lafayette, has announced the formation of a new entity – the Lafayette Library and Learning Center Foundation. The Library Foundation will take the reins as the primary fundraiser, partnering with the city, county, schools, Friends of the Lafayette Library and other community partners to support expanded hours, programming, the collection and building operations at the new Library and Learning Center. "What makes a unique library is its unique programming," says Lois Laine of the Lafayette Community

Foundation and Friends of the Lafayette Library, "Sweet Thursdays and our Children's Program have been very successful, drawing people from all over the East Bay. We are looking to create a panorama of programs, with regional appeal and for people of all ages, from children to seniors." The job of the new Board of Trustees will be to raise funds to make the new facility a place where this can happen. Laine explains, "Trustees will be offering a critical public service to the community, and will have an exciting opportunity to actually create something brand new." The Board will also coordinate activities of the Glenn Seaborg Learning Consortium, a

"first-ever" collaboration among 12 high-profile arts, education, and cultural organizations that will turn the soon-to-be-built local library into a regional resource and which will bring a wide variety of events, activities and expertise to the new library. If you have the time to attend meetings of the Board and subcommittees and an interest in raising funds to ensure the ongoing success of the Library and Learning Center, go to [www.lafayettelib.com](http://www.lafayettelib.com), [www.lafayettecommunityfoundation.org](http://www.lafayettecommunityfoundation.org) or [www.ci.lafayette.ca.us](http://www.ci.lafayette.ca.us). Applications will be accepted and interviews conducted over the course of the summer; the final application deadline is Sept. 14, 2007.



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- Seaborg Consortium Partners:**
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  - Chabot Space & Science Center
  - Commonwealth Club of California
  - Greenbelt Alliance
  - John F. Kennedy University
  - John Muir/Mt. Diablo Health System
  - Lindsay Wildlife Museum
  - Oakland Museum of California
  - Oakland Zoo in Knowland Park
  - Saint Mary's College of California
  - University of California Institute of Governmental Studies
  - University of California Lawrence Hall of Science

## Today, Lafayette; Tomorrow, Le Tour?



**By Lee Borrowman**  
Let the race begin!  
Some wore jeans and t-shirts, others stayed cool in shorts and tank-tops, and a few were adorably clad in pint-sized versions of the colored team kits worn by their cyclist parents. Many local adult cyclists from around Lamorinda did quite well in the 3rd annual Lafayette Criterium on July 15 (view the race results at <http://www.c4racing.org/www/events.htm>). For many lining the streets of Lafayette that morning, the real stars of the day were those too young to race for a team but who pedaled their little hearts out nonetheless, to the delight of a crowd of cheering spectators. All proud little racers received ribbons, and some will always remember their first race!



Brennan O'Connell rolls across the finish line first in the 6-7 year old race

## Rock the Plaza Returns

Back for its second season, the 'Rock the Plaza' live concert series will take place in Lafayette's Plaza Park at the corner of Mt. Diablo Blvd and Moraga Rd. each Friday in August. The series features local musicians focusing on various genres of rock & roll. Food and beverages will be available or you can pack a picnic. will provide a wonderful opportunity for music fans to enjoy Lafayette.

**All shows start at 6:00pm and are presented free of charge. Here is this year's line-up:**

August 3rd: Good Question	August 17th: Total Eclipse
August 10th: Stone Soup	August 24th: Stage Frite

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## Planning Commission Struggles

**By Andy Scheck**  
The members of the Lafayette Planning Commission have had a difficult role to play of late. There is a carefully crafted General Plan for Lafayette, there are areas in the city that are in need of major improvement and there are developers that want to do the job. The Woodbury development, proposed for 3758 Mt. Diablo Blvd. behind the Veterans Memorial Building, is a perfect example of how the Design Review Board, City Staff and Planning Commission work together to get a project ready for a final decision by the City Council. How many improvements to a proposed development can be made? How closely must it adhere to the guidelines of the General Plan? Step by step, KO Architects has followed the advice of the Design Review Board and the

Planning Commission. Over the course of many meetings, a proposal was forged which, after a 4-2 vote of the Commission, will be presented to the City Council at its next meeting on August 13. The Woodbury development will replace an existing motel and the surrounding area with four stylish townhouse buildings creating eighty condominiums, of which twelve will meet the affordable housing requirement. The Woodbury is a big step towards the General Plan target of bringing multiple housing units and affordable living to Lafayette. In looking at this area, it is important to note that there are two more properties between the existing Veterans Memorial Building and the new development. The East Bay Municipal Utility District owns the space behind the Vet

building, complete with right of way rights and use restrictions. Rick Stover, the developer's landscape architect, presented a plan for the possible use of the EBMUD property. A bike path, walkways, grassy playground and pleasant seating areas will make this open space enjoyable. In voting against sending the project to the City Council, Commissioners Will Lovitt and Mark Mitchell again addressed their concerns about the height of the buildings, which at 41 feet exceeds the 35 feet maximum. At its next meeting on August 2nd, the Planning Commission is expected to hold its final vote on the extended building heights and the rezoning of the property from C (General Commercial) to P1 (Planned Unit Development).

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# Lamorinda Community, Calendar, Agendas, Notes, News

# Moraga

Calendar	
City Council	7:30pm
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School 1010 Camino Pablo Monday, Aug 8	
Planning Comm.	7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room 2100 Donald Drive Monday, Aug 6	
Design Review	7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room 2100 Donald Drive Monday, Aug 13	
Park & Rec	7:30pm
Hacienda, Mosaic Room 2100 Donald Drive Tuesday, Aug 21	
Liaison	8:00am
Fire Station 1280 Moraga Way no meeting in August	
Chamber of Commerce	5pm
BBQ Commons, Moraga Friday, July 27	
check online: Town of Moraga: <a href="http://www.ci.moraga.ca.us">http://www.ci.moraga.ca.us</a> for: • all meeting notes • calendar updates	



**Residential Burglary 7/11**  
House-sitter reported signs of attempted forced entry on Shuey Drive. An unknown suspect (s) unlawfully entered the garage of the residence through a window that was ajar. At that time of the report, the loss was unknown.

**Attempted Residential Burglary 7/12**  
One or possibly two suspects attempted to enter a residence on Paseo Linares at approximately 10:30 while the resident was occupied, by opening a rear sliding glass door. The suspects fled when occupant activated an audible panic alarm. One suspect was observed to be an African American male in his early twenties, 5'8"-5'10" with close cropped hair. No property was taken.

**Vandalism 7/13**  
An Orange Ford Mustang parked on Larch Avenue, was found to be covered in broken eggs with damage to the paint estimated to be \$800-\$1000. Extra patrol was requested to reduce continual "egging" problem in the area.

**7/15**  
Shortly after 2:00pm, officer responded to the City of Lafayette to investigate a traffic collision involving a Lafayette Patrol Vehicle. There were no injuries.

## Council Applies Green Building Guidelines to New Subdivisions

**By Steve Angelides**  
Taking its first step to implement the political statement on global warming it adopted in May, the Moraga Town Council added a green building provision for new subdivisions to the Town's Design Guidelines at its meeting on July 11. "New subdivision development should meet Build it Green guidelines for new home construction or equivalent standards," the provision states.

The Town has been working on revising its Design Guidelines since 2005 as part of the process of implementing its 2002 General Plan. The Town's Planning Commission adopted the revised guidelines on June 4 without a green building provision.

Vice Mayor Lynda Deschambault appealed the Planning Commission decision to the Council because she wanted to add energy efficiency and sustainability to the

guidelines. Deschambault works for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and heads the local environmental group Generation Green.

When the Council made its political statement on global warming in May by endorsing the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, it was the first time it had ever taken a position on a national or international issue. The green building guidelines represent another historic first for Moraga, because its Design Guidelines had previously covered only the external features of a building.

The Green Building Guidelines cover both the external and the internal features of a building, including the site, foundation, landscaping, structural frame and building envelope, exterior finish, insulation, plumbing, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, renewable energy, building performance, finishes, flooring, appliances, and other features. The guidelines use a point system, with a minimum number of points in specific categories.

The Green Building Guidelines were developed by Build it Green, a Bay Area non-profit group whose mission is to promote green building. The group's Development Director, Bruce Mast, addressed the Council meeting and presented copies of the guidelines. Other speakers at the meeting included Bill Durkin, head of the local environmental group Sustainable Moraga, and Deva Rajan of Canyon Construction, a local "sustainable builder."

The Council struggled with how to address the green building issue for over an hour before councilmember Dave Trotter, an attorney, proposed the language which ultimately was adopted. The final vote to amend the Design Guidelines was

3 to 2, with Trotter, the swing vote on the Council, siding with Deschambault and Councilmember Ken Chew, an engineering project manager. Mayor Mike Metcalf, an engineer retired from Chevron, and Councilmember Rochelle Bird, a former aide to Republican Assemblyman Guy Houston, were in the minority. During the discussion Metcalf and Bird, and at times Trotter, expressed the view that an ordinance might be a better way to approach the green building issue, but that approach would have delayed action on the issue. The Council majority preferred to act quickly to take advantage of the opportunity, as Chew stated, to apply the green building provision to the new Palos Colorado subdivision, approval of which is currently pending before the Town.

## 24 Hour Fitness Move Approved

**By Steve Angelides**  
The Moraga Planning Commission and Design Review Board have approved the move of 24 Hour Fitness from 594 Moraga Rd. to 351 Rheem Blvd., the former location of Intematix Corporation.

The new 24 Hour Fitness Super Sport facility will accommodate 135 people, including employees, at any given time. It will feature state of the art materials and provide cardiac equipment, personal training, and exercise classes for its clientele.

Interior plans include a workout room, an aerobics room, Kids Club, locker room and office areas.

On June 4, 2007 the Planning Commission approved the use permit for the new facility, and the lot and landscaping plans. Lot and landscaping improvements approved include benches, bicycle racks, motorcycle parking, 6 new tree wells, and trimming of existing street trees along Rheem Blvd.

On July 9, 2007, the Design

Review Board approved the exterior design. This includes a new entry gable with clay tile and stucco fascia, a new glass storefront, and new signage. The existing entry doors are to be relocated to the left side of the front elevation.

The existing facility is quite small and has limited hours. The use permit approved by the Planning Commission for the new larger facility permits the hours to be extended to 24 hours, at the option of its operators.

## Albany Lures Moraga Parks & Rec Director

**By Steve Angelides**  
The City of Albany has lured Parks and Recreation Director Penelope Leach away from Moraga.

During her two year tenure in Moraga Leach's major accomplishments included overseeing the development of the nearly completed Parks & Recreation Master Plan, reinstating the Town's own recreation program after a three year partnership with Lafayette, and successfully organizing the Town's first triathlon.

"Leaving Moraga was a difficult decision," said Leach, "One I struggled over for quite some time. The struggle came from thinking about all the things about Moraga that I love. The Parks and Recreation Commission is the best there is. The Town staff is nothing short of incredible and I will miss working with all of them. The volunteerism in Moraga is amazing and the community groups are so generous with their do-

nations and their time; they are to be commended. Albany will have a tough act to follow!"

"She gave us two years of very good work," said Mayor Mike Metcalf, "but frankly we just can't compete with Albany; they have passed four bond measures, she has a staff of seven, and a very, very generous compensation package," Metcalf explained.

Town Manager Phil Vince praised Leach in an e-mail to Town officials announcing her resignation. "Penelope almost single-handedly resurrected the Parks/Rec/Open Space department in only two years—quite a feat," Vince wrote. "She will be missed, but I wish her the best in her exciting new adventures with the City of Albany."

Leach assures Moraga residents, "The recreation department will continue to grow. This first sea-

son our goal was to offer a few new classes along with the regularly offered classes and to get the new Activity Guide created. I really think everyone will like the "new look". The guide should arrive at homes by early August." Moraga is currently recruiting for Leach's replacement. The starting salary being offered is up to \$93,000 per year.

**Moraga Parks and Recreation Foundation presents:**  
**2007 Free Summer Concert Series**  
Thursdays at the Moraga Commons Park  
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

- Thursday, July 26  
Mixed Nuts; Decades of Rock
- Thursday, August 2  
littledog2; Rock 'N Roll
- Thursday, August 9  
Juke Joint; Blues
- Thursday, August 16  
Ventana; Latin
- Thursday, August 23  
Celtic Heart; Irish



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3 to 2, with Trotter, the swing vote on the Council, siding with Deschambault and Councilmember Ken Chew, an engineering project manager. Mayor Mike Metcalf, an engineer retired from Chevron, and Councilmember Rochelle Bird, a former aide to Republican Assemblyman Guy Houston, were in the minority. During the discussion Metcalf and Bird, and at times Trotter, expressed the view that an ordinance might be a better way to approach the green building issue, but that approach would have delayed action on the issue. The Council majority preferred to act quickly to take advantage of the opportunity, as Chew stated, to apply the green building provision to the new Palos Colorado subdivision, approval of which is currently pending before the Town.

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# Lamorinda Community, Calendar, Agendas, Notes, News

# Orinda

Calendar	
City Council	7pm
Auditorium, Orinda Library 26 Orinda Way Wednesday, Aug 21	
Planning Comm.	7pm
Sarge Littlehale Conf. Room City Hall, 22 Orinda Way Tuesday, Aug 14	
Public Safety Comm.	7pm
Community Room at City Hall 22 Orinda Way Thursday, Aug 9	
Hist. Landmark Comm.	3pm
Gallery Room, Upper Level 26 Orinda Way Monday, Aug 28	
Liaison	8:30am
Community Room at City Hall 22 Orinda Way No Meeting in August	
check online: Town of Orinda: <a href="http://www.ci.orinda.ca.us/">http://www.ci.orinda.ca.us/</a> for: • all meeting notes • calendar updates	



Postal worker notes Suspicious Activity 7/9  
White male, 23 was seen by a US Postal Service worker acting suspiciously near a residential mailbox. Subject was seen with mail in his possession and when confronted, returned the mail to the mailbox and departed the scene. The physical description of subject and the vehicle he was driving matched the descriptions of the suspect and vehicle seen in the area during previous mail thefts. The subject was later arrested.

Smile for the camera 7/15  
Subject entered Orinda Country Club and removed floral arrangements valued at \$1800. The former employee captured on the video surveillance camera was not authorized to remove them.

Unlocked car results in theft 7/15  
Sunglasses, shoes, jackets, computer bag, CD's and a Sony DVD player were taken from victim's unlocked car while parked in her driveway on Glorietta Blvd sometime between Sat., 7/14 at 11:00pm and Sun, 7/15 at 6:00am. No one was seen or heard. No leads, No evidence recovered.



## This Guy's Out to Get You - In Our Paper!

We neglected to give photographer Tod Fierner due credit for all of the wonderful 4th of July photos from Orinda that appeared in our last issue. Thank you, Tod! ~The LW Team

## Orinda Country Club Swim Team

### for the Dogs

By Jennifer Wake



From left to right: Katie Woodward with Roxy, Jackie Post with Libby, Cheryl Allen with Ellis, and Brooke Woodward with Tanner stand in front of swimmers at OCC swim-a-thon. Photos by Jennifer Wake

For the past several years, the Orinda Country Club (OCC) Sharks have sponsored an annual swim-a-thon as a way to give back to their community. On Monday, July 16, nearly 250 OCC swimmers took to the pool to raise money for PAWS with a Cause – a non-profit agency that trains assistance dogs to act as helpers for people with disabilities.

OCC members Katie and Brooke Woodward have a special understanding of the organization: For the past year, their family has raised Tanner – a future PAWS assistance dog.

“Tanner has been around the OCC swim team for two summers now and so many of the kids really know him and like him,” Katie said. The swim-a-thon was a way to really show the kids what Tanner will be able to do when he finishes college and to raise money to help the organization. It costs almost \$18,000 and takes over two years to train a dog to be ready to be certified and given to its new owner.”



PAWS Assistance Dog, Libby, shows off some of her skills to swimmers.

Dogs like Tanner are specially trained to meet the unique needs of their partner. Before a dog is placed, PAWS comes to the client's home and video tapes them doing difficult tasks that the dog will be trained to help with, such as pulling open doors, turning light switches on/off, or picking up an object as small as a dime. Dogs can even be trained to act as a brace to help people back to their feet after a fall.

Before Cheryl Allen re-

ceived her dog Ellis six months ago, she couldn't walk up ramps or stairs by herself, needed help standing up from chairs, and would frequently fall down, unable to get up by herself.

“Ramps were out of the question, so my husband would have to wheel chair me around. If I dropped something, and tried to pick it up, I would fall,” Allen said. “Ellis now picks stuff up for me, or he'll get help if I fall. He's opened more than just doors (literally) for me. He's opened the opportunity for me to go out.”

After an extensive review process, dogs like Ellis are given to clients free of charge. Allen said she wouldn't have been able to have a dog, if she had been required to pay for it.

Orinda resident and PAWS Field Representative Jackie Post says events like the swim-a-thon not only raise much needed funds, but help spread the word about this unique organization. “We're always looking for puppy raisers to help the puppies with socialization,” Post said. Since

dogs might need to be on a bus every day, or in a crowded office building, Post said puppies need to get out a lot and to different places.

In addition to the money raised at the OCC swim-a-thon, two families signed up to be puppy raisers. To learn more about puppy raising or for more information about PAWS with a Cause, visit <http://www.pawswithacause.org/>

## Dam Boat Fun

By Cathy Tyson

Looking for an entertaining, last minute outing with the kids this summer? The San Pablo Recreation Area has relatively inexpensive boat rentals available, no reservation necessary. For as little as \$12.00 an hour, a rowboat can be yours to paddle around and enjoy the sunshine. Even adding in the user fee of \$6.00, reduced to \$2.00 after 4:00, it's a pretty good deal and so darn close to home for Lamorindans.

Rental rowboats, kayaks, motorboats and pontoon/patio boats are available for hourly, half day and full day use. Renters must be 18 years old, have a driver's license, and provide a deposit via credit card or cash. During the week, it's usually quiet, with plenty of available space for picnics, hikes, and a playground for the younger set. There's even a snack bar, open daily, near the boat rentals that has ice cream, sandwiches, even beer and sodas for pooped paddlers. Because this is an EBMUD drinking water reservoir, no body contact with the water like swimming or wading is allowed. Call (510) 223-1661 for more information.

### Dam Retrofit

Some time ago, it was found that the dam was vulnerable to earthquake damage, after all it was constructed in 1920, and it's done well these last 87 years. In the 1960s and again in the 1970s retrofitting was done, but according to new testing the soil has shown some weakness that could cause flooding. So starting in January of 2008, and scheduled to be



Left to right: Adventure Day Camp's Jaime, with Katie, Alison and Eleanor



Front: Alexis Odei, Oakland; Middle: Samantha Jones, Concord; In the back: Katie from England, Adventure Day Camp

completed in 2010, seismic retrofitting will begin on the outer side of the dam. “The EIR is complete and community meetings have been held,” EBMUD spokesperson Charles Hardy says. “It's in better shape than we thought.” Until construction is completed the usual water level of 13 billion gallons has been drawn down to 8 million gallons for the safety reasons and in anticipation of the upcoming repairs.

With the water level down, the fish are more concentrated, a boon to fishermen. In addition, with the economy down, and gas prices up the



Oni Massi (9) of Oakland at camp for her 3rd summer

reservoir is a bit quieter than usual. Just follow Camino Pablo northbound out of Orinda. The road changes names to San Pablo Dam Road, look for the large body of water, you can't miss it.

Are you active in Town? Do you enjoy attending Council or Planning Meetings? Become a Contributing Reporter for the Lamorinda Weekly! Your impartial reporting of issues is more important than your previous writing experience. Email us at [info@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:info@lamorindaweekly.com) or call 925-330-1983



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# Life in LAMORINDA

## Want to Stave off Home Burglary?

### Know Thy Neighbor

By Jennifer Wake

On the Monday of Memorial Day weekend, Carole Hagglund and her husband, Jay, decided to return early to their Lafayette home after their weekend trip. It was 1 p.m. when Hagglund went through her back gate to check on her plants while her husband brought their bags in through the front door.

In the backyard, Hagglund was greeted by two large men, whom she assumed were there to work on the pool or were part of her gardener's crew. "I am a very naïve and trusting person," she said. "I am used to seeing unfamiliar guys in our backyard. I asked what they were doing and they gave me the standard line: They were looking for the Johnson's."

As they walked past me towards their car parked on the street, I began to follow them."

Her husband yelled for her to get back in the house and to call 911. "That's when I knew something was wrong," she said. The Hagglund's master bedroom sliding door had been forced open with a crow bar; pillow cases and duffle bags sat filled with the couple's belongings on the floor.

Although the Lamorinda area has one of the lowest crime rates in California, it is not immune from crime. Between January and April 2007, Lafayette had 23 home burglaries and 23 car thefts, according to the Lafayette Police. And Police Chief Mike Hubbard says when summer vacations ramp up, so does criminal activity.

"This is the time of year that most folks start to gear up for the vacation season. Unfortunately the burglars start to gear up for the season as well," Hubbard wrote on the City Manager's Web site. With 42 sworn police officers on staff in the three Lamorinda communi-

ties, neighborhood watch programs are an important component to crime prevention, but neighbors need to get involved.

Lior Rubin, owner of Global Security Systems in Moraga, says if you do not have an alarm system, a key deterrent to home burglary is to know your neighbors. "Some victims of burglary have had their homes completely emptied by what appeared to be a moving company. The neighbors saw the truck arrive and watched the men empty the house," Lior said. "They didn't call the police because they assumed the neighbor, whom



they hardly knew, was moving."

Lior suggests informing each other when workers are scheduled to be at your home so impostors can't steal valuables. "If your neighbor hasn't informed you of the work to be done, call the police," he said.

Chief Hubbard suggests having someone pick up your newspaper or mail (burglars are now able to find out who has discontinued a newspaper while on vacation); set light timers at alternate times and different locations throughout the house; trim foliage near entryways; don't announce vacations on voicemail; unplug your garage door opener and lock all windows and doors.

The Hagglund's did lock their house, but admit they did



some things wrong: they left newspapers on the driveway, mail in the mailbox, and parked their second car in the garage versus the driveway. Hagglund applauded the police response to their call, but feels there are not enough police in Lafayette.

"Although we wrote down the license plate number [of the burglar's vehicle], and found the owner of the car, no one has been able to follow up," said Hagglund, who was disappointed about the recent failure of Measure P, which would have funded more police officers in the area. "The police who came were terrific, but there just aren't enough of them to investigate this further."

The Hagglands are considering hiring a retired police officer to continue their investigation. They have also installed an alarm system and have started a neighborhood watch program.

For more information about what you can do to protect your home, contact your local police department or view home safety tips at [www.globalsecuritysystems.net](http://www.globalsecuritysystems.net).

## Golf - MCC vs. OCC?

By Cathy Tyson

What a dilemma, a free afternoon and a desire to play golf. Where does one go in Lamorinda? The decision is easy if you're a member of a club, it not, you need to get an invitation from a pal at either the Moraga Country Club or the Orinda Country Club.

Moraga Country Club (MCC), located on Moraga Way is hard to miss, as part of it fronts this busy road, and winds along behind Miramonte High School. The other, Orinda Country Club (OCC), is tucked away on winding Camino Sobrante off the beaten path. Both clubs have tennis courts, pools and golf courses that will be buzzing all summer long. The golf, however, is distinctly different between the clubs.

Moraga Country Club was initially founded in 1973 as a 9-hole course according to Randy Kahn, the Director of Golf. Homeowners in the "Club" automatically are members, and their monthly dues reflect charges for upkeep of the golf course as well as the tennis courts and the pools. Around 1992 - 1993 the Board of Directors decided to expand the golf course to 18 holes and created a new group, Associate Members, which are equity members but don't live on the premises. Right now there are 521 Homeowner members and 380 Associate Members.

"Some of the best things about the Club are its friendly members, its location in the hills - the visuals are unmatched in the valley, and the greens on 12 and 14 - which have very unconventional designs," reflects Kahn. When he first started working here 13 years ago, the average age of the membership was solidly senior, but there has been

a continual shift toward younger families joining, reflecting the turnover of homes inside and outside the club.

Bob McLaughlin, former Men's Golf Association President says, "I like the course because it's challenging. It makes you a better golfer because there are so many difficult holes. The people are great, too. A bunch of family-oriented guys that like to have a good time."

The Orinda Country Club has been around since 1924. Willie Watson, who had just finished the Olympic Club in San Francisco, designed the 18-hole course. But the Club history goes back even farther. Way back in 1887, the deLaveaga brothers, Miguel and Jose bought 1,178 acres north of what is now Highway 24. Miguel's son, E.I. deLaveaga developed the community including the Haciendas del Orinda subdivision, water plant, firehouse, and village to serve the residents of the small enclave. The stately clubhouse has the classic look one might expect of a country club, and has only gotten more attractive over the years with necessary renovations and upgrades.

"I love the course, its steeped in tradition," says Mike Vigo, longtime member, who had served in the past on the Greens Committee. "What you see is what you get, its not tricked up. The golf course is competitive, but fair. Before the 1940's courses were designed that melded with the landscape, there were no bunkers in the middle of the landing area that you might see with a course designed today. It's a challenge every time you play it." He adds the friendly members and staff make it special.



Shim LaGoy at Orinda Country Club Photo by Tod Fierner

Shim LaGoy, Head Golf Professional at the Orinda Country Club says, "the clientele is the best thing about the Club. Members include business executives, kings of corporations, great athletes, a real cross section of professional people." OCC is unique in that it is a private equity club. The members own it. To play you must be invited by and accompanied by a member.

Recently two other golf courses have come and gone, at least on paper. Wilder, formerly the Gateway development and Palos Colorados had at one point, golf courses included in their plans. Nowadays, MCC and OCC are the only games in town.

Read online at:

<http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/html/read.html>

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[www.lafayettecommunityfoundation.org](http://www.lafayettecommunityfoundation.org) and [www.ci.lafayette.ca.us](http://www.ci.lafayette.ca.us)

Printed copies available at  
City Offices, Library, Chamber of Commerce

**Applications accepted and interviews conducted throughout the summer. Final deadline to apply is September 14.**

Please return applications to LLLCF, PO Box 1472, Lafayette, CA 94549  
For further information call 925.283.6513

## Not to be missed

**California Shakespeare Theater Presents "Man and Superman"** by George Bernard Shaw through July 29th. "The Triumph of Love" by Pierre Marivaux, adapted and directed by Lillian Groag.  
August 8 - September 2  
Tue-Wed-Thurs 7:30pm (except for pre-view nights which are at 8:00pm the first Wednesday and Thursday of each show)  
Fri-Sat 8:00 pm, Sunday 4:00 pm, Bruns Amphitheater, Orinda  
For more information or to purchase tickets, call the Cal Shakes Box Office at (510) 548-9666 or visit www.calshakes.org

**"My Three Angels"**  
Sponsored by Orinda Starlight Village Player's thru August 4th  
Fridays & Saturdays, at 8:30PM;  
Sunday, July 29th at 4PM  
Thursday, August 2nd at 8PM  
26 Orinda Way, at the Orinda Community Center Outside Amphitheater. Adult \$15, senior/student \$7.50, group rates available  
No Reservations needed. (925)253-1191

**Performing Live at Joe's of Lafayette**  
Fri., July 27, Opie Bella's Quartet. Sat., July 28, Black Olive Jazz. All shows play in the dining room for dinner 7-10 pm unless otherwise specified. For more information see www.joesofflafayette.com. Or call 299-2924

**Free Live Music in Orinda's Theatre Square**  
5:30 - 8:30 every Thursday night  
July 26th - Ben Oni Orchestra- Big Band. August 2nd - The Adrian Gormley Ensemble- jazz. August 9th - The Final Four- Retro Beatles Style. August 16th - Shan Kenner- Spanish, Flamenco Guitar. August 23rd - Michael Robinson Band.

**Golden Gate Boy's Choir Parents Day Concert**  
Free and open to the public  
Saturday, August 11, 2007 at 2:00 pm.  
Diocesan Youth Retreat Center 977 Reliez Valley Road Family friendly program of choral music, handbell ringing and Orff instrumentation. We especially invite families with boys, age 7-12 interested in GGBC membership.

**Orinda Library Gallery- Group Show** Through -August 17, 2007  
M-Friday, 10-6 pm, Sunday 1-5 pm. (925)254-2184  
The Oakland Art Association presents a Group Show of all media: paintings, drawings, photography, collage, mono-printing, etchings, small sculpture and woodcuts created by Bay Area local artists at the Orinda Library Gallery in Orinda through August 17th. The show will be judged by Charlotte Huntley, an avid watercolor artist who has proven to be a popular Demonstrator, knowledgeable Juror, inspiring Workshop Instructor and award winning author. Orinda Library, 24 Orinda Way, Gallery Room, Upper Level

**"Capturing the Light"**  
Photography Show  
Through August 11, 2007  
Wenda Pyman, the featured artist in this group show, specializes in landscape, scenic and travel photography, with special emphasis on local East Bay and Diablo scenes. Her vast body of work reflects her all-consuming passion to capture nature's diverse patterns and

imagery through the use of natural light.  
Moraga Art Gallery (Rheem Valley Shopping Center)  
570 Center St., Moraga, CA 94556.  
Free. Open Tuesday through Sunday, 12-5 pm. (925)376- 5407

**"Some Like it Hot"**  
Presented by the Lafayette Gallery - through August 4th. An exhibit that features Lafayette Gallery arties presenting works in a variety of media including acrylics, collage, photography, jewelry, oils, ceramics, and much more - 50 Lafayette Circle open Tuesday - Saturday from 11am - 5pm - for more information contact 284-2788 or www.lafayettegallery.net.

**FREE SAT/ACT Kaplan Test Prep at the Moraga Library**  
Practice SAT/ACT Combo Test (Code: SKBK7052)  
Sat, August 11, 2007 8:30am-1:30pm.  
SAT and ACT Test Strategies 101 (CODE: SKBK7054)  
Tues, August 21, 2007 7-8pm  
www.kaptest.com/college or call 1-800-KAPTEST to register  
Space is limited, so sign up today!  
Moraga Library 1500 St. Mary's Rd. 376-6852 ccclib.org

**Panache® & Pot Luck**  
Sunday July 29th at the Lafayette Pé-tanque field Registration to play is at 10:00 am Located on Saint Mary's road, just a few blocks south of the Community Center. This promises to be a great day of pétanque with all our own members and our friends for other clubs. "Panache" is a tournament where you do not chose your partners, and at every game you play with someone else. New comers and beginners of all ages are welcome. Just bring a dish to share or come by to see how this fun game is played.

**Fireside Chat with Mindy LeVu**  
Tuesday, July 31 at 7 p.m.  
The Orinda Library presents a Fireside Chat with Attorney Mindy LeVu who is writing a book about her remarkable life journey from Vietnamese refugee to Staff Attorney for a U.S. District Court Judge in San Jose. The program will take place inside the library, beside the fireplace, which allows for a casual, intimate atmosphere. Free of Charge- about 1 hour The Orinda Library, 26 Orinda (925)254-2184 or www.ccclib.org.

**Lamorinda Libertarian Party Meeting** Tuesday, August 22, 7:00 pm  
Round Table Pizza, 3637 Mount Diablo Blvd, Lafayette

**Concert in the Park- Orinda**  
Tuesday, July 31st,  
Cal Alumni Big Band (Big Band Jazz)  
Tuesday, August 7th,  
Mixed Nuts (Oldies, Rock, Disco, Blues)  
Orinda Community Center Park  
Bring a picnic, FREE 6:30 -8:30 pm

**Free Summer Concert- Moraga**  
Thursday July 26th,  
Mixed Nuts, Decades of Rock  
Thursday, August 2,  
littledog2, Rock 'N Roll.  
Moraga Commons Park, 6:30 - 8:30pm

**"Rock the Plaza"**  
Free Concerts in Lafayette's Plaza - Mt Diablo Blvd/Moraga Rd  
6:00pm Friday Evening  
August 3rd: Good Question  
August 10th: Stone Soup

### Campus Happenings

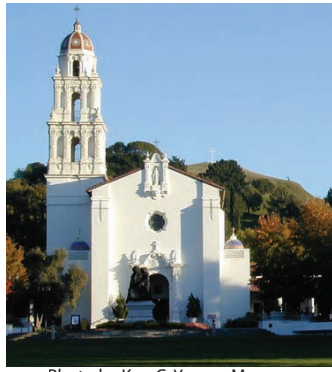


Photo by Ken C. Young, Moraga; www.kcyoungfineartimages.com

**Special Events:**  
**"Gatka Workshop"**  
Gatka uses various weapons and hand-to-hand techniques to train the body and mind to work together and instill the qualities of a warrior: bravery, courage, spirit and self-discipline. Come learn this exciting Sikh Martial Art with Hargobind Singh Khalsa, Gatka Instructor from the esteemed Miri Piri Academy in Amritsar, India. Saturday, Aug. 4 from 9 a.m. to noon Hearst Art Gallery Lawn, across from the Soda Center at SMC. Tickets: \$40 advanced (before July 28), \$50 at door.  
For information on advanced registration, call Nam Hari Kaur (925) 283-5464

**"The 3rd Annual Grand Wine Tasting Event"**  
Organized by the Saint Mary's College Alumni Association to raise money for student scholarships, the event will include a silent auction and light hors d'oeuvres. Participating wineries include Hess, Trefethen, Clos du Val, Orsi Papale, Concannon, Thomas Coyne, Michael Pozzan, and many more. Enjoy wine tasting as you bid on auction items, including a seven-day Windstar cruise for two, Giants and A's tickets, cases of wine, artwork, jewelry, and weekend get-a-ways. Sunday, Aug. 5 from 2 to 5 p.m.  
Soda Activity Center  
Saint Mary's College  
Tickets are \$35 per person.  
For tickets, call the Alumni Office at 925-631-4200 (Guests must be 21 and over). Visit http://stmmarys-ca.edu/wine for a complete list of participating wineries and auction items.

**Art Exhibitions/Lectures: Biennial Contemporary Landscape** Exhibition - "Town and Country: Jessica Dunne and Louis LaBrie"  
On view through Aug. 12  
Hearst Art Gallery

**"William Keith: The 1880s Paintings"**  
Works from the 1880s, which marked a decade of great changes in William Keith's life. On view in the William Keith Room  
Hearst Art Gallery  
Gallery hours: Wednesdays through Sundays, 11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., \$2 admission

For more information about upcoming events at Saint Mary's College, visit the college website at [www.stmarys-ca.edu/news\\_events/](http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/news_events/).

## Fire Up the Tiki Torches; It's Time for a Luau!

**By Sophie Braccini**  
With stars in his eyes, Ken Tom, the vice-president of the Chamber of Commerce of Moraga, recalls the luaus at his Maui home. "We had many festive occasions at our house," he remembers, "lots of music, great food, laughter, dancers and good company." So when the Chamber looked to update its annual fund raising event, Tom naturally proposed the familiar party theme.

Moraga residents may remember the Chamber's annual Stampede BBQ, which has been shelved this year in favor of an event at which neighbors and families can all join in the fun. The Luau will be held on Saturday, August 25, from 5 to 10 PM on the field of the Old Moraga Ranch, across from Safeway on School Street. A stage will be built for the musicians and dancers, and tables for 500 guests will be set. Diners will be treated to an authentic Hawaiian buffet prepared by Kauai Abreu Ohana, formerly from Kauai, and Gourmet Bistro of Moraga. It will include Kalua Pork, Lomi Salmon,



Macadamia Mahi-mahi, steamed rice, Poi, sweet Haupia and many other delights. Guests will enjoy two hours of live Hawaiian and Tahitian entertainment by Kamaile and Da Island Way.

Other activities include learning how to make an authentic flower lei. A raffle will conclude the evening. The first prize is a trip for two to Hawaii for a 5 day stay at the famous Waikiki Beach Marriott, and includes \$600 credit toward air fare. Raffle tickets will be sold the night of the event.

This event is the main fund raiser of the Chamber of Commerce of Moraga. The money raised allows the Chamber to initiate and support such events as the Season of

Lights, Shop Moraga First, the Merchant's Fair, the Energy and Safety Fair, the Emergency Preparedness Plan for Businesses and the Farmers' Market. Ken Tom invites you to, "Come and participate with your family in an event like our town has never seen before. Have fun and support your business community."

Get more information and tickets online at [www.moragaluau.com](http://www.moragaluau.com) or at the UPS store in the Moraga Center. Advanced tickets are \$45 for adults and \$10 for children 6-12 years old, and respectively \$50 and \$15 at the door. Children 5 and under party for free.

### Event Schedule:

- 5:00 PM - Lei-making (\$4/lei, ages 10+)
- 6:00 PM - No host bar with lei greetings
- 6:45 PM - Dinner served
- 7:45 PM - Entertainment by Kamaile Productions
- 8:45 PM - Entertainment by Da Island Ways

## "Planet Widow" Author Speaks at Moraga Library

**By Jennifer Wake**  
Most people don't expect tragedy to strike them, but when it does, Lafayette resident Gloria Lenhart says it's best to be prepared. After her husband died suddenly of a heart attack nine years ago, Lenhart - then at age 42 - was faced with the terror of the unknown as well as the loose ends of wills, insurance and custody that had been put off for another day.  
In her book, "Planet Widow" (Seal Press, 2006), Lenhart describes not only the emotional struggles she and her family faced, but the bureaucracy and paperwork surrounding her husband's death, and the difficulties of dealing with grief in our society. She will be discussing her book, her thoughts on widowhood, and how others can write their own story on Tuesday, July 31 at 7 p.m. at the Moraga Library.

"There are lots of things I've learned about grief, about being a widow," Lenhart writes.  
"Planet Widow" follows the days and months after her husband Nick's death, the roller coaster of emotion that ensued and the turmoil that was created. Unlike a typical memoir, Lenhart allows the reader to follow her through this difficult time without seeming pitiful, offering insight into the outlandish behavior of a culture no longer accustomed to death.  
Far from maudlin, Lenhart's book is a poignant, frank story filled with complex, sometimes quirky, characters. It is an enjoyable read containing pithy dialogue that keeps the pages turning. In addition to a well-written story, however, the book offers valuable suggestions for all of us.

Lenhart encapsulates what she learned with these six thoughts: "Funerals are important; everyone will want you to get over it fast (you won't); grief is not a road (it's a roller coaster); some people can't deal with death (at all); life insurance allows you time to grieve (so make sure you have enough); and finally, get your legal stuff in order (no excuses, do it now)."  
Unlike many of us, when death happens, Lenhart now knows what to do.  
"I watched the people around us shrink away from the proximity of death, afraid of facing the possibility of their own mortality," Lenhart says in her book. "For me and my sons, death is not scary. It's not unfamiliar. It's not extraordinary. It's just something that happens. And it is something that we know how to help someone get through."

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# Life in LAMORINDA

## Colleges Vie for International Students in Ever-Smaller World

By Jennifer Wake



Lin Larson

Photo by Jennifer Wake

Having international students on college campuses is nothing new, but what has changed in recent years is the fierce competition to garner those qualified applicants from abroad.

According to the Educational Information and Resources Branch of the U.S. Department of State, more than \$13 billion dollars flooded into the United States economy during 2004-05 in the form of tuition, books, and lodging from international students – more than \$2 billion of that in California alone. As a way to entice students to come here, Colleges and universities like Saint Mary's College offer scholarships to help offset some of the costs.

"When a student applies, if they meet the academic and language proficiency requirements, they qualify for a merit scholarship of \$8,000 a year," said Lin Larson, Senior Assistant Director and Coordinator of International Admissions at Saint Mary's. "Other countries (such as Australia, Malaysia, the U.K., and New Zealand) have national funding for international student recruitment efforts."

Following 9/11, more regulations were put into place which hampered the ability for international students to study in the United States, but thanks to educational efforts by the Association for International Educators

(NAFSA), the Institute of International Education (IIE), and professionals such as Larson, that the process is now smoother.

"People understand these are students and scholars trying to come for an education," Larson said. "Everyone will benefit from the shared experience."

Although Larson agrees there is an economic component to bringing students here from other countries, her main reason to bring students to the college is more profound. "If we bring students here to sit down and at least understand their differences, maybe we can stop the fear and stop the hate," she said. "Then I'll know I am doing my job."

Last fall, Saint Mary's College had 64 international students attending classes, as opposed to approximately 150 in the 1980s. Larson would like to have about 30 new international students enroll per fall semester in the next three to five years, and travels the world to find them.

"It's a fabulous opportunity for students to learn from one another," said Larson, who encourages local students to study abroad. Saint Mary's international students are more than willing to share their culture, food, and music with schools, community groups and in public forums. "It's an issue of sharing and diversifying. If you look at it in the big picture, with the advent of the Internet and the ease of travel, the world has gotten smaller. It's a disadvantage to keep students isolated from the rest of the world."

## Help For Organizing the End of Life

By Cathy Tyson



Terry Ann Black

Photo provided

It all started with a safe deposit key found after her father-in-law's death. There was no information as to the bank or what was inside. That motivated Lafayette resident Terry Ann Black to start her own business, Caring Is Not Enough, giving speeches to community groups and writing a book to document last wishes and personal records. Her goal is, "to offer a simple and efficient way to prepare crucial information before the end of life. The book makes vital information conveniently available when a person dies."

She wants families to achieve peace of mind, including Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transgender (LGBT). To that end, she has a LGBT edition with specific questions suited to their unique needs. There are also Spanish and Chinese editions available.

As a registered Nurse for more than 40 years she saw many life and death experiences when she was working in the Emergency Room.

The booklet makes it easy,

with a fill in the blank format with 120 specific questions about the obvious, wills and funeral wishes, to the not so obvious like where is the pink slip to your vehicle and what is the password to your voicemail? It's these details that can drive an executor crazy.

That's where Ms. Black's colleague comes in. Cari Hays owns and operates Executor Con-

sulting Services (ECS). With a Masters Degree in Project Management and experience in social work and mental health, she helps executors deal with the non-legal aspects of resolving an estate. Especially when family members are out of state, she offers a unique service to help sort through a lifetime's worth of stuff and give the executor guidance and support.

Together Ms. Black and Ms. Hays goal is to approach communities and organizations as a team to discuss end of life issues. Although their companies are separate entities, they feel that together they can offer a synergy of ideas and talents.

For more information, please contact Terry Ann Black of Caring Is Not Enough through her website, www.caringisnote-nough.net. Cari Hays of Executor Consulting Services can be reached through her website, www.executorconsulting.com.

## Food Scrap Recycling – Giving Back to Nature ... continued from page 1

Your kitchen container is designed to fit nicely and unobtrusively in the kitchen. The idea is to make your container readily accessible so it's easy to recycle food scraps and applicable paper wastes. The container can be hung on the inside of your sink cupboard door, so scraps can easily be discarded during food preparation and cleanup. You can help keep the container odor free by lining it with paper (one of the many uses for an old copy of your Lamorinda Weekly).

Lamorinda will be joining a host of other cities already engaged in the program. For example, in Alameda County about 70 percent of the 378,000 households are participating in this vital program. According to Brian Mathews of Stopwaste.org, "To date, in Alameda County, about 6,500 tons of food residuals and soiled paper are being diverted each year" from our landfills.

Food scraps and food-soiled paper represent the largest unrecycled portion of our residential waste stream. When dumped

into nearby landfill, they not only take up room but generate methane gas, a contributor to global warming. By turning food scraps into compost, residents help achieve three vital goals: they save landfill space, they reduce the threat of global warming and they create compost for local farmers and landscapers.

After collection, your scrap food and paper are on their way to the BFI Recyclery on Newby Island in Milpitas. At the facility, the food and paper wastes are combined with other green wastes for processing through in either a CBI or Diamond Z grinder. Finally, they are deposited in windrows for the final composting process. The composted material is sold to farmers and landscapers for a wide variety of agricultural and gardening purposes. In addition to supporting a more sustainable way of life, this process significantly reduces the amount of trash you generate; the use of a smaller blue garbage container might just save you a little money in the long run.

write to the editor:  
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**Lamorinda Home Sales continued**



<b>LAFAYETTE</b>	Last reported: 18
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$500,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$1,850,000
<b>MORAGA</b>	Last reported: 14
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$495,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$3,082,000
<b>ORINDA</b>	Last reported: 19
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$475,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$2,225,000

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**  
 962 3rd Street, \$1,080,000, 3 Bdrms, 1845 SqFt, 1979 YrBl, 6-28-07  
 3611 Brook Street, \$1,195,000, 3 Bdrms, 2929 SqFt, 1979 YrBl, 6-29-07  
 3633 Chestnut Street, \$705,000, 2 Bdrms, 913 SqFt, 1941 YrBl, 6-22-07  
 4091 Coralee Lane, \$1,399,000, 3 Bdrms, 1592 SqFt, 1975 YrBl, 7-3-07  
 4139 Coralee Lane, \$1,062,000, 3 Bdrms, 2991 SqFt, 1962 YrBl, 6-29-07  
 2 Gilmore Court, \$1,050,000, 4 Bdrms, 2318 SqFt, 1954 YrBl, 6-29-07  
 3265 Gloria Terrace, \$790,000, 3 Bdrms, 1457 SqFt, 1954 YrBl, 6-28-07  
 3486 Hamlin Road, \$1,050,000, 4 Bdrms, 2023 SqFt, 1953 YrBl, 6-22-07  
 3504 Hamlin Road, \$1,850,000, 5 Bdrms, 1858 SqFt, 1949 YrBl, 6-27-07  
 1319 Martino Road, \$1,150,000, 3 Bdrms, 1609 SqFt, 1941 YrBl, 6-26-07  
 3145 Plymouth Road, \$800,000, 3 Bdrms, 1538 SqFt, 1952 YrBl, 6-21-07  
 3603 Powell Drive, \$1,250,000, 3 Bdrms, 1957 SqFt, 1938 YrBl, 6-27-07  
 3059 Rohrer Drive, \$1,240,000, 4 Bdrms, 2272 SqFt, 1972 YrBl, 6-21-07  
 3166 Stanley Boulevard, \$785,000, 3 Bdrms, 1124 SqFt, 1951 YrBl, 6-25-07  
 3290 Sweet Drive, \$500,000, 3 Bdrms, 1344 SqFt, 1951 YrBl, 6-25-07  
 3276 Theresa Lane, \$880,000, 5 Bdrms, 2092 SqFt, 1960 YrBl, 6-27-07  
 847 Topper Lane, \$1,350,000, 3 Bdrms, 1980 SqFt, 1951 YrBl, 6-21-07  
 1140 Vallecito Court, \$1,674,000, 3 Bdrms, 2635 SqFt, 1950 YrBl, 6-29-07
- MORAGA**  
 51 Ascot Place, \$628,000, 2 Bdrms, 1379 SqFt, 1973 YrBl, 6-26-07  
 403 Belfair Place, \$1,238,500, 4 Bdrms, 1768 SqFt, 1968 YrBl, 7-3-07  
 398 Birchwood Drive, \$1,262,500, 5 Bdrms, 2743 SqFt, 1969 YrBl, 6-21-07  
 1390 Camino Peral, \$555,000, 2 Bdrms, 1126 SqFt, 1971 YrBl, 6-21-07  
 1473 Camino Peral, \$495,000, 2 Bdrms, 1265 SqFt, 1973 YrBl, 6-27-07  
 2 Corte Azul, \$1,249,000, 4 Bdrms, 2340 SqFt, 1966 YrBl, 7-3-07  
 120 Cypress Point Way, \$1,750,000, 4 Bdrms, 3269 SqFt, 1973 YrBl, 7-3-07  
 451 Fernwood Drive, \$1,200,000, 3 Bdrms, 2210 SqFt, 1973 YrBl, 6-29-07  
 1 Kenneth Drive, \$3,082,000, 4 Bdrms, 5665 SqFt, 2001 YrBl, 7-3-07  
 95 Miramonte Drive, \$605,000, 2 Bdrms, 1514 SqFt, 1965 YrBl, 6-22-07  
 651 Moraga Road #15, \$530,000, 3 Bdrms, 1394 SqFt, 1962 YrBl, 6-28-07  
 269 Scofield Drive, \$895,000, 4 Bdrms, 1524 SqFt, 1960 YrBl, 7-2-07  
 448 Tharp Drive, \$950,000, 3 Bdrms, 1775 SqFt, 1965 YrBl, 6-28-07  
 1052 Wickham Drive, \$1,201,000, 4 Bdrms, 2189 SqFt, 1969 YrBl, 7-3-07
- ORINDA**  
 5 Altarina Circle, \$900,000, 2 Bdrms, 2081 SqFt, 1976 YrBl, 6-28-07  
 18 Camino Sobrante, \$1,465,000, 4 Bdrms, 2393 SqFt, 1946 YrBl, 6-22-07  
 13 Corte Sombrita, \$1,485,000, 3 Bdrms, 1444 SqFt, 1956 YrBl, 6-29-07  
 130 Crestview Drive, \$1,950,000, 3 Bdrms, 3460 SqFt, 1948 YrBl, 7-3-07  
 10 El Campanero, \$1,995,000, 6 Bdrms, 3542 SqFt, 1955 YrBl, 7-3-07  
 180 El Toyonal Road, \$515,000, 6-29-07  
 42 Heather Lane, \$1,300,000, 4 Bdrms, 2469 SqFt, 1954 YrBl, 6-28-07  
 624 Ironbark Circle, \$1,850,000, 5 Bdrms, 3259 SqFt, 1974 YrBl, 6-27-07  
 24 La Campana Road, \$2,225,000, 5 Bdrms, 2072 SqFt, 1939 YrBl, 6-21-07  
 103 La Espiral, \$1,440,000, 5 Bdrms, 2038 SqFt, 1977 YrBl, 6-29-07  
 154 La Espiral, \$1,280,000, 4 Bdrms, 1706 SqFt, 1953 YrBl, 6-21-07  
 27 Las Piedras, \$475,000, 6-27-07  
 9 Overhill Court, \$1,250,000, 5 Bdrms, 2338 SqFt, 1981 YrBl, 6-28-07  
 100 Ravenhill Road, \$935,000, 1 Bdrms, 1598 SqFt, 1974 YrBl, 6-22-07  
 74 Scenic Drive, \$1,950,000, 4 Bdrms, 3201 SqFt, 1956 YrBl, 6-26-07  
 45 Springfield Drive, \$1,131,500, 4 Bdrms, 2619 SqFt, 1954 YrBl, 7-3-07  
 120 Spring Road, \$740,000, 3 Bdrms, 1540 SqFt, 1973 YrBl, 6-22-07  
 56 Via Floreado, \$1,780,000, 5 Bdrms, 1604 SqFt, 1989 YrBl, 6-22-07

**'Green House' Movement Catching On With Home Buyers and Sellers**

By Val Cook-Watkins

Environmentally friendly, energy efficient homes have been around for years, but until recently, these "green" homes have amounted to little more than a niche market in real estate. Now there are signs that the green movement is finally making inroads into the mainstream housing market.

The term "green building" refers to construction or remodeling practices that increase a home's performance and enhance the health and experience of those who live in it. Among other things, a green home saves energy and water, reduces material use, minimizes waste, uses low-impact materials, and makes the building healthier.

One of the reasons green building and remodeling techniques are catching on, experts say, is that developers and homeowners have discovered that there are financial advantages to going green, in addition to the benefits of helping to protect the environment.

What makes a home "green?" According to the National Association of Realtors,



Energy-efficient windows being installed  
 Photo provided by Kattenburg Architects

A recent survey by Green Builder Media revealed that a growing number of homebuyers wanting to purchase environmentally friendly, green-built homes and are willing to pay a premium to do so.

The survey of 250 residential builders across the United States reported that 80 percent of their buyers said they preferred to purchase homes that incorporate sustainable or energy-efficient features. Of those buyers, half said they would be willing to pay 11-25 percent more for green-built homes. In the health-conscious Bay Area, those numbers may be even higher.

Not surprisingly, developers are responding to the demand. About 96 percent of the homebuilders surveyed reported that they intend to incorporate more green building materials and processes into their business in 2007.



Val Cook-Watkins, Manager of Coldwell Banker Northern California's Orinda office, provides the above tips. A 25-year real estate veteran, Watkins oversees a talented team of 78 real estate professionals in the East Bay. Her office is located at 5 Moraga Way in Orinda, and she can be reached at 925-253-4660 or by e-mail at vcookwatkins@cbrnocal.com.

"This shift in behavior and purchasing patterns confirms just how significant the green building movement is," said Sara Guterman, CEO of Green Builder Media. "Builders are buying green products because they feel it's important to both the environment and their businesses."

Existing homeowners are also discovering that home makeovers that incorporate green techniques can make their properties stand out from the crowd, commanding higher prices in this market.

If you are thinking about going green, the following tips from NAR can help you make the most of your "green house" makeover:

- Maximize natural daylight and passive ventilation. Daylight makes a dramatic difference. In addition to making you feel better, daylighting can cut down on electric bills. Well-placed operable windows circulate fresh air throughout your home.
- Choose deconstruction and construction site recycling. The demolition debris from a typical kitchen or bathroom remodel equals four years of curbside recycling for the average household. Minimize the impact of your project by keeping reusable and recyclable materials out of the landfill, which will save costs, too.
- Weatherize your home. Adding insulation and new, energy efficient windows to an older home not only saves money in fuel costs, it improves comfort year-round.
- Buy energy-efficient kitchen appliances, furnace and water heater. All appliances with an "Energy Star" rating are a good choice. Many of these energy-efficient products qualify for a federal tax credit. Check with your tax advisor for more information.
- Choose water-efficient fixtures. Toilet flushing, showers and faucets account for 60 percent of all indoor water use. Installing efficient toilets, faucets and showerheads can save a typical household up to \$200 annually in water and energy bills.
- Use solvent free or low-emission paint. Low-VOC (volatile organic compounds) paint will make painting a healthier experience by minimizing the chemical fumes in your home.
- Choose formaldehyde-free products. You may not realize it, but formaldehyde, a suspected carcinogen, is commonly found in some carpet, cabinetry, insulation and other building products. Consider installing a hard surface floor instead of carpet, or install a green-rated carpet.
- Buy used, recycled, certified or re-graded wood products. Certified wood products are cut from sustainably managed forests. A growing number of stores are carrying these products, and they will have a seal that helps identify them.
- Harvest your rainwater for irrigation and toilet flushing. A well-designed rainwater harvesting system that captures rainwater from rooftops for use in irrigation and toilet flushing can cut annual water consumption by up to 50 percent.
- Landscape using native and drought-tolerant plants. Native plants are naturally adapted to our environment, so they require minimal care and watering and provide valuable habitat for birds and wildlife.

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# School is out - yeah!

# Have fun, kids! Lamorinda Weekly team

## Technology Camp Offers Kids Creative Conduit

By Jennifer Wake



Adventures in Game Design students - (left to right) James Rokas, Conner Morgan, Sean Mauney, Peter Eisenlohr, Carter Wirtz, and Alex Meyers take a crack at video game design and have fun in the process.



Video Game Creation Xtreme students - (left to right) Stefan El baze and Amanda Griggs click on icons to build their video games for Video Game Creation Xtreme.

Photos by Jennifer Wake

During summer, it is not uncommon to see children of all ages blissfully spending hours playing video games or controlling robotic toys, but how does it all work?

Thirteen Lamorinda kids, ranging in age from 7 to 15, enrolled in iD Tech Camp at Saint Mary's College last week to find out. The weekly camps offered at local colleges and universities teach campers how to create video games, build robots, and develop Web sites.

For 11-year-old Nick Barendregt, from Lafayette, the robotics camp was a far cry from his previous Lego work. "I've always been interested in robots," he said, "but this is hard-core robotics, and a more hands on real-life experience."

Barendregt and six other campers have been building two robots: one being encoded using Easy C programming language, the other using the VEX Robotics Design System. "I've started to get into more robotics languages and coding, and will be able to use it outside the camp," Barendregt said.

Other campers participated in Video Game Creation Xtreme, where they used Clickteam Multimedia Fusion 2 Developer software to develop their own video game animation. It was the third time 12-year-old Amanda Griggs from Moraga has attended the camp, and her first time taking Video Game Creation Xtreme - the more advanced course.

"We're working on making our characters move when you move, so they jump and fly," said Griggs, who developed a game where her creatures collect orbs and bring them back to a specific location. "The hardest part is making each level harder, and to make it go to the next level. I've learned it's really hard to make the complicated video games you buy in stores."

First-time camper, 8-year-old Carter Wirtz of Orinda, built a game called Animal Wars, where animals attack each other. He said the hardest thing was "making the guy move, and stuff and make the enemies bounce around."

"I have kangaroos as some of the enemy and they bounce," he said. His game also includes a scorpion that shoots venom and dragons that shoot fire balls.

Lead instructor Sean Mauney (called "Professor" at camp, who taught the younger campers Adventures in Game Design) expected the class to be a little harder to teach. Mauney, who is a full-time 3-D Animation student at the Academy of Art, was surprised how bright the campers were and how easily they picked things up.

On the final day of the camp, parents get to see their children's work on display. "At the end there's a presentation: every computer shows the project name and they can view the projects," Griggs said. "And then we have a sponge fight."

The final camp at Saint Mary's ends next week. For more information about iD Tech Camp, you can visit [www.inter-naldrive.com](http://www.inter-naldrive.com) or call 1-888-709-TECH (8342).

## This Friday - Outdoor Theater for the Younger Set!

By Lee Borrowman



The cast of Aladdin, Jr on the Hacienda stage

Photo by Lee Borrowman

If "Man and Superman," the current Cal Shakes production at the Bruns Amphitheater, is a bit too much for your family, head out to Moraga this Friday instead. The heat of Agrabah will fill the air when young performers take the outdoor stage in the Disney musical "Aladdin, Jr." Audience members are encouraged to bring picnic dinners, blankets and lawn chairs to the evening performance at the Hacienda de las Flores at 7:00 on July 27th.

Producer/Director Rachel Pergamit has been teaching children's theatre for twenty years. A veteran performer and director, she founded the After School Drama Club in 1999, adding a Summer Drama Camp in 2006. Pergamit started performing with the Moraga Playhouse when she was seven, later directing for the Children's Theater division and Main Stage. She has worked for theater companies all over the Bay Area, and is currently the Assistant Artistic Director and a member of the Board of the Galatean Players and the Production Coordinator for the City of Walnut Creek Civic Arts Education program.

To prepare for Friday's performance, the cast of chil-

dren, ages 8-13, has spent 3 weeks learning the ins and outs of producing a musical from theatre professionals. Pergamit says, "The kids are learning the basics of live performance -- how to put together a show and perform it for a live audience. But more than that, they are gaining self-confidence and inner strength. They are being challenged in a safe and comfortable environment. We create theatre in a low-key, high energy atmosphere. This isn't about creating a star but instead about teaching the children how to work as an ensemble."

Debbie Parish's daughter Emily has enjoyed performing with the After School Drama Club, and after attending a performance of last summer's production insisted on joining the cast this year. Parish says, "Rachel (Pergamit) is great with the kids. It's wonderful to have a local arts offering that kids can take advantage of."

Drew and Rachel Jackson are in their second year at Summer Drama Camp. Their mom, Mary Cosola, believes that kids respond well to an effective director while giving the kids an opportunity to



Rachel Pergamit

have fun. Additionally, Cosola says her kids get some of the same advantages from being in an ensemble cast that children get from participating in organized sports. "They learn to work as a team, and do their part to support the group effort. Everybody wins in the end!"

What does the cast have to say? "Come see us! We're going to be fabulous!"

Pergamit's production staff includes Music Director Frank Ryken, who is also the Chorus Master of the Moraga Community Chorus, choreographer Nicole McGann, and Brian Pergamit, co-producer and Technical Director.

Advanced tickets are \$6 and can be purchased by calling 925-300-8337. Tickets are also available at the gate for \$7. Gates open at 5:30 for picnickers. For more info, go to [www.AfterSchoolDramaClub.com](http://www.AfterSchoolDramaClub.com).

## Lamorinda 4-H Update: A Youth Fair Snapshot

By Lee Borrowman

In the dusty warmth of the fairgrounds in Antioch, members of Lamorinda 4-H camped out for several days in early July to tend to their animals during the annual Youth Fair. Towards the end of the week, in the heat of the day, small groups of boys and girls lazed under shade trees or around picnic tables as their cows, swine, rabbits, chickens and goats moored, grunted, twitched, clucked and bleated quietly nearby. Looking cool, calm and collected in their smart green and white uniforms, a handful of young women proudly showed their horses.

The edge of the livestock area was dotted with tents. A dog barked from its wire enclosure, and girlish voices floated over the walls of the restroom and shower facility, "The water's not really warm. It's not ice cold, but it's not home! Hey, did you bring a hairbrush?" A patient teenage leader put a young boy wielding a small baton through the drills of properly showing his chicken: "Make sure it's always facing the



Maddy Cleaver, Cami Brisbo, Kathy Simmons (dog leader), Miranda Protzen and Aimee Pearce

judges, and keep your other hand behind your back!" Tired parent chaperones looked forward to the evening's award ceremony, followed on the final day by a livestock auction, the clean up, and going home.

This is an event that 4-H members look forward to each summer, the culmination of a year's work. Youths come from all over Contra Costa County to attend the Fair, reconnect with old friends and display their projects. The kids of Lamorinda 4-H did well at the Fair this year, taking top honors in many of the competitions.

With the Youth Fair, the 4-H year comes to a close for the summer.

If you are interested in participating in 4-H this fall, mark your calendars for the following meetings:

**Aug. 23, 7pm**, Parent's-only Organizational Meeting and Registration - 3370 Springhill Rd., Lafayette

**Sept. 13, 6:30pm - 7pm** Registration, 7-8pm Community Meeting - Stanley Middle School MP Room

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## Growing a Girl: A Success Story

By Lee Borrowman

Those with young daughters know that we face unique challenges raising a girl in today's society. We want them to be strong and confident, kind and gentle, comfortable with their appearance and free from body-image issues. As with our sons, we hope they will have lots of friends, do well in school, find extracurricular activities that they enjoy, and happily accompany us on family vacations well into their teens. As unlikely as it seems, this does in fact happen here in Lamorinda, on a regular basis. With the possible exception of the family vacation.



Alicia Salmeron

Photo by Lee Borrowman

A case in point: Alicia Salmeron, the incoming Student Body President of Campolindo. A bold young woman, she is best characterized by her leadership and determination to make the world a better place, enjoyment of close friendships and a strong dislike of materialism. Unable to choose one or two activities on which to concentrate, Salmeron is one of the busiest teenagers in Lamorinda.

Salmeron was the Junior Class President last year, as well as President of the Interact Club, a Rotary-sponsored community-service group. She spends over 200 hours a year as a volunteer. A strong athlete, Salmeron participates in soccer, cross-country and track, and travels around California refereeing competitive Class 1 youth soccer tournaments, including the U11 Girls State Cup Final. She has received multiple awards both for her volunteerism and as a referee.

Campolindo Principal Carol Kitchens is looking forward to working with Salmeron this year and describes her as, "A well rounded, positive, energetic and caring individual. She works hard as a student and athlete and is the kind of leader that is committed to

the school and the students she represents. She sees the big picture and works tirelessly to include all students in the activities at Campolindo. She is a strong and open communicator who will continue to bridge the connection between the administration, teachers and students."

After attending the Rotary's Camp Royal Leadership Award Conference and UC Berkeley's Nor-Cal Experience earlier this summer, Salmeron is currently continuing her community service work in a village in Honduras through Amigos de Las Americas. As she prepared to leave home, she was less fearful for her own safety than she was concerned that "something might happen to someone in my family while I'm there, and I won't know about it."

What drives this dynamo to take on so much? "I just really enjoy all of it," she says. "I want to help people; I love volunteer work, and being involved." Her biggest

problem? "Time; there's never enough. And I'm not good at saying 'No.' I need to make more time for my family."

Ana Perez, Salmeron's mother, says, "She's doing what she needs to do, and is learning from the world around her, not just from books and teachers." Perez is proud of her eldest daughter, and continues, "She's very open, and has a strong desire to learn and to do new and different things." Perez also says nobody's perfect, "Her room is a mess! And she is too hard on herself, especially when she makes a mistake. She does not always recognize all of her good qualities."

Salmeron says if she were to name her hero, it would be her mom. "She helps me to realize that the things I freak out about are not such a big deal. She's a strong leader herself, and very supportive." Her plans for the future include college and the Peace Corp. In the meantime, Salmeron does go on the occasional family vacation.

## Lynn's Top Five

### Raising Kids to be Smart with Money

This month's column is all about the kids! It's summer, and I bet your kids are very interested in spending money on themselves! Let's talk about a few great tips for using this golden opportunity to raise money smart kids.

**IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START ALLOWANCES** - When is it time to begin an allowance program for your kids? The minute they start asking you to buy them things! How much should you give? Well, to start, ask your friends what they are doing for their kids. It really helps when your kid's friends have the same thing going on in their homes. Second, figure out something that you'd like to have your child be able to buy for him/her self

that's a bit extra but doesn't cost all that much, like a small toy. Then, figure out how much it would take to save up for it in a few weeks --- not so long that they lose interest, but long enough that the anticipation of saving and waiting makes the reward of the purchase oh so sweet!

Another popular idea is to give them \$1/week for every year of age they are. Allowances should be consistently given weekly, typically Friday evening or Saturday morning.

**THE MATCHING GAME** - Very few of us are going to give our youngster's enough allowance every week to save up quickly for let's say a bike. So one terrific way we can help teach our kids to save is by matching them dollar for dollar (or more) for the money they put away to "save up" for something special to them. And, we can teach them long-term savings by this approach: Give them more than you otherwise would for spending, but let them keep only one third to spend. Have them put another third of the allowance into a jar labeled "MY COLLEGE EDUCATION FUND" and the other third into a jar labeled "PRESENTS FOR FAMILY" to use during for birthdays and holidays. This is a great visual learning tool.

**TEACH YOUR KIDS TO BE SMART SHOPPERS** - Instant gratification is the theme these days! So as soon as your child has saved up what is needed to make that awesome purchase, instead of immediately running out and buying it, teach them how to comparison shop for the best price! What fun to find the object of your desire on sale! Whether you show them by calling different stores, looking for ads, looking for coupons or visiting different stores, the message is the

same.  
**PAY FOR EXTRA CHORES DONE** - My mom kept a list on the refrigerator of chores she'd really appreciate having done for her, with a price next to it of what she'd pay one of us if we did a good job. Stuff like sweeping out the garage, washing the car, helping restack the towels in the cupboard. In retrospect she probably needed very little real help with these things, but it was so great for me and my brother to be able to earn some extra allowance for those special moments when

we needed a few extra bucks. And it probably had the added bonus of getting us out of her hair for a few hours, too!

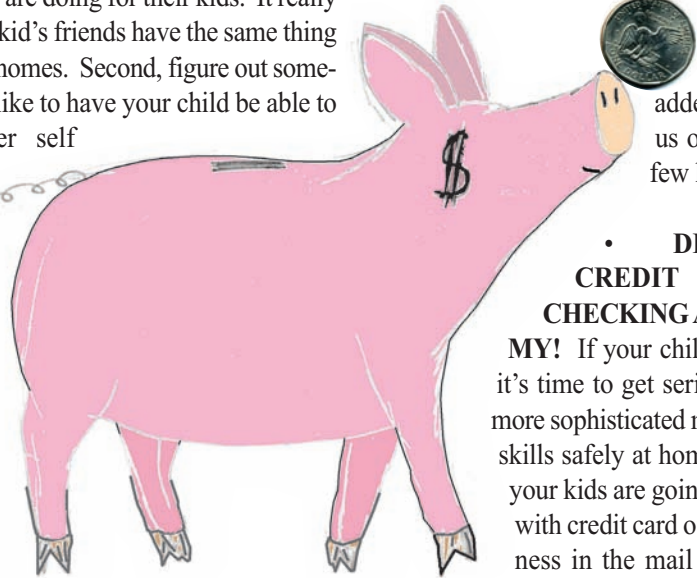
**DEBIT CARDS, CREDIT CARDS AND CHECKING ACCOUNTS - OH MY!**

If your children are teenagers, it's time to get serious about learning more sophisticated money management skills safely at home. You know how your kids are going to get bombarded with credit card offers and other silliness in the mail much sooner than you can believe --- it's truly appalling!

So, now's the time, no later than early high school years, to teach them how to use a debit card, then a credit card. By senior year they should have a checking account so they can pay their own credit card bill (using the allowance approach and part-time job income) or other bills as appropriate. Let them learn really good money management and budgeting skills under your expert eye and guidance before they launch out into the world.

Summertime is the perfect time to talk to your kids about money and set up a working allowance and savings program. They are less stressed about school pressures, and you have more time with them to talk about and design a good approach, work out the kinks, be a safety net, and be there to teach them how shop wisely. Really enjoy this special time together! It's a great way to spend quality time with your children no matter what age, and you'll all reap the rewards for years to come.

Lynn Ballou is a Certified Financial Planner™ (CFP®) and co-owner of Ballou Plum Financial Advisors, LLC, a Registered Investment Advisory (RIA) firm in Lafayette. She is a nationally recognized financial planner frequently appearing as a guest speaker, and interviewed for publications such as the Wall Street Journal, USA Today and Money Magazine. She previously owned a tax preparation firm for 15 years and also has taught taxation and financial planning as an adjunct faculty member for the College for Financial Planning. She lives with her family and pets in Orinda. Lynn is also a Registered Principal and Branch Manager with Linsco/Private Ledger (LPL). As such, she is required by securities regulations to add the following information to this column: The opinions voiced in this material are for general information only and not intended to provide specific advice or recommendation for any individual. Securities offered through Linsco/Private Ledger, member NASD/SIPC.



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# business briefs

## New businesses and ribbon cutting:

**Aspen MedSpa** 3579 C Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette (925) 283-6975 – www.aspenmedspa.com

On August 9th at 4:30 PM, during its ribbon cutting ceremony, Aspen MedSpa will demonstrate its new "Clarity Pro System," a computerized facial analysis tool that uses fluorescence spectroscopy and artificial intelligence to quantify skin damage, wrinkles and inflammation, thus tailoring and measuring the perfect skin treatment. "The Nature of Science and Beauty" salon that just opened is the only local facility where medical cosmetic treatments are performed by Dr. William Birdsong. Services include Botox, Laser treatment, Dermal Filler, etc. The esthetic services include various type facials, microdermabrasion peel and waxing.

**Barnes Capital LLC** 3503 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette (925) 284-3503 – www.barnescapital.com

Daniel Barnes held his ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday, July 12, at 4:30pm, surrounded by fellow Lafayette Chamber members. Barnes, who held various research positions on the buy-side and sell-side of Wall Street, aims to provide superior portfolio management to individuals and business owners. He specializes in "Rising Paycheck Strategy," a money management technique that is intended to protect Baby Boomers' retirement income. Barnes' customer approach is one client at a time, and the Wealth Counsel Services offered by Barnes Capital focuses on determining each individual's optimum financial path. Finally, Barnes Capital offers business services consulting to help local businesses improve the financial and operational parameters of their business.

## Diverse Business News:

**The Beauty Source** 528 Center St., Moraga (925) 376-0802

The Moraga store will be moving about 2 miles south from the Rheem Shopping Center to the Moraga Center between Asia Palace and the Hallmark Store. The move is scheduled to take place in the beginning of August.

**Nowville at Orinda Chiropractic** 89 Moraga Way, Suite A, Orinda www.nowville.com

Nowville Town Social will be on Tuesday, July 31st at 5:30PM. Nowville is an innovative online "town like" business community that introduces new business friends. Come see for yourself at a social organized at Dr. Kevin Gong's office in Orinda.

**The Nurture Center** 3399 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette (925) 283-1346

The Nurture Center, a parent resource center and retail store for new and expecting parents in Lafayette, is celebrating World Breastfeeding Week, August 1st thru the 7th. This event is sponsored by the World Health Organization & UNICEF. It's celebrated in 120 countries around the world. Stop by between August 1st and 7th to receive a free gift bag filled with goodies and to be entered in a drawing. Nurture Center Hours are Monday thru Friday, 9:30am - 5:30pm, and Saturday 10am - 5pm.

**Business Network Int'l - BNI** - a business networking organization offering members a structured environment for the development and exchange of business referrals. Two BNI chapters are located in Lamorinda: Lafayette BNI Chapter: Meeting every Wednesday morning at 7:00 AM Postino Restaurant, 3565 Mount Diablo Blvd, Lafayette Info: Thomas L Madden at (925) 284-7105 or at thomadden@yahoo.com. Orinda BNI Chapter: Meeting every Friday morning at 8:00 AM Orinda Country Club, 315 Camino Sobrante, Orinda Info: Robert Jacobus at (925) 254-4820 or at info@redcarpetca.com.

## News from the three Chambers of Commerce:

**Lamorinda Tri-Chamber Mixer** Wednesday, August 8 - 5:50 to 7:00 p.m. Location: La Finestra Ristorante, 100 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette, CA

**Lafayette Chamber of Commerce** - www.lafayettechamber.org

**Chamber of Commerce of Moraga** - www.moragabiz.com:

**Barbecue in the Commons** - July 27th, starting at 5 PM, the Chamber of Commerce of Moraga invites all members and their families to a mixer-barbecue at the Moraga Commons. Bring a side dish and the Chamber will do the rest.

**Orinda Chamber of Commerce** - www.orindachamber.org

If you have a business brief to share, please contact Sophie Braccini at [sophie@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sophie@lamorindaweekly.com) or contact Lamorinda Weekly at 925-377-0977.

## Tri Chamber of Commerce

### Evening Mixer

By Sophie Braccini

A lost tradition is being revived in Lamorinda as the three Chambers of Commerce prepares to hold a joint "mixer." The reunion will take place on Wednesday, August 8th, from 5:30 to 7 PM, at the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce office and the adjacent La Finestra Ristorante. Both are located at 100 Lafayette Circle in Lafayette. Jeff Assidi Chef/owner of La Finestra will be providing appetizers and a no-host bar on the shared patio, so guests can enjoy the afternoon shade. This is an opportunity to meet neighboring businesses from all three areas. Admission is free to everyone. A raffle will be held for a \$1 a ticket for items donated by Chamber Members.

According to Jay Lifson, Executive Director of the Lafayette Chamber, "This event is an effort to give all our members an opportunity to meet new and interesting people; it's an enriching experience for all."

Jenny Boyd, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Moraga, would like to see more of these events throughout the year, and adds, "I encourage all of our members to attend, it's a

wonderful chance to network with the other Chambers' members."

Candy Kattenburg, Executive Director of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce, is very excited about the event and wants to thank the Lafayette Chamber and La Finestra for hosting. "It's all about networking and getting more business," she concludes.



## Paperweight - Elegant Stationary and Personalized Gifts in Lafayette

By Sophie Braccini



Lauren Woolsey and Kaaren Brickman discussing card designs with a client

Lauren Woolsey has known Kaaren Brickman for years, and has repeatedly suggested she take her home-based stationary business to the next level and open a retail store. Over coffee last January, the two friends started developing the project as a common venture. The hardest part was to find the right place for the store. They wanted to be located on Lafayette's business corridor, in a cozy spot where customers would feel welcome and comfortable. They found the ideal cottage-like office on Mt Diablo Blvd where they now operate Paperweight.

Paperweight sells stationary, custom invitations and personalized gifts.

The friends both reside in Lamorinda where they're busy raising young children. Before opening Paperweight, Brickman was in sales and marketing for a wholesale gifts firm. After having her first child, she ran a home based stationary business for seven years. Woolsey was a kindergarten teacher who started working part time at Growing Tree Preschool in Moraga after her children were born. They both come from families of business owners and entrepreneurs and

have always known that this was the direction they wanted to go. Both are grateful for the support of their friends and families. "We couldn't do it without them," acknowledges Woolsey.

They help customers with all kinds of events. It could be a baby shower, a child's birthday, a wedding, a graduation party, an anniversary, or any other type of celebration. Brickman and Woolsey like to brainstorm with customers to define the event, its tone, possible themes, and options that meet client budgets and expectations.

Their main strength is their approach to a customer. As Woolsey explains it, "you get a free flow of ideas on top of your purchase," and they know that the experience their customers receive in their store cannot be replicated by any online "print-it-yourself" service. "When a customer came in needing to create an invitation for a couple going to France and Germany for their anniversary," recalls Woolsey, "we discussed possible ideas and came up with a passport theme carried all through the party decorations."

Brickman recalls another client who was planning a party for a remarried couple. After hearing the customers' story, she proposed a very charming stationary featuring two pearls at the top with the

simple message, "The perfect pair." This theme was used for centerpieces as well.

Another asset is the enormous collection of stationary they have access to: more than 30 different lines, either on their walls or in catalogs. Depending on your budget, you have a choice of using thermography, letterpress, engraving or flat printing. Flat printing can be done in-house and takes a few days while the other techniques require 2-3 weeks.

Woolsey and Brickman can be found in their shop located at 3678A Mt Diablo Blvd (across the street from the Diamond K Supply Yard), Tuesday-Friday from 10:00-4:00, or at other times by appointment; call 925-283-0344.



## Summer Sales in Lamorinda: Let's Go Shopping!

By Sophie Braccini

Need a fun little outing for mother, daughter and girlfriends around town? Go shopping! This is the time of year when your local store managers need to make room for the fall fashion season. To that end, many stores are offering bargains that make the local shopping experience affordable and guilt free.

Let's start in Orinda, at Mccaoulou's, 250 Village Sq, which has a number of interesting items on sale, including cute summer hand bags, sun hats and tank tops at 50% off. Summer jackets are marked down to about \$20. There are also a number of adorable kids' items on the Super Sale Merry Go Round. You can check the other two local Mccaoulou's in Moraga and Lafayette, each of them can be a bit different in their selections.

One of the town's favorites, BB Gear, at 2

Theater Square, will start its half yearly sale soon. Get ready to check out the very special attire for casual or special occasions, at 50%, 60% and even 70% off.

In Moraga, at the Rheem Shopping Center, stop first at Lori's Perfect Tan, 552 Center street to get that perfect fit swim suit now on sale in the "values to go" section for around \$10. TJ Maxx, 472 Center Street, has a special junior clearance, you'll find charming summer tops in the \$10 range and large fashionable sunglasses for \$8.

In Lafayette, Specialtees at 979 Moraga Rd is having its Half Yearly Sale until July 30th. Some of the creative apparel can be purchased for half of the original price. This includes jackets in the \$250 range, a few dresses for less than \$50, and some tops for about \$100.



Jodi Weis with her daughter Kirstin Ricker and soon to be grandson (due in Nov), found what they were looking for at Jodi's favorite store, Erin Paige Boutique in La Fiesta Square.

Close by, Chico's, 3537 Mt Diablo Blvd., is having its summer clearance and will take an additional 30% off selected items. Colorful t-shirts are priced at \$19.99, jeans at \$33.99 and tops around \$30. Further west at 3541 Mount Diablo is Solo, a European style store. The summer sale will be going on until mid-August. Selected items are 50% off and with some beautiful silk cocktail dresses priced around \$120.

This little strip of Mount Diablo ends with Pendleton, the store of the original American wool blanket. Here, you'll find an assortment of selected items at 50% off. Examples include shirts for \$44.99 and suits for \$84.99. Finally don't forget to stop at Sandy's Unique Boutique at 3569 Mt. Diablo Blvd where the sales rack always carries that special attire like the cutest of dresses for \$65. Happy shopping!

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"You bought what?"

By Chef Dan Leff

Next time you're at one of the local farmer's markets, look carefully. Past the heirloom tomatoes, Brentwood Diamond corn, and baby arugula, you'll find them ... a variety of Asian vegetables that most casual shoppers lack the inclination to deal with.

Simply put, too many questions arise when seeing these veggies: "How does it taste? Do I need special equipment to cook this? Do I need a really specific recipe? Not to worry, help is on the way for preparing 4 of the most commonly found Asian vegetables.

About Chef Dan Leff...

After graduating from the CA Culinary Academy in 1995, I've worked in venues around the Bay Area. Having worked with Bradley Ogden at the Lark Creek Inn, I specialize in Classic American cuisine, using seasonal ingredients, with a fine dining emphasis. Chef Dan Leff Catering focuses on intimate, elegant sit-down dinners and small corporate events. http://www.chefdanleff.com



Orinda's Saturday Market

By Lee Borrowman



Nessa Feller with her son Noah (3)

Photos by Andy Scheck

The Orinda Farmers' Market has settled nicely into its new location on Orinda Way. Although it is somewhat smaller than its Moraga counterpart, the Orinda Market has a loyal following that is growing as the summer weeks go by. This past weekend, it appeared to be all about the tomatoes!

"We absolutely love our new location," said Orinda Farmers' Market Manager Janice Foust, who believes the proximity to the Park, Library and Community Center is bringing many new customers to the Market each week. "Business is good; we've added several new vendors and are working on bringing in others." New additions this year include small local winery Periscope Cellars, Holding Ranch beef, and Empi empanadas.

Jeanne and Loyd W. McCormick, who have lived in Orinda for forty years, come to the Market every week and "love it." Mrs. McCormick comes particularly for the tomatoes because, "They taste like tomatoes! I can't get them like this in the store." Orinda resident Cheri Etheredge shops the market for the best produce when-

ever she is in town. "It is fresher, and the tomatoes taste better," Etheredge explained, although she preferred the Market's former location because it did not require the closure of a main street.

Nessa Feller likes the new location of the market because she can walk there directly from the soccer field with her son Noah after his game. She comes to the Market, "For the fresh food,



Cheri Etheredge



Jeanne and Loyd W. McCormick

nice community feeling and to see everyone." She enjoys the opportunity to teach Noah about different vegetables and flowers and to catch up with friends. "It feels healthy," she added.

The Orinda Farmers' Market will be open from 9:00-1:00 every Saturday through Nov. 20.

Roving reporters Wendy and Andy Scheck, who can frequently be found at Farmers' Markets, contributed to this article.

Chinese Water Spinach

This variety of spinach is identifiable by its hollow stems. These stems are a part of Water Spinach's appeal, as they lend a slight crunch to the vegetable when cooked.

When handling this type of spinach, remember:

- Don't cut away too much of the stem - this is the part that makes it distinctive. Wash thoroughly, then trim the stalks into fairly large pieces
• This type of spinach requires a slightly longer cooking time than conventional spinach (which tends to wilt instantly). Chinese Water Spinach does well when sautéed in garlic and/or ginger, then allowed to braise in its own liquids for 2-3 minutes. Cooked in this manner, it's a good accompaniment wherever a vegetable side dish is called for.



Bitter Melon

This item looks like a wrinkled cucumber with a light green skin. It's called "bitter" for a very good reason and requires specific handling:

- Before using, wash lightly and trim off the ends. Slice lengthwise, and remove the seeds and accompanying pith with a tablespoon.
• Bring a pot of salted water to a boil. Add the melon halves and poach for 3-4 minutes. Drain, rinse with cold water, and allow cooling down. The pieces should still be firm; they will be cooked again later so don't overcook!
• At this point, the melon pieces can be cut into strips or cubes. They are best when prepared in dishes with enough richness to balance out their undeniable bitterness. When added to a hearty, spicy lamb stew, they add a touch of bitter flavor. They do well in wonton soup; the richness of the broth and the wontons offset their bitterness.



Chinese Broccoli ("Gai Lan")

Like Water Spinach, this variety is tougher than its Western counterpart. Only a few pointers are required:

- Wash lightly, then trim off just a half inch of the stalky ends. Cut into large pieces.
• Bring salted water to a boil, add the pieces, and poach for 4-5 minutes. Drain and allow to cool.
• The Chinese Broccoli can now be used in a number of different ways:
• It can be poached again, briefly, to warm it through - at this point it can be served with richer foods, it's crunchy texture providing some distinction
• It can be sautéed briefly in ginger, garlic, and oyster sauce - this makes for a good, interesting vegetable side dish
• If cut into thinner pieces, it can be added to a chicken broth-style soup for added texture and nutrients



Chinese Long Beans

In their long rope-like bundles, with leathery green or purple skin, there's something otherworldly about these beans. Preparing them is actually quite easy, however:

- Wash them lightly and trim off just the ends. Cut them into more easily edible pieces, perhaps 2"-3" in length
• These beans are versatile - they can be deep-fried (until the skin just starts to wrinkle) and drained, poached in boiling salted water (for 3-4 minutes) and cooled, or steamed.
• They can be used for stir-fries, in soups, or even in salads (surprisingly, they do well in potato salads, especially if enough mustard and vinegar are used in the dressing).



This recipe is available on our web site. Go to: http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/html/read.html

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Table with restaurant listings including names, addresses, and phone numbers. Categories include American, BBQ, Burger Joint, Caribbean, Chinese, Coffee Shop, Continental, Hawaiian Grill, Indian, Italian, Japanese, Mexican, etc.

The Lamorinda Weekly (LW) Restaurant Guide is not paid advertising; our intent is to provide a useful reference guide. We hope that we have included all Lamorinda restaurants on this page, except those that told us they did not wish to be listed. LW is not liable for errors or omissions. In the event that we have inadvertently printed misinformation or excluded a restaurant please let us know (info@lamorindaweekly.com) so that we may correct our list for the next issue.

# In the Back Yard

## Full-Moon Party at Moraga Gardens

By Sophie Braccini



Full Moon over Saint Mary's Hills, Moraga

Photo by Andy Scheck

The phrase "Full Moon Party" brings many images to mind; of Selene chanteys, Pagan dancing in the moonlight, or perhaps game day fraternity pranks. Actually, nothing of the kind happened on Sunday June 30th, at the Moraga Gardens. During the monthly gathering of the Friends of the Moraga Gardens (every 28 days in keeping with the cycle of the full moon), about 50 local residents gathered at the garden for a vegetarian pot luck festivity.

Tables were set under the garden's pergola with a comfy fire blazing to keep the cool Moraga evening at bay. Nearby, a large clay oven, built by volunteers, cooked a wide variety of pizzas to perfection. The locally made wine perfectly complimented the salads, stews, cheeses, breads and desserts. Volunteer Bill Durkin poetically described the welcoming atmosphere: "Tickle the earth with a hoe and it will laugh with a harvest, come and be warmed by our communal fireplace."

The Garden's story began in 1985. Deva Rajan, founder of Canyon Construction, was renting a walnut processing shed from Russell Bruzzone, prominent Moraga developer. Rajan had barely noticed the acre of flat land littered with construction debris that led behind the shed. One day, it struck him that this was an ideal place for a garden. Russell Bruzzone loved the



Robin Flowers, Deva Rajan and Bill Durkin working in Moraga Garden Photo by Sophie Braccini

idea; the plot had been a garden in the heyday of farming in Moraga, growing the vegetables to feed the hands who resided on the premises. The two men collaborated in cleaning up, fencing and installing the water lines. A Sharecropper Agreement was signed and as a result, the Bruzzone family gets a portion of everything that is sold by the Garden.

Rajan's vision for the Moraga Garden is one of abundance: "Grow more than you need, so you can share the bounty." Everything planted in the Garden starts from seeds. Crops include tomatoes, squash, cucumbers, lettuces, onions, fruits trees and more. The prime organic vegetables are sold to restaurants and markets in the area: Star Grocery on Claremont Ave., Monterey Market in Berkeley, Chez Panisse, Oliveto, and Postino. The money collected serves to buy next year's seeds, organic

amendments and to pay the rent. The rest of the harvest is donated to non-profit organizations such as Redwood Gardens retirement home or the Berkeley Food Pantry. The volunteers share in the abundance as well.

The regular 10 to 12 helpers who come two or three times a week to immerse themselves in this oasis of peace and beauty are from all walks of life. Alice Maisel is a photographer and yoga teacher; she is "chief irrigation assistant" and has been working in the garden for seven years. Bill Durkin, a solar engineering consultant, has spent countless hours in the garden since he discovered it two years ago. Attorney Kathryn Lyddan believes that the garden has changed her life. She brings her two daughters to the garden; there they meet other young people such as Rajan's children. That's how the love of gardening and respect of the Earth is transmitted to the next generation.

The parties are held every full moon. They are attended by the garden volunteers, their families and friends. If you want to get your hands dirty, contact Rajan at [Deva.Rajan@earthlink.net](mailto:Deva.Rajan@earthlink.net) (serious inquiries only, please).

## SUMMER ROSE CARE

By Suzan Ormandy

Back by popular demand at McDonnell Nursery in Orinda on July 7, Jolene Adams, president of the East Bay Rose Society, again demystified this thorny subject with a summer-care slant.

Simply stated, roses in summer need only two kinds of care: water and selective pest/disease treatment. What about feeding? Except for potted plants (which require a little fertilizer every month added to the top of the soil) on this side of the Tunnel, don't fertilize again until Labor Day. Many of us have learned to fertilize roses on four holidays: St. Patrick's Day (mid-March), Memorial Day (after the Spring flush of new growth), 4th of July, and Labor Day. In this area, skip that mid-summer feeding as plants are working hard enough already to survive in our hotter climate. (See below for more of Ms. Adams' tips on fertilizing roses.)

Water is the real issue for roses in summer. More than many plants, roses require a lot of water: each rose needs 10 gallons a week applied regularly to root depth (about 12"). Lack of moisture is indicated at leaf edges: die back starts there when leaves can't suck up water fast enough during hot spells, so regular and deep irrigation is critical. Like all plants, roses lose water through evaporation (soil level) and transpiration (leaves). To help keep things cool and moist at soil level, be sure to have at least 3" of mulch near but not touching the base of your roses. The yearly addition of organic matter under your mulch (or fresh mulching with organic matter) is very helpful in many other ways too.

At the leaf level, get your rose leaves wet. Forget all you've heard on that issue before. However, do it early in the day (by 10 a.m.) so the foliage has a chance to dry out before nightfall. A good hosing twice a week washes off dirt, bug droppings, fungal spores and even spider mite infestations (twice a week foils the dryness requirement and interrupts the life cycle of spider mites).

Speaking of spider mites, these and other insects should only be treated for when they are present, i.e., don't use pesticides preventatively. Aphids and spittle bugs can be efficiently dealt with by a strong hose spray, by running your gloved fingers down stems they're inhabiting, and/or by a spray of water mixed with a little dish detergent. Good organic products – like Neem oil and fatty soaps – are readily available. Malathion and toxic systemics are neither necessary nor desirable. For caterpillars that chew holes in rose leaves and buds, use B.t. bacteria that are safe for us but deadly to caterpillars.

Likewise, disease treatment should be on an as-needed basis only. The most common to roses is black spot, a fungus characterized by black and yellow splotches. It's unsightly but



Jolene Adams at McDonnell Nursery



Rose photos by Ken C. Young, Moraga  
See his work at the Moraga Art Gallery or online at [www.kcyoungfineartimages.com](http://www.kcyoungfineartimages.com)



will not kill your roses. Remove the infected leaves from the plant and the ground and throw them away (don't compost). Use a copper fungicide if you feel the need to: it's effective and even good for the soil if some gets down there. Ditto for powdery mildew. Rust can be suppressed with fungicidal oils but not in the summer; instead, blast this bag fungus off with forceful water shots in the early A.M. Deadhead high in summer: just snap off spent blossoms, leaving as many leaves as possible until September, then do one last, deeper deadheading for that final flush.

When you fertilize at the end of the summer for that Fall show, use a balanced fertilizer like a 12-12-12 (it's spring when we triple feed nitrogen). Avoid

systemic foods with added insecticides and/or fungicides. Coffee grounds (which you can get free from most cafes) are always a great addition to the soil – and will not acidify it. Compost is neutral in pH and always welcome. Ms. Adams is not a fan of Epsom salts in this area, incidentally, except in spring for certain needs.

To summarize Ms. Adams' advice, mulch, dead-head high, hose off, weed and control pests and diseases selectively.

To become a real rosarian, attend the East Bay Rose Society's monthly meeting on third Wednesdays from 7:30 – 10:00 p.m. at Lakeside Park Garden Center at Lake Merritt in Oakland. Call 510-215-9016 or visit [www.eastbayroses.org](http://www.eastbayroses.org).

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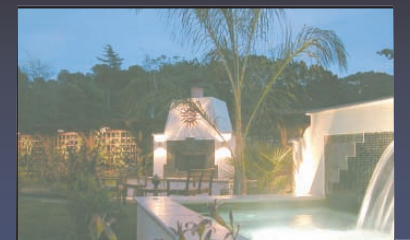
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# SPORTS

## LAMORINDAS LOCAL SPORTS NEWS

### Old Friends And New Records At Lafayette City Swim Meet

... continued from page 1



Girls 15-18 100 Yard Backstroke. Front to back: Michaela Tarpey, SPBRK; Brianna Trapey, SPBRK; Claire Love, LT; Jenna Thurston, SVST; KJ Kroetch, SPBRK; Molly Quinn, SPBRK; Kate Warner, SPBRK; Rebecca Watson, LT; Lindsey Harrigan, LT; Sammie Stuber, SVST

As the finals approached in the afternoon, fans were seen leaving the bleachers to crowd around the edges of the pool. One long-time fan came by to check out the action: 72-year-old Nevada resident Donald H. Fibush, Jr. has been coming back to his hometown for the last six years, and always enjoys watching the meets. A 1952 Acalanes graduate, Fibush recalls riding up to the warm-up pool by horseback and swimming in the pool for a nominal charge of 20 cents. Times have changed since then, but the allure of the pool has not.

Nick Ferrif continues to leave his mark on the Lamorinda

swim scene. Ferrif had another phenomenal day while taking home the high point trophy for the boy's 15-18 age group, ending up with 33 points. His most impressive race came in the 24th event when he set a meet record in the 100-yard breaststroke, recording a time of 58.93.

Matt Boone of Springbrook would finish second behind Ferrif, finishing with 29 points. Boone also set a meet record in the 100-yard backstroke, finishing with a time of 55.01, beating Paul Crawford's record of 55.03 set back in 1999. "This meet is a good place to compete with friends, but it's also a good place to show your

talent to the Lafayette community," Boone said.

Springbrook swimmer Shannon Pegnim had a fantastic day as she would capture the high point trophy for the girls 15-18 age group. Pegnim's teammate, 12-year-old Brooke Aiello, would put on an even bigger show as she went on to win the high point trophy in her age group, setting two records in the process. Aiello and her relay team won the 200-yard medley relay, finishing with a record time of 2:03.89, and Aiello set her second meet record in the 50-yard butterfly, with a time of 28.56. The record beat out Haley Strausser's 2003 time of 29.37.

### Lafayette 9 Year Old All-Stars Keep The Streak Alive

By Kevin D. Shallat

It wasn't long ago that the Angels of Lafayette won the AAA district four championships at Concord American Field. Now, with many of the same players, the 9-year-old All-Stars are continuing that momentum with a 13-game winning streak after a 6-5 win against San Ramon American at San Ramon Valley Field in Alamo on Friday, July 20.

The All-Stars took advantage of almost every miscue or passed ball by San Ramon, and with San Ramon also aggressive on the base paths, it was a nail biter game all the way to the end.

Jake Berry was the starting pitcher and pitched two strong innings at the mound, allowing only one run in the process.

Lafayette also received

good contributions from Max Flower, both at the plate and on the mound as well. Flower had a key hit in the third as he hit a base hit up the middle to record two RBI's on the play.

With the score 2-1, Lafayette, at the top of the fourth, Tyler Henderson stepped up to the plate and hit a key double to right field, hitting one of the hardest hit balls of the game. Henderson recorded an RBI on the play, after getting to third base on an errant play by the second baseman, then made it home on the next play when the catcher tried to throw down to third. The third baseman was unable to handle the throw and Henderson was safe at home, with a 4-1 score that put Lafayette in command.

Lafayette had a bit of a

led down in the bottom of the fourth as San Ramon cut the lead to 6-5.

In the bottom of the sixth and final inning San Ramon loaded the bases with two outs. Any miscue would score the runner from third and tie the ballgame. If both runs were to get in, the game would have been over, giving San Ramon the win. Catcher Adam Remotto saw the runner on third stray too far from the base. He didn't hesitate before sending a strong throw to third where third baseman Jack Eisner quickly tagged him out to end the game, keeping their streak alive.

"I knew I had him, and I was willing to take that chance in throwing down to third," said Remotto.

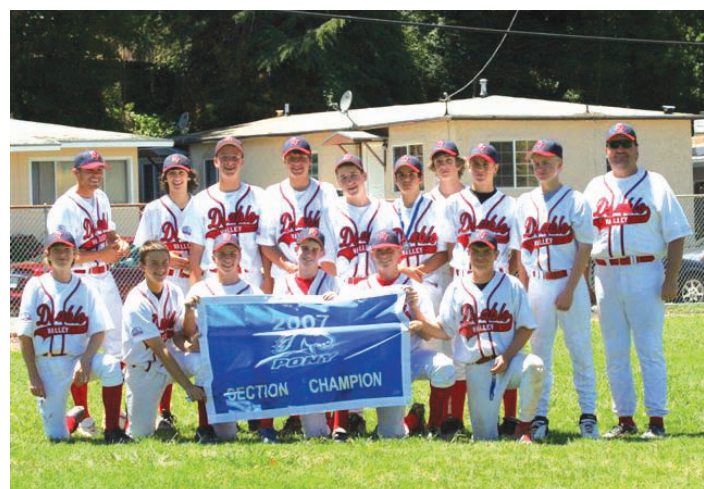
You can contact reporter Kevin D. Shallat at kevin@lamorindaweekly.com

### Diablo Valley 14-Year-Olds Win Pony Sanctioned Tournament

Submitted by Mary Bruzzone

Repeating their 2006 championship victory as 13-year-olds, the Diablo Valley 14's won the Pony Sanctioned Tournament in Pinole on July 15. Diablo Valley won four straight against some stiff competition from Martinez, San Pablo and Ukiah to earn the title. The team hailed from Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda, and featured the following players: Erik Baker, Tommy Beritzhoff, Daniel Brinckerhoff,

Matt Bruzzone, Josh Cushing, Tyler Davis, Trevor Lundquist, Jeffrey Markavage, Peter Matthias, Scott McConnell, Anthony Paolini, Chris Roming, Chris Worthington and Sean Wraith. The win would not have been possible without the dedicated coaching, for the second year in a row, from St. Mary's College baseball alum Adam Thompson and manager Joe Cushing.



2007 Diablo Valley Team

### Junior National Cycling Championships

By Lee Borrowman



Zack Williams drives the break, Ye Lin off on the right, Nat'l Criterium

Local junior development cycling club Tieni Duro has returned with good news from Nationals. Ye Lin placed 5th in the Criterium and Zach Williams came in 14th out of a starting field of 175 at the Road Race. Former Tieni Duro cyclist JP LeClair of Moraga, who now rides for the junior team Adobe/Schwalbe, also did well in the National Track Racing events, taking a silver medal in the individual pursuit and as a member of the team that won gold in the team pursuit.

"We had a rough time, but despite injuries to three of our riders we are very proud of their accomplishments at Nationals," says Jason Kent. Zach Williams was the highest place rider from

Northern California, but, "about 10 miles after the start of the (age) 17/18 Road Race, there was a big accident involving about 40 riders. One of our riders, Andy Goessling, was air lifted to a hospital (He is recovering nicely from his injuries). Nicholas Jerabek dropped back with tendonitis in one knee."

Only Williams and Ye Lin started at the Criterium the next day.

Kent says, "Williams rode like a pro that day. Knowing it was the last race of the trip, and a little frustrated that he did not place in the top ten the day before, he covered every attack and was in every break. Williams and Lin were in the final 11-man break,

which had to succeed for us. Williams stayed at the front driving hard for the next several laps. Things were looking great, the plan being to have Williams work, and Lin rest up for the sprint. Williams would then tow Lin up into the perfect position before the last turn, giving him the best shot at winning the national championship. Unfortunately another rider almost crashed in front of Williams with four laps to go, and consequently took Williams to the ground. Left on his own, Lin ended up taking 5th in the sprint and Williams escaped with some minor road rash."

This article was prepared from information submitted by Jason Kent.

### Lamorinda Menace Wins San Jose Tournament

Submitted by Alan Goepel



The 12U girls Lamorinda Menace tournament softball team went undefeated playing six games over two days to win the Wess Jones Memorial 12U Softball Tournament in San Jose on July 15.

Tela Zemsch, Becca Crisp, Samantha Flower, Audrey Vogel, Grace Lovell, Siena Del Ponte, Kat Mathis, Jackie Welland, Sarah Chesbrough, Rachel Kelley, Natalie Goepel and Emily Streeter made up the Menace roster over the two day event.

The Menace defeated the Branham Hills Thunder (twice), the Los Gatos-Saratoga Magic, the

West Valley Slammers, and the Palo Alto Heat before meeting up with a very strong Oakland Vipers team in the Championship game on Sunday. Down at one point 4 to 1 in the championship game, the Menace battled back to take a 8 to 7 win. Becca Crisp and Natalie Goepel paired together for some very strong pitching and Kat Mathis was a stand-out behind the plate, and caught every game. The combination of strong defense, timely hitting and aggressive base running, up and down the Menace line-up, proved too much for their opponents.

The Menace summer softball

program continues to grow -- this summer 38 girls play on 2 Menace teams. The Menace players, ranging in age from 8 to 13 years old, all play in LMYA's spring softball league. The Menace have improved quickly at regular practices at St. Mary's College, led by the terrific SMC coaching staff.

The San Jose win was in the fourth of six tournaments the Menace 12U will be playing this summer. The 12U team has two remaining tournaments in Benicia and San Jose in August, and expectations are high for more exciting play from the Menace.

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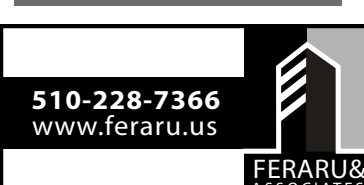
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# SPORTS

## LAMORINDAS LOCAL SPORTS NEWS

### Race Day Lafayette

... continued from page 1

"Riding a bike is easy," I say, "but racing bikes can be brutal."

The announcer: "Riders ready?"

Boom! We're off. Click, click, click: The crisp sound of dozens of clip-less pedals. We're rolling!

I start in the third row back. Single file into 'turn one' I see riders ahead already up and out of the saddle. One rider is making a move, jumping out front. A seventy-minute race, I need to conserve and not work too much or work too hard into the wind, I tell myself. Be smart - let him go.

Rider down! That nasty combined sound of metal and Lycra on asphalt makes me wince. The rider who tried to jump clear early is now sliding across the pavement. The pack cleanly avoids the carnage and sling-shots into a strong tailwind down Golden Gate Way at speeds of over 30 mph.

Don't create any gaps; keep it tight.

Now riders are moving up on both sides of the line and bunching up at the front of the pack. Hugging the inside corner, the pack, now three lines wide, brakes lightly and leans into turn three. One rider leaning too far hits his left pedal. Sparks fly. Somehow, he manages to keep his tires on the road. Later, a tire explodes.

Often riders will literally lean on one another, holding each other up, and then get right back to racing. I'm just happy when the crash I hear is behind me.

Hammering down Mt. Diablo, the increasing headwind drives the group together, forcing everyone to 'find wheels' to draft. Riders that want to work quickly find a train of riders in their wake - 'wheel suckers.'

I try to maintain a spot in the top ten to see if any 'attacks' are happening and be in a good position to grab a wheel should the one ahead of me start to slow

down. There are also usually fewer gaps near the front - less of a "slinky effect." At times, I find myself on the front, quickly take a short pull, and let the next rider through.

The crowd noise is not a factor: a few cowbells (standard bicycle racing noisemakers). I can just make out the muffled announcer's voice as we approached the start/finish. The biggest factor is the wind blowing down barracades and cones on either side of the course.

Seeing that rider crash in the first lap made everyone a little edgy; much braking going on. The lead riders drive the pace. Locked onto the wheel in front of me for much of the race, unattached, without a team to work for - or rider to work for me - I save myself for the final sprint.

It's "go time."  
At '2 to go' we whip around the corner and up onto Mt. Diablo Blvd so fast I can't breathe. Rip-

ping through the start/finish, I hear the bell signifying the final lap - ONE to go!!!

The announcer beckoned and it's all out to the end. We come in hot around the last corner. Everyone is up and out of the saddle, spread wide on both sides of the road. I'm on one wheel, then another, and then there's the line. Pain, broad grins.

It was a good race: well organized and fun. I finish 21st overall - in the top half. It helps me justify racing in the main event.

Will I be out there next year? Definitely!

Orinda resident Michael Foley is a USCF Category II racer and has completed solo bicycle tours from California to Montana and Oregon. He is author of "Bicycling Beyond City Limits," which chronicles his 55-day cross-country journey with six friends (available at Orinda Books and Amazon.com).

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### Power Square Off Against Sissi And The California Storm

By Kevin D. Shallat



10 Sarah Churchill



11 Bethany Garchar



Photos by Jordan Fong

### Stead Open: World Class Tennis with Small Town Charm

By Sarah Henningsen

In the second round of recent Championships at Wimbledon, a relatively unknown player named Hana Sromova from the Czech Republic faced Venus Williams, eventually losing to the legendary player in straight sets. Though she has yet to win a Grand Slam title in her tennis career, Sromova is a multiple champion at what Lamorinda locals know as the Stead Open.

The tennis tournament, held annually at Moraga Country Club in August, features everything from professional players at the Wimbledon level to local athletes rising in the sport. Such diversity among competitors has made the Stead Open a very popular, respected, and interesting competition.

"What is so unique about this event is that it includes players from all different skill levels—ex-tour players, new people on the circuit, local juniors and collegiate players," said Mark Orwig, the tennis pro at MCC and director of the Stead Open. "That's the kind of flavor we want to keep in the tournament."

Play begins Tuesday, Aug. 7 in the morning during early-round matches and sometimes continues throughout the evening depending on how long the matches take to complete. Registration entries are

available to USTA members and must be turned in by the end of the July for inclusion in the tournament; seeding will be announced by Aug. 5. Consistent with the tournament schedule from the past two years, several matches will also be featured specifically on Thursday night. This addition to the tournament has enabled individuals who work during the day to attend the event and watch some topnotch tennis matches.

Since its inception in the late 1980s, the Stead Open has grown to become one of the best open tennis tournaments in the country, mainly due to the high caliber of athletes and a large purse of prize money. As Orwig acknowledges, Stead Family of Fine Automobiles and Alain Pinel Realtors continual support of the tennis tournament shows "a real desire to be a part of the community." Even more importantly, their huge donations to the overall prize money for the tournament have clearly been successful in attracting talent new and old from throughout the world, the nation, and Lamorinda.

All of the Lamorinda community, even those who are not members of MCC, are welcome. "I absolutely love watching the Stead and it is often the highlight of my summer vacation," said Theresa Luu, a senior at



Mark Orwig - Head Tennis Professional

Miramonte High School who has played golf and tennis at Moraga Country Club for many years. "Even those who don't play tennis, or know anything about it to begin with, should come out and cheer on the players. I always have a great time."

The Stead Open combines a small-town feel with some world-class tennis - a gem of an event. Who knows? The next big star could be warming up to play right in front of your eyes.

Event Highlights Aug. 7-12:	
Tue:	9am Singles
Wed:	9am Singles and Doubles
Thu:	9am Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles 5:30pm Evening Featured Matches
Fri:	9am Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles
Sat:	9am Singles and Doubles 1pm Ladies Doubles Finals
Sun:	9am All Finals: Ladies Singles, Man Singles, Man Doubles, Mixed Doubles

The Lamorinda East Bay Power soccer team and Power Head Coach Ernesto Silva knew they had a tough task ahead of them when they took on the California Storm at Acalanes on Saturday, July 21.

From Sacramento, the Storm has one of the best women player's in the world: Brazilian-born soccer player known as Sissi. She and her teammates gave the Power all they could handle this last game of the season, beating them handedly by a score of 4-0.

The first half started off promising for the Power, as several players played well on the defensive end. Utility player Sarah Miller had a nice play by the Power goal. She placed herself in front of the goal - the only angle the player could make a shot - and blocked the ball with her body, while Power goalkeeper Bianca Delahousaye had some wonderful kick saves around the goal. The good news was that Delahousaye played well in the first half; the bad news was that she was getting too much action around the Power goal throughout the half.

As dominating as the Storm were, the Power were only down by one goal at the half.

The 1-0 halftime score soon changed. The Storm had a wide-open, almost free shot on goal, but the Power were unable to take advantage of the Storm mistake, missing it wide left. The momentum stayed with the Storm. Playing with their backs against the goal for most of the game proved too much, as the Power tired and the Storm took advantage.

Although Sissi did not score any of their four goals on the day, she was stellar at setting up shots for her Storm teammates. The most impressive as-

pect of Sissi's game was her ball handling skills. Every player who had possession of the ball Saturday would have a defender in their face immediately, physically attempting to kick the ball away from them. There may have been one or two times all day where anybody got a leg in on Sissi to try and extract the ball. She was simply too good with the ball and too fast to allow that to happen.

Samantha Faber had a good game for the Power as she had a few powerful shots on goal. Fantastic play by the Storm goalkeeper kept her shots from the net.

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**Heads Up,**  
Lamorinda Players, Coaches, and Fans  
We want your game scores, highlights, and photos.  
Please send your game reports, including player names and digital photos to  
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