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LAMORINDA WEEKLY

1st Anniversary Edition

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Wednesday, March 19, 2008



There's nothing more magical than seeing the delighted face of a child searching for Easter eggs in a large grassy field, or the sound of their laughter when being tickled by the soft fur or feathers of baby bunnies and chicks. If bunnies and chicks are purchased as Easter pets, however, the excitement of the new addition can wear off fast, says Lamorinda 4H Rabbit Leader Aimee Protzen. "Children lose interest very quickly," she said. "A lot of rabbits like a quiet household, so buying a rabbit for a 3-year-old is not a good match." And chicks have another complication. "People don't realize that when they go to a feed store and get chicks that many of them are roosters," said Lamorinda 4H Club Poultry Leader Michelle Chan. "You are never guaranteed the sex of chicks until they are six months old and start crowing."

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Keeping Easter Fun for Everyone – Even Easter Pets

By Jennifer Wake



Now We Are One Dear Friends and Neighbors,

One year ago this week, you may have been surprised to find a small but colorful newspaper lying somewhere in the general vicinity of your home. For more than a few of you, that was a year ago next week; fortunately, our ability to deliver the Lamorinda Weekly to you in a timely manner has improved a bit. You may have immediately recycled that first issue because it was left in the gutter and had absorbed most of the run-off from the last rain, or thought to yourself, "I didn't order this..." Some of you opened it up and read about "The Little Paper That Could."

Not many of you knew us back then, but those who did sent letters of welcome and encouragement, and over the past year the support of our communities has grown more than we could have hoped. For all of the thoughtful and often thought-provoking notes, story ideas, articles and photographs you've submitted to us, we can't thank you enough.

I've been thinking all week about how to express the delight we take in having the opportunity to serve, in our own way, our little corner of the world;

to chronicle and celebrate everyday life in Lamorinda and to help, we hope, bring people together despite our differences.

Over the past twelve months we have gotten to know each other, to learn each other's strengths and weaknesses, and to appreciate what the other has to offer. In short, we've become friends.

And, just between us, we have had a whole lot of fun! It has been a genuine pleasure making your acquaintance.

The cities and town that comprise Lamorinda, while distinct in their own personalities, have much in common. We have been struck by the sincere commitment, level of involvement and great care we've seen displayed by and on behalf of our communities. We may live in 'small towns,' but they are a haven for generous and open minds.

This week, your friendly neighborhood newspaper celebrates its first birthday (or 'paper anniversary,' if you will), which means the National Newspaper Association now considers us a legitimate publication. But we are not, nor do we aspire to be, your typical newspaper; those aren't doing very well these days, and we like our cozy little niche.

As we look ahead, we acknowledge that we

have learned much during our first year, and freely admit that we still have much to learn. We will continue to grow and do our best to be the newspaper that speaks to you about what's happening in your own back yard.

There has been a rather heated debate going on in our editorial meetings of late as to whether or not the Lamorinda Weekly should take a formal position on some of our local issues. We've done so in only a very few instances. We have not, and probably will not, voice our opinion on issues that are to be determined by the voters in our communities, such as parcel taxes, open space initiatives, and city council races. Rather, we will continue to offer an opportunity for public debate and discussion, allowing differing views to be shared and exchanged and encouraging all residents of Lamorinda to get involved, stay informed and come to your own conclusions.

Thank you for reading, and welcome to Volume 2 of the Lamorinda Weekly.

Lee Borrowman, Editor

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

this week

PROFILE

As we continue our series introducing you to the key members of our City Staffs, this week we profile the Public Works Managers in Lafayette (page 2) and Moraga (page 3). The profile of the Orinda Public Works Manager will run in a subsequent issue.

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Detour Ahead

By Cathy Tyson



Big equipment for big pipes is coming in town Photo provided

In an effort to keep Lamorinda drivers apprised of the upcoming Moraga Road Pipeline project, EBMUD has designed a special insert, which can be found in the center of this paper. Residents may want to leave a little early or stay a little late in June, July and August to avoid what EBMUD describes as a "noticeable impact." Another option would be to take a lengthy vacation, thereby reducing the number of cars on the road and possibly your blood pressure during the summer months.

Highlights of the insert include dates for the project, June 16 through August 22, and construction times. The installation will start in Moraga between Sky-Hy Drive and Draeger Drive, where, because of the width of the road, two-way traffic will be available, with a few small exceptions. For the most part, construction will run from 8:45 until 4:30.

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