

## Lamorinda's Religious Services



**Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, Orinda, 254-3422**

**Summer Worship Schedule**  
 8:15 a.m. Traditions Worship Service  
 9:15 a.m. Coffee Fellowship  
 9:45 a.m. Celebrations Worship Service  
 Childcare available for ages 5 and younger

**Our Savior's Lutheran (ELCA)**  
 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette  
 283-3722 • [www.oslc.net](http://www.oslc.net)

**Sundays:** 8:15 am Classic Service  
 9:15 am Education Hour  
 10:30 am Contemporary Service

**St. Anselm's Episcopal Church**  
 A Loving Community

**Sunday Services:** 8 and 10 AM  
 Active Youth Program, Childcare

682 Michael Lane, Lafayette, 284-7420, [www.stanselms.ws](http://www.stanselms.ws)

**St. Giles Episcopal Church of Moraga**  
 Worshipping at St. Mary's College Chapel. All are welcome at our services.  
**9 a.m. Sunday Service:** Holy Communion - with St. Giles' Choir.  
 Child care is available all year.  
 1928 St. Mary's Road, Moraga. 925-376-5770

**Temple Isaiah welcomes you to worship with us on Shabbat.**

**Isaiah** For specific questions, call the Temple office at 925-283-8575 or visit our website: [temple-isaiah.org](http://temple-isaiah.org).  
 1st and 4th Friday evening - 6:30 PM  
 2nd and 3rd Friday evening - 8:00 PM  
 Saturday mornings at 10:30 AM

If you would like your services listed, please email to [info@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:info@lamorindaweekly.com) or call 925-377-0977.  
 A one inch listing will cost \$20.

## Letters to the Editor

Share your thoughts with our community! Opinions in Letters to the Editor are the express views of the writers and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly.

All published letters will include the writer's name and town (please give us your phone number for verification purposes only), and should be 350 words or less. Letters may be edited for length or legal considerations.

**email:** [letters@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:letters@lamorindaweekly.com); **Regular mail:** Lamorinda Weekly, P.O.Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570

**Download "Your" story from**  
[www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com)

Dear Editor:  
 We read with interest your recent story on Saint Mary's College and the town's approach to quelling noise issues with its student body and at the college itself.

It is not without reason, we see, that we sometimes feel we are living in two separate towns. "Our" town is populated by Mrs. Aguirre, the many residents of Thune Ave., Ascot Drive, St. Mary's Gardens, our neighbors on Fernwood Drive and by us - all of whom have spoken against the college and its practices in recent weeks. It appears "our" town is beset by noise and boorish behavior of Saint Mary's Students and the college itself, which for years has studiously ignored our efforts to get them to be better neighbors.

The "other" town is the one which, if reported correctly, is expressed by Chief Ruppenthal in your June 11 issue. In it, he reportedly states, when asked by SMC rep Jim Farley if the college could be put "off limit" of the noise ordinance: "We haven't had any issue with the campus' noise level in the past years. They do not need to be off limit and have done a good job warning their neighbors when they have celebrations."

To that statement, if reported correctly, we politely say: "Rubbish." Our family has called the college and local police a total of 22 times in the past 15 months seeking relief from the school's "celebrations," which have run the gamut of early morning hip hop parties to two lone tennis players commandeering the school sound system and blasting trance music into the neighborhood for hours on end. Video evidence of these transgressions exists. Additionally, our neighbors tell us they have also called, and written, both the college and the chief - as well as the town council. These letters also are on record. We have been consistently told by town officials that the college is held to the same level as any resident relative to excessive noise. Again, we say "Rubbish."

In the past two years we have had three people we do not know knock at our door and demand we turn down our music, only to stand gaped as we point through our house to the college and one of its "celebrations." Our neighbors grumble and threaten and say the police have told them "there is nothing we can do."

Although we have made every effort to attend every hearing on the sound ordinance in this town we must have missed the last notification as we were unaware a second reading was being undertaken. We regret we were not there as we would have voiced our opposition to any further favorable treatment of the college.

Seeing the Chief's comments, the college's expressed desire to be held "off limit" to the ordinance in the same issue with neighbors saying the same things we do every day has made our future course painfully clear.

Dear Editor,  
 I would like to agree with Bob Shusta, a former president of Lafayette Rotary Club, in regards to the participation of foreign exchange students in local high school graduations. I was sponsored by the Lafayette Rotary Club and hosted by the Rotary Club of La Reina in Santiago, Chile during the 2005-2006 school year. As a former foreign exchange student I understand firsthand how important it is for exchange students to feel welcomed into their communities and schools. The fact that the Acalanes Union High School District has decided to forbid exchange students from participating in the graduation of their host school is extremely disappointing and breaks my heart. These students come to this country and this community with hope and excitement for what lie ahead, with their high school graduation being one of their most memorable and prideful experiences. The Acalanes Union High School District should reconsider their decision and recognize these extraordinary and brave students and the hard work they put in throughout their year in this community.

Jessica Hoffschneider  
 Lafayette

Dear Editor:  
 I drove around Lamorinda on Monday, 5/26, and I could not believe how many non-patriotic people we have living in this area! As I drove around, I noticed that there were hardly any American Flags hanging from houses? What is wrong with this country? It's just the right thing to do: Hang the American Flag on holidays!

The following are holidays in which the flag should be hung: 2/12 President Lincoln's Birthday, 2/18 President's Day, 2/22 President Washington's Birthday, 5/17 Armed Forces Day, 5/26 Memorial Day, 6/6 "D" Day, 6/14 Flag Day, 7/4 Independence Day, 9/1 Labor Day, 9/11 Day of Remembrance, 10/12 Columbus Day, 10/24 United Nations Day, 11/11 Veterans Day, every last Thursday in November Thanksgiving Day, 12/7 Day of Remembrance. Just in case people are wondering what these holidays mean, one can either go to the Library, look it up in our history books, or one can go online on a computer to understand what these holidays represent.

I worked for Longs Drug Store in Rheem for several years. After the tragic and devastating 9/11/01 crisis, I was shocked and surprised to see how many people came into the store to purchase an American Flag! It's like hello...welcome to America...welcome to being an American. I asked a couple of people I knew, "You mean to tell me that you do not own an American Flag?" I said, "Where have you been? What do you do for July 4?" I'll bet most people don't even know how to respect the Flag. You never hand the flag in the dark. One must have a light on it at all times at night. Either that or you bring the flag in, of course, without dropping it on the ground or the floor! Also, you are not supposed to throw away an American Flag. There is a respectful way of disposing the flag. The Boy Scouts of America know what to do with it.

What is going to happen to our future citizens of our country if we do not teach them the right thing to do?

Sincerely,  
 Janet C. Bellotti-Kelley  
 Moraga

Respectfully,  
 The O'Connor Family  
 Moraga

Dear Editor,  
 In a recent LTE, Moraga resident Carolyn Aguirre spoke to the problem of having rowdy, inconsiderate students living near her on Ascot Rd. I sympathize with her plight and agree that it is due to a culture of incivility. However, I must disagree, as someone who drinks alcohol daily and who is entrenched in the wine industry, that part of the problem is a culture "that encourages alcohol at every turn." In fact if our society integrated alcohol into daily life more, we would have fewer alcohol-related problems.

In Europe, adolescents often drink wine with dinner and seem to have much less of a need to go on noisy, destructive benders than their American counterparts once they are in college. Here in Lamorinda, I have met many responsible people who drink wine daily and also enjoy quality beer and liquor, who would be just as dismayed with the raucous behavior of Ascot's SMC students. These aren't just anecdotes: UC - Davis reports that only 2% of drunk driving arrests are for wine, yet many people drink wine every day. Perhaps if we encouraged responsible consumption and moderation, we would have fewer obscenely intoxicated young people.

Sincerely,  
 Gabriel Froymovich  
 Lafayette  
 Founder, Lamorinda Wine Society

### Ivy Drive Moves to Slow the Speed

... continued from page 4

"Speed cushions present a trade off between the benefit of slowed traffic and the nuisance of the bump for residents who traverse the street most often," explained Gary Moore, Chair of the Orinda Traffic Safety Advisory Council (TSAC). "Even if we collectively think that this is a good idea, ultimately it is up to the neighbors to decide if this is a trade off that they want to make," he added.

About fifteen residents of Ivy Drive attended last week's meeting of Orinda's TSAC to voice their support for or concerns over the proposed traffic safety recommendations for their street. Members of a neighborhood action team working with Janice Carey, the City Engineer, presented a three-pronged proposal for traffic safety measures on Ivy Drive. Based on studies by and advice from traffic engineers and consultants, the group recommended the installation of a stop sign (on Arroyo at Ivy Drive), additional speed limit signs (no more than three), and four speed cushions at or near 46, 132, 192, and 236 Ivy Drive.

Although examples of children nearly being hit by speeding cars presented a compelling argument for significant measures to be taken to slow the traffic on Ivy Drive, not all residents were convinced that speed cushions were the best solution. "We in this neighborhood will bear the brunt of these bumps," argued one longtime Ivy Drive dweller. "This problem occurs for an hour and a half a day for the nine months of the school year. What we need is better police enforcement," she added.

Other residents raised the concern that emergency vehicles would be slowed down by the speed cushions creating a potentially life-threatening situation. In response, a member of the neighborhood action team explained that a speed test had been conducted employing a mid-size fire truck traveling over a speed cushion, and the test found the vehicles' speed was reduced by only 3.8 seconds. However, he did note that emergency vehicles such as an ambulance might be slowed further.

Following two hours of lively discussion, Orinda's TSAC approved the action team's recommendations with only minor modifications. In the next step of the process, residents of Ivy Drive will be surveyed to ascertain their support of the proposed traffic safety measures before the City Council considers the action.

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