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Wednesday, June 25, 2008

INDEPENDENCE DAY



Festivities in celebration of Independence Day: See pages 18 and 19

Multiculturalism Thrives in Lamorinda

By Jennifer Wake

As the 4th of July approaches, a question comes to mind: Who are Americans, anyway?

Commonly known as a people of "baseball, hot dogs, and apple pie," a cultural shift has even hit American ball parks, with fare now ranging from sushi to sausages, linguini to lattes. We are a nation of cultural diversity. Lamorindans are no exception.

"America (and even my own family) is a melting pot," Lafayette resident Joanne Tan says.

Her two boys Benny and Daley Toudic have Chinese, French and British ancestry, so when her sons were 3 years old, Tan had them take French lessons for about three years. Now they are beginning to learn Mandarin Chinese.

"I believe that language is a stepping stone to understanding one's culture," Tan says.

And she is not alone. In recent years, immersion programs have become more common, according to the U.S. Center for Applied Linguistics. French For Fun in Lafayette of-

fers immersion programs for toddlers and elementary school aged children, Lafayette-based Small World teaches Chinese to children as young as one year old,

and KISS (Kids Into Speaking Spanish) immerses children in the language.

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LAMORINDA WEEKLY

this week

Going Buggy!



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Women General Contractors: Move Over, Tool Man!



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Lafayette Little League



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Ground Breaking News: Moraga Road is Closed

By Sophie Braccini

Mountain Cascade and the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) did it; on June 16th they closed Moraga Road to through traffic at 9:00 a.m. sharp, not to reopen until 5:30 p.m. Everything had been tested, every flagger had his spot, every foreman had his phone, every worker his instructions. Things proceeded smoothly, and when the first traffic difficulties emerged the two companies were reactive and flexible, and modified the system in place to minimize the impact on residents.

Mountain Cascade won the EBMUD bid to install the new pipeline on Moraga Road. "We are doing more than replacing the old distribution system," explains EBMUD's Nora Harlow, "the new transmission pipeline is in addition to the existing pipeline, which will continue to function: for security purposes there will be two transmission pipelines along the same general alignment."

The project ends at Draeger Drive because EBMUD has a large reservoir up that road (Moraga Reservoir), which will be replaced in the near future. Before that happens, a reservoir will be built at Ardith Drive to provide water while the new Moraga Reservoir is constructed. This is all part of a comprehensive Water Treatment and Transmission Improvements Program, which will improve reliability of water service to Lamorinda and western Walnut Creek.

Harlow is the main contact person for all those who have issues with the project (510-220-4331). On Monday the 16th, her phone rang when people got stuck in traffic around 4 p.m. on St Mary's Road, and wanted immediate help. One of the biggest intersections is St Mary's with Glenside to the East (going toward Walnut Creek) and Woodview to the west. Mountain Cascade had stationed one of its most experienced flagger, Casey, at the corner. The young man says he likes his job, keeping traffic moving and being of real help to drivers.

... continued on page 11



7-ton pipes are set in a 10 foot deep trench

Photo Sophie Braccini

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Lamorinda Community

Calendar, Notes, News

Lafayette

Calendar	
City Council	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road	
Monday, July 14	
Planning Comm.	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road	
Thursday, July 3	
Design Review	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road	
Tuesday, July 8	
Park, Trails, Rec.	7pm
Community Center 500 St Mary's Road	
Friday, July 9	
Circulation	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road	
Monday, July 7	
Senior Services	3:30pm
Community Center, Alder Room 500 St Mary's Road	
Thursday, June 26	

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



Car burglary, 6/10/08 A suspect broke into the rear drivers side window of car parked on Carol Lane in a carport. A DVD system including two roof mounted screens was stolen from the Toyota Sequoia.

Attempted burglary, 6/9/08 Two suspects, one male and one female broke the rear window in the master bathroom of a Silverado Drive home. When they removed the window screen an audible alarm was activated. They fled in a Chevrolet Trailblazer for a short distance then continued on foot. It turns out the get away car was rented from Enterprise. Perhaps the driver's license and credit card they used to hire the vehicle will lead to their arrest.

Petty Theft, 6/02/08 A young woman attempted to stop a theft in progress. An unknown suspect wearing a black hoodie was seen taking her purse from her car parked on Dewing Avenue. She yelled at him, causing him to flee on his bicycle down the street. The area was checked, but the cycling thief appears to have gotten away.

Burglary, 6/02/08 An unknown suspect entered a Bayer Circle home and took \$11,650 worth of jewelry and \$320 in cash. No suspects at this time.

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Senior Housing Coming to Lafayette

By Cathy Tyson



Architectural drawing from Van Meter Williams Pollack, LLP

After one false start, it's full speed ahead for a potential senior housing project in downtown Lafayette. Eden Housing, a Hayward based developer of quality affordable housing communities was recommended by the Senior Housing Task Force and approved by the City Council as their recommended senior housing provider after extensive interviews with a number of developers.

Because of rising land values and a lack of available properties within the downtown area, it has been challenging finding a site for the project.

Back in November of 2007, the Butler Conti site was in negotiations with Eden but the two parties were unable to seal the deal. Luckily right next door, a 0.8 acre site owned by the Lemos Family Trust at 3426 Mount Diablo Boulevard became available and in late January of this year Eden entered into a purchase agreement.

"Currently they are in a due diligence research period with an option to purchase," said Glenda Warmoth Assistant Planner on the project. Recently there was a Study Session with Design Review Commission which comes before the formal application to the city. "This is an opportunity to get design related feedback. The DRC weighed the pros and cons of two possible design options of the building." She continued, "We would definitely like to see more senior housing in town."

A 53,619 square foot structure is proposed with approximately 47 units for seniors. The site has a few challenges that were discovered during the due diligence period, namely two storm drain lines, one electrical line and a portion of an EBMUD aqueduct. These utilities necessitated some adjustments, especially the 6'6" buried water line.

Future of Chevron Station Uncertain

By Cathy Tyson

On June ninth an attorney representing Chevron applied for a permit to demolish the Chevron Gas station at the corner of Happy Valley and Mount Diablo Boulevard at a recent Redevelopment Agency meeting. The Agency adopted the resolution, subject to certain conditions.

This was an odd situation for the two parties involved, the land owner, a retired Republican political consultant based in Los Angeles and Chevron, who owns the improvements to the property: the pumps, the canopy, the building and the underground tanks. According to a recent staff report the owner wants to sell the property, and "requests removal of all service station improvements to provide a build-

able lot for prospective buyers." Due to its prime location, the land, just shy of half an acre, has surely grown more valuable over the years.

Despite the application for demolition, Chevron claims to want to work with the land owner. "We are negotiating in good faith. We have every hope to continue our relationship with the community. We intend to stay. I can't speak for the land owner, but we sincerely hope to re-up our lease," said Janli Degenhardt, of Chevron Community Relations. Then why get the demolition permit?

The strange thing is, according to Associate Planner Lindy Coburn, Chevron could just close down the station and cease operations if it wanted to. Wendy Borchardt, the land owner did not immediately return calls for comment.

Martinis for a Cause

By Cathy Tyson and Jennifer Wake



From left, Amy Daggett, Kelly Mullane and Elisa Pimi enjoying their martinis Photo Cathy Tyson

Why the long line of parked cars in front of the Lafayette Park Hotel last Monday night? Is Obama in town, could it be our first same sex marriage? No, this reporter and colleague Jennifer Wake had the extremely difficult job of covering the Ninth Annual Best Martini in the East Bay Contest. Sponsored by Level Vodka by Absolut and the Lafayette Park Hotel, the event featured fourteen bartenders, shaking up their signature martinis.

Cars not only lined Mt. Diablo Boulevard, but neighboring streets as well. Patrons, many in high heels, hiked for blocks to get a chance to sample these martinis.

Literally hundreds of twenty to fifty-somethings donated \$20 for the event which benefits Project Second Chance, the Contra Costa Library program that helps adults learn to read. Although the final numbers aren't in, last year the event netted more than \$13,000.

"We want to thank everyone who attended, by doing so, you ad-

vanced the cause of adult literacy," said Program Manager Laura Seaholm.

Bartenders from local watering holes lined the patio area and large reception room duking it out pouring three ounce samples of their 'tini's in the hopes of winning two awards and bragging rights; the Best Martini title from a panel of judges and the People's Choice Award voted on by slightly sloshed attendees. Swinging background music on this lovely summer evening was provided by Generations in Jazz.

Judges gave Zio Fredo's

"Thai 'tini' first place, with Havana's "Tamarind 'tini' garnering second place and Yankee Pier bringing home third with their "Lady Bug" cocktail. The People's Choice award went to Morrissey's Chop House for their "Tiramisu 'tini."

Noting the preponderance of pear based beverages, Kelly Mullane said, "Pear is the new pomegranate." She and her pal Amy Daggett agreed that they are "down with drinking for charity." Ms. Wake and I couldn't agree more.

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Lamorinda Community Calendar, Notes, News

Moraga

Calendar	
City Council	7:30pm
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School 1010 Camino Pablo Wednesday, July 9	
Planning Comm.	7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room 2100 Donald Drive Monday, July 7	
Design Review	7:30pm
Hacienda, La Sala Room 2100 Donald Drive Monday, July 14	
Park & Rec	7:30pm
Hacienda, Mosaic Room 2100 Donald Drive Tuesday, July 15	
Liaison	8:00am
Fire Station 1280 Moraga Way Friday, July 11	
Town of Moraga online: http://www.ci.moraga.ca.us for: • all meeting notes • calendar updates	



Possession of Marijuana, 6/13/08 An officer had a report of suspicious activity on Ascot Drive and checked it out. In the creek area, hidden from sight, he contacted four juveniles. When they saw the officer it appeared that they tried to ditch their contraband. Perhaps it was the distinct odor of pot in the air that inspired one of the kids to 'fess up that he had some pot in his backpack. A female in the group had cigarettes in her purse. All the parents were called; two citations were written, one for marijuana and one for tobacco.

Underage Possession of Alcohol, 6/14/08 Who knew a car parked in the Moraga Commons parking lot at 2:45 in the morning would be up to no good? Officers on routine patrol noticed three male juveniles in the car. The smell of alcohol and a large bottle of Crown Royal Whiskey got the officers' attention. The teen in possession of the booze received a citation. All the parents were called and the kids were taken home.

D.U.I., 6/15/08 A car was pulled over on Camino Ricardo going in excess of 60 m.p.h. in a 35 m.p.h. zone at 2:21 in the morning. What a surprise, the driver failed in-field sobriety tests. He had a blood alcohol level of .21. He was cited and released to a family member.

Grand Theft, 6/17/08 A staff member at Saint Mary's College called Moraga Police Department to report a theft. On May 23, 2008 a \$2,700 Apple laptop was delivered to campus via Fed Ex. The package was signed for, but can no longer be located. The incident is under investigation.

DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE
Moraga Police Department no longer needs property related to the following cases for evidentiary purposes: Case 01-1333 and Case 07-754. If you are involved in either of these cases and have ownership of items involved and want to claim your property please contact the Moraga Police Departments Property Officer Heather Pomeroy at (925)888-7054. All Evidence for Case 01-1333 will be destroyed after July 10, 2008. All evidence, phones, radios, and cameras for case 07-754 will be destroyed after August 15, 2008.

When Dogs and Soccer Collide

By Sophie Braccini

Bringing your dog to run freely at Rancho Laguna Park has been a Moraga tradition for years. And for years, dogs have been allowed to play off-leash before 9 a.m. in the morning and after 7 p.m. in the evening. So to the "dog community," the news that a half an hour would be removed from their window of dog frolicking in the morning sounded like an intolerable infringement upon their rights, if not the first step in the direction

Moraga Center Specific Plan Takes Shape: Community Input Needed

By Sophie Braccini



Planning Director Lori Salamack is holding a Specific Plan document, available at the Moraga Library or the Town Offices Photo Andy Scheck

The first visualization of the Moraga Specific Plan for the Moraga Center area was presented to the public on Monday, June 16th during a Planning Commission meeting. The Dahlin Group and Fehr and Peers presented alternative plans to develop the area. A draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for each option assessed impacts on traffic, air quality, and drainage among other aspects. The public has forty five days to comment on the plan, from June 17th-August 1st. Planning Director Lori Salamack encourages all residents to send their comments to her office. The consultants will subsequently present their responses to residents and the Town Council.

"Moraga's General Plan calls for a Specific Plan in both the Moraga Center and the Rheem areas," says Salamack, "the Moraga Center area is the largest undeveloped location where we can plan for the affordable housing that the Town has the obligation to design in order to comply with ABAG." The

Dahlin Group was awarded a contract to present different scenarios for development of the area, while Fehr and Peers assessed the traffic impact of the proposal.

The purpose of the plan is to revitalize the shopping center, create a real town center, add mixed student/senior/ multi-family housing and provide opportunities for potential new businesses such as a hotel, a community center/gym and office spaces.

The area that is proposed for the highest density is "the village" west of Laguna Creek and up to Camino Ricardo. The density would start at 24 units per acre closer to the creek to go down to 12 dwellings per acre approaching Camino Ricardo. The Ranch area would be renovated and harbor eclectic retail and walking space, School Street would be extended past Safeway to connect with St Mary's Road and would be developed in a 'Main Street' style with mixed commercial and residential use. ... continued on page 6

Town Council Honors Gentleman Sweeny

By Sophie Braccini

There was quite a turn out at the Town Council on June 11th to hear a proclamation to honor the memory of Jim Sweeny. The Moraga resident who passed away on May 25th, at age 81, was a former Council Member and Mayor of the Town.

Fellow former Council Members lined up to talk about the man they all respected as a mentor. Sweeny's funeral was a private event, so the homage the Town paid him was an opportunity for some of those who loved and held him in high esteem to convey their admiration and express how much they would miss him.

Sweeny was born and raised in Richmond, Virginia to a working class family with five children. Only he and a brother went to college. A very bright young man, he graduated from law school but rapidly moved into management consulting. He started his career on the East Coast and was promoted Director of the San Francisco office of Towers Perrin Forster and Crosby Management Consultants in 1972.

The family moved to Moraga. After a very successful career, he retired early in the mid eighties

because, according to daughter Carol Sweeny-Greco, "He knew he wanted to give back to the community and had the means to do so." A very patriotic man, he was a socially-progressive Republican. He was open-minded on many issues, and had no racial or sexual intolerance. "My mother and he were anything but prejudiced and provincial," said Greco, "they raised my sister, Sue Hilk, and me with fabulous values and we were encouraged to make our own choices."

This openness was characteristic of his positions when it came to Town government. He was elected to the Town Council in 1988 and served two terms. "He loved the open space and the wanted to protect the ridgelines," says Sweeny-Greco, "but he understood the business issues, and was seeking reasonable managed growth to maintain the charm and personality of the town." In line with these positions he was involved in implementing the Moraga Open Space Ordinance (MOSO 1986).

... continued on page 6

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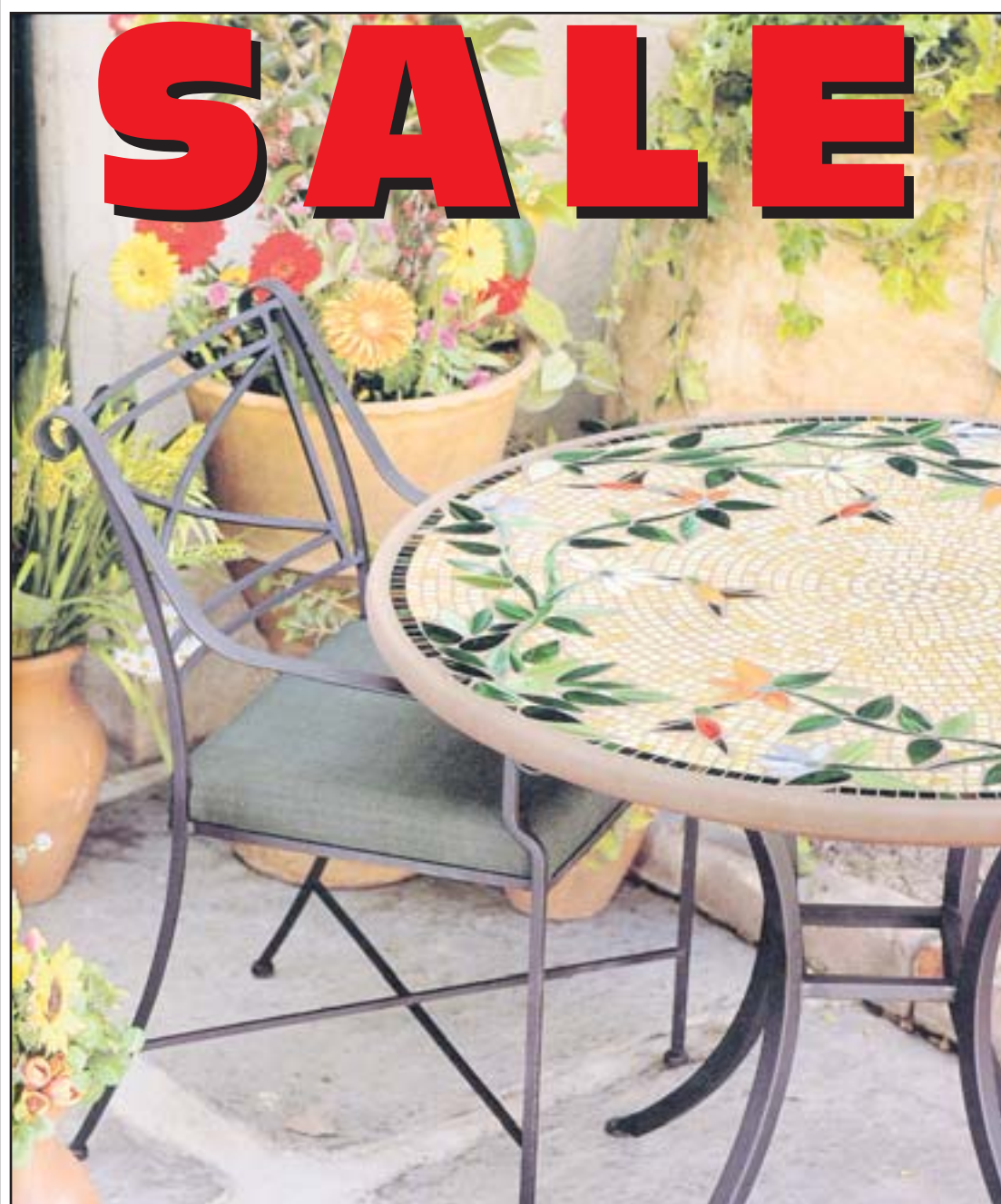


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Lamorinda Community Calendar, Notes, News

Orinda

Calendar	
City Council	7pm
Auditorium, Orinda Library 26 Orinda Way Tuesday, July 1	
Planning Comm.	7:00pm
Auditorium, Orinda Library 26 Orinda Way Tuesday, July 8	
Planning Process Review	8:30am
Community Room at City Hall 22 Orinda Way Monday, June 30	
Parks & Recreation Comm.	7pm
Orinda Community Center Room 7 28 Orinda Way Wednesday, July 9	
Mayor's Com. Liaison	9am
Community Room at City Hall 22 Orinda Way Monday, July 7	
check online: Town of Orinda: http://www.ci.orinda.ca.us/ • all meeting notes • calendar updates	
Chamber of Commerce: http://www.orindachamber.org/ • local businesses • upcoming events	

Ivy Drive Moves to Slow the Speed

By Andrea A. Firth



The site of potential speed cushions to be placed on Ivy Drive

As many in Lamorinda are looking for ways to move faster amidst the road closures and construction this summer, the residents of Ivy Drive in Orinda are trying to figure out how best to slow down the traffic on their street.

Ivy Drive, which exits at both ends onto Moraga Way, serves as a primary conduit for students driving to Miramonte

High School and parents and buses delivering students to Orinda Intermediate and Del Rey Elementary Schools. Speeding by reckless teens and middle-aged moms through this Bermuda Triangle of school routes has driven many Ivy Drive residents to distraction. But like their Camino Pablo-based neighbors in Moraga, they have come to learn that the process to implement traffic

calming measures on their street takes time, patience and a lot of work. And even then, the threshold to be met for the installation of speed cushions may not be satisfied.

Speed cushions require approval by 70% of the street residents affected and by 100% of homeowners whose properties directly about the cushions.

Photo Andrea A. Firth
... continued on page 10



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Orinda Beefs Up Solicitor Ordinance

By Andrea A. Firth

The Orinda City Council recently revised the City's ordinance for regulations related to peddlers and solicitors. "Essentially we made it stronger," states Police Chief Bill French. "This ordinance is a tool which helps the police to know who is in the City and who is going door to door." The ordinance requires individuals to register with the police department before selling or taking orders and allows the police to enforce trespass laws against solicitors who ignore "No Soliciting" signs posted by residents.

"It's very common for a van load of nine or ten young adults to be dropped off in a neighborhood with the objective to solicit residents to purchase magazines or other products," explains Chief French. "They can be very aggressive and often misrepresent who they are," he adds. Solicitors might state that they are selling magazines as a fundraiser for a local group when they are actually working for a for-profit organization based out of state. "They can't misrepresent themselves. That doesn't work for us," says French. "They are taking advantage of residents whose hearts are in the right place but who then feel they have been fooled and tricked," he adds.

Due to the often aggressive nature of this type of solicitor, the police department will receive several calls from

residents when groups are canvassing the city. "It's not uncommon to receive these calls. This happens throughout the area. It's not unique to Orinda. These groups hit a different city each day," states French.

Each solicitor must register at City Hall, provide valid identification and a photograph, and pay a registration fee. A warrant check is conducted to ensure the solicitor has no criminal history, and if approved, the solicitor is given a photo registration card that must be displayed at all times. Although not all solicitors are participating in fraudulent schemes, Chief French points out that paying a solicitor with a check then provides that individual with your name, address, signature, and bank account information. "They are collecting all that data, so it is important to be cautious," he adds.

Solicitors are not welcome at homes that display "No Solicitors" signage. "Under the ordinance, they can't even knock on the door, and we have the ability make an arrest or issue a citation for trespassing," explains French. He strongly recommends that residents who do not want to deal with solicitors put out a sign. "And, if you don't know the person at the door, don't open it until they identify themselves and you are comfortable," he warns.

Friends of the Orinda Library Present Writing Contest Awards

By Andrea A. Firth



Pat Rudebusch presenting an award to Orinda Academy Junior Matt Loudon
Photo Marianne Payne

Each year the Friends of the Orinda Library sponsor a writing contest for high school students living in Orinda. The Poul Anderson Writing Contest—named for the acclaimed science fiction writer who lived in Orinda until his death in 2001—awards \$250 cash prizes in four categories: short story, essay, poetry,

and science fiction.

Orinda Academy Junior Matt Loudon was this year's winner for essay. Loudon's essay was based on a literary response to word incognito—a fairly complex topic for his first entry in a writing contest. "It's about how human interaction is disguised by common courtesies and the boundaries and shields we use to mask who we really are." Loudon relates with disarming charm. "I was trying to get to the elements of being incognito," he explains.

Loudon, who "kind of started" writing in his freshman year, discovered that he actually enjoyed the writing assignments that he was required to do for English class. "I took the opportunity to put my own spin on things," says Loudon. With the encouragement of his English teacher who noticed his passion for writing, Loudon began to keep a journal and work on drafting a play. "It just sort of pro-

gressed. I just started writing things down."

Loudon has also been chosen to participate in a four-week residential writing program in Valencia this summer. "I'm definitely excited. Initially, I thought it would be a long month and that I would rather just hang out in Orinda with my friends," states Loudon. "But there is no downside to it—writing, new people, new friends."

Winners of the Poul Anderson Writing Contest sponsored by the Friends of the Orinda Library are listed in the sidebar.

Poul Anderson Writing Contest Winners for 2008

Science Fiction	Katharine Yu
Short Story	Meredith White
Poetry	John Scalise
Essay	Matt Loudon

Honorable Mentions went to Bryan Oczkus (science fiction) and Elisabeth Berger (poetry).



D.U.I. 6/13/08 A Honey Hill Road resident along with four of his adult male pals were parked in the Wells Fargo lot at 1:23 in the morning. Officers rolled up, smelled alcohol, noticed the fellow's bloodshot eyes and unsteady gait. Surprise, their blood alcohol level was above the legal limit.

Theft from car, 6/12/08 An unknown suspect entered an unlocked car parked on El Toyonal. Two bags were taken, one with cycling clothes and one bag with a digital camera. Total estimated value approximately \$300.

Firewood and folding chairs gone, 6/11/08 Mother and son residents of Camino Sobrante saw an older black Ford pickup truck pull up in front of their home. A few moments later they saw the suspect, a former classmate of the son's, walking to the truck carrying their firewood and two folding chairs.

Theft, 6/10/08 Fifty feet of copper wire from a construction site at Upton Road was stolen. The wire was lying on the ground, minding its own business waiting to be installed when it disappeared.

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FEDERAL GRANTS	\$1,140,000
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CITY OF ORINDA FUNDS	\$1,490,860

Life in LAMORINDA

Conservationists Help Kids Go Buggy for Bugs

By Jennifer Wake



Insect Discovery Lab education specialist Emily Geiges shows children a Malaysian Rainforest walking stick Photo Jennifer Wake

Nearly thirty children sat attentively on the floor of the Moraga Library last Thursday, waiting for a chance to do something that might make some parents cringe: Let a two-inch long hissing cockroach crawl over their hands.

The visit was part of an effort to enlighten kids to the mysterious world of bugs and promote conservationism for their habitats. Education specialists from the Center for Ecosystem Survival brought Australian walking sticks, Madagascar hissing cockroaches, giant African millipedes, and California darkling beetles to the library as part of their Insect Discovery Lab program.

Presenters Trent Davis and Emily Geiges said they bring their bugs to 700 different locations throughout the greater Bay Area each year with the hope of teaching children about the wonder of these creatures. It is also a way to promote their "Adopt an Acre" program, which raises funds to purchase and protect critical ecosystems for endangered species of plants and animals in the tropics.

"There are 1.7 million kinds of bugs named in the world, but

scientists think there are 50 to 100 million yet to be discovered," Geiges told the children. "We're trying to save the ecosystem these animals live in."

Children sat quietly as the presenters gently placed the creatures on patient, open hands. As the children (and some bold parents) held the creatures, they were told of all the wonderful things they do for the environment, such as removing waste, fertilizing the soil, and even dining on dead animals that could otherwise decay and spread disease. The specialists also explained some common misconceptions that often lead to fear of these creatures.

"People think cockroaches are dirty, but they are actually very clean creatures," Geiges said as she gently held a large hissing cockroach in her fingers. "People see them on food or near garbage, but they're just coming out to eat."

When asked why a child's bug fascination can turn to bug revulsion, Geiges said parents play a key role. "If mom is screaming at a spider, it sends a message to the child," she said. "Parents need to keep their minds as open as possible. Children look to you for an example."

Keeping an open mind about our local insects can be beneficial as well.

Gary Dorrington, who works at McDonnell Nursery in Orinda, believes we should be focusing our attention on bees.

"I can't stress enough how important it is to educate ourselves about bees. People tend to lump bees with yellow jackets, wasps, and hornets," Dorrington said. "Wasp and yellow jacket traps kill honeybees as well. But honeybees aren't going to harm someone unless someone touches them, and they'll die after they sting you, so there's your solution."

A handout written by the Walnut Creek Garden Club entitled "Save the Bees," offered at Orchard Nursery in Lafayette, states that if honeybees die off, scientists predict

that two-thirds of our food would either be gone or become so expensive that no one could afford it.

University of California at Berkeley researchers were alarmed to find that commercial honeybee populations have dropped precipitously in recent years, from 4 million to 2.4 million, and wild bee species are also plummeting. Pesticides may play a role in the reduction of wild species, since many sprays are "non-selective" and kill good bugs (soldier beetles, lady beetles and honeybees) as well as the bad.

The Garden Club suggests using insecticidal soaps rather than pesticides and landscaping with plants that will attract honeybees, native bees and other pollinators: borage, coreopsis, marjoram, thyme, lavender, rosemary, single roses and hyssop. "Most bees like open flowers to land on. Bees especially enjoy rosemary, as well as most flowering plants and trees, such as apple, almond, lemon and orange trees."

... continued on page 11

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• LAMORINDA Community • Moraga

Moraga Center Specific Plan Takes Shape: Community Input Needed

... continued from page 3

A community center would be located to the north, across from the Moraga Commons Park. The area to the south of Moraga Way would be for a shopping center or mixed office/residential use. This scenario would allow the construction of 720 new dwelling units.

Some alternative plans were also presented. One would be a simple extrapolation of the General Plan and would permit the construction of only 323 housing units, which wouldn't be sufficient for the Town to meet its ABAG obligation. Another alternative would reduce the maximum housing density to 20 units per acre, resulting in 400 new dwellings. That hypothesis would allow the town to meet its affordable housing obligation. Yet another plan includes 560 units and incorporates a gym located on the School Street extension. A town square was proposed in all of the alternatives in the middle of the School Street extension, shaped as a large roundabout, to control speed and provide a visual hub.

One of the main concerns of Moraga and surrounding city residents is the impact on traffic of new developments. Fehr and Peers based its traffic impact report on a

very detailed analysis of current Moraga traffic, by type of user (single or multi-family dwelling, seniors, students), by type of trip (shopping, commute, recreational) at different times of the day. They extrapolated their finding to the proposed development, incorporating the type of housing and therefore the type of traffic that would be expected. They added the fact that new retail would recapture some of the outside of the area shopping and that the community center/gym could attract different types of trips.

They concluded that the first option with 732 new units would increase traffic, while the other options would not have a significant impact, especially if the size of the community center/gym was limited to attract only local residents. Other issues were presented as well, such as adequate drainage and the need for additional services for new residents. Notably, the Moraga School District and the utility companies already have the capacity to cover the needs of the anticipated developments.

Most of the land addressed by the plan belongs to the Bruzzone family, and they have had conversations for years with the Town and its

consultants about the plan. The Bruzzone's development consultant, Dick Lockee, made a comment after the presentations. "This was a very good presentation," he said, "with many exciting ideas." He added that indeed Moraga needs to recapture some of its retail, but the specific plan does not include any facilitation for the implementation of the plan. "What are the incentives that will be put in place to attract the right retailers?" asked Lockee, "what kind of regulatory programs will allow speedy and smooth implementations?" The consultant explained that procedures that take years of review are not conducive to attracting investors.

You can watch the specific plan presentation on Comcast channel 26, Sunday, July 20 at 9 p.m. This broadcast is made possible by the Moraga Citizens Network (MCN) and a couple of dedicated townspeople who paid a production company to videotape the June 16 presentation. MCN is also looking into the possibility of posting it on their website, <http://www.moragacitizensnetwork.org/>, hinging on technical constraints.

All the documents presented at the June 16th meeting are avail-

able on-line. Of particular interest to residents is the "Draft EIR figures." This nineteen-page pdf file includes the visual simulations created by the Dahlin Group and detailed maps for each of the alternatives. Go to <http://moraga.ca.us/production/index.php>. Send your questions and comments to LSalamack@ci.moraga.ca.us or come to one of the meetings where public comments will be heard and recorded.

Upcoming Meetings
Mon, July 7 at 7:30 pm
 Planning Commission meeting at JM Auditorium, 1010 Camino Pablo
 Public hearing and opportunity for public comments
Wed, July 9 at 7:30 pm
 Town Council meeting at JM Auditorium, 1010 Camino Pablo
 Presentation regarding the specific plan
Wed, July 22 at 7:30 pm
 Town Council meeting at JM Auditorium, 1010 Camino Pablo
 Public hearing and opportunity for public comments

Town Council Honors Gentleman Sweeny

... continued from page 3

Former colleagues were eager to share their admiration of his personality and leadership. "Jim was a true friend," said Al Dessayer, "he had charm and integrity, and his only goal was to make Moraga a beautiful place to live."

Sue Noe Welsh, who served on the Council with Sweeny for six years, said she misses the Southern gentleman, "he was a wonderful mentor."

Many highlighted his leadership style, Mike Majchrzak remembers, "He taught me that true leadership is to allow people to live their passion." Majchrzak highlighted how Sweeny had always

emphasized integrity. Rich Avanzino couldn't agree more, "When I ran against him someone suggested personal attacks against me. But Sweeny refused, saying that the campaign was about ideas not people." Avanzino added that Sweeny was one of his heroes.

His grand personality struck Cherie Grant, "Jim was a very generous man, and he made us all feel that the Council was a team, even when we had difference of opinions, it was always about ideas, not about people." As a young Council Member she appreciated that he wouldn't let members of the public make personal attacks. Vice-Mayor David Trotter knew him as a Mayor when he himself was on the Planning Commission, "Jim worked solely for the best interest of the community, he was a gentleman and a gentle man."

His former colleagues all remembered as well his humor, the little twinkle in his eye. "He was a happy person," says daughter Sweeny-Greco, "he had a passion for life and a tireless energy."

His ability to step up to the plate and natural leadership qualities led him to continue to give back



Jim Sweeny in 2006

Photo Carol Sweeny-Greco

after leaving the Council. He was president of Kiwanis, on the board of the Moraga Educational Foundation and the St Mary's Heart Gallery. He became the director of Sons in Retirement and the Chairman Emeritus for Goodwill Industries for the greater East Bay that provides employment and training

to thousands of disadvantages and disabled people.

The last few years of his life were shadowed by ailment. "He retained his graciousness and dignity till the end," says his daughter, "He had a great deal of personal respect, and always treated others, from any walk of life, with dignity."

When Dogs and Soccer Collide

... continued from page 3



Dogs take the sidelines while kids use the field at Rancho Laguna

Photo Andy Scheckmer,

One of them had brought a copy of the municipal code that she claims guarantees their grandfathering on the field. "You can stay in the back and side area," agreed Ingram. He has no desire for confrontation; his motto, "Creating community through people, parks and programs," encompasses all members of the community, from dog groups to kids playing soccer. To prove his good intentions, In-

gram offered the dog owners access to the park ½ hour earlier in the evening, at 6:30 p.m. instead of 7 p.m.

The Euro Soccer coaches did not seem too concerned with the issue and took it in stride when a small, playful dog ran among the kids and stole a ball. The dog was quickly controlled by his owner and kept away from the children.

"This is only for the sum-

mer," says Ingram, "and I have no intention of moving the 'so-called' dog park elsewhere." However, he would like to start a dialog with the dog community and find a place where they could have access twenty four hours a day. The group is not optimistic. "Where are we going to find such a large place, with water and decent flat grounds?" asks one of them.

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Life in LAMORINDA

We've been calling them our "Doctor Do-Goods." We hear frequently about local health professionals, among many other Lamorindans, who are committed to helping others above and beyond their daily work and in very different ways. Andrea Firth met a group of Moragans who travel to Ecuador

to provide health care, Cathy Tyson talked to a Lafayette pediatrician who brings theater to underprivileged kids closer to home, and Chris Lavin found an Orinda ophthalmologist who offers cataract surgery to patients in Guatemala. We are pleased to present their stories in this three-part feature.

Pediatrician by Day, Producer by Night

By Cathy Tyson

Dr. Sam Lewis, Lafayette pediatrician, could easily go home after a long day at the office treating sick children, have a glass of wine and relax. Instead he's been involved for many years with the Belasco Theater Company. As the volunteer producer of "The Wiz," he's been instrumental in rustling up donations to make this summer production possible in Oakland, as well as offer scholarships to economically disadvantaged youth to participate in performances.

Having seen his own son Rob, a former student at Happy Valley Elementary and Acalanes benefit from Belasco training, Lewis wanted to make theater available to kids who otherwise wouldn't have the opportunity. By

offering free admission and free bus transportation to prior "Wiz" performances, thanks to many generous donations, a substantial number of students from inner city schools and youth groups were able to see the show. Outreach will continue for this August's shows.

"He is definitely dedicated" said Kamaria Ousley, who plays Dorothy, "the Wiz is a big thing, a great musical. It's also a chance to show African Americans someone that looks like you on stage." Ousley went to Skyline High School and recently graduated from Boston's Berkeley School of Music. She's currently a professional singer at the Apollo. Dave Abrams, the Scarecrow, chimes in "he's always mentoring, like a Dad to me." Abrams will be a freshman



From left, Dave Abrams, Sam Lewis, Kamaria Ousley, Jonathan Smothers Photo Cathy Tyson

at UC Berkeley this fall. "Dr. Lewis has this inclusive theatrical outlook, doing something positive for city kids," said Jonathan Smothers, looking resplendent in his Cowardly Lion

costume. Prior to being in the 2000 production of "The Wiz," Smothers was a struggling high school student. He's now a senior at San Francisco State University. "These phenomenally tal-

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ented kids let me into their lives. They text me all the time and call me when they're sick. It's my church," said Lewis. "My kids are out of the house now, so I have more time. I'm not afraid to ask for things - including donations."

Performances from August 7 - 22 at the Malonga Arts Center, formerly the Alice Arts Center, near the 12th Street BART station. Information on tickets, show times, donations and volunteering at www.belasco.org or call his office at 925-283-8241.

Moraga's Medical Missionaries

By Andrea Firth



Pharmacist Pat Thompson (far left) in Cuenca, Ecuador Photo provided

"You always get way more than you give," says Pat Thompson, a Moraga resident and clinical pharmacist, about her recent trip to Cuenca, Ecuador as part of a medical missionary team.

Thompson and two fellow Moragans, pediatrician Patricia Francis and surgical nurse Debra Lippman, were members of an all women team of health care professionals from across the United States who spent a week in the Andes ministering both medically

and spiritually to the Cuenca locals. "The clinic in Cuenca is supported by the local church. So the patients first went to triage, then to see the priest, then to see the doctors. And, the clinicians were able to pray with the patients which was a unique experience," notes Thompson.

Thompson, Francis, and Lippman are all members of the Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, and each was seeking the opportunity to participate in a medical mission that would utilize both

their time and their talents. "When Patti [Francis] found this opportunity, I was right on board," states Thompson. The three friends started planning and preparing for the trip about six months before departing by obtaining donations of over-the-counter and prescription medications and medical supplies. "Everything we used we brought," she adds.

"They advertise that the American doctors are coming," explains Thompson. "And they come. Some travel quite a distance." The three clinicians worked five long clinic days caring for ailments including parasites, skin infections, vitamin deficiencies, stomach discomfort, chronic pain and more. They saw over 600 patients, filled over 1100 prescriptions, and a surgical team performed fourteen operations. Francis, the only pediatrician in the group, was deluged with young patients.

"These people live a hard physical life and often receive very little medical care," notes Thompson. She was impressed by their appreciative nature and charmed by

the fact that even the local farmhands would wear their best (and probably only) silk shirt when they came for treatment at the clinic.

Accustomed to verbally counseling her patients on the safe use of their medications, Thompson

was curious about how she would communicate effectively. "I can get by in French, but I knew about two words of Spanish before I went," notes Thompson. With the help of some translators, Thompson was able to surmount the language barrier and learn some Spanish along

the way. "By the end of the week, I could tell a patient how to use their arthritis medication in fluent Spanish," adds Thompson with a laugh. And since she is already to planning to return to the clinic in Cuenca, she is planning to take some classes in Spanish as well.

Orinda Eye Doctor Goes South

By Chris Lavin



A nurse holds a cataract Photo provided

Kids grow up quickly, and one of the steps of Andy Sorenson's growing up happened when he was 13. His father had removed a cataract from the eye of a patient, dropped it, clink, into a small dish, and handed it to him. The boy carefully picked up the dish, and took it down the road. It was Guatemala, and he was to show the patient's family what had been making their father become blind.

"It was pretty amazing," Sorenson said. He still thinks about that day - all the time.

Yet that experience happened more than three decades ago, and while Sorenson now lives in Orinda, he still goes back to Central America. He became an ophthalmologist like his father, and his brother, and they all operate the Sorenson Eye Clinic in Berkeley when they're not removing cataracts at the Hospital

de la Familia in northern Guatemala, mainly for descendants of the Mayan tribe.

Sorenson is modest when he speaks of his work. "You can't do anything without the nurses," he says, when asked about his accomplishments. He speaks of his patients fondly, and his photo collection includes lots of shots of lots of smiling people with big white pads taped over one eye, often giving the thumb's up sign.

If left untreated, cataracts continue to develop in the lens of an eye, finally resulting in blindness. Lack of health care, and specialists who are able to do eye surgery, lead thousands of people to become blind in Guatemala, and they have no recourse but to accept their condition. Sorenson is part of an 18-member team who goes to Guatemala to do the surgeries, where he can remove 30 to 40 cataracts a day.

Sorenson isn't the only one to give back. His wife, Erika, is on the board of the Orinda Union School District, and they have three children, ages 10, 12 and 14.

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The Danville Lyric Opera Company founded last year with the goal of promoting a traditional forum for classical opera and to educate young audiences about the sublime art of Opera will present Carmen, by Georges Bizet on Sunday, June 29th at 3:00 PM at the Town Hall Theater (www.townhalltheater.com), 3535 School Street in Lafayette (925) 283-1557, danvilleopera@earthlink.net

Legendary entertainer Diamond Dave, who performs regularly at Petar's, will be singing and providing some riveting tunes for a dinner dance next Sunday, June 29 at the Moraga Country Club. Open to non-members. 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. \$35. per person. Call 376-2200 for more information.

California Shakespeare Theater presents "An Ideal Husband." July 2 - 4 previews; opens July 5 through July 27. A sharply elegant comedy about a Victorian villainess' secret which threatens to destroy a seemingly perfect political marriage. An Ideal Husband is, according to Moscone, "Wilde's most modern play. It's about what goes on behind closed doors in the grand political arena, where the human meets the iconic, and where the characters—and the audience—confront their desire for the ideals in love and in leadership, in ways that are piercingly funny and amazingly relevant." All performances are presented

at the intimate Bruns Amphitheater, 100 Gateway Boulevard in Orinda. Grounds open two hours prior to show time for on-site picnicking. For more details about Cal Shakes, visit www.calshakes.org.

Comedy "Butterflies Are Free" by Leonard Gershe performed through July 27 at Diablo Actors Ensemble Theatre, 1345 Locust Street, Walnut Creek. Tickets \$10 (Thursdays), \$22 seniors/students \$25 general (Fridays - Sundays) 925-482-5110, daeinfo@comcast.net, www.diabloactors.com

Free Concerts at Moraga Commons Park Thursday evenings, 6:30pm - 8:30pm: June 26 HouseRockers (Rock and Roll); July 4 Larry Lynch & the Mob (Rock and Roll); July 10 Boothill (Country & Western). The snack bar opens at 6:00 pm.

Orinda Community Center Park Summer Concert in the Park Series on Tuesdays from June through July. Bring a picnic and enjoy the free music: July 1st Silver Spur (Country Western); July 8th Pladdohg (Celtic Rock and Funk); July 15th The Crisis (Rock and Blues.)

Orinda Starlight Village Players' 2008 Outdoor Theater, Orinda Community Center Park. Murder on the Nile by Agatha Christie thru June 28th Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 pm. I Hate Hamlet by Paul Rudnick opens July 18th. Regular admission: \$15; seniors/students - \$7.50. All 3 shows: \$35; seniors/students - \$21 Tickets at Box Office or call (925) 253-1191 or 255-3295 (after 7 pm)

vineyards, ranches and waterways to capture the scenes on the spot. Orinda Library Gallery, 24 Orinda Way. Visit with this happy and productive group to view their colorful paintings of local sites at their reception on July 24th from 5:30 to 7pm at the Orinda Library. For more information on the painting classes, phone the Orinda Community Center at (925) 254-2445.

"Fiesta Time" at the Moraga Art Gallery features the work of two artists who live in Moraga: Angelica Samamea, a 27 year resident, is a painter who generally works either with acrylics or watercolor in a fluid improvisational style. Connie Robertson has her own studio in Moraga for cutting, grinding and fusing glass. She has enjoyed experimenting in glass jewelry. Moraga Art Gallery, 570 Center St, Rheem Valley Shopping Center/next to Longs Drugs.

Other

Fourth of July activities in Lamorinda: pancake breakfasts, races, parades, music and fireworks-see page 18 and 19

Sat, June 28, 2 pm—Computer technology and animation—Moraga Library. Animation presented by Steve Kitzing, for all ages, an informative presentation on techniques, tools and art of 3D.

Sat, June 28, noon -3:00pm Peace Center Membership Meeting and Potluck (rescheduled from the previously announced June 21) Sister Sandra Price will speak about her work building schools in Nicaragua since 1981. Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek

Amazon Oil: Crude Stories and Crude Images -The Biggest Oil Spill on Earth Tuesday, July 1, 7:00 pm- Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek (925) 933-7850, maryalice@mtdpc.org

Friends of the Orinda Library July 4th book sale - will be part of Orinda's 4th of July celebration. Book sale will be 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and will be in the sorting room and garage breezeway. This booksale will offer a fine place for everyone to find something for summertime reading. Orinda Library, 26 Orinda Way, Orinda. (925)254-1358

Sun, July 6 - Beachcomber Singles'casual dinner & entertainment evening 6:30 p.m. to 9pm at Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette. After dinner there will be a speaker on Laughter and Health followed by dancing at WPLJ's in Walnut Creek at 9:30: No host event. Come and enjoy the music and let's dance, dance, dance. Call Jerry 510-799-2207. \$7 cost

In honor of the first International Happiness Day, the Diablo Valley Happiness Club will hold a viewing of a video by Happiness Clubs founder, Lionel Ketchian, from 10:30 AM to Noon, Thursday, July 10th, 2008, at the Lafayette Senior Center, 500 Saint Mary's Road, in Lafayette. This event is FREE and everyone is invited regardless of age or residence. A discussion of

happiness will follow the video. For more information, call Mei Sun Li, Lafayette Senior Center Director, at: 925-284-5050

A One-Day Writing Retreat for Women, presented by Mary Tuchscherer, M.A. in Lafayette on July 12 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Ms. Tuchscherer is trained in the Amherst Writers and Artists Method and teaches at John F. Kennedy University as an Adjunct Faculty member. She will be facilitating a workshop in self-expression writing. The group will write in response to prompts and exchange positive feedback. Class is limited to eight people, call 925-335-9244 or e-mail mary@voiceflamewriters.com for more information.

Seniors enjoy afternoon Tea Dancing and light refreshments every Wednesday from 12:30 - 3:00pm in the spacious Live Oak room. Come for the swell music and good company even if you prefer not to dance. \$2 fee covers refreshments. LCC Live Oak Room located at 500 Saint Mary's Rd, Lafayette. 925-284-5050

World Affairs Book Group will discuss "The United States of Europe: The New Superpower and the End of American Supremacy" by T.R. Reid, on Tuesday, July 15, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. at Orinda Books, 276 Village Square. New members are always welcome. For information, call Daisy Daymond, Group Leader, at 935-1565.

Computer Maintenance 101 with Ed Zeidan, Nerd4Rent on Thurs. 7/17 10:30 - Noon. This popular and informative class will cover the basics of computer ownership for seniors. We'll describe what steps to take to keep your computer running well, when to replace vs. repair, and give recommendations on what features to look for in your next computer. Call early, this event is always well attended. Lafayette Community Center, 500 Saint Mary's Rd, Lafayette. 925-284-5050

Lecture on Oscar Wilde's "An Ideal Husband" Wed July 23 11:00 - 12:30 that precedes a Group Trip to the Cal-Shakes Theater Production in Orinda. "If we men married the women we deserved...we should have a very bad time of it." No charge for the lecture. Attendees are encouraged (but not required) to attend the afternoon matinee production the following Saturday for which there is a group discount charge of \$30.00 per admission. Lafayette Community Center, 500 Saint Mary's Rd, Lafayette. 925-284-5050

Save Mount Diablo will host its seventh annual "Moonlight on the Mountain" on Saturday, September 13, 2008. This special, one-of-a-kind event for 500 guests includes drinks and hors d'oeuvres, silent and live auction, elegant sit-down dinner, and live music. "Moonlight on the Mountain" takes place outdoors on a flat plateau next to the dramatic rock formations of China Wall, with a spectacular view of undeveloped rolling hills and the summit of Mount Diablo—all under the light of the rising moon. www.savemountdiablo.org

Clubs/Meetings

Women's Business Connection of Lamorinda is a dynamic leads group that inspires their members to grow their businesses through networking, referrals and education. Meetings: Fridays, 7:15am-8:45am at Il Fornaio in Walnut Creek. Visitors welcome. For more info call: 925-210-9296 or www.wbclamorinda.com.

Goal Achievers Toastmasters Club #5339, meets at Round Table Pizza, 3637 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, CA 94549, Mondays, 7:30 - 9:00pm. We are a nonprofit educational organization offering opportunities to develop communications and leadership skills. Toastmasters International is the largest and most successful non-profit training and educational organization in the world. Compared to similar courses, seminars, cassette and video programs, Toastmasters is very inexpensive and highly effective. Visitors are welcome free of charge.

The Moraga Lions Club, a member of Lions International. It is the largest community service club, located in over 178 countries. We are seeking volunteers to participate and assist the blind and do local community service. Call the Moraga Lions Club 376-2538.

Diablo Star Chapter #214, Order of the Eastern Star. Eastern Star is a social order comprised of both women and men. The stated purposes of the organization are: Charitable, Educational, and Fraternal. Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 pm, Orinda Masonic Center, 9 Altarinda Rd, Orinda. For membership information please contact Karen Seabom at (925) 689-0995.

MoragaMovers (all 55+ from Lamorinda welcome) Buffet Dinner, July 14, Soda Center, St. Mary's College—socialize at 4pm-dinner at 5 pm. Entertainment by the "Side by Side" singers who are a group of women who truly

love music. Reservations must be made by Wednesday, July 9 by 5 PM. Call (925) 376-6622.

Job's Daughter's International - Bethel No. 218 Orinda
This organization is for young ladies (minimum age 10 for full membership) who enjoy dances, sleepovers, parties, social events, snow trips and more. The girls develop confidence, good character, life-long friendships, moral and spiritual values, and leadership abilities. Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at the

Orinda Masonic Center located at 9 Altarinda Rd, Orinda. For more information on membership and fun activities, contact Nicki Wandesforde, Bethel Guardian at (925) 283-7176 or email nickichef@comcast.net.

Lamorinda Republican Women meet the third Thursday of each month at the Metro Restaurant in Lafayette at 3524 Mt. Diablo Blvd. The meeting begins at 11:30 with lunch at noon and speaker at 12:30. Lunch cost is \$22 and for reservations please call 925-254-8617.

Saint Mary's College

Campus Happenings



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

Art Exhibitions:

Forty-nine rarely seen oil paintings and thirty-eight pastels and drawings by Carl Sammons from a vast and extraordinary private collection will be featured in at the Hearst Art Galley of Saint Mary's College from July 12 through Sept. 21. A

talented and precise draftsman, Sammons painted a wide range of subjects, from the flowers and birds of Golden Gate Park to thundering ocean breakers to the rolling hills of the coastal ranges to the Southern California deserts. Opening Weekend Events: Sun., July 13, 2 - 4 p.m.

Free Reception and Jazz Performance Exhibition Admission: \$3 Gallery Hours: Wed. - Sun., 11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 925.631.4379 www.hearstartgallery.org

Exhibition hours: Wednesdays through Sundays, 11 am until 4:30 pm Admission: \$3 adult; children 12 and under free; free parking Web site: http://gallery.stmarys-ca.edu. Telephone: 925-631-4379

For more information about upcoming events at Saint Mary's College, visit the college website at http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/news-and-events/events.html.



Carl Sammons, Spring Lupine Northern California Hills

Lafayette Gallery Holds Artists' Markets this Summer

By Andrea A. Firth



Oil painting by artist Jill Landau on display at the Lafayette Gallery

Photo provided

Farmers' markets have become a staple of weekend mornings in Lamorinda. Pleasant weather, good food, fine friends and neighbors—it makes a perfect combination. The combination seemed so natural and so good that the folks in the Lamorinda Arts Alliance decided to copy the combo and apply it to art. Once a month from May through August, the public can enjoy the outdoor market setting and browse through the original artwork, jewelry, and fine crafts of Lamorinda artisans.

There are two more artists' markets scheduled for the 2008 season on July 19th and August 16th. From 11 am until 5 pm on those Saturdays, artists will set up displays in the parking lot in front of the Lafayette Gallery. "Visiting the artists' market can tie in nicely with lunch at Chow," notes Lamorinda artist and photographer Warren Rice. "Plus, we'll have live music at the August market—a great duo called The Neighborhood (featuring his son)," he adds.

Art patrons can also take a stroll through the Lafayette Gallery where the summer exhibit, California Dreamin', will be on display. "With this exhibit, we chose to focus on what is special about California to each of us whether it is the scenery, a mood, or a color," states exhibit curator Linda Yoshizawa.

Oil painter Jill Landau has done some beach scenes. Abstract painter Paula Boaz used the beach colors of sand, ocean, and sky in her artworks. And, artist Susan Erikson has created some very personal reflections of her own visits to the beach with family. "My family loves the beach, and we feel so lucky to live where we do," states Erikson. To exemplify these cherished beach moments, Erikson has assembled sculpture, which contain books, seashells, and flip flops to reflect the summer fun feeling of the surf and sand. The California Dreamin' Exhibit will be displayed through August 9th.

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Life in LAMORINDA

Multiculturalism Thrives in Lamorinda

... continued from page 1



Contra Costa Chinese School hosted a barbecue picnic at the Moraga Commons Photo Andy Scheck

The Contra Costa Chinese School, which was founded by a small group of Chinese parents who wanted to provide Chinese language instruction to their American-born children, hosted a barbecue picnic last July at the Moraga Commons.

"It's great when both children and parents naturally get to socialize with children and parents who share the same cultural background in these language schools," Tan says.

When Ute Kelley came to Moraga in 1981 with her two daughters, she started bowling in the Newcomers Bowling League and met some German friends there. Eight years ago, she joined a group called the Accent Club, where women from different countries who speak different languages meet at each other's homes for pastries and coffee.

"The club has Germans, French, and others from other countries," Kelley says. "They don't all speak my native language, so if someone who was French was there we'd speak English. If everyone there was German, we would all

speak German because it was so easy."

Kelley sees herself as having two home countries - America and Germany. She strives to keep up her childhood traditions and pass them along to her children and grandchildren.

Tan says knowing one's cultural heritage engenders a feeling of 'being rooted', and is fundamental to earning a sense of self-respect. "Knowing other cultures makes one have respect for others," she added.

A few years ago, Amoroma restaurant owner Michele Lavecchia coordinated Italian Nights at the Rheem Theater with Saint Mary's Italian Professor Maria Grazia De Angelis as a way to foster Italian culture in Moraga. The evenings began with antipasti and wine prior to the showing of internationally acclaimed Italian films.

Moraga resident Linda Foley liked the idea of these movies at Rheem. Originally from Bavaria, she likes to get together with a couple of European friends to watch German movies. "We try to over-

look the subtitles - or we read the subtitles, disagreeing at times with the translation," Foley says. "We play German Scrabble, listen to German music, and do German puzzles."

Today, you can find more foreign films at local video stores, yoga studios are commonplace, residents can enjoy the French game of petanque at new courts near the Lafayette Community Center, and the Moraga Bocce Ball Club's membership has reached capacity at the Moraga Commons.

Cultural diversity and acceptance has even reached the school yard. Next fall, karate will be offered as an afterschool program for Lamorinda middle school students, and heritage days are a regular celebration at local elementary schools.

As a cub scout den leader, Tan invited her cub scouts' parents, who were from all different cultural backgrounds (Korean, Dutch, Maltese, Chinese, and Russian) to share cultural artifacts, food, and clothing, and share with the den each family's unique heritage stories.

Bocce Ball Tournament on July 4th

The Moraga Bocce Ball Club will have a 4th of July bocce ball tournament at the Moraga Commons consisting of 12 teams starting at 10 a.m. on a first-come basis. Sign-up sheets are available on the courts which are open between 6 and 8 p.m. Finalists will play each other at 1 p.m. until a winner is announced. Each team needs four players, and all teams must be registered by June 30.

"I reminded [the scouts] that everyone in America comes from somewhere else," she says. "Even the longest residents - the American Indians - came from Mongolia when they crossed the frozen sea linking Siberia and Alaska."

A melting pot of cultures, customs, lifestyles, and heritages, Tan thinks it's wonderful that we don't have to travel to all corners of the world to learn about different cultures.

"Only in America," she says.

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Chevalier Restaurant to Take Over Lafayette

By Sophie Braccini

Chevalier means knight in French. A young French chef, Philippe Chevalier, who will soon open a French Restaurant at 960 Moraga Road in Lafayette, certainly has the drive and the adventurous spirit his name carries. "This country is good to those who are daring," says Chevalier with a typical French accent, "I have proven myself in the East Bay and San Francisco as an Executive chef, it is now time that I start my own business."

The chef, now in his early 40's, came to the United States seven years ago to fulfill a childhood dream. He arrived in Danville in 2002 to take charge of Salamander and in 2003 was recognized as "Best Chef" in Diablo Magazine's Best of the Bay Area restaurants. His career continued in San Francisco and in 2004, the SF Examiner nominated "Chez Papa," where he was Executive Chef, San Francisco's Best French/European Restaurant.

His new restaurant will follow in the footsteps of the recipes that got him top awards in Danville and San Francisco. The restaurant's offering will be high-end, no compromise on the quality of the products, with friendly service and live music.

Chevalier already knows where to find local fresh meats and vegetable to create the Provence/Paris seasonal menu he is preparing. "Of course everything will be made from scratch," he promises, "you will see bouillabaisse on the menu (fish stew from Marseilles), aioli (a garlic and olive oil based sauce from Provence that accompanies vegetables and fish, among other possibilities), about 70% of the menu will be from the South of France, a light cuisine using grape seed and olive oils, the rest will be more Northern and Central French dishes." Chevalier doesn't want to say too much yet; he has a personal touch and likes to surprise his customers with creative salty and sweet inventions.

Chevalier wanted to go back to the East Bay to start his own business. He chose Lafayette for the small town feel that he longs for from his native Luçon in the Vendée region in France. "I've always liked this area since I worked in Danville," says Chevalier, "people here are worldly, sophisticated and appreciate high quality products and services." To the question regarding the already large number of restaurants in Lafayette, Chevalier smiles

gently, "Lafayette already offers an interesting range of foods, it was just missing a touch of Provence, a shade of lavender and romantic French evenings to obtain a perfect picture." Chevalier is counting on the charming garden of his restaurant to create the atmosphere he loves. He believes that the full bar license is a great asset, he will serve a full range of appetizers for those interested in a drink and lively conversation late in the night.

"We are opening the first week of July, in the evening only," says the Chef, "starting with an early-bird special from 5 to 6 p.m. with a \$32 prix fixe menu." Chevalier is recruiting local musicians to launch his dinner with live jazz on the terrace, most probably on Wednesday evenings. "There are excellent musicians around here, like 'Duo Gadjo,' a French-American couple living in Moraga, who play some great jazz and modern French music," he says.

The young entrepreneur definitely wants to become part of the Lamorinda scene. He and his wife Gretchen have settled in Orinda and are expecting their first child in early August.

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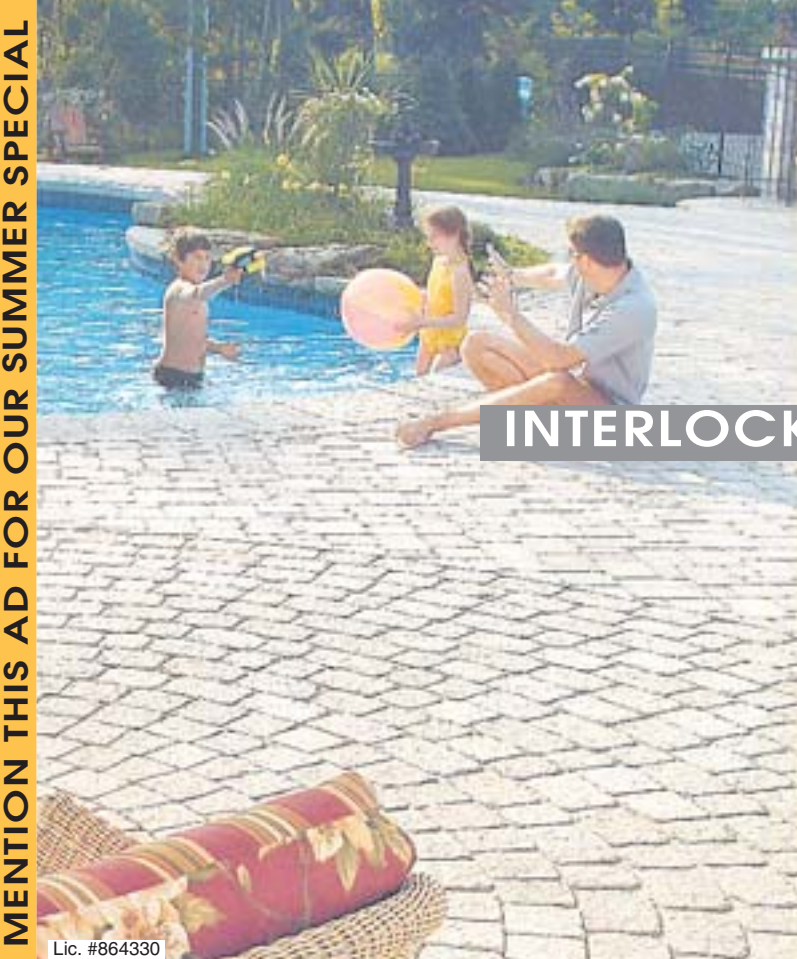
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Letters to the Editor

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; Regular mail: Lamorinda Weekly, P.O.Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570

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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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Life in LAMORINDA

Ground Breaking News: Moraga Road is Closed

... continued from page 1



The intersection of St. Mary's Road and Rheem Blvd.

When people started complaining about delays, EBMUD and Mountain Cascade were quick to react and a second flagger was sent to that intersection. "We keep testing and improving," says Harlow. She personally travels the different routes to test the system. All of the flaggers have a walky-talky and a foreman is in charge of their management.

EBMUD hired a professional traffic consultant during the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) process, to perform detailed studies and provide recommendations for traffic control.

Traffic impact was only one of the systems studied, another big

one is the emergency response scheme. "Every battalion chief in the area, including Walnut Creek, has a specific radio system to reach us at any time," says Tony Batista, who is in charge of the project for Mountain Cascade. "Every foreman can be contacted instantaneously and the roads cleared in minutes." The trench for the pipeline is dug for the most part on the side of the road to allow emergency vehicles to pass once the Mountain Cascade vehicles are moved out of the way. "We have tested the system," confirms Moraga-Orinda Fire District (MOFD) Chief Pete Nowicki, "for non-emergency transport we'll use the detour and for real emergencies we'll be

able to have the construction company clear the road while we are getting the victim." MOFD has access to helicopter transportation if needed.

The same strategy of "moving out of the way quickly" applies to residents living in the construction area. "Everybody's driveway has a steel plate ready to be put in place when someone needs to get in or out," explains Batista, "we are moving slowly, 140 to 200 feet a day and we are talking to every neighbor as we approach their home." The garbage company has agreed to come to the area before 9 a.m., while the postal service didn't want to change their route and will be accompanied on site.

The summer will be long and hot for the workers, flaggers and residents of the area. There will be no vacation for Harlow this summer; she's waiting for your phone call, and if you find that traffic is moving better than you anticipated, don't hesitate to call her with a word of encouragement.

CORRECTION to issue #7, 6-11-2008



The website to give donations toward Bob Frick's cycle across the United States for Habitat for Humanity Eat Bay is www.Firstgiving.com/cycleofhope. The website was incorrectly spelled in the last issue.

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Conservationists Help Kids Go Buggy for Bugs

... continued from page 5



Children hold unique bugs as part of Insect Discovery Lab presentation at the Moraga Library

Photo Jennifer Wake

"Rosemary and lavender make honeybees very docile," Dorrington added.

The Insect Discovery Lab, through its education programs, hopes parents and children will learn the key role these insects and other arthropods have in the web of life, and make life decisions that

make a difference.

Whether understanding more about the honeybees of your backyard garden or the mammoth insects of the rainforest, there will always be a fascination between children and bugs. "Be eco-heroes with me," Geiges said.



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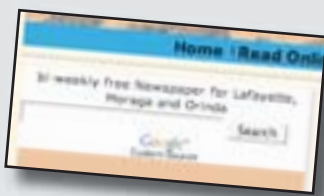
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Lamorinda Home Sales continued

LAFAYETTE	Last reported: 15
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$725,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$2,151,000
MORAGA	Last reported: 4
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$290,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$740,000
ORINDA	Last reported: 5
LOWEST AMOUNT:	\$720,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT:	\$2,050,000

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**
- 4015 Canyon Road, \$1,650,000, 6 Bdrms, 3768 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 5-21-08
 - 1880 Hannibal Drive, \$1,436,000, 3 Bdrms, 2998 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 5-28-08
 - 4 Hilldale Road, \$2,151,000, 4 Bdrms, 4734 SqFt, 1998 YrBlt, 5-20-08
 - 620 Huntleigh Drive, \$1,010,000, 3 Bdrms, 1680 SqFt, 1961 YrBlt, 5-22-08
 - 4089 Legion Court, \$1,009,000, 3 Bdrms, 2273 SqFt, 1949 YrBlt, 5-28-08
 - 3730 Meadow Lane, \$1,700,000, 3 Bdrms, 2198 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 5-28-08
 - 757 Moraga Road, \$812,000, 3 Bdrms, 1592 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 5-21-08
 - 3332 North Lucille Lane, \$779,000, 3 Bdrms, 1291 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 5-28-08
 - 730 North Pond Court, \$965,000, 4 Bdrms, 2483 SqFt, 1997 YrBlt, 5-28-08
 - 18 Northridge Lane, \$2,000,000, 4 Bdrms, 2995 SqFt, 1992 YrBlt, 5-21-08
 - 935 Reliez Station Road, \$725,000, 4 Bdrms, 1830 SqFt, 1913 YrBlt, 5-20-08
 - 3538 Silver Springs Rd., \$1,500,000, 4 Bdrms, 3544 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 5-20-08
 - 3348 St. Marys Road, \$1,350,000, 3 Bdrms, 2781 SqFt, 1949 YrBlt, 5-28-08
 - 1178 Upper Happy Va. Rd., \$2,151,000, 3 Bdrms, 2944 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 5-20-08
 - 3280 Withers Avenue, \$857,000, 3 Bdrms, 1693 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 5-23-08
- MORAGA**
- 100 Alta Mesa Court, \$645,000, 2 Bdrms, 2103 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 5-23-08
 - 2051 Ascot Drive #102, \$305,500, 2 Bdrms, 1181 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 6-2-08
 - 2133 Donald Drive #10, \$290,000, 2 Bdrms, 1224 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 5-30-08
 - 14 Josefa Place, \$740,000, 3 Bdrms, 2095 SqFt, 1984 YrBlt, 5-29-08
- ORINDA**
- 10 Dias Dorados, \$720,000, 3 Bdrms, 1741 SqFt, 1930 YrBlt, 5-23-08
 - 214 Moraga Way, \$1,625,000, 4 Bdrms, 3320 SqFt, 1904 YrBlt, 5-23-08
 - 285 Orchard Road, \$1,175,000, 3 Bdrms, 1845 SqFt, 1949 YrBlt, 5-30-08
 - 119 Via Floreado, \$2,050,000, 5-30-08

To Remodel or Not

By Ken Ryerson



Ryerson residence under construction

As I can personally attest, the age-old question of whether to remodel or not to remodel is a difficult and very personal decision. In our household, this discussion went on for the better part of two years. My wife and I endlessly and passionately debated our options: to upgrade with the existing floor plan, to add on and upgrade, or to trade up to a bigger house. We finally hired an architect (one that we had known for years), and started the process of changing our 3 bedroom, 2 bath home into a 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home.

Finding a Contractor

As daunting as the decision to remodel was, it was miniscule compared to the decisions still to be made, the biggest of which was the selection of a contractor for our project. As there is no substitute for a personal referral from a satisfied client, my first plan of attack was to ask everyone I knew for the name of their contractor and their experiences with that contractor. And when I say everyone, I do mean everyone, even people that I barely knew. In fact, on Halloween night while taking my kids trick-or-treating, we rang the doorbell of our friend's neighbor. While our kids were choosing their candy from the treat bucket, I took advantage of the opportunity to ask if they had remodeled recently and who their contractor was.

So the first rule of picking a contractor is to ask EVERYONE you know (from friends to acquaintances, co-workers, and neighbors) who they used and whether they

were satisfied with their contractor's work. Make sure to take lots of notes, as all this information that you are collect-



Showing the bones

ing will start to blur together after a while.

Keep in mind these basic tips when hiring a contractor - ignore them at your peril:

- Hire only licensed contractors
- Check a contractor's license number and history online at www.cslb.ca.gov
- Get a least three references from the contractor and make sure that you contact the references. Even better, see if you can arrange to view their past work. It's often a good idea to ask for the last three projects that they worked on.
- Get bids from at least 3 contractors
- Ensure you have a written

contract and make sure that you do not sign any contract until you completely understand the terms

- Never pay more than 10% down or \$1000, whichever is less
- Don't let your payments get ahead of the work completed
- Don't make final payment until you are satisfied with the job

If the job is significant in scope, you will want to hire an architect to draw up your plans. Finalize as many of the details up front as you can, such as the appliances you want, flooring and type of fixtures. The more details that you can finalize upfront, the more accurately you will be

able to plan your budget. Having these details ironed out beforehand will allow the contractors to give you a much more accurate bid. And perhaps more importantly, you will be in a better position to compare the bids that you do get.

Although the detailing process is a lot of work upfront and can seem interminable, this strategy worked very well for us. We spent many months researching online and visiting vendors to pick our countertops, flooring, appliances, fireplace, windows, plumbing fixtures, etc.

... continued on page 14

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business briefs

Moraga Hardware to the Rescue 1409 Moraga Way, Moraga, 376-3600

As CERT inspector Gordon Nathan puts it about 'the Big One': "It's not a matter of if, it's a matter of when." To support the community effort to get ready Bill Snider, owner of Moraga Hardware and Lumber, has contracted with a company that provides ready made survival kits for families of all sizes. "We have water bricks that have a shelf life of five years," says Snider, "emergency food rations to sustain the whole family, very small high efficiency sleeping bags, hand-powered radios and all the tools and safety kits you may need." The supplies can be purchased individually or in containers to fit the number of people in your family. A much needed car backpack safety kit is available, as well as specific pet emergency pouches. The cost for a family of 5 for a 10-day period is about \$330, not such a high price for relative peace of mind.



Allison Snider presents the emergency response products at Moraga Hardware Photo Sophie Braccini

Living Lean Develops Partnerships with Restaurants 15 Altarinda Road, Orinda, 360-7051

The Living Lean Program provides people with a process for integrating healthy habits into their lifestyle. It teaches one how to become fit, stay fit and enjoy life at the same time. Socializing is often associated with a eating and drinking at restaurants. Sheena Lakhota's goal is to work with restaurants to develop entrees that are Living Lean so that clients can eat out and not have to worry about what they can and cannot eat, or having to request a special order. They simply order items marked as "Living Lean." Restaurants offering Living lean entrees: Baan Thai with such dishes as Mango Salmon, Salmon Satay with Steamed Vegetables, Satay with Steamed Vegetables - all of these are served with brown rice. Shelby's in Theater Square in Orinda came up with a grilled fresh fish and salad with a dijon mustard vinagrette, Nicoise Salad, and Lean New York Steak with a baked sweet potato and salad. They will also have a Living Lean Sandwich. Diablo Foods will have a Living Lean Sandwich, as do Cafe Teatro and Gepetto's.

Gary Lukey Named Sales Associate for Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Orinda

Real estate veteran Gary Lukey has joined the company's Orinda office as its newest sales associate. In his new position, Lukey will specialize in residential sales in Contra Costa County. Prior to joining Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, Lukey was a sales associate for 10 years with Pinole-based Coldwell Banker Bartels Realtors, an affiliate of the nation's largest real estate brokerage company.

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Orinda Therapy Offices is pleased to announce that recently Dr. Deborah Cahn-Weiner began providing Neuropsychological Assessment services as part of the group of solo mental health practitioners. With the addition of Dr. Cahn-Weiner, the group is able to provide an even greater variety of mental health services.

Deborah Cahn-Weiner, PhD, ABPP-CN is a Board Certified Clinical Neuropsychologist who is currently on the faculty in the Neurology Department at UCSF. Comprehensive evaluations include assessment of mood and personality functioning. Dr. Cahn-Weiner can be reached at: 925.588.8906; dcw.phd@gmail.com

Kent Grelling, PhD, a licensed clinical psychologist, specializes in the treatment of children, adolescents and young adults. He offers individual and family therapy, comprehensive psychological evaluations, and parent consultation. Dr. Grelling can be reached at: 925.215.8694; www.DrGrelling.com

Lynn Martin, RN, MS, CS, NP, PMH, is a certified cognitive-behavior psychotherapist and an Assistant Clinical Professor at the UC Berkeley-Department of Psychology. She specializes in treating anxiety and mood disorders in adults and older teens. Lynn Martin can be reached at: 925.377.0410; martinbt@comcast.net; www.martinbt.com

Susan Snyder, PhD, a licensed psychologist, treats adults and older adults using a cognitive-dynamic approach to therapy. Using a collaborative approach, clients gain greater understanding and make positive change in their lives. Dr. Snyder can be reached at 925.388.2001.

News from the three Chambers of Commerce

Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, 100 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette

www.lafayettechamber.org:

- Thursday, June 19 - 8:30am - Entrepreneur's Club - Chamber offices
- Thursday, June 26 - 8:00 a.m. Business Issues/Government Affairs Committee Open Meeting, Lafayette Chamber Conference Room
- Wednesday July 9 - 5:30 p.m. Chamber Mixer at Design Within Reach

Moraga Chamber of Commerce

www.moragachamber.org:

- Tuesday, June 17th was the first mixer the Chamber has had in long time. The event was a great success, with a lot of new and existing members attending. The Chamber wants to thank the Moraga Country Club for its generous hospitality. Next month the Chamber will propose an evening time for its monthly meeting, Thursday July 24th at 6:00 p.m. at the Hacienda de las Flores.

Orinda Chamber of Commerce, 24 Orinda Way, Orinda

www.orindachamber.org:

- Wednesday, July 2nd - from 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. "Reach For The Stars" Party to Kick-Off Orinda's 25th Annual July 4th of July Celebration at Theater Square.



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Women Contractors, Tough Cookies Among Us

By Sophie Braccini

They're creative, they command respect and they are a rarity, but some local women who are licensed general contractors have a very successful niche in a man's world. Judy Dinkle (JD Design), Kathy Kovell (Big Red) and Kari Grosz (Lamorinda Construction) have built their professional success through resilience and hard work.

They all have been in the trade for more than ten years. Kovell explains, "If you are a woman contractor and have survived, it means that you are twice as good as your male counterparts." Because the profession is mainly male, these women had to fight prejudices.

"At first, sub-contractors didn't take me very seriously," recalls Dinkle. For Kovell it was the same question when she met new people: "Is this your husband's company, or your father's?" She too had difficulty finding the right subcontractors. Grosz says it was a question of authority. "Even my wife doesn't talk to me that way," complained a sub-contractor whose work she had criticized. To that challenge, they responded by creating long time relationships with employees and subcontractors.

Loyalty, hard work and resilience seem to be the trademark for the three women. If they know how to deal with tough people and situations, it may be because each of them has had to work through difficult times in their own lives.

In 1998, Dinkle became the sole provider for her daughter and had no choice but professional success to put the young lady through school and college;



Margie Goldstein (left) and Judy Dinkle (right) chat in a renovated kids' bathroom Photo Sophie Braccini

Kovell is a breast cancer survivor, and Grosz put herself through college over a seven and a half year period, cleaning homes and offices at night to afford tuition.

None of the women chose the building industry in college. Dinkle is a graphic artist and teacher by training; Kovell is a CPA and Grosz a marketing major who specialized in event planning. But all of their first professions had something that translated into the contractor's world and they took advantage of specificities that are inherent, they believe, to their feminine side.

"Women were born to do

this, it is so much fun," says Kovell, who sees women as being more organized, more detailed oriented, better at communicating and building consensus than their male counterparts. The three highlight sensitivity to customers' needs as their forte.

"Remodels are driven by the type of life people live," says Dinkle, "my job is to understand where they are now and what their needs will be in the years to come as the children grow up and technology evolves." Grosz agrees, "When you enter someone's home, you need to work around the family, respect their environment and their lives."

... continued on page 14

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Sharing our Experience

... continued from page 12

Going into the project, I severely underestimated the amount of work that this would require – I remember telling my wife that we could just take a weekend to do all of our shopping, to which she laughed in disbelief. To further punish me for my unrealistic expectations, my wife then proceeded to make me go with her on all of the shopping outings.

Selecting a Contractor

As mentioned above, the more details you can provide to the contractors, the more accurate their estimates will be. By outlining all the details in your bid package, the contractors will be able to give you

accurate prices for your specific items, as opposed to providing a general ‘allowance’ amount for your finishes. This will help to ensure that there are no surprises down the line, and that the cost of your project doesn’t balloon because the finishes you want are more expensive than the generic ‘allowances’ that the contractor provided in the initial bid.

After speaking with fifteen contractors, we elected to get bids from five of those contractors. When we received the bids back, we were a bit surprised to find that the difference between the highest and lowest bid was over \$100k. This may not be the norm, but I asked each of the contractors to

also provide me with their subcontractors’ bids to allow me to better compare the numbers for each line item (i.e. roofing, flooring, electrical, framing, etc.)

Not surprisingly, we found the highest and lowest bids to be the least detailed and thorough. Therefore, it was easy for us to throw out the lowest and highest bidders, as is often recommended. That left the three middle contractors, who we felt were the most thorough in their bidding process. Each of these contractors brought out their subcontractors to walk through the job. When I compared each of these bids, they were within \$25k (~4%) of each other. Therefore, we felt very comfort-

able with the accuracy of the numbers for each of the remaining three bids.

In the end, picking a contractor was a lot like dating. There are various aspects of consideration that go into the decision making process. The four biggest for me (and for most people I would imagine) are:

- Did I trust the contractor?
- Would he/she do a quality job?
- Would he/she finish the project in the time stated?
- And do it for a price that I could afford?

In the end, we went with Stubblefield Construction, based out of Moraga. In fact, Rob was the contractor who did the kitchen remodel for the neighbors on our friend’s street that we visited while trick-or-treating on Halloween night. The owners graciously invited us in to take a look at their new kitchen. They were so happy with Rob’s work, that they were holding a party for their friends the following Saturday, to which Rob and all his subcontractors were invited. They even invited us to join them so that we could meet him. To make a long story short, we ended up going to their party and meeting Rob, and that was the start to what we are hoping will be a beautiful relationship. Our remodel started in the beginning of

June and we are scheduled to move back in before the end of the

year. I’ll keep you posted on how things go...



Ken Ryerson

Ken Ryerson lives in Moraga with his wife, Linda. They have an 8 year daughter and 6 year old son who are both attending Los Perales Elementary School. Ken is a Lamorinda Residential Real Estate Specialist with Pacific Union in Orinda. If you have any questions or comments, he can be reached at 925-878-9685 or via email at Ken@RyersonRealty.com

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Saving Money on Good Nutrition

By Theresa Tsingis, D.C., M.S.

Shocked that a decent gallon of milk costs as much as gasoline? Here is a potpourri of ways to cut your costs while still eating healthy, nutritious foods:

- Cook one to two meatless meals a week. Meats (and some cheeses) tend to be the most expensive items in a shopping cart. These foods should be organic whenever possible though, because of their high status on the food chain (see the last article, “Dinnertime and DNA”). Beans, peas, lentils, nuts, and seeds all contain protein and more fiber, minerals and vitamins. They also cost less than meats. If you get gas and bloating from eating these foods, “Beano” is one name of a group of products that reduce that reaction. See recipes for tasty meatless dishes.
- Make one of your meat meals turkey-based. Turkey costs less, contains less saturated fat, and is a ready substitute for ground beef. Chili, Sloppy Joes, tacos, enchiladas, and many other meals can be made using turkey meat without

compromising on flavor or texture. Those dishes also allow you to incorporate other healthy foods into them, like different vegetables.

- Get to know where your favorite healthy foods cost less. Shop at large membership stores for organic products. Organic milk costs about 25-40% less at these stores. A local trader also carries organic products, such as eggs, at lower costs, yet other stores, even supermarkets, are rising to that challenge due to competition. Farmers markets carry fresh, organic and relatively local produce. They can also be a “greener” food source due to support of local economies, using less gas to transport food, etc.
- Another way to save money, time and effort in the kitchen and eat healthily, is to buy in bulk, cook and then freeze several meals. It takes a bit of planning, but saves you time and money in the long run. The key is to not overcook, and when you reheat the dish, add fresh snips of herbs, cheese or other condiments for zip and flavor. Examples of freezable meals are

stuffed shells, enchiladas, quesadillas, chili, lasagna, teriyaki salmon, pasta sauce, minestrone and other soups. (Note: potatoes do not take to freezing too well. Besides, they are high in ready sugar content and relatively low on the nutrition scale).

Moving from “Saving money” to “Saving your future” - Grilling can be hazardous to your health (sorry, wish it wasn’t true!). Many people grill frequently to reduce fat used in cooking and because grilled meats are tasty. Grilling however, causes the formation of “heterocyclic amines” (HCAs), a chemical group attributed to several types of cancers, including stomach, colon, breast and pancreatic. HCAs form when cooking beef, chicken, pork and fish at high temperatures. Grilling occasionally is probably fine, and I have not found information on HCAs in grilled vegetables, as the problem seems to stem from the chemical changes in muscle proteins during high temperatures.

... continued on page 20

Women Contractors, Tough Cookies Among Us

... continued from page 13

Their creativity translates into very high customer satisfaction rates. Margie Goldstein hired Dinkle to remodel the family room and bath and the children’s bathroom in their Moraga home. It was love at first sight. “Judy immediately understood what we are about and created for us spaces that fit perfectly the function, our style and budget,” states an enthusiastic Margie, “she made the process as painless as possible for us, I didn’t experience any stress.” She believes that the changes Judy affected ended up being more than what she had ever expected.

Big Red customers Jay and Sventlana Hill live in Orinda Woods. Their kitchen needed a complete remodel. “Kathy did a great job from beginning to end,”

says Hill. “When we started she told us that her job was to make everyone happy and that’s what she did.” The Hills felt that they were listened to, that they could change their mind and be taken care of. “She cares for the workers, too,” adds Hill, “she’s like a mother to them.” “Everything was done quickly, they worked on Saturdays, the work was finished on time and for the price we were promised,” they add.

Kim Berry in Lafayette hired Grosz for the master bedroom and bath in their Lafayette home. “I loved working with a female,” says Berry, “Kari has a great sense of style, she adds feminine touches, it was awesome to go shopping with her.” Grosz’s reliability was essential for this family with two young

children and two working parents. They were even able to stay in the house during the work. “It’s more convenient for contractors to have people out of their house,” says Grosz, “but often it is not the case for families.” Berry confirms, “We lived in the house the entire time. The workers always cleaned every evening.” The Berry’s say they would hire Grosz again in a heartbeat.

The three women get their jobs through referrals. They are booked for months to come, but it is always possible to get on their waiting list and they might be available for small projects. Big Red Construction (925) 962-0145, JD Design (925) 631-0562, Lamorinda Construction (925) 899-7201.



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Acalanes Class of 2008

Photo submitted by Verre Lew

AUHSD Explores Bond Extension

By Andrea A. Firth

Back in May, the Governing Board of the Acalanes Union High School District commissioned a survey of voters in the District to determine support for a no tax rate increase bond measure to be placed on the November 2008 ballot. Results of the telephone survey of just over 400 area registered voters revealed that there was a very good base of support—65% in favor—for a bond extension to raise funds to renovate and improve the facilities at the four high schools in the District, the adult education center in Walnut Creek, and the District office.

As proposed, the bond extension would lengthen the time that taxpayers would pay the same tax by ten or more years, however the tax rate would not increase. If placed on the November ballot, the

bond measure will require 55% of voters to approve for passage.

Based on the District's Facilities Master Plan, the projects to be covered by the bond extension include general projects such as the replacement of aging roofing, the conversion of facilities no longer needed into classroom space, and the creation of a 10-year technology fund. The site specific projects proposed emphasized the need for improving the safety of facilities such as Campolindo High School, which is now fifty years old and in need of modernization

The Governing Board set two dates in July for special Board meetings to adopt a resolution to place a no-tax rate increase bond measure on the Fall ballot. (See School Calendar)

AUHSD Board Meeting Attracts Crowd and Outcry over Coach Dismissal

By Andrea A. Firth

Meetings of the Acalanes Union High School District (AUHSD) Governing Board are typically staid affairs attended by a handful of parents and teachers who listen as the Board members discuss matters of curriculum, staffing, and of late mostly the budget. However, the AUHSD Board was greeted last Wednesday with a packed house that overflowed into the lobby adjacent to the meeting room. Over eighty parents, players, and colleagues came to voice their support for former Miramonte Girls Varsity Basketball coach, Darrell Hirashima, and to express their discontent over his recent dismissal.

"We are outraged that

Darrell has been relieved as Miramonte's Girls Basketball coach," stated player parent Judy Batlin. "We are here because we want you to reinstate Darrell Hirashima right now," she added.

One by one players, parents, and a coaching colleague stepped up to the podium to convey to the Board their respect and admiration for Hirashima's coaching talent and character. Several young women who had been coached by Hirashima related the support that he had provided them both on and off of the court. Described as a soft-spoken, good hearted, unpretentious man, several speakers noted the long-standing winning

ways of the Miramonte Lady Matadors under Hirashima's coaching.

The Board was repeatedly asked to reconsider the decision to terminate Hirashima. "This is a good man. This is a good coach," stated one parent. "Please take the time to reconsider this decision."

The AUHSD Governing Board listened intently to the predetermined twenty minutes of public comment, however following their standard protocol; the Board conducted no further discussion of the matter at the meeting.

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SCHOOL CALENDAR

School Governing Board Meetings

Acalanes Union
 High School District
 Board Room AUHSD Office
 1212 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lafayette
 Tuesday, July 8 at 4:30 pm
 Monday, July 21 at 5:00 pm

The Governing Board set these dates for special Board meetings to adopt a resolution to place a no-tax rate increase bond measure on the November 2008 ballot.

What's for Dinner?

By Jill McTaggart

Attention working mothers! Wouldn't it be great if the next time your child asked, "What's for dinner, Mom?" You could laughingly reply, "It's Monday, so it is Mexican!" The reality is that most working moms make variations of the same meals each week; Mexican, Italian, burgers, and pastas. What if you simply glorified this reality and made it official by giving each night of the week a name like Monday is Mexican night.

You can accomplish this in 3 simple steps.

1. Have a family meeting that outlines this easy strategy and how each family member has a cooperative role.

2. The Weeknight Menu Plan

3. Enjoy dinnertime again as a family - one of the most important parenting tools there is.

Step 1: The family meeting is a very powerful parenting tool. I use it whenever I have important news, or need my family's buy in for a change I need to make. But most importantly the family meeting is a forum for each family member to give their opinion and feedback on the change. The opinion of the children should not in-

fluence or negate the change, but it is important that the kids' views are voiced and listened to.

The introduction of the family meeting is the first change on the road to peaceful and guilt-free weeknight dinners. Let the kids and other parent know that you are calling a family meeting that evening. Have the meeting at a time when everyone is relaxed, at the dining table over dirty dishes may not be that relaxing for mom.

First tell your family why you feel you need this change. Something like, "Dinner can be a very stressful time for me because we are all tired and I am trying to provide a healthy meal, and it is hard to please everyone. I want it to be a more peaceful way to end the day and have time together."

Second, let the family know that each member will have an important role in the preparation of dinner. The parent's role is to plan, shop and prepare healthful meals at dinnertime, not to police what the child chooses to eat during the meal. So dinner is dinner and if the child chooses not to eat that is their choice. The truth is according to pediatricians your child will NOT starve if they decide not to

Lamorinda Schools

Orinda Academy Announces 2008 Graduates



eat dinner. The child's role is to help either cook or clean up every night, and agree to try one fruit or vegetable that is offered at dinner-time. There will be no negative consequences if the child does not eat an entire portion of the green thing, but the child is required to try what is offered.

Finally, the fun part - renaming each night of the week so that the family knows what to expect for dinner. Ask them to imagine how great it will be when they are "starving" on their way home from soccer and knowing that it is Wednesday, they can look forward to Burger Night. Have a piece of paper handy and re-name the nights of the week together. It doesn't matter in the scheme of things which night is which, but it gives them a sense of influence on the change. Based on the most common family friendly dinners, I suggest: Mexican, BBQ, Italian/Pasta, Soup, and burger nights for Sunday through Thursday. Friday night can be "Take-out" or Pizza night as a reward, if you feel that this change is going to be monumental for your family.

So that is it for Step 1. You have started a positive change to make weeknight dinners less stressful. Like anything else in parenting, use anything you can from this plan and scrap the rest. In the next issue we'll cover Step 2, the Weeknight Menu Plan, which will include a shopping list and recipes.

Local mom Jill McTaggart teaches English and Food at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School

Orinda, CA. Orinda Academy celebrated its 26th commencement exercise on Friday, June 13th, as 28 seniors walked the stage before a crowd of proud parents, family members and friends. Leading the Class of 2008 was Valedictorian, Eden Castro, who came to Orinda Academy in the eighth grade and will attend Brown University.

The 2008 graduates include Omran Al-Mesned, Pinole; Matt Bohnsack, Alameda; Eden Castro, Berkeley; Kira Condey, Kensington; Ben Cook, Lafayette; Kyle Drewes, Berkeley; Tri Duong, Vietnam; Xochilena Edgerton-Benitez,

Oakland; Katherine Ellis, Moraga; Cody Flowers, Oakland; Nicolas Gracia, Alamo; Chris Hansen, Concord; Kiera Jeuit, Oakland; Max Jowett, Oakland; Kevin Kim, South Korea; Tae Kim, San Francisco; Anna Luber, Danville; Devin Marcus, Oakland; Michael Peterson, Martinez; Aiyana Price-Pauline, Berkeley; Miranda Reilly, Orinda; Anya Rose-Ramo, Berkeley; Chris Sarmiento, Orinda; Collin Spencer, Antioch; Evan Valavanis, Oakland; Andrew Widess, El Cerrito; Hannah Wilkinson, El Cerrito; and Pinky Yuan, China.

Along with Orinda Academy's graduation ceremonies, the

following students received academic achievement awards: Most Outstanding 12th Grade Student - Eden Castro, Berkeley; Most Outstanding 11th Grade Student - Anh Su, Concord; Most Outstanding 10th Grade Student - Dylan Kimssey-Hutchinson, El Cerrito; Most Outstanding 9th Grade Student - Talia Gross; Oakland and Most Outstanding 8th Grade Student - Jeremy Hansen, Richmond. Zach Scheffler, Berkeley, received the award for Most Improved Student, while Zeke Nierenberg, El Cerrito, received the award for Volunteer of the Year as well as the School Spirit Award.

Los Perales Graduation Party

Submitted by Colleen Giovanni



Los Perales Elementary School 5th graders celebrated their graduation by enjoying a party at Rancho Laguna Park on June 12. Among the many fun activities the students could engage in was a time capsule project.

Capsules were filled with mementos from around Moraga, their predictions for the future (price of gas, next President, etc...), and clippings from your friendly neighborhood newspaper.

Union Bank Opens with Big Support of Orinda Schools

Submitted by Jane Wiser



At its Grand Opening in Orinda, the Union Bank of California gave the Educational Foundation of Orinda (EFO) a generous donation to show its community support and commitment to education.

Community members and guests enjoyed entertainment by 2007 Orinda Idol winners and students from the Orinda schools' choral programs.

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Lamorinda Schools

Three Generations of Dons

By Jean Follmer



Fred (1953) Charles (1979) Alissa (2005) Christian (2008) Tina (1979)

Photo submitted by Tina Skuce

Christian Skuce is a proud member of the Class of 2008 at Acalanes High School. He and his sister, Alissa Skuce (Acalanes Class of 2005), represent the 3rd generation of Acalanes graduates in their family. Their family's Dons legacy began with their maternal grandfather, Fred Ravazza, a current and lifelong Lafayette resident. Ravazza's father came to Lafayette from Italy to farm in Happy Valley and decided to stay and raise his children. Ravazza was on the football team during his high school career and graduated from Acalanes in 1953.

The Acalanes Dons legacy continued when Ravazza's daughter, Tina (Ravazza) Skuce, graduated from Acalanes in 1979. Tina played softball for Acalanes and met her husband, Charles Skuce, there. She said "We met in our junior year in Mr. Whyte's history class." They also attended the senior prom together. Like his father-in-law, Charles was also a Dons football player. When asked about his memories of Acalanes, Charles said "I enjoyed Acalanes and my friends and I enjoyed sports. It was a good high school." On being a lifelong Lafayette resident, Charles said "It's comfortable; we

were born and raised here. (Lafayette) has good schools and good athletics." Both Charles and his father-in-law attended Lafayette Elementary School and Tina is now a first-grade teacher there.

Years later, the Skuce's daughter, Alissa, attended Acalanes. She continued her family's athletic tradition as a member of both the Acalanes water polo and swim teams. She graduated from Acalanes in 2005 and is currently a student at Cuesta College in San Luis Obispo. Alissa began her swimming career as a Gutter Guppy for the LMYA Dolphins at age 4. She has continued the affiliation by coaching for the Dolphins during her college breaks. She said "I do it for fun now and to work out." Last year, Alissa competed in the AVIA Wildflower Olympic Distance Triathlon with her Aunt Maria (also an Acalanes graduate) and they won their relay event. Alissa plans to return to the Bay Area next year and is open to considering further coaching opportunities.

Christian is off to Cuesta College this fall and will room with his sister, Alissa. Also an athlete, Christian played lacrosse dur-

ing his four years at Acalanes and plans to continue in the future. He said "I liked the athletics and being part of the team. All my friends are on the team. I'm going to miss my friends." When asked if he plans to return to Lafayette frequently, Christian joked "That depends. Gas prices are pretty high and I don't want to push it." As for post college thoughts, Christian said "I thought about advertising because I have good commercial ideas or maybe a lacrosse company."

When asked if he would consider returning to Lafayette for the long run, Christian said "I like the suburbs more than the City, but it may be time to venture outside the bubble" to another suburb. Alissa cited her close ties to family saying "We were raised by our parents and our grandparents. If I have the opportunity, I would like to stay here." Their grandparents still live in Lafayette and frequently walk the track at Acalanes and attend sporting events there. Tina said "It's fun for my dad to go to the games." If Alissa has her way, Acalanes may be fortunate enough to have another generation of Skuce athletes in its future.

Glorietta Names New Principal—Wendy Sparks

By Andrea A. Firth

Orinda Union School District (OUSD) recently announced that Wendy Sparks has been selected as the new principal for Glorietta Elementary School. Sparks joins the OUSD from San Ramon, where she most recently served as principal for Coyote Creek Elementary School.

"We are delighted to welcome Ms. Sparks to the Orinda community," states OUSD Governing Board President Pat Rudebusch. "She clearly brings a wealth of professional experience to the job, including a solid background in curriculum development, literacy, and special education. Equally important, I believe that her interpersonal skills and student-centered focus will be an excellent match for Glorietta

School and the District's leadership team," she adds.

Sparks spent fourteen years with the San Ramon School District and prior to her career in school administration worked as a classroom teacher and a resource specialist. While working in the fast-growing San Ramon District, Sparks was involved with the district's affiliation with the Columbia University Teachers College Writing Project which is also used in Orinda's K through 8 schools in the English Language Arts curriculum.

"Literacy has been a primary focus of our district for the past several years, and many of our teachers have been trained in the Columbia University's Teachers College writing curriculum," states

Rudebusch. "The San Ramon schools have been leaders in implementing the Columbia program and our two districts have partnered on staff development opportunities. Having someone with Ms. Sparks' depth of experience in the Columbia methods is a real plus."

"Glorietta is clearly a special school with an outstanding staff, parents, and students," says Glorietta's new Principal Sparks. "I look forward to working in a smaller, more intimate school environment at Glorietta and continuing to support the high standards that have been established on this campus," she adds. In the fall, Sparks plans to hold a series of morning coffee sessions for parents to have an opportunity to meet her personally.

Stanley Welcomes a New Assistant Principal—Joseph Funk

By Andrea A. Firth



Stanley Principal David Schrag welcomes Joseph Funk

Photo Andrea A. Firth

The Lafayette School District's (LAFSD) recent Governing Board meeting was once again filled with teachers from Stanley Middle School, many of whom had just returned from an end of the year outing to Great America. What Board meeting agenda item was sufficiently enticing to keep these teachers from packing up their classrooms and heading off for summer break? The teachers were anxiously awaiting the announcement of the new Assistant Principal to fill the vacancy left by the departure of Sue Rusk who has moved on to head things up at Burton Valley Elementary School.

Before the Stanley newcomer was identified, Board member David Stromberg made a brief statement. "It is with great sadness that I announce my resignation from the Board effective in a few weeks," stated Stromberg. Having moved to a home in an unincorporated section of Lafayette, Stromberg is required by State law to relinquish his post. LAFSD Board President Stephenie Teichman noted that the Board would work quickly to advertise the two-year Board position now open secondary to Stromberg's vacated seat.

The meeting quickly moved on to the announcement everyone awaited. Stanley's Principal David Schrag, who was sporting shorts and a tan from a day at the amusement park, then introduced Joseph Funk who was unanimously approved by the Board as Assistant Principal at Stanley. "I am really excited. Joe will be a great fit for our school," stated Schrag. Funk concurred, "I can't tell you how excited I am."

Funk moves to Stanley from Taylor Middle School in Millbrae, where he has worked as the Dean of Students since 2005. After working several years in the high tech industry in the Bay Area, Funk taught a modular science and technology course at Taylor for five years and then taught 8th grade History (his true passion) and Leadership for four years. "When the opening in the Taylor administration became available (the Dean of Students position), I struggled with the decision to apply," notes Funk. "I still loved teaching but finally decided that I was ready for the new challenges and experiences that position offered."

"I am pleased to be working in a school like Stanley, in a small community that dedicates itself to the success of its children," adds Funk. "I recently had the opportunity to meet the staff at Stanley, and I am more convinced than ever that I made the right decision to leave a place where I was very happy for one so warm and welcoming and so clearly dedicated to their students."



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Moraga Brings Back the Good Ol' Times for the 4th of July

By Sophie Braccini



2007 4th of July race Picture courtesy of Campo Track

This 4th of July, the Moraga Parks and Recreation Department will go all out to offer Moragans and visitors community-building fun for families. Parks and Rec Director Jay Lifson has added old fashioned amusement to attract crowds to the Commons Park. Starting at 11:00am, youth from 7 to 77 years of age are invited to compete in wheelbarrow and 3 legged races, a spoon and egg relay, water balloon toss, and a watermelon-eating contest. There will also be the traditional parades and activities, followed by the well-attended fireworks at 9:00pm.

The day will start with the runs planned by the Campolindo Track Team. The runners will meet at the Montessori School in the Moraga Center (on Moraga Road, close to the new Union Bank). The children start their run at 8:00AM, followed by the five-mile and 2-mile runners. Registration is \$20 before June 20th and includes a T-shirt, (\$5 for Kiddie Run). The form is online on the campotrack.com web site or at the Hacienda. Registration is possible on the day of the race, starting at 7:00am, for \$25.

Back by popular demand, the Moraga Youth Involvement Committee will offer a pancake breakfast at 8:00am.

New this year: Immediately following the con-

clusion of competition, both two mile and five mile race competitors are invited to the Moraga Commons for complimentary pancakes.

At 9:00 AM, canine pride will be displayed in its usual and quite unbelievably orderly manner. Equally orderly, the children will follow at 10:30AM with a bike parade led by the Moraga Police Department (MPD). The Kiwanis are organizing the very popular inflatable park. The ephemeral wonderland has been moved close to the basketball court to promote mingling with the rest of the festivities.

In front of the band shell, visit the booths of several local organizations such as the Historical Society, the Moraga Movers, the Hacienda Foundation, the Chamber of Commerce, the Lions, Loard's Ice cream, Community Emergency Response Team, Moraga-Orinda Fire Department (MOFD), and the MPD. Food booths will provide sustenance to visitors from 11AM to 9PM.

New excitement this year: the Parks and Recreation Department invites all skater-boarder to show off their talent at the Skate Park around 12:30PM. Potential performers should call Parks and Rec at 888-7045 to register.

Evening festivities will open at 6:45PM with Mayor Lynda Deschambault's welcome at the Bandshell. She will be followed by Larry Lynch and the Mob's concert. As usual, the best seats at the Commons and on the Country Club grounds will be staked-out well before the start of the fireworks at 9:00pm.

The MOFD has also issued its traditional annual warning: Fireworks may be canceled up to 15 minutes before the show, if conditions mandate. This hasn't happened yet, so let's hope that the unprecedented dryness of the vegetation this year will not lead to a big disappointment for the thousands of viewers expected to attend the display.

Orinda Celebrates 25 Years of the July

By Andrea A. Firth

25th Anniversary July 4th Parade and Celebration



Sophia Spitulnik, who recently graduated from 5th grade at Wagner Ranch Elementary School, designed the logo for Orinda's 25th Anniversary Parade Celebration

"Twenty-five years ago a lot got started and established in Orinda, including the July 4th parade," says Kate Wiley, Co-President of the Orinda Association. "We thought it was the right time for the community to share in those traditions and accomplishments, so we decided to throw a week-long party," she adds with a laugh. The ever resourceful and exceedingly organized Wiley worked with core group of about twenty volunteers to create a 25th Anniversary Celebration that Orindans and their neighbors in Lafayette and Moraga won't soon forget.

Celebration banners, which feature red and blue stars reminiscent of a fireworks display, already adorn poles on both the Theater Square and Community Center sides of the City. "I was looking for a banner design, and Nancy Daniels [a local artist and Co-President of the Orinda Arts Council] mentioned that she had created something a few years back that was never used," explains event coordinator Susan Meyer. "So we resurrected Nancy's design, recruited sponsors, and the banners are up and make the City look really

festive," she adds.

Orinda's first July 4th parade, held in 1984, was the brainchild of Bobbie Landers, a longtime resident and Orinda activist. Landers and friends were looking for a way to bring Orindans from both sides of Highway 24 together for some sun, some fun, and to introduce the concept of incorporation of the City. A few phone calls later and with a help of her many friends (like John Fazel), Orinda's Annual July 4th Parade and Fun Run were born.

"We have been working on the 25th Anniversary July 4th Celebration since last September," notes Wiley. "Almost every civic group in Orinda is involved." Finalists from the recent Orinda Idol Competition will sing the National Anthem at the start of the parade. This year's Grand Marshall, Harriet Ainsworth, will lead the procession seated on a platform (created by Wiley's son Travis) that depicts Orinda's majestic hills and historic buildings. And, Orinda's All Volunteer Band—a parade favorite—will be marching and playing and celebrating their 25th anniversary as well.

Moraga 4th of July Program:

Morning Runs:

- 8:00 Kiddie Run
- 8:30 5 Mile Run
- 8:40 2 Mile Run
- 10:00 Awards at the Bandshell

At the Commons

- 8:00 – 10:30am Pancake Breakfast
- 9:00 Dog Parade
- 9:30-1:30 Community Organization booths
- 10:30 Children's Bike Parade
- Fire Department vehicle display
- Police Dept. vehicle display
- 10:00 – 6:00pm Inflatables
- 11:00 – 9:00pm Food booths
- 11:00 – 12:30pm Old fashion 4th of July Games
- 12:30pm Skate Park Show

Evening Festivities

- 6:45pm Mayor's Welcome
- 7:00pm Larry Lynch and the Mob
- 9:00pm Fireworks by Pyro Spectaculars
- 9:30pm Larry Lynch and the Mob close the celebration

Traffic Detour in Moraga on July 4

To protect the public from fallout from exploding rockets during the display, the Moraga Police and Public Works Departments will provide detours around road closures near the display area. Signs will be posted directing traffic around the area and along residential streets. Remember that the 25 mph speed limit will be enforced along the detour.

Road closures will be in effect from 8:45 PM until approximately 15 minutes after the display ends. The closed roads include:

Moraga Way between Hardie Drive and Camino Ricardo

All entrances to the Moraga Country Club (including Country Club Drive from School Street).

Please prepare for severe traffic impact immediately following the fireworks show to last approximately 1 hour.

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ORINDA July 4th—Make a Day of It!

- 7:30 am Pancake Breakfast (til 10 am)
- 8:00 am Roadrunners' and Haley's Fun Runs*
- 9:30 am Friends of the Library Book Sale (til 1 pm)
- 10:00 am Orinda's 25th Annual July 4th Parade
- 12:30 pm Exotic Bird Show
- All day! Starting at 8:00 am and running until 3:00, there will be live music and arts and crafts booths in the Library Plaza and Community Center Park— plus food, beverages, games, a petting zoo, a classic car show, and more.

*Register in advance for Haley's Fun Run at www.angelhaley.org. On the 4th, sign up for the Roadrunners' and Haley's Fun Runs in front of the Orinda Community Center.

But the fun is scheduled to begin long before the parade kicks off. The day will start with a pancake breakfast hosted by the Orinda Roadrunners followed by the Roadrunners Fun Run, a two or five mile effort. The five-mile course goes through Wagner Ranch into the EBMUD watershed and onto the American Discovery Trail. "The course is both scenic and flat and much of it is on EBMUD land that is closed to the public, which provides a once-a-year opportunity to see beautiful, remote areas of our wilderness neighborhood," explains John Fazel, a founding member of the Orinda Roadrunners.

Haley's 4th of July Run for a Reason, a five-mile run or two-mile family walk, will be run simultaneously. Haley's Run raises funds for the Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood Program in honor of the passing of young Orinda resident whose parents still do not know the cause. Haley's Run will be followed by a silent auction and a host of other fun kids' activities in Community Center Park.

Anything else? There will be great music, great food, and shopping! Five different bands playing a variety of jazz tunes will be featured throughout the day, and several local restaurants and civic groups will provide the eats and drinks. Start off with a hot dog prepared by the Orinda Chamber of Commerce, wash it down with a beer at the Orinda Rotary Booth (for the over 21 crowd) or a snow cone sponsored by the Miramonte Football Team (for the younger set), and top it off with some ice cream from Loard's. In addition, over forty booths with interactive activities, arts, and crafts will be open throughout the day.

"We encourage residents from Lafayette and Moraga to join us in Orinda for the events leading up to the parade like the concert in the park and the Reach for the Stars evening on the 2nd. Then come enjoy the variety of activities before, during, and after the parade on the 4th," invites Wiley. "This will be a fun celebration for everyone who lives in the Lamorinda area, and we'll see you down the road in Moraga for the fireworks that evening."

The Celebration before the Celebration— Reach for the Stars on 7/2 in Theater Square

By Andrea A. Firth

"When Kate Wiley [of the Orinda Association] called one day and asked me if I wanted to decorate the town, I didn't think twice about it—I just said yes," explains Susan Meyer, Chair of the July 2nd Celebration in Orinda. To achieve this goal, Meyer, a petite package of boundless enthusiasm and creative energy, has created an evening of music, food, art, and wine for Lamorindans to enjoy in Orinda's Theater Square. "It will be a fun community event with something for everyone," adds Meyer. "We'll celebrate this wonderful community and commemorate the 25th anniversary of the parade."

The evening will start around 6:00 pm with music by the Bob Claire Orchestra including Orinda resident and keyboardist Ron Tague. A Mini Car show sponsored by Orinda Motors will provide residents with the chance to view some classic cars up close. And, attendees won't go hungry or thirsty. A wine tasting will feature wines from the Lamborn Family Vineyards (located atop Howell Mountain in Napa Valley), Parkmon Vineyards (situated high atop Laird Drive in Moraga), and the Lamorinda Winegrowers Association (with locations throughout Lamorinda). The tasting will include a commemorative wine glass etched with the Orinda Theater logo. Plus several Theater Square restaurants will be open for dining in or out.

"Everyone has the potential to be inspired," states Meyer, "They just have to reach for it," she adds. Thus, Meyer's name for the July 2nd celebration—Reach for the Stars. "Back in February I was driving in San Francisco. I saw some of the painted hearts of San Francisco, and it just clicked," she explains. To that end, Orinda's event will feature an auction of about twenty one-of-a-kind stars created by Bay Area artists. The stars which are about 12 inches around and mounted to stand about three feet off the ground are suitable as interior home décor or as garden ornaments.

Several local artists, including Theater Square Gallery owner Allison McCrady, contributed star creations. McCrady also created a painting to memorialize the July 2nd celebration.

Applying a bit of artistic license with her perspective, McCrady's work shows trees in bloom in the foreground and the Orinda hills looming in the background with the Theater marquee rising from the center. Prints of the painting suitable for framing will be on sale that evening. VIP seating and parking for the parade on Friday the 4th will also be auctioned off.

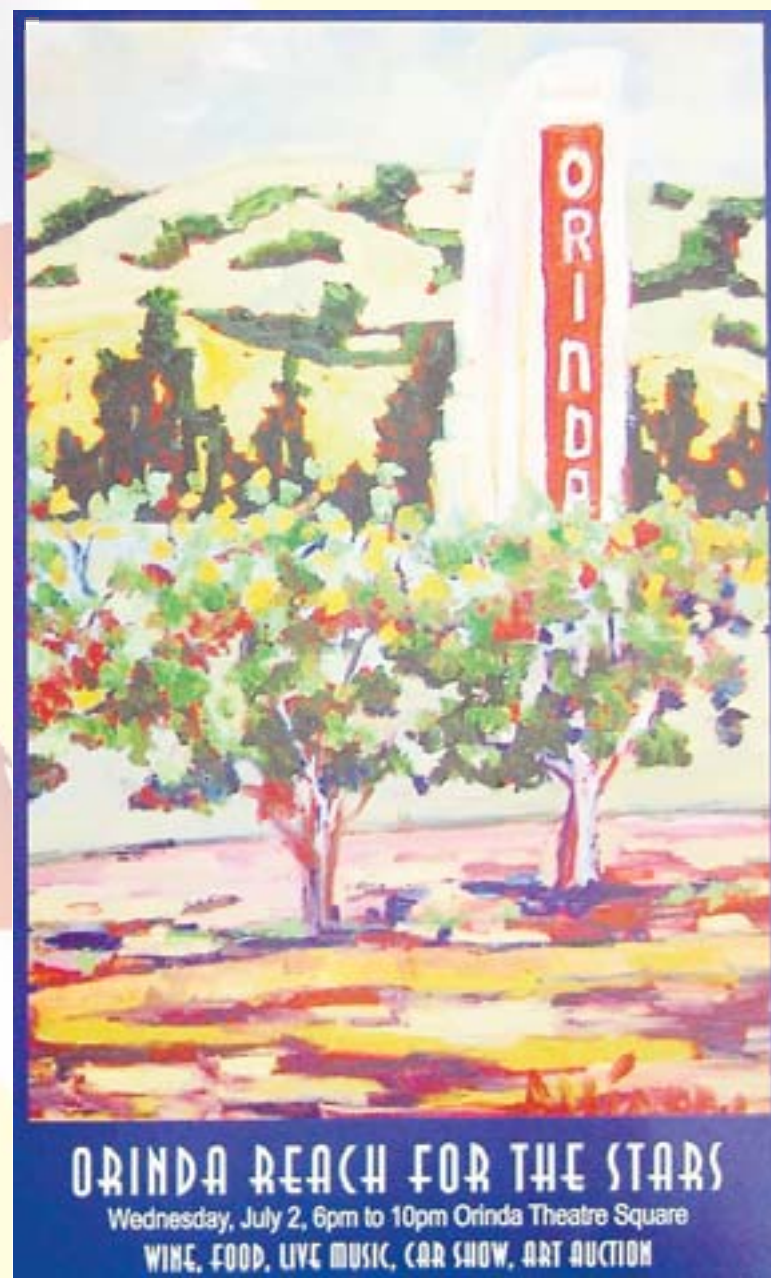
The pre-July 4th festivities will kick off with a concert by the Silver Spurs in Community Center Park on Tuesday, July 1st. The Reach for the Stars event will follow on Wednesday evening. And, volunteers are invited to come back on Thursday, July 3rd to join Susan and friends in decorating the Community Center, Library Plaza, and park. (Meet at 4:00 pm at the Volunteer Center next to Caffe Teatro.)

Parade Route



Getting Ready for the 4th— Events July 1st thru 3rd

- July 1st Concert in Community Center Park
6:30-8:30 pm Country Western music by the Silver Spurs
- July 2nd Reach for the Stars in Orinda's Theater Square
6:00-10:00 pm Music, Food, Art & Wine Festival and Classic Car Show
- July 3rd Volunteers' Decorating Party
4:00-6:00 pm Community Center Park and the Library Plaza



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Dining • Dining • Dining • Dining • Dining

More Summer Grilling: Stuffed Flank Steak

By Susie Iventosch



This recipe is available on our web site.

Go to: <http://www.lamorindaweekly.com>

Susie can be reached at

suziven@hughes.net

Local farmers' markets are in full swing, bringing farm-fresh produce to town. For a satisfying weekend morning, it's tough to beat a stroll through the stalls, visiting vendors and sampling produce along the way. It's a delightful way to load up with goodies for the week – usually more than can comfortably be carried on two arms! (Excavating change, while juggling cherries and berries isn't so easy. How handy it would be

to know how to balance a basket atop the head!) It's also a fine time for bumping into friends and neighbors you rarely see during the week! You may find an organic meat vendor at the market, and what better way to prepare a stuffed flank steak than with locally-grown greens, a little cheese and some sautéed shallots? This recipe has all my favorite flavors, but for those who prefer to use spinach in lieu of arugula, and a different

type of cheese – no problem – you can also have it your way! So, head to the market and fire up the grill. It's summer time! Lamorinda area farmers' markets are held on Saturdays in Orinda and Sundays in Moraga. The Orinda Farmers' Market is held on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. from May 3 through November 15. The market is located in the Village on Orinda Way just in front of Rite Aid and the Community Center. For more information,

please visit: http://www.cccfn.org/pages/vendors_orinda.htm or call (925) 431-8361. The Moraga Farmers' Market runs year-round on Sundays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Moraga Center at the intersection of Moraga Way and Moraga Road. For more information please visit: <http://www.cafarmersmkts.com/moraga.html> or call (925) 465-4690.

Ingredients

- 1 two-pound (approximate) beef flank steak
- 1 large or 2 small shallots, minced and sautéed in one or two tablespoons olive oil
- ¼ cup freshly chopped basil (amount after chopping)
- ¼ cup freshly chopped arugula (amount after chopping)
- 1 cup marinated artichoke hearts, drained and chopped
- ½ red bell pepper, seeded and chopped
- ¼ cup sundried tomatoes, drained and chopped
- ¼ cup blue cheese, crumbled
- ¼ cup feta cheese, crumbled

Directions

Lay flank steak on cutting board and pound to between 1/3 and ½-inch thickness with a meat pounder. Set aside. Mix remaining ingredients in a bowl and stir to combine well. Spread filling over flank steak, leaving a 2-inch border without filling at the far long end. Roll steak, beginning from the long side with stuffing next to edge, toward long end with no stuffing at the edge. Tie with kitchen string in three or four places, and if necessary enclose each end by using wooden toothpicks, so that stuffing won't escape. Grill over medium-low heat for approximately 20-24 minutes, total. Grill for six minutes, then turn one-quarter turn, repeating two more times so that all four sides have cooked directly on the grill. This produced a medium-rare doneness to the meat. Cook a little longer per side, if you prefer more well-done meat. Remember, the meat in the center of the pinwheel will take longer to cook through. Remove from grill and slice into ¾ inch slices. Serve hot with grilled veggies and salad!

Saving Money on Good Nutrition

... continued from page 14

A combination of partial microwaving and then baking at 350 degrees is one way to cause less formation of HCAs. For more information, check out the National Cancer Institute's website. <http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/factsheet/Risk/heterocyclic-amines>

Onward to some recipes for tasty meatless dishes:

Jane's White Bean & Escarole Saute

Good enough to impress company with your meatless meal skills

- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 3 Tb olive oil
- 1 15oz jar white beans
- 2 heads escarole, chopped
- 2 cups chicken or vegetable stock
- 2-3 tsp thyme
- 1 tsp salt

Saute garlic, onions and thyme in olive oil til soft; add escarole til wilted. Add rest of ingredients and simmer til escarole is cooked and liquid is absorbed to your liking. *Serves 4*

Turkey Sloppy Joes

Kids love 'em!

- 1 pound ground lean turkey, organic if possible
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 Tb high-heat canola oil
- ¼ – ½ cup organic ketchup
- 1 ½ Tb organic brown sugar
- 2 tsp powdered mustard
- Whole wheat burger buns

Saute onions in canola oil til soft, add ground turkey and break up with a fork while heating. Add rest of ingredients to taste. Serve over burger buns and with a green salad. *Serves 4*

George and Sylvia's Mushroom Nut "Pate"

An appetizer or lunch in itself

Served with vegetables and whole wheat crackers, makes an elegant appetizer.

- 2 Tb olive oil
- 1 lb mushrooms (half white and half portabella is a good combo)
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 cup slivered almonds
- 2 more Tb olive oil
- ¼ tsp oregano
- ¼ tsp thyme
- dash tabasco sauce
- dash of sweet sherry
- few sprigs parsley for garnish

Saute onions, garlic and then mushrooms in 1 Tb olive oil until liquid evaporates. Add sherry and let it evaporate for a few seconds. Set aside. Coarsely chop almonds in food processor; set 2 Tbs of them aside. Continue chopping rest of almonds drizzling in the 2 Tb of olive oil until well blended. Add other ingredients and blend in processor until pate consistency. Transfer into a bowl, stir in reserved almonds, and sprinkle with chopped parsley. Makes one cup.



Theresa Tsingis, D.C., M.S., owns Lamorinda Nutrition, 89 Davis Road, Orinda. She has over 20 years of experience helping individuals improve their fitness and health. Dr. Tsingis can be reached at drtsingis@comcast.net or (925) 360-2729.

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Petar's Restaurant & Pub 925-284-7117

Petar's is open for lunch Monday through Saturday from 11:30 to 4:00 and open for dinner nightly.

Petar's Restaurant is located in the heart of Lafayette at 32 Lafayette Circle.

* Regular menu only, not valid with daily board specials, early dinner menu or with any other specials or promotions. (soup & salad sides are not considered entrees) - Exp. July 31, 2008 -

LAMORINDA's Restaurants			Squirrel's Coffee Shop			Mucho wraps		
-- updated June 25, 2008 --			998 Moraga Rd, Laf	284-7830	1375-B Moraga Way, Mor	377-1203		
American			Village Inn Café	254-6080	3596 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-8740		
Bistro	3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-7108	Continental		3666 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-8288		
Chow Restaurant	53 Lafayette Cir, Laf	962-2469	Petar's Restaurant	32 Lafayette Cir, Laf	284-7117	El Balazo	3518D Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-8700
Hungry Hunter	3201 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	938-3938	Vino Restaurant	3531 Plaza Way, Laf	284-1330	Maya Mexican Grill	74 Moraga Way, Ori	258-9049
Quiznos	3651 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	962-0200	Duck Club Restaurant	3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-7108	Numero Uno Taqueria	3616 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-1333
Ranch House	1012 School St, Mor	376-5127	Hawaiian Grill			Pizza		
Terzetto Cuisine	1419 Moraga Way, Mor	376-3832	Lava Pit	2 Theatre Square, St. 142, Ori	253-1338	Mountain Mike's Pizza	3614 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-6363
The Cheese Steak Shop	3455 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-1234	Indian			Mountain Mike's Pizza	504 Center St, Mor	377-6453
BBQ			India Palace	3740 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-5700	Pennini's	1375 Moraga Rd, Mor	376-1515
Bo's Barbecue	3422 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-7133	Swad Indian Cuisine	3602 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	962-9575	Round Table Pizza	361 Rheim Blvd, Mor	376-1411
Burger Joint			Italian			Round Table Pizza	3637 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-0404
Flippers	960 Moraga Rd, Laf	284-1567	Giardino	3406 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-3869	Village Pizza	19 Orinda Way # Ab, Ori	254-1200
Nation's Giant Hamburgers	400 Park, Mor	376-8888	La Finestra Ristorante	100 Lafayette Cir, St. 101, Laf	284-5282	Zamboni's Pizza	1 Camino Sobrante # 4, Ori	254-2800
Nation's Giant Hamburgers	76 Moraga Way, Ori	254-8888	La Piazza	15 Moraga Way, Ori	253-9191	Sandwiches/Deli		
Café			Mangia Ristorante Pizzeria	975 Moraga Rd, Laf	284-3081	Bianca's Deli	1480 Moraga Rd # A, Mor	376-4400
Express Cafe	3732 Mt. Diablo Blvd # 170, Laf	283-7170	Michael's	1375 Moraga Way, Mor	376-4300	Europa Hofbrau Deli & Pub	64 Moraga Way, Ori	254-7202
Ferrari- Lucca Delicatessens	23 Lafayette Cir, Laf	299-8040	Mondello's	337 Rheim Blvd, Mor	376-2533	Gourmet Bistro Café	484 Center St, Mor	376-1551
Geppetto's cafe	87 Orinda Way, Ori	253-9894	Pizza Antica	3600 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-0500	Kasper's Hot Dogs	103 Moraga Way, Ori	253-0766
Rising Loafer	3643 Mt. Diablo Blvd Ste B, Laf	284-8816	Postino	3565 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-8700	Noah's Bagels	3518 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-0716
California Cuisine			Ristorante Amoroma	360 Park St, Mor	377-7662	Orinda Deli	19 F Orinda Way, Ori	254-1990
Gigi's	1005 Brown St., Laf	962-0882	Japanese			Subway	396 Park St., Mor	376-2959
Metro Lafayette	3524 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-4422	Asia Palace Sushi Bar	1460 B Moraga Rd, Mor	376-0809	Subway	3322 Mt. Diablo Blvd #B, Laf	284-2627
Shelby's	2 Theatre Sq, Ori	254-9687	Blue Ginko	3518-A Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	962-9020	Subway	Theatre Square, Ori	258-0470
Chinese			Kane Sushi	3474 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-9709	Seafood		
Asia Palace Restaurant	1460 B Moraga Rd, Mor	376-0809	Niwa Restaurant	1 Camino Sobrante # 6, Ori	254-1606	Yankee Pier	3593 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-4100
Chef Chao Restaurant	343 Rheim Blvd, Mor	376-1740	Serika Restaurant	2 Theatre Sq # 118, Ori	254-7088	Singaporean/Malaysian		
China Moon Restaurant	380 Park St, Mor	376-1828	Tamami's Japanese Restaurant	356 Park St, Mor	376-2872	Kopitiam	3647 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-1653
The Great Wall Restaurant	3500 Golden Gate Way, Laf	284-3500	Yu Sushi	19 Moraga Way, Ori	253-8399	Steak		
Hsiangs Mandarin Cuisine	1 Orinda Way # 1, Ori	253-9852	Jazz Dinner Club			Casa Orinda	20 Bryant Way, Ori	254-2981
Lily's House	3555 Mt. Diablo Blvd #A, Laf	284-7569	Joe's of Lafayette	3707 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Laf	299-8807	Patisserie Lafayette	71 Lafayette Cir, Laf	283-2226
Mandarin Flower	581 Moraga Rd, Mor	376-7839	The Orinda House	65 Moraga Way, Ori	258-4445	Tea Party by Appointment	107 Orinda Way, Ori	254-2206
Panda Express	3608 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	962-0288	Mediterranean			Thai		
Szechwan Chinese Restaurant	79 Orinda Way, Ori	254-2020	Alex's	2 Theatre Sq # 105, Ori	254-5290	Amarin Thai Cuisine	3555 Mt. Diablo Blvd # B, Laf	283-8883
Uncle Yu's Szechuan	999 Oak Hill Rd, Laf	283-1688	Oasis Café	3594 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-8822	Baan Thai	99 Orinda Way, Ori	253-0989
Yan's Restaurant	3444 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-2228	Per Tutti Ristorante	3576 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-5225	Royal Siam	512 Center St, Mor	377-0420
Coffee Shop			Mexican			Siam Orchid	23 Orinda Way # F, Ori	253-1975
Millie's Kitchen	1018 Oak Hill Rd #A, Laf	283-2397	360 Gourmet Burring	3655 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-1270			
			El Charro Mexican Dining	3339 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-2345			
			El Jaro Mexican Cafe	3563 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-6639			
			La Cocina Mexicana	23 Orinda Way, Ori	258-9987			

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.



SPORTS

LAMORINDA'S LOCAL SPORTS NEWS

Rancho Colorado Swims Hard Against Livorna

By Steven Johns

In its first meet of the year, the Rancho Colorados Wahoos were out swam by the Livorna Dolphins. On June 18 the Wahoos lost to the Dolphins with a final score of 414 to 372.

The Livorna women beat out the Ran-

cho women never relinquished their lead. Livorna kept their lead throughout the individual races and the freestyle relays to win the meet.

More importantly than the outcome of the event was the enjoyment the kids had during

Lafayette City Meet and County, but also to practice good sportsmanship in the process." This statement by O'Hara shows that the Rancho Colorados Wahoos want to win, but more importantly are working on having fun and demon-



cho women by a score of 219-162, but the Rancho men beat the Livorna men by a score of 186-171.

The Wahoos got off to a quick start with wins in six of the first seven events. The one event that Livorna won was the girls 9-11 200 yard Medley Relay. Livorna came back with wins in the girls 13-14 200 yard Medley Relay, the boys 13-14 200 yard Medley Relay, and the Women's and mixed 15-18 200 yard Medley Relays. After the relays the Wahoos took a slight lead over the Dolphins.

The Dolphins came back in the individual medley and

the meet. Rancho Colorados coach Brian O'Hara commented on the attitude of the team: "The meet showed me that Rancho is a team of heart and that the children have so much fun getting out there and swimming." The swimmers all enjoyed their races and the time with their friends as they cheered on their fellow teammates.

O'Hara and the other coaches hope that the team continues to have fun and to maybe win some meets: "My hopes are that Rancho does well at

strating sportsmanship.

The Wahoos' next meet comes against Las Trampas. In order to win, according to O'Hara, the team needs "to work on the fundamentals. Its better that all the kids know the basics of every stroke."

Rancho Colorados looks like they will have a fun summer and will win a few meets with their promising roster. From the 6 and unders to the 15-18 year olds, the team looks solid and looks like they will rebound from this loss to have a solid swim season.

Summer Leagues Boost Skills, Open Doors

By Garrett Ley



Junior Andrew Kjar

Photo Jordan Fong

For most high school baseball players, the conclusion of the spring sports season in May marks the end of practices, games and team gatherings until next February when it all starts up again. Generally speaking, the players have had enough. They're tired of batting practice, their arms are sore, and they are ready to move on to better things.

That's not the case for the slew of players who look to accelerate their game to the next level and get a step ahead of the competition during the summer. Summer baseball teams ranging from Central California to Sacramento boast players who dedicate their summers to playing baseball. These players, like Miramonte second baseman Joey Epperson, put the poolside barbecues on hold and head out onto the baseball diamond every day in the summer to showcase their skill and better prepare themselves for next spring.

"We're playing all the time,"

says Epperson. "We probably play 60 games over the summer, and maybe more depending on how we do in tournaments. A likely schedule is four games during the week, and then double headers on the weekend."

Epperson's team, the Head First Gamers from Castro Valley, is coached by several former big-league players such as Mario and Michael Inglesias, and Caleb Cooper.

"Every game you feel yourself getting better because of all the great instruction," says Epperson, who was a first-team all-DFAL selection last spring.

Epperson wrapped up his junior year at Miramonte in which he hit .462 with 12 doubles, four triples, a home run, 14 stolen bases and 30 RBI. He took the Matadors into the second round of the NCS playoffs, and then was flooded with letters and phone calls from coaches at Stanford and Santa Barbara, among other top baseball

schools.

Scouting is a big part of summer baseball, according to Epperson, as college scouts look for the top talent.

"Signing period is usually the end of summer, so how you play over the summer matters," Epperson says. "Coaches and scouts will still come to watch high school games, but summer is a better time for them. During the big summer tournaments, all the big-time players are in the same place, so it's an opportunity for scouts to see all the talent at once."

A few days ago, Epperson got a call from a Kansas City Royals scout. Yes, the Kansas City Royals of Major League Baseball. Epperson has his hard work and dedication that he has put into summer baseball to thank for his success.

"Working at it every day—whether it's playing in games, going to Game Speed, or taking batting practice—you're going to improve. It makes a big, big difference," Epperson said.

Epperson is not the only player from Miramonte playing in a summer league. Juniors Mike Reuecamp, Andrew Kjar and Matt Lloyd play for the Danville Hoots; Tommy Miers and Kevin Paulsen play for the Danville Black Sox; and John Vaccaro is on the Nor-Cal team. Of those players, Reuecamp, Kjar, Lloyd and Vaccaro earned all-league honors.

Campolindo players Anthony Fadelli, Jeff Gold, Matt Robinson, Scott Hogland, Guy Stevens and Michael Kathan each participate in summer leagues. Acalanes players Max Weintraub, Michael Avery, Daniel Camporeli and Jack Carson also play into the summer.

"I would say summer baseball makes a big difference in preparing for the high school season," Epperson says. "You have more game-time experience and are more skilled."

While some players have trouble dealing with the time commitment associated with summer baseball, Epperson has found it enjoyable and rewarding.

"The best part is being able to play all the time," he says. "You feel yourself getting better everyday. A lot of your friends are doing it, so you run into them once in a while. The chances to play are unlimited."

Orinda, Moraga Swim Teams Start Summer Season

First Meets of Season Garner Medals, Prove Might

By Jack Fernbacher



After kids get out of school, they dive into swim season to cool off during this year's scorching hot summer. With temperatures in the hundreds already this summer, the cool pools are a nice place to be in.

"I like jumping into the swimming pool after playing tennis in the hot sun all day," said 8-year old Moraga-resident Jake O'Balle. "I can stay in the cool water all day and would if my parents didn't make me get out."

Though many kids just like to cool down in the pool during the summer, many others are competing in the recreational OMPA league that is comprised of swim teams from Orinda and Moraga. The teams compete against one another each week in head-to-head meets and then the teams race in

the OMPA meet at the end of the season.

In last year's final OMPA meet, Orinda Country Club came out on top to capture first place. Following close behind, Moraga Country Club took second and Sleepy Hollow Swim and Tennis got third place.

At one of their first meets against Moraga Ranch Swim Club (MRSC) on June 21, Orinda Country Club swim team men and women each took first place in 20 events, including younger swimmers Katie Klein, age 8, in the 100 meter IM (1:45.09), Ashley Abramson, 6, in the women's 25 free (20.69) and Scott Reugg, age 5, in the freestyle event with 24.70. Standouts included 12-year-old Andrew Zolintakis, who took first in the men's 100 IM and the men's

50 freestyle, and Stephen Schmidt, age 9, the men's 50 backstroke and the 50 breaststroke.

MRSC men and women had eight first place finishes respectively, with standout Nicky Erickson, age 10, taking first in the men's 100 IM (1:24.30) and the 50 fly at 33.74.

The swimmers will work to perfect their form and make a county time by the end of the season, so that they can go to the esteemed Contra Costa County Meet.

The County meet separates the teams into three divisions based on the size of the swim club. Last summer, Orinda Country Club got an impressive third place finish at the county meet in the first division.

Oakland Strokes Medal in 2008

USRowing Youth National Championships

Submitted by IRENE GESSLING



2008 Lightweight Men's 4+ bronze medal winners. Dan Migdale, coxswain, Garrett Bell, Andrew Ramos (Stroke), James Lenczowski, Will Provost, and Coach Ivan Smiljanic

Photo submitted

Four Oakland Strokes boats made it to the final day of competition at the 2008 USRowing Youth National Championships on Harsha Lake outside of Cincinnati, Ohio. Hosted by Cincinnati Junior Rowing Club, this weekend's regatta featured more than 1,300 participants.

Oakland Strokes men's lightweight four-plus took the bronze medal with a time of 6:46.63, just 0.49 seconds behind the silver medal winner, and four seconds behind first place. The Oakland Strokes crew consists of coxswain Daniel Migdale (Miramonte), stroke Andrew Ramos (Alameda), Garrett Bell (Las Lomas), James Lenczowski (Bentley), and Will Provost (Albany). San Diego Rowing Club took silver. Lake Union Crew crossed the finish line in a 6:42.60 to take the gold.

The Strokes men's four-plus took ninth place with a time of 6:49.24. The Strokes crew consists of coxswain Leila Pakawongse (Berkeley High), stroke Chad Swenson

(Skyline High School), Patrick Stolke (Berkeley High), Jack Howerton (Miramonte), and Cole Williams (Campolindo). Cincinnati Junior Rowing Club took the gold.

In the women's eight-plus, the Oakland Strokes boat, coxed by Leslie Chou (Miramonte) placed ninth overall. The crew includes stroke Kelly Bauer (Miramonte), Nikki Dahlberg-Seeth (Miramonte), Dana Walsh (Miramonte), Ally Weiland (Northgate), Dara Dickson (Acalanes), Claire Grover (Miramonte), Piper Akol (Miramonte), and Ali Mittelberger (Head-Royce). Marin Rowing Association defeated Los Gatos Rowing Club by a little more than three seconds to win the gold medal. Marin finished with a time of 6:33.66, while Los Gatos crossed the line in a 6:36.93. Phillips Exeter Academy won the bronze medal in a 6:37.39.

The Oakland Strokes women's lightweight eight-plus, with coxswain Molly Fehr (Miramonte), stroke Mary Sophia Motlow (Piedmont),

Rosie D'Orazio (Bishop O'Dowd), Anne Hofinga (Miramonte), Mollie Roark (Marin Academy), Erin Mullin (St. Joseph's), Sarah Goldman (Piedmont), Ayla Koenig (Berkeley High), and Sarah Coppock-Pector (Bishop O'Dowd) took 12th place overall. Los Gatos Rowing Club finished with a time of 6:53.45 to take the gold, with Community Rowing, Boston, taking the silver medal in a 6:57.66. West Side Rowing Club won the bronze medal with a time of 7:00.82.

Four members of the Strokes team have been invited to this year's Junior World Championships selection camp where they will compete for a spot on the U.S. National Team scheduled to race at the end of July in Austria. They are James Lenczowski (Bentley), Dana Walsh (Miramonte), Leslie Chou (Miramonte), and Dara Dickson (Acalanes).

SPORTS

LAMORINDA'S LOCAL SPORTS NEWS



LMYA Spring Volleyball

Submitted by Gint Federas



Back Row Left to Right: Assistant Coach Jessica Henry, Olivia Klinkenberg, Lizzie Mediati, Melia Green, Laura Hickey, Maddie Bernie, and Coach Lisa Duncan
Front Row Left to Right: Rachel Duncan, Dianna Kossakowski, Jenny Lesserman, Cassidy Fuller, Jennifer Henry

Sixteen teams of 6th through 8th grade girls competed in this year's LMYA Spring Volleyball program. Nebraska capped an undefeated 12-0 season winning the championship game on June 7.

Griessel Takes Home the 1st Place Trophy



Griessel displays his well-deserved and large trophy

On a blue-sky day in Concord, junior golfers from around Northern California competed in the prestigious Buchanan Fields Summer Junior Golf Classic at Buchanan Fields Golf Course.

Out of all of the junior golfers, only one would be able to capture the first place

trophy. This year, Paul Griessel Jr. of Lafayette captured 1st place on Monday, June 16th in the boys 7-9 age group.

Griessel fired a 34 on the treacherous and tricky 9-hole golf course. The course has a par of 31 and features narrow fairways and large lakes surrounding the greens.

Karate Participants Fight Through Competition

Submitted by Thomas Westernoff



The Karate & Fitness Place USA had returned home from Chico, Calif., in the first round Karate Tournament AAU National Qualifier with 29 medals. This impressive showing came after an incredible second round AAU qualifier held in Grants Pass, Ore., where the team returned with 48 medals, 21 total Gold Medals, nearly double this

last tournament. The Karate & Fitness Place USA was honored with the Most Outstanding School Award followed with Chris Wellbrook's Most Outstanding Competitor Award after winning three Gold Medals in all his individual events, a clean sweep.

All the athletes have qualified themselves to move onto the AAU Na-

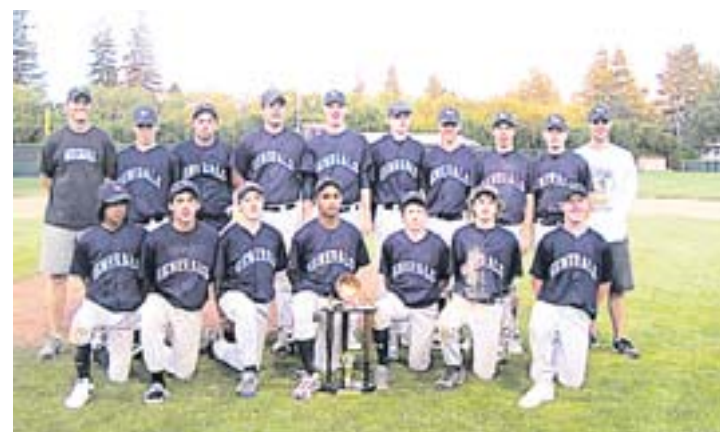
tional Karate Championships to be held in Albany, NY. The Team lead by Sensei Thomas Westernoff instills lots of practice and hard work to be successful. "This year we are in good hopes of sending Chris Wellbrook off to Rome, Italy with the Jr. AAU / USA Karate Team thanks to all his outstanding efforts," he said.

LAMORINDA Generals Win State Championship

Submitted by Julie Diede

The Lamorinda Generals (14-U Majors Baseball Team) won the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) State Championship on June 7 and 8 at the Twin Creeks Sports Complex, Sunnyvale, Calif. The Generals went 4-1 in the 9 team 14-U Majors tournament, winning the Champi-

onship game against the Danville Dukes 6-3. The Generals are part of the elite Lamorinda Baseball Club organization that has consistently been recognized as one of the top teams in the country in their age group and are currently ranked No. 1 in Northern California



Back Row: (L-R) Clint Hoover – (coach), Paddy O'Brien, Eric Penrose, Tim Ellis-Calleo, James Marvel, Trent Shelton, Grant Diede, Austin Rei, Alex Rollins, Brock Griffin – (coach)
Front Row: (L-R) Jonathan Gee, Bobby DaMaren, Spencer Henderson, Todd Burgos, Cole Rider, Connor Hornsby, Andrew Eggers

Send sports stories and ideas to:

sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com

or call 925-377-0977

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Phone: 925-377-0977; Fax: 1-800-690-8136; email: info@lamorindaweekly.com

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Publisher: Andy Scheck; andy@lamorindaweekly.com, phone 925-330-7916
Associate Publisher: Wendy Wuertth-Scheck; wendy@lamorindaweekly.com
Editor: Lee Borrowman; lee@lamorindaweekly.com
Advertising: Wendy Wuertth-Scheck; 925-377-0977, wendy@lamorindaweekly.com

Staff Writers:
Jennifer Wake; jennifer@lamorindaweekly.com
Sophie Braccini; sophie@lamorindaweekly.com
Cathy Tyson; cathy@lamorindaweekly.com
Andrea A. Firth; andrea@lamorindaweekly.com
Contributing Writers:
Jean Follmer, Linda U. Foley, David Anderson, Conrad Bassett
Sports Editors: Jack Fernbacher, Garrett Ley
Intern: Alex Crook, Sports Reporter
Steve Johns, Sports Reporter
Photos: Tod Fiermer, Jordan Fong, Gavin Schlissel, Doug Kohen

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SPORTS

LAMORINDA'S LOCAL SPORTS NEWS

The Greatest of All Sports Rivalries Comes to Life in Moraga

Submitted by Vince Caro



Sitting in front row from Left to Right: Simon Vesely, Grant Bartis, Nicky Erickson, and Scott Zurnacian. Standing in back row from Left to Right: Mark Erickson,(Coach), Matt Zurnacian, Tommy Flynn, Dylan Caro, Jack Hattabaugh, Patrick Ratchford, Parker Duncan, Grady Eglin, and Steve Zurnacian,(Manager)
Photo submitted

Say what you want, Celtics-Lakers, Maple Leafs-Canadiens, Palmer-Nicklaus, none compare to Red Sox-Yankees. When the Moraga Baseball Association's Mustang Division held its championship game on Monday evening, June 9, that storied rivalry came to life as the Yankees met the Red Sox in a thrilling duel.

After the opening festivities that included the introduction of players, and the playing of the National Anthem, "The Mighty Sluggers of Yawkee Way" took no time in putting a run on the board. The Yankees quickly squelched the Red Sox rally, and in the bottom of the first the Yankees channeled "The Bronx Bombers" and batted around the order, gaining

what turned out to be an insurmountable lead.

The Red Sox did not go quietly, and mounted several comeback attempts, but always the outstanding Yankee pitching and defense turned them away before any real damage was done. In the end, Bay Area native Joe DiMaggio smiled down upon his "Pin-Stripe" brethren and Yankees prevailed with a final score of 11-5.

Medallions and trophies were presented, and both teams displayed good sportsmanship as they applauded their competitors. The evening air was delightful, and if you listened very closely, somewhere on the cool breeze was the faint echo of Frank Sinatra crooning "New York, New York".

Orinda Pinto League A's Take Crown

By Frank Tse

Going into Sunday's championship game, the Orinda Pinto League Bombers had momentum on its side. In the span of just five days, the red-hot Bombers knocked out three play-off teams and then beat the undefeated A's 13-12 on Saturday to force a winner-take-all match against the A's.

Yet on Sunday, it was the A's who grabbed momentum by the throat by shifting their defense to a higher gear. "Holding a hot-hitting Bombers team to just one run in the first three innings was a tremendous defensive effort from the A's fielders," said A's manager Steve Cassriel.

In Saturday's loss, the A's allowed 12 runs in the first three innings. The A's cruised to a 14-8 victory to take the Pinto League crown.

"With the pressure of an undefeated season gone, our team played much more focused and relaxed," explained A's coach Scott Mollahan.

A couple of defensive moves also paid dividends for the A's. Will Cassriel moved from his customary

pitcher's assistant position to shortstop, and had a game-high of five assists and two line-drive catches. In the fourth inning, as the Bombers threatened to rally, Stephen Tse made two athletic running catches in the outfield to rob Nikhil Shastri and Max Levy of extra-base hits. Henry Connor handled first base flawlessly as he filled-in for all-star teammate Chase Callister.

In a game highlighted by defense, the A's offensive quietly built a 10-run lead with a balanced attack. Ten A's players scored at least a run, with Ben Mollahan, Derrick Garcia, Zach Weiner and Connor scoring two runs each.

For the Bombers, third baseman Teddy Hoxie scored three runs and made several sensational stops, while leadoff hitter Andrew Schwarz scored two runs.

In Saturday's prelude, A's Asim Khan, Paul Bakshi, Tommy Brovelli and Paul Legellet combined to tie the game at 12-12 in the sixth inning. But on the bottoof of the 6th, Bomber Michael Swinton knocked in Henry Marken for the game winner.



A's celebrate championship win

Photo submitted

Conclusion of Lafayette Little League

By Jack Fernbacher



Ladrech hitting a home run

Photo Doug Kohen



For three months, Lafayette little leaguers perfected their game with one goal in mind: to win the championship in June. In a grueling double-elimination playoff system played at the Buckeye Fields in Lafayette, four different divisions of age groups battled for the number one spot.

In the youngest division, the AAA No. 2 seeded Mets (9-2-1 regular season) faced off against the No. 3 seed Reds (9-4). The Mets got off to a nice start with a lead off home run from slugger Devin Shields.

Daniel Kim aided in the effort on offense driving in two RBIs and the Mets rolled over the Reds 5-2. On the mound in the game were Jason Cornell who struck out six and Paul Griessel who struck out four batters.

In the AAA division, the road to the championship was a difficult task. The Giants (5-4) cruised through the playoffs unscathed with three straight wins. The Giants faced the Pirates (6-3), who were 3-1 in the playoffs coming into the championship game.

"The championship game was between two very evenly matched teams throughout the season," said the Giants skipper Tim Martinho. "The championship game was very well-played on both sides."

In the championship, both teams connected with the ball really well combining for a total of 23 hits in the game. Matthew Barr and Tyler Ewing led the Pirates by both going 2-3 in the game and driving in a run.

The Pirates', managed by Russ Stryker, offense wasn't enough against the relentless Giants who scored 13 runs in the game. The Giants slugger Gavin Thatcher went 2-

3 in the game and had four RBIs.

The Giants closer Trevor Martinho pitched the last two innings in the game and struck out two batters. Martinho held the Pirates to one inning and grabbed the championship for the Giants, winning the game 13-6.

In the Majors division, the game was very close all the way down to the wire. The fourth-seeded Padres (4-4) edged out the No. 2 seeded Pirates (7-1) 4-3 to

win the title.

In the oldest division of the Juniors, the Lafayette A's defeated the Lafayette Rangers.

Overall, the kids had fun and gave it their all in the spring season wrap-up. At the closing ceremonies of the Lafayette Little League, the A's mascot Stomper made an appearance.

The ceremony included a presentation of \$2,950 raised by the Lafayette Little League for ALS.

Moraga Baseball Association

Submitted by Vince Caro

MBA Box Scores for June 7, 9, 10, 2008

Moraga Baseball Association Mustang Division June 7, 2008

Yankees 7, A's 5 - Semi-Final Play-Off Game

Yankees Highlights: Parker Duncan 2-for-3, 2-1B, 3 RBI's; Dylan Caro 1-for-3, 2B, 1 RS; Simon Veseley 1-for-2, 1B, 1 RBI; Nicky Erickson 1-for-2, 1B and 1 RS.

A's Highlights: Griffin Whiting 3-for-3, 2-2B, 3B, 2 RBI's, 2 IP, 6K's; Ricky Lomas 1-for-3, 1B, 2 RBI's.

Moraga Baseball Association Mustang Division June 9, 2008

Yankees 11, Red Sox 5 - Championship Game

Yankees Highlights: Patrick Ratchford 3-for-3, 1B, 2B, HR, 3 IP, 6K's; Matt Zurnacian 2-for-3, 1B, 3B, 2 RBI's, 2 IP, 3 K's; Nicky Erickson 2-for-3 2-2B; Grant Bartis 1-for-3, 2B, 1 RBI; Simon Vesely 1-for-2, 2B, 2 RBI's; Offensive Contributions from: Parker Duncan, Dylan Caro, Grady Eglin, Tommy Flynn all with Base Hits and RBI's.

Red Sox Highlights:

Graham Taylor 2-for-3, 2-1B, 2 RS; Jacob Westphal 1-for-3, 2B, 3 RBI's; Sam Larson 1-for-3, HR, Brendan Gordon 2-for-2, 2-1B, 1 RS; Brett Smith 1-for-2, 1B.

Moraga Baseball Association Pinto Division June 9, 2008

Padres 13, Giants 12
Padres Highlights: Max Grossbard 3-for-3, 3 RS; Harry Curtiss 3-for-3, 3 RS, 2-2B; Donovan Robles 2-for-3, 1 RS, HR.

Giants Highlights: Will Grubbs 4-for-4, 3 RS, 2B, HR; Travis Hartman 4-for-4, 2 RS, 2B; Chad Sonnenschein 4-for-4, 2 RS, 2B.

Moraga Baseball Association Pinto Division June 10, 2008

Cubs 15, Marlins 13 (Play-Off Game)
Cubs Highlights: Michael Crews 3-for-3, 2 RBI; Nick Kronenberg 3-for-3, 2-2B, 3 RS, 2 RBI; Tommy Raftis 3-for-3, 2 RS.
Marlins Highlights: Evan Gabrielson 2-for-3, 2B, 1 RS, 2 RBI's; Matt Ruitter 2-for-3, RBI, 1RS; Carter Whiting 3-for-3, 3B, 1 RS, 3 RBI's.

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