

Finola Fellner

The Beaubelle Group ~ #1 Group in the East Bay



Open Sunday 1:30 - 4:00 pm

Private Sleepy Hollow Home

10 Ichabod Lane Orinda

This beautifully updated 4 bedroom, 3 bath home boasts chef's kitchen, great open floor plan, private master suite as well as vaulted beamed ceilings and hardwood floors. The gorgeous gardens make it a perfect setting for indoor/outdoor entertaining! Sleepy Hollow Elementary School is just around the corner!

Offered at \$1,548,000



Office: (925) 253-6335 Mobile: (925) 890-7807 Email: finola.fellner@camoves.com

DIABLO FLOORING, INC

\$250 off
*Minimum 1,000 sq. ft.
Exp. 7-31-09



CARPET • HARDWOOD • LAMINATE • TILE • VINYL

Diablo Flooring Inc. is here to bring the best possible pricing with the most beautiful and complete installation to the Bay Area. We are a small store which lets us give you the attention needed for a more professional experience. We cater to residential & commercial customers, designer, contractors, and developers.

FREE ESTIMATES

(925) 426-RUGS (7847)

5600-D Sunol Blvd, Pleasanton, CA 94566

(925) 988-WOOD (9663)

1829-B Mt. Diablo Blvd, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM OR Shop@Home WWW.DIABLOFLOORING.COM
License #898787 • Bonded • Insured up to \$2 Million

Life in LAMORINDA

Cool Facts About Cats

By Mona Miller, DVM



Mona's cat, Ivan (16 months old), rescued last June

Photo Mona Miller

There are 41 known species of cats, all descended from the same ancestor. A group of cats can be called a clowder, cludder or kindle. In medieval Britain, kittens were also called catlings. They are truly unique creatures, from physiologic to behavioral oddities. Cats have been worshipped as gods and are worthy of our respect and admiration, to which anyone who is a cat lover can attest!

Purring is one characteristic of cats that is a bit of a mystery and actually can occur in other animals as well. How cats purr has not yet been figured out, in part because there is no specific anatomic feature that seems responsible. Thus it is supposed that voice box vibrations

are responsible. All cats purr at the same frequency range, of 25 Hertz, which is the same vibration frequency that is considered beneficial to healing. All cats can purr but members of the genus Panthera can purr only while exhaling (these are also the only cats who roar: lion, tiger, jaguar and leopard). Other animals that can also purr are raccoons, rabbits, squirrels, ring-tailed lemurs, guinea pigs in heat, and elephants and gorillas while eating.

While dogs have excelled at developing their sense of smell, cats have excellent hearing. A cat can hear 1.6 octaves above that of a human, and 1 octave above that of a dog. There are 62 individual muscles in the ear to allow for direc-

tional hearing, and each ear can move independently of the other. Compared to humans, cats see much better at night but worse during the day. They discriminate horizontal patterns well, but not vertical. While their color vision is poorer than humans, cats can see 25 times more shades of gray than can humans.

Cats are true carnivores and can subsist on meat protein and fat. Cats lack one of two proteins necessary for detecting sweetness as a taste. The other protein is present but the relevant taste buds are inactive. This is thought to be a mutation allowing cats to adapt fully to a carnivorous diet, ignoring plants that generally have a higher sugar content than meat.

Not all cats respond to the euphoric effects of catnip—about 20% of cats are missing the necessary gene.

Whiskers are important for navigation and sensation. Cats have four rows on each upper lip, and can move the upper two rows independently of the lower two rows. Whiskers may detect small shifts in air currents, allowing a cat to know it is near an object without actually seeing it. Whiskers give information about the size of a tunnel, and can form a basket shape around the cat's muzzle to precisely detect location of prey. One special note to my friends with well-fed

cats: if your cat's body girth is wider than the length of whiskers, tip to tip, it's time to see your vet to discuss a diet!



Dr. Mona S. Miller lives in Lafayette with her 4 year old son, yellow Labrador Retriever and grey cat. She has worked at Four Seasons Animal Hospital in Lafayette since moving here in 2001. She attended Cal as an undergrad, and received her DVM from U.C. Davis. She can be reached at Four Seasons, 938-7700, or by email to MonaSDVM@aol.com.



Jumpstart Your Weight Loss

Lose 15 to 60 pounds in 12 weeks!

Physician-Supervised Weight Loss • Dietary Guidance
Safe and Effective Medication • Long Term Weight Management

jumpstart

MEDICINE

Walnut Creek
710 S. Broadway, Suite 110

San Ramon
2333 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Suite 175

925-287-8777 • www.jumpstartmedicine.com

LOVABLE PET-SITTING

Cats, Dogs, Birds, Fish

one FREE visit

Play-Time - Walks - Feeding
Tender-Care - House-Sitting - References
15 Years Experience
Lamorinda
Linda Kucma
(925) 746-4649

restrictions apply

Orinda's Volunteer Band Keeps on Marching

... continued from page 1



Colleen Mc Cormick (brunette clarinetist)

Photo provided

Blowing the whistle and setting the step as bandleader this year will be Lamorinda musician Tom Carter.

Colleen McCormick, a clarinetist, first marched with the band 15 years ago. "I was eight months pregnant with my son," recalls Colleen, who was joined by her alto saxophone playing husband John. "We met playing in Cal's marching band, so we were excited to have the chance to play in a community band," recalls Colleen, who lives in Lafayette and will soon open Lamorinda Music, a music store and lesson center on Lafayette Circle. "It's become a family tradition," she adds. The McCormick's two teenagers, Emily and Scott, have also played in the Volunteer Marching Band for several years.

"The marching band members come from across Lamorinda and all over," states Levich who, as one of the band's major recruiters, invites anyone who wants to play to participate. "The whole community is invited," he adds. "We have a ball."

If You Want to Play on 7/4—the Essentials

On Parade Day: Meet at 9 a.m. just east of Casa Orinda to get organized and practice marching. The parade starts at 10 a.m.

The Uniform: Wear dark blue shorts or pants, a white shirt, and sunglasses (to conceal the identity of bad notes). Hats will be provided.

The Music: If you want to practice in advance (not required but often helpful), pick up the song book at Lamorinda Music, 81 Lafayette Circle, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, or call 385-0963.

Drummers: If you play drums, contact Mo Levich at 284-0961 to reserve drums. Supply is limited.

Why throw away your money?

Are you kidding? You really want to throw away \$360 a year with a wireless plan? There's never been a better time to switch. The Everything Data Family Plan from Sprint will save you \$360 over comparable AT&T and Verizon plans. So do yourself a favor and switch. Just switch.

Save \$360/year.

The Everything Data Family Plan
Available on new lines of activation with a two-year agreement.

Sprint
The New Network

Now Open!

Your Authorized Dealer at

Lafayette Plaza Park ProStar PCS
3541 Plaza Way
(925) 283-1300



May require up to a \$30 activation fee/line, credit approval and deposit. Up to a \$200 early termination fee/line applies. **Claims:** Savings based on publicly available promotional comparing base monthly rates for UNL0 Anytime Minutes for Verizon nationwide premium family plan/any other and A911 Family Plan. See A Web page. **Additional Anytime Minutes:** Up to \$0.40/min. Night, 10pm-5am, 7pm-10pm, Weekends, Hrs. Premium minutes charged as full minutes. **Mobile to Mobile:** Applies to calls placed between Sprint and feature phones (not available while roaming). **Data:** Premium content/downloads, games, images, songs, certain (downloads, etc.) are additional charge. **Texts:** To text parties to participate in promotions or other may result in additional charges. **Other Terms:** Coverage not available everywhere. The nationwide Sprint and feature phone networks reach more than 215 and 174 million people, respectively. The 3G feature phone network (including roaming) reaches over 189 million people. Offers and service plan features not available in all markets/with locations or for all smartphones. Offer restrictions apply. See store or Sprint.com for details. ©2009 Sprint. Sprint and the logo are trademarks of Sprint. Other marks are the property of their respective owners.

ALAIN PINEL
REALTORS

Alain Pinel Realtors
revolutionized Bay Area real estate practices in 1990.

Nearly two decades later,
we still are.

We are proud to call
Lamorinda our neighborhood.

After all, we're neighbors, too.

ORINDA | 2 Theatre Square, Suite 215 925.258.1111

Support Lamorinda Weekly by shopping with our advertisers and telling them you saw their ad!

Your local free Newspaper for Lamorinda