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LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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Volume 04 Issue 5

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Wednesday, May 12, 2010

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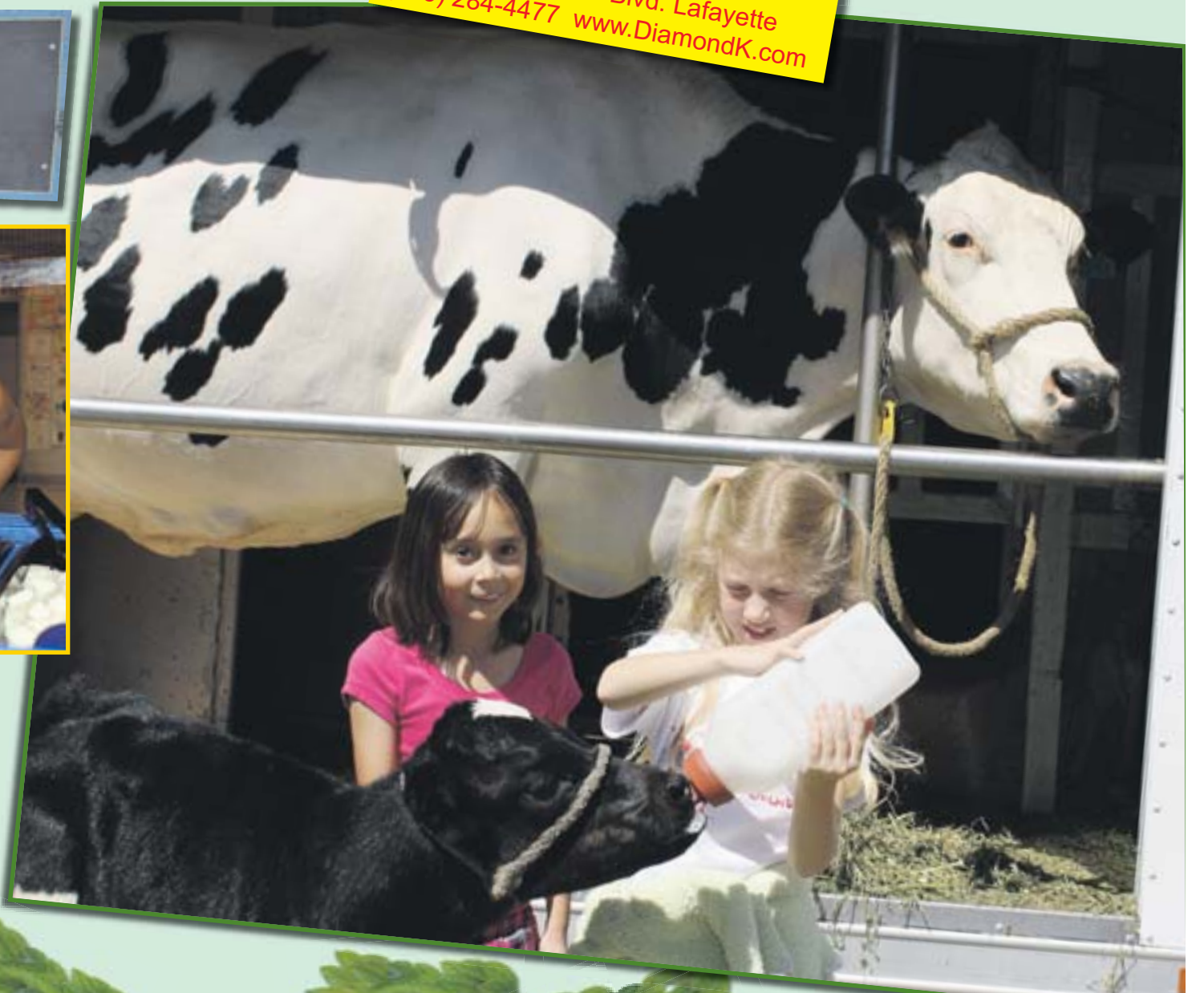


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Sophie Boselli (left) and Heidi Heffelfinger enjoy the A-Z salad bar. S for strawberries and R for radishes. Photo courtesy Lisa Evaristo



Jenna Evaristo (left) and Devin Ashburn with Ellie the cow and Della her calf. Photo courtesy Lisa Evaristo

Burton Valley Elementary School Wins Green Award

By Cathy Tyson

Quote of the Week:
"It feels to me in our internet society we too easily take our issues to the web rather than directly facing the people whom we may be in conflict with." Read Letters to the Editor, page A8

Dedicated volunteer Lisa Evaristo of Burton Valley Elementary School recently received a Green Award from the City of Lafayette in conjunction with Sustainable Lafayette for transforming the school's hot lunch program: cutting waste from ten garbage cans per day to one, and teaming up with hot lunch provider Sodexo to provide locally produced nutritious options for students.

"For me it's about two things that I'm passionate about – kids and food. We make lunch as healthy as possible; if it tastes good, the kids eat it." Prior to their switch to Sodexo, there was little participation in the hot lunch program, and volunteers weren't motivated – so Evaristo decided to get involved.

"One person can make a difference as long as they have support – help from the administration, vol-

unteers and the Green Team has been invaluable," said Evaristo. She notes that the quality of food from Sodexo is outstanding, and General Manager John Scatena is terrific to work with. "All healthy stuff – no trans fats, sugar or filler. We love Sodexo. For less than the cost of a latte, a student can have a healthy hot entree and all you can eat salad bar plus milk.

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And the Digging Begins...



Photo Ohlen Alexander

Commuters who go by way of the Caldecott Tunnel may have been wondering what the scoop is with the massive drill perched over the site of the fourth bore. It is actually a giant auger that grinds down, creates a hole, and excavates the dirt. Afterward a steel cage is inserted and concrete is poured into the hole. The process will be repeated until a subterranean wall has been built. Once the dirt in front of the wall is excavated, the retaining wall for the east portal will be revealed. *A. Firth*

Skinner to Host CA Budget Challenge in Orinda

By Andrea A. Firth

"Help me balance the state's budget," reads a line in bold print at the center of the homepage for the website of District 14 Assemblymember Nancy Skinner. A tough task to tackle for the most seasoned California politician, Skinner and legislators across the State have been working with the nonpartisan

organization Next 10 to provide voters with a mechanism to do just that—it's called the California Budget Challenge. Voters are asked to weigh in on how much the state spends on schools, prisons, the environment, and other programs, and how to pay for it all.

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Homeowners Seek Special Preservation Status for Oak

By Andrea A. Firth



Orinda's City Council recently considered a request from Charlotte and Jim Smith to designate a large Coast Live Oak tree on their property on Donna Maria Way as a Heritage Tree. A rarely, if ever, employed section of the Orinda Municipal Code provides that a tree may be designated a Heritage Tree by the City Council because of an association with a person or event ...

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Zero Emissions, Here She Comes

By Sophie Braccini



Lafayette resident Louise Clark is not afraid to aim high. "I am getting more and more concerned about the climate and the environment," says Clark, "When I drive around the country and return to the Grinnell Glacier Trail in Glacier National Park, I see how over the years those ices have melted, and I want to do something about it." Clark decided that her home should become carbon neutral.

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