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Wednesday, April 27, 2011



BALL ROOM DANCE

Friday, May 6th, 8:00 P.M.

Veterans Memorial Building, Lafayette

\$10 per person at the door

FREE Dance Lessons at 7pm!

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Photo Doug Kohlen

Top Talent Tackles Triathlon

Mild-mannered public servants by day...weekend warriors in Moraga this Saturday

By Cathy Tyson

Although they can usually be found running the cities of Lafayette, Orinda and the Town of Moraga - next Saturday, April 30th, these young and young at heart athletes will be running, biking and swimming in the Moraga Triathlon. Municipal teams representing City Managers, City Council members and Orinda M.O.D.-D.D.O. team players will come together for a great workout and to secure

priceless bragging rights. The triathlon, now in its fifth year, lends itself to a group effort. As much as these work-out aficionados would love to conquer all three stages, for most swimming a quarter of a mile, bicycling fourteen miles and running three miles through the mean streets of Moraga is not in their job description.

"It's a no-lose proposition," said Lafayette City Manager

Steven Falk, "if we lose we make our bosses (the City Council) look good, and if we win, we're superior athletes." Falk is part of the uniquely configured City Manager team - he'll be swimming, both Janet Keeter of Orinda and Jill Keimach of Moraga will be biking, and Orinda Director of Planning Emmanuel Ursu graciously volunteered to run.

... continued on page C5

Quote of the Week:

"You just gotta have something fun like music at school."

Read Letters to the Editor, page A9-A10

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Rheem Boulevard Road Closure Coming Soon

By Sophie Braccini

The deplorable state of Rheem Boulevard in Moraga is no secret. The heavily damaged section of roadway between St. Mary's Road and Moraga Road is in constant use by Saint Mary's students, Campolindo students living in the Bluffs and the Burton Valley area of Lafayette, and many other residents.

Road maintenance funds being scarce, major repairs happen whenever grant funds come along, such as now - repairs to Rheem Blvd. are scheduled to start within a few weeks and will focus on the two ends of that section of the road; the middle section will require a complete dig-out and will not be touched at this time. The project is sched-

uled to last for 20 working days and should begin in late May; it must be completed by the end of June under the terms of the grant. Changeable signs indicating when the road will be closed will be posted around the area and on Rheem Blvd itself two weeks prior to the beginning of the work. The contractor is allowed to completely close the roadway only between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

The Town of Moraga recently approved a significant housing development plan, Rancho Laguna, along Rheem Blvd. Is it a good idea to repair a road that could be damaged by heavy equipment in the near future? "We had funds that needed to be

used this fiscal year, and Rheem was the best candidate, given that we already had the project designed and basically ready to bid," said Town Manager Jill Keimach, "We considered the impacts to the new roadway from the Rancho Laguna construction, and felt that the new roadway would hold up much better than the existing pavement during the construction of the development."

Jill Mercurio, Moraga Town Engineer and Public Works Director, added that there is no guarantee as to when work on the development will start, which compounds a second issue: the most compromised part of Rheem Blvd. is the one adjacent to the development site; since the

repair project does not include this very dangerous segment, drivers will have to be cautious once this spring's repairs are complete. "Coming from Saint Mary's some drivers might pick up speed - neighbors already complain that people are too fast as it is. It may be that more law enforcement will be needed," said Mercurio.

The conditions of approval for the development of Rancho Laguna include the repair of that section of the boulevard. "We really need to dig out the road and repair under it and when that happens, the road will be closed because we will have to dig 30 feet under it and there will be no road," noted Mercurio.

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High School Swim Season Ends with Rivalry Matches



By Marissa Harnett
As the high school swim season draws to a close, key Lamorinda match-ups are playing out. On April 15, Campolindo hosted Acalanes. The Cougars emerged victorious with a total score of 109 to 59 ...read on page B1

Life in Lamorinda D1-C5

Mother's Day Metamorphosis

By Cathy Dausman

Remember your first Mother's Day? I'm not sure I do. It just blends into the patchwork quilt that is new motherhood. We were so busy feeding, changing, bathing, photographing or comforting our baby that one certain Sunday on a May calendar might have slipped away. ...read on page D10



Our Homes F1-F8

Lafayette Kitchen Tour Features Kitchens with Distinctive Styles



By Roslynn Aragonas Stenzel
Offering a wide variety of kitchens to suit just about every design taste, the 12th Annual Lafayette Juniors Kitchen Tour is Saturday, May 14th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This year's tour ... read on page D1