

# De Laveaga Train Depot Gets a New Old Look

By Andrea A. Firth

ometimes it takes a village. The members of Orinda's Historic Landmarks Committee (HLC) had been planning a major facelift for the de Laveaga train depot for a couple of years. The depot, located at the corner of Bates Boulevard and Davis Road at the Crossroads, is the only remaining station from the long-defunct, narrow gauge California & Nevada Railroad. Flush on manpower but short on funds, the HLC had not determined how it would pay to fix the depot's

peeling paint and rotting boards and spruce up the landscaping.

Then came a fortuitous call from Becky Kemsley, a member of the Orinda Valley Garden Club, to Charlie Vollmar, Vice President of the Orinda Historical Society. Vollmar then circled back to Kay Norman of the HLC, and the project got on track.

The Orinda Valley Garden Club was the recipient of an anonymous \$1,000 donation designated for the group to apply, with their able gardening skills, to beautification projects in the city. (Each of the city's four garden clubs has received the same anonymous contribution for the past three years, and they have worked together on several landscaping projects around Orinda.) "We decided the train depot would be our next project," says Kemsley. The Club has provided the majority of the funding for the repairs and painting and will work on planting the beds around the station in the fall.

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**Quote of the Week:** "I'm in favor of ice cream...' Read article, Fentons Quest for Parking

Relief, page A2

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# MOFD Board Will Consider Building Purchase Tonight

Other options include renting space from City of Orinda

#### By Lucy Amaral

aced with facilities in need of retrofit and having its administrative operations split between two stations, the Moraga Orinda Fire District (MOFD) Board of Directors will hold a Special Meeting tonight to discuss the possibility of purchasing a building to be used for MOFD administration. Board representatives were also scheduled to meet in closed session last night with the City of Orinda to discuss the price and terms of a possible lease or other agreement for use of office space in Orinda's City Hall (after press time).

The Board held preliminary discussions on this topic at its July 20 meeting.

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Aerial view www.maps.google.com modified by Andy Scheck

## **Sports/Schools**

**B1-B3/C7** 

### **Miramonte Cycling Competes at Nationals**



#### **Submitted by Steven Johnson**

The Miramonte Cycling Club traveled to Sun Valley, Idaho, to compete in the US Cycling Mountain Bike Cross Country National Championships July 14-17.

Junior Eric Johnson took first place in Category 2, 15-18-yearold racers. ... ...read on page B3

#### Life in Lamorinda

#### C1-C9 **Repaving Closes Lafayette-**Moraga Trail

#### By Cathy Dausman

Large portions of the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail will close temporarily to bikes and pedestrians and become a heavy equipment construction zone during trail rehabilitation work August 1 through late October this year, but the end result ... read on page C1

#### **Our Homes**

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#### To Bounce or Not to Bounce...



#### By Cathy Tyson

What's round, black, usually enclosed and full of summer fun? Many families with children who don't want the maintenance of a pool but want their kids to turn away from electronics and get some great exercise opt to install a trampoline in... read on page D1