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## Small Town Fun at the Moraga Pear and Wine Festival

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Left to right: Mina Lucacher, Grant Subbelfield, Virginia Smith and Bob Gardner Photo Ohlen Alexander

The theme of pears and wine was picked up by one of the contestants in the pear recipe contest. Robin Valentine created a pear in wine sorbet dessert that tasted delicious and won her 4th prize. In the meantime, Monica Chappell was teaching a wine and food pairing class with three wines (two of them local): a Parkmon Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc was paired with goat cheese; Captain Vineyard's Petite Sirah went with rare beef; and a Washington State Riesling met chips and salsa. Chappell, who usually teaches a two-hour class, said,

"The Town of Moraga asked me to create a shorter class to do outside during the festival. It worked very well, with mostly local wines." Artists, community service groups, representatives from the

Town and inflatable jumpies for the kids completed the scene in which neighbors, friends and families met and mingled. There was nothing pretentious, nothing outrageous – just nice, fruitful fun.

**The winners of the Pear Recipe contest are:**

- 1st place: Elaine Cable's Savory Pear Tartlets with Chevre
- 2nd place: Sharon Metcalf's Fresh Pear Upside Down Cake
- 3rd place: Robin Valentine's Pear and Red Wine Sorbet
- 4th place: Brian Pergamit's Cinnamon Pear Pockets

**Front page photo:** On the left, Mayor Karen Mendonca jumps in with both feet; right, a fair young maiden stomps grapes while Parks and Rec Director Jay Ingram kneels to capture the juice.

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## Productive Summer Interns Wow Lafayette

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He joins current Planning Technician Sarah Allen, Administrative Assistant Donica Katayanai, and Public Works Technician David Terhune – all former interns who now work for the City.

This year's summer interns took on a variety of tasks include posting public hearing notices and reviewing development applications for completeness, working on the downtown

streetlight replacement project, and the Lafayette Open Space Plan.

Born into a family of engineers, Lafayette resident and Miramonte senior Robert Burt worked in the Engineering Department under Leah Greenblatt, Transportation Planner. "He has a big future ahead of him," said Greenblatt. He spent most of his time this summer working on an interactive map with traffic counts – recording the number of cars and their speed. "It was a great opportunity for hands on experience and this will definitely help with college applications," said Burt. He hopes to go to UC Berkeley or Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. He describes staff as "extremely friendly" and "very efficient." He's President of the Young Engineers Association at Miramonte and still works for the City on Wednesdays – after school.

Michael Cass supervised the

charming, effervescent Megan Canales, who just started her senior year at University of Oregon and anticipates receiving her degree in Public Policy Management this coming June. "I learned so much – it's a really dynamic environment...and very inclusive." She describes the Planning Department as a "tight knit group - eager to teach, very collegial - gathering input from each other, and extremely helpful." She split her time interning between Danville, where she worked two days per week, and Lafayette where she spent the other three. Between her college classes and this interning experience, she has a keen appreciation for the benefits of good planning: "Planning helps mold and preserve lifestyle already here and enhance it further." Armed with a diploma, perhaps last year's intern can become next year's new employee?

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## OCF Welcomes New Board Member

Submitted by Sue Severson



Front row, from left: Richard Westin (President), Dick Burkhalter (Vice President); back row: Sue Severson (Founding Trustee), Susan Vandegrift (Secretary), and Carol Penskar (Treasurer). Photo provided

**S**usan Vandegrift joins the Board of the Orinda Community Foundation; Vandegrift replaces Paula Goodwin, who moved out of Orinda. OCF is now accepting grant applications, due October 15.

The Foundation maintains a Community Master Calendar on its website. Visit [www.orindafoundation.org](http://www.orindafoundation.org) for more information.