



**MICHAEL VERBRUGGE**  
CONSTRUCTION INC.  
General Contractor

**925.631.1055** www.MVCRemodeling.com

**Specializing in kitchens & bathrooms.**  
**All forms residential remodel/repair.**



*"A little bit of myself goes into every job."*  
Michael Verbrugge,  
Owner,  
Moraga Resident



**Clean | Courteous | Conscientious**  
**On-time | Trustworthy | Local References**  
Full design team resources available

# KURT PIPER

A HARD WORKING BROKER WHO CARES



Connect with Kurt @



**(925) 818-8000**  
www.kurtpiper.com



## Cabinet Modifications

With over 25 years fulfilling custom needs, we can alter or modify most cabinetry, while still utilizing your existing cabinetry for:

- Large TVs/ Refrigerators and appliances
- Recycle Bins and shelf pullouts
- Cabinet alterations/repairs

Thinking about home, office, entertainment, custom cabinetry, shelving, crown mouldings, baseboards, new doors or mantels? We can help there, too!

**925.827.1093** Paul Kephart Master Craftsman  
www.TheCabinetMd.com

## UPHOLSTERY SPECIALIST

### REFINISHING AND RESTORATION

- Slipcovers • Pillows • Window Cushions
- Custom Upholstery • Design Consulting

**Marine - Commercial - Residential**  
Pickup & Delivery Available • Free Estimates By Phone



**M.R.S.**  
Fine Old World Craftsmanship  
Family Owned And Operated For Over 55 yrs.  
3418 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette



Mon.-Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-2  
**(925) 962-0579**

## CABINETMAKER

We custom build to your design  
Built-in storage and furniture

Any material you choose!  
**510.535.1222**  
Charles Ferguson

**www.everwoodcabinets.com**

## BURKIN ELECTRIC

**"Let Us Light Up Your Life"**  
Residential • Commercial • Industrial



Serving Contra Costa since 1991  
More than 35 years experience  
**All Work Done by Owner**  
Bonded & Insured  
Lic.#C10-631523

**Professional Installation of:**  
• Ceiling Fans, Recessed & Track Lighting • Kitchen or Bath Remodel  
• Exterior/Security/Landscape Lighting • Electrical Service Upgrade  
• Complete Home Wiring - Old & New • Spa Installation

**(925) 672-1519**  
www.BurkinElectric.net



James Burkin  
Sole Proprietor

## BAD INC. Bay Area Drainage, Inc.

### Have You Checked Your Crawlspace Lately?

- French Drains
- Underfloor Drains
- Downspout Systems
- Subdrain Systems
- Sump Pumps
- Retaining Walls
- Pavestone Driveway & Walkways

A General Engineering Contractor  
Locally owned and Operated  
Contractor LIC # 762208

**925•377•9209**



visit our website  
**www.bayareadrainage.com**

## March Rains to the Rescue?

... continued from page A1  
"San Jose is only at 27 percent of their average," he said, "And on March 14th, our big rain day, they got less than 0.10 inch of rain."

[See the table for a comparison of rainfall data collected by our local rain trackers this year and last in locations throughout the area.]

How wet did it get so far in March? Allan Prager, who resides in Orinda's Sleepy Hollow neighborhood found that rainfall in the first 19 days of March to be over 10 inches, which was more than double the rainfall he recorded in early March last year. Gene Gottfried, who lives in the Upper Toyonal neighborhood of Orinda, recorded almost 10 inches of rain falling between March 13-17, including an impressive four-plus inches on March 14 alone. Orinda Downs resident Bill Moon found March 14 to be quite a wet one, too, recording over three inches of rain on that single day. But since he's been measuring precipitation Moon reports, he has seen even wetter days, including almost six inches (5.85 to be exact) on Dec. 31, 2005.

The fluctuations in monthly and annual rainfall numbers do not seem to surprise the locals who track precipitation.

"I am not all that surprised, more

Location	Rainfall Year-to-date <sup>1</sup> (inches)	Rainfall Last year <sup>2</sup> (inches)
<b>Orinda</b>		
Sleepy Hollow	23	37
El Toyonal	20 <sup>3</sup>	31
Orinda Downs	17	30
South Orinda	22	35
<b>Moraga</b>		
Ashbrook Place	16	28
<b>Lafayette</b>		
Amber Lane	12	24

<sup>1</sup>7/1/11-3/20/12 <sup>2</sup>7/1/10-3/20/11 <sup>3</sup>Measured thru 3/17/12

delighted not to have to face real drought conditions as in 1977 and 1978," Watson said. "This has been a year of storm extremes... It is late in the season, but late rains are not all that unusual, so we shall give thanks and enjoy the soakings. May they continue."

Prager is not surprised by the March wetness following a dry winter either. He has seen it happen before. In the 1990 to 1991 rain year, Prager's records show that only 7.5 inches of rain had fallen by the end of February. "In March of 1991, I recorded 10.74 inches," he said, adding, "That year ended up as a drought year anyway, but without the significant rainfall in March, it would have been much

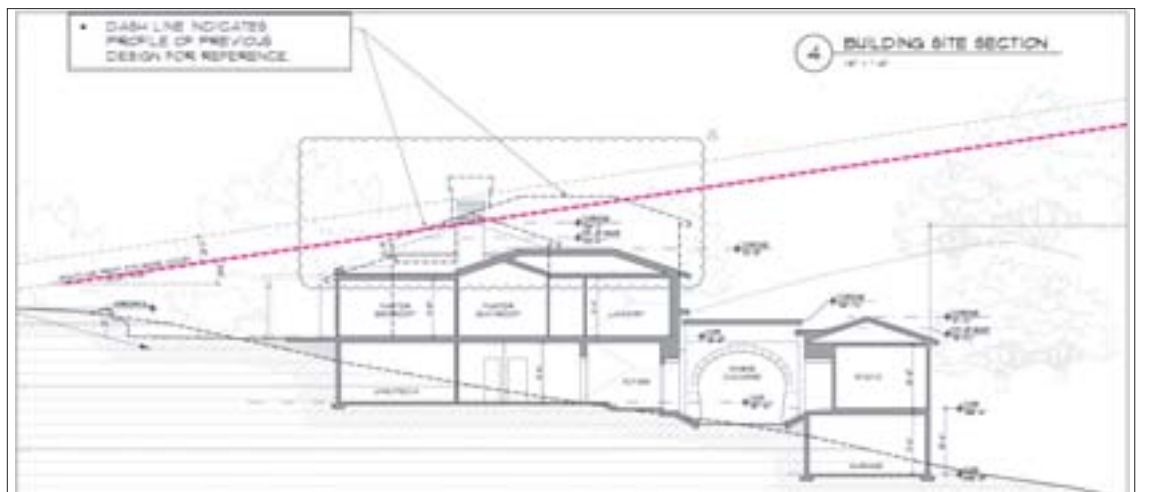
worse."

With rain predicted as the Lamorinda Weekly goes to press and throughout the following week, will this month's rainfall put the area back on track? Most rain trackers won't venture to say. While they are keen to measure and analyze the area's wet weather, rain trackers avoid forecasting.

"Looking back over the years of data I can see no pattern that would allow useful projections," Metzger said. "Patterns seem destined to be broken so it is not really a surprise. Besides we have never had a year that didn't have at least one month with above average rainfall, [but] I guess that is a pattern of sorts."

## Slight Ridgeline Silhouette Rejected by Commission

... continued from page A3



Drawing by Resort Design Architects of the proposed home on Monticello Road. Dashed line indicates profile of previous design to illustrate changes in the size of the structure, diagonal dashed lines shows the view from Rose Court.

"It's important to preserve hillsides for everyone, rather than just a few. I can't support putting a swimming pool on top of a ridgeline," said Commissioner Karen Maggio. Having to move a significant amount of soil was also a concern, grading 3,000 cubic yards just for the structure seemed excessive to Commissioners. In addition,

some grading would be necessary to complete the widening of the 130 foot long driveway to meet Fire District requirements.

Back in 2008, the same owners proposed a home on the thirteen acre site with a different architect. That project was smaller and a different style; it was approved by the Planning

Commission. Bowie pointed out that there is less visibility with the current iteration, than the original version – and that there's no requirement that a project be entirely concealed within the Hillside Overlay District. The Commissioners were not persuaded.

## Mo Levich Wins Prestigious 'Jefferson Award'

... continued from page A1

The Awards are meant to inspire volunteerism throughout the country.

"From the beginning, the awards have been based on the simple idea that one person can make a difference and, well, has Mo ever done that," said City Manager Steve Falk in his Weekly Summary. "I'm left wondering if it's just coincidental that Mo hails from Iowa – the same state [as] Meredith Wilson, the fellow who wrote the Music Man. Because that's what Mo is: he's Lafayette's Music Man."

When asked how he got involved in music education, Levich replied, "It started about fifteen years ago with friend Bob Athayde. I was invited to attend his 7 a.m. Jazz class, (at Stanley) and saw his valuable instruction in music and in life first-hand." Together they found a way to start the Lafayette Summer Music Program that continues musical inspiration and education during the summer. The Generations in Jazz Foundation was started shortly after that; the organization helps fund

scholarships for the music camp. Levich also proudly directs an orchestra of seniors, The Big Band of Rossmoor. As some of the elderly senior musicians passed on, it occurred to Levich to encourage younger musicians from Acalanes and Stanley Middle school to join. "There are no barriers in music," he said, referring to the mutually bene-

ficial relationship with the younger and older musicians.

"Mo is Lafayette's 'game changer'," said friend and fan Jay Lifson, executive director of the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce. "Add Mo to the recipe, and it always tastes better. His vision and creativity lead to exceeding our very highest expectations."

## Are Your Toe Nails Thickened, Yellow, Painful Or Ugly?

**TIME TO GET LASER TREATMENT!!**

Have Better Looking Nails!

- Pain Free! No Medication Risks!
- FDA approved for treatment of fungal nails.
- Can be applied to your Flex Spending Plan

**\$75 OFF LASER TREATMENT**  
good thru April 15th

**CALL TODAY (925) 954-8270**

New office location  
1874 Tice Valley Blvd.,  
Walnut Creek  
www.footworkspodiatry.com




All treatments done personally by  
**DR. BEATRICE SCHMUGLER, DPM**  
Board Certified Podiatrist.  
She provides gentle, patient focused care, specializing in Laser Nail Treatment and Fungal Nail Management.  
In Practice in the Bay Area since 1992