

Your one-call plumber!

LeapFrog Plumbing

GAS, WATER & SEWER



Head Frog Mo Williams

Does your plumbing give you a FRIGHT?

ZOT! Zap Out Trouble—before trouble zaps you.
FREE CRAWL UNDER (It can be scary down under your house!)

Good Preventive Plumbing measures will protect you and your family from true life horror stories; Broken pipes, holes in venting, electrolysis, sneaky leaks, and more eeeeek!

“Creepy Crawly”:
crawl space plumbing Inspection* \$189 Value FREE

*visible and accessible plumbing; Homeowners only; most houses Thru 11/30/2012



Family-owned & serving Lamorinda since 1993

green solutions!

We're Local! CA Lic 929641

We Hop to It!

(925) **377-6600** LeapFrogPlumbing.com

Rheem Valley Convalescent Hospital & Rehabilitation



Rheem Valley Convalescent Hospital & Rehabilitation has earned the AHCA **National Quality Bronze Award** for Our Commitment To Quality.

Let us provide you with Award Winning Care.

We Specialize in **Post Acute Rehab** – in addition to traditional therapy techniques, we utilize state-of-the-art therapy modalities including virtual rehabilitation.



348 Rheem Blvd, Moraga CA 94556, **925.376.5995**

Letters to the Editor

... continued

Editor:

I am very pleased to support candidate Dexter Louie for Moraga School Board. Through the years I have had many opportunities to work with Dexter; both in school-related settings as a PTA President and MEF Board Member and through non-profit groups such as Habitat for Humanity. Dexter is an extremely valuable asset to both our schools and community. In spite of continued State cuts, Moraga continues to be one of the highest performing districts in the state. Our school district is in great shape due, in no small part, to the contributions of dedicated citizens like Dexter.

There are tough times ahead for our schools and we need Dexter's experience. He is a longtime resident of Moraga and understands the need to balance the interests of all stakeholders. During his tenure, he has worked hard to ensure the successful passage of two parcel taxes. I believe his leadership will be critical if state budget shortfalls require the District to seek additional local funding in the coming years. Dexter values and supports the efforts of our superintendent, Bruce Burns, and the Board has operated very collaboratively and effectively under his outstanding leadership. He fully understands where the district has been and has a clear vision for its future.

We are very fortunate that Dexter is willing to serve for another four years. I strongly believe we need his continued leadership to maintain high academic quality, fiscal soundness and effective governance that will keep our schools strong and responsive to the needs of all students. Please join me in casting your vote for Dexter Louie.

Stacy Ashby
Moraga

Editor:

As a parent of three children in the Moraga School District, I can think of no one more qualified to serve on the Moraga School Board than Shari Simon. I served on the Moraga Education Foundation board with Shari for several years and I've personally seen her leadership as MEF raised more than \$7 million in private funds for our schools. Through her experience as a volunteer, she has developed an understanding of public school finance that is second to none. Moreover, she is undaunted in her pursuit of the highest quality education for our children despite the limitations imposed by Sacramento. And she pursues her vision with passion and grace. That's why I'm voting for Shari Simon for Moraga School District Governing Board.

Eric Flett
Moraga

ORINDA ELECTIONS

Editor:

Save on car repairs: vote YES on L!
 My neighbor spent over \$400 on new low-profile tires after an encounter with an Orinda pothole. Thanks to the deplorable condition of Orinda's roads, another Orinda resident paid over \$1,300 to have the front suspension replaced and the front end aligned. The owner of an auto repair shop in Concord said Orinda is his best source of customers.

Raise the topic of our roads at a neighborhood gathering, and build your very own collection of auto repair horror stories!

If you drive in Orinda, it's only a matter of time until your car will need expensive repairs – tires, struts, shock absorbers, alignment.

Yes, our roads really are that bad. It's far cheaper to pay a little more in sales tax than even one big auto repair bill. Vote YES on L.

Allan Prager
Orinda

Editor:

As a new resident of Orinda and parent of young children, I am enthusiastically supporting Jason Lurie for Orinda's school board. I have worked with Jason for the last six years and can attest to his work ethic, forward thinking, and deeply rooted concern for others and his commitment to his family, friends and community. While raising three wonderful girls with his wife and working as an attorney seems like a lot to me, I wasn't the least bit surprised when Jason announced his plan to run for school board. In my mind, Jason has always been able to find time for those things that are most important to him: his family, friends and community, all of which will be improved with the addition of Jason on the school board. Jason embodies the

reason that we moved to Orinda and the type of person that we want our kids to be able to look up to.

I also want to thank all of the existing school board members and those running for the school board as your time and energy are both needed and appreciated.

Sincerely,
Drew Mickel
Orinda

Editor:

I urge Orindans to vote yes on Measure L. This measure will make a down payment on fixing Orinda's residential roads. Some will tell you that this measure will not complete the job, and they are correct. But it is a start and is the first step of a ten-year plan by the City to bring our roads and drains to a good state of repair.

I hope you will agree with me that the City has done a good job of using its existing revenue to repair the most heavily traveled roads in Orinda. This is a deliberate strategy that is working, but it leaves little funding for residential roads. As chair of the Citizens Infrastructure Oversight Commission, I have confidence the City will use the new revenue from Measure L equally wisely to improve residential roads. Success breeds success, and I am hopeful once Orindans see the benefits of Measure L revenues, they will provide the City with the remaining funds necessary to complete repairing our roads and drains.

Who will argue that Orinda's roads are good! They are not. In fact, Orinda's roads are among the worst in the entire Bay Area. Delaying repair will only make the problem worse and more costly. Vote yes on Measure L to start fixing our residential roads.

Dennis Fay
Orinda

Editor:

Compared with other California cities of all sizes, Orinda is in excellent financial shape. Credit for this belongs to the current City Council in general, and Mayor Steve Glazer, in particular. Orindans live in only one of 3 cities in the County that do not have a defined benefit pension plan. Our unfunded retirement obligations are exactly zero, in sharp contrast to the bankrupt and nearly insolvent public safety agencies and cities that surround us.

Orinda has maintained a balanced budget through a multi-year downturn in property tax revenues by closely matching staffing, the main costs, with services. Staff has been reduced in response to changes in city services needed, such as in the Planning Department and the Dept. of Parks and Recreation.

For a city with just a ten million dollar budget, 40% of which goes to police, Orinda has been able to devote a surprising amount of money to try to maintain our awful roads, focusing on the ones most used. Mayor Glazer spearheaded a highly collaborative effort over the past 18 months to revisit a comprehensive plan for road repair and maintenance, and to gauge the public appetite for paying for this. The result was Measure L, on the ballot this fall, to begin to address our infrastructure issues. While not a complete solution, it is the best measure for these times, and Steve is to be applauded for pushing forward the first step of a solution.

So, please join me in voting for Steve Glazer. Let's build on his legacy: his deep knowledge of the community; the strong financial management; and the inclusive approaches to seemingly intractable problems. Let's move forward together to continue to keep our City enviably strong.

Carol Penskar
Orinda

Editor:

Victoria Smith possesses important qualities which have made her a superb Orinda City Councilmember. These qualities include good judgment, a judicious and even-handed approach, a strong work ethic, knowledge of issues facing Orinda and, most importantly, experience dealing with those issues. Victoria has spent almost ten years closely involved in Orinda's local government, first as a Planning Commissioner and then as a Councilmember and Mayor.

I know from first-hand experience that Victoria has done an excellent job in all these roles and urge my fellow Orindans to join me in voting for her this Fall.

Bill Judge
Orinda

Private Yoga Studio

Specializing in
Yoga, Yoga-Dance, Pilates Mat

Enjoy small classes & individualized attention
 Pilates Mat class on **Saturdays, 10:15-11:30 am**

Water Lily Studio

www.waterlilystudio.org
 (925) 849-7198
 2940 Camino Diablo, Ste 200
 Walnut Creek
 Saranap area of Walnut Creek.

Peralta Construction

CUSTOM HOMES | ADDITIONS | REMODELING

owned and operated by Moraga resident
Pat Geoghegan



Lic #624045

BUILDING THE BAY AREA FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS

925.273.7692
 www.peraltaconstruction.com



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

