



Home is where your story begins...



**Julie Barlier**, Realtor  
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"Julie is a joy to work with. She is very social, and knows the Lamorinda area market well. When we decided to buy our home in Lafayette, she worked non stop to find us the perfect place. Julie is organized, flexible and discerning to her clients' needs. She worked around our difficult schedule to show us homes that were in the parameters of what we were looking for. Despite a limited market Julie found the perfect place for us, and continued to work diligently on our behalf, negotiating the good faith security, timing on sale and the closing paperwork. It was just a pleasure to work with Julie in finding our home!!!" ~ Dave and Hilary

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Real Estate Chair, Lafayette Partners in Education



## Civic News Lafayette

### Lafayette Welcomes New Postmaster

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New postmaster Kulwant Singh speaks at the installation ceremony July 17. Photo C. Tyson

Daughter Sandeep Singh took the podium to recognize her dad's success, calling him "a man of great dedication and will." She emphasized that the whole family was proud of his accomplishments and very happy for him. Singh, who has a bachelor's degree from Calcutta University, is married to wife Jasvir, has another daughter, Mandee, and six grandchildren. He lives in El Sobrante where he is the president of the Sikh Temple.

To welcome Singh to Lafayette, the City Council declared July 17, 2013 as Kulwant Singh Day. Mail has been sorted and delivered for 116 years in this city. Lafayette's very first postmaster was Benjamin Shreve, appointed on March 2, 1897; at that time the town was called La Fayette.

Residents may not realize just how much mail runs through the Lafayette facility: daily mail volume of more than 120,000 pieces gets delivered to 18,828 addresses on 24 city routes and to nearly 1,300 post office boxes. Singh will oversee the 48 employees who make it all happen.

## Civic News Moraga

### Planning the Future of Commons Park Proves Complicated

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More than 60 percent of respondents want the volleyball courts to stay and 25 percent want to leave the Back 40 alone.

The most popular suggested alternate use for the Back 40, favored by 10 percent of respondents, was a dog park; although when the same idea was raised during the Rancho Laguna dog park drama it was met with strong opposition. Others suggested tennis courts for the Back 40 or sand volleyball site.

The survey also reflected a desire for more senior and teen activities, and additional bocce ball courts.

The lack of clear, overriding needs puzzled the commission. "So have we gotten anything out of this (the survey)?" asked vice chair Robert Lucacher. "My biggest dis-

appointment is that we have an entire group of Moraga citizens, people with kids who use the park, who don't seem to have expressed strong needs," said commissioner John Haffner.

Resident David Shapiro suggested that "the survey wasn't good enough. It didn't go out to the entire community. You weren't getting what they (the residents) would like to see."

Another Moraga resident told the commission, "What I have noticed is that people don't necessarily have an opinion until something happens, until the town makes a move; then people will react to it. If you come up with a plan then you'll get opinions, otherwise everybody is happy with the park."

Commissioners imagined other

ways to improve the Commons. Haffner supported additional bocce courts. Lucacher suggested a community garden on the Back 40, "where people could rent a little piece of land, plant some vegetables and practice the essentials of sustainability."

Another problem was summed up by Haffner: "The question is who is going to pay for it?"

Chair Karen Reed proposed a homework assignment for the commissioners as the next step in the process — to identify specific ideas, with sources of funding, for future review and analysis. Moragans with ideas and suggestions are invited to attend the next commission meeting or submit written comments; check the town's website for the date and time.

## Civic News Orinda

### Everyday Heroes



From left: Mark DeWeese, Michael Rattary, Matt Epperson.

Photo Ohlen Alexander

Another great time was had by all at the fourth annual Orinda Everyday Heroes golf fundraiser. Kelly Morris, Michael Rattary and Stephen Rogness, the three Moraga-Orinda Fire District firefighters who were severely injured in December while responding to a vehicle accident on Highway 24, were honored for

their bravery and service to the community. Before the day was over, Ted Urban had scored a hole in one, and the shamble team of Ralph Severson, Doug Moore, John Hunt, and Charlie Allison brought home the gold. Sponsored each year by the Orinda Community Foundation, this very special event generates funding that supports

the Fourth of July Celebration, Lamorinda Idol, local concerts in the park, and community beautification, public arts and building improvement efforts, as well as non-profit services such as the Lamorinda Adult Respite Center, Spirit Van Senior Transportation, and Contra Costa Solano Foodbank. L. Snyder

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