

# LAMORINDA

Independent, locally owned and operated!

26,000 copies delivered bi-weekly to Lamorinda homes & businesses

www.lamorindaweekly.com

925.377.0977

FREE

**Seeking a church home?**  
**MoragaChurch.org**  
 RICH - POOR - OR IN BETWEEN  
 GAY - STRAIGHT - QUESTIONING  
 SINGLE - MARRIED - LONELY  
 TRADITIONAL - LIBERAL - OTHER  
*No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here*

## Drumming Circle Creates Good Vibrations

By Cathy Dausman



Instructor Mary Ferrick (far right) recently led a drumming circle in Lafayette. Photo Cathy Dausman

The sounds of a communal heartbeat – good vibrations – echoed loud and clear recently in Lafayette. Barbara Kloss, the group’s self-proclaimed “instigator” was excited about the attendance for her newly formed senior drumming circle. For the last year, Kloss lamented the fact that there seemed to be “no

daytime drumming circle near us.” So she took matters into her own hands and formed one.

Lafayette Library and Learning Center declined to host the circle – she said there were concerns about the group’s noise level – and Kloss was unwilling to commit to room rental fees at the Lafayette Senior Center. She finally found

a home at Lamorinda Music, where “one of the [Lafayette] senior commissioners pays for room rental.”

No music experience is necessary, and drums are provided for the circle that meets at 11 a.m. the second Monday of each month. Donations are accepted, but no one is turned away. ... continued on page A14

**Quote of the Week:**  
*"Here we go again in Moraga with signs and mailers that can't be traced to their source."*  
 Read Letters to the Editor - page A8.

Advertising

<b>AVAILABLE!</b> North Orinda	<b>PENDING!</b> Moraga Country Club	<b>PENDING!</b> Miramonte Gardens	<b>COMING SOON!</b> Paseo de Moraga
-----------------------------------	--	--------------------------------------	--

**The Olsen Team**  
 Lamorinda Specialists Since 1977  
 Call Sue & Ben at (925) 200-6000. CA BRE 00616156 www.TheOlsenTeam.com

**LAMORINDA**

Town News	A2 - A14
Business	A12-A13
Life in Lamorinda	B1 - B12
Classified	B8
Food	B9
Service Directory	B9
Not to be Missed	B10-B12
Sports	C1 - C3
<b>HOW TO CONTACT US</b>	C2
Love Lafayette	C4
Our Homes	D1 -D12
<b>This Week Read About:</b>	
Better Investments	A2
Measure K Success	A4
Stopping Elder Abuse	A6
MOFD Staffing Cuts	A9
New Writing Contest	B1
Katzen Comes to LLLC	B2
Affordable Care Act	B3
JM's iKind Program	B4
Pear Recipe Winners	B9
Mats Prevail Over Dons	C1

## Time to Make the Jetsons a Reality?

Oct. 30 Town Hall to focus on future of transportation

By Laurie Snyder

More than a half century after Hanna-Barbera first forecast flying cars and dogs jogging joyfully on space-age treadmills, Lamorinda’s closet George and Jane Jetsons will finally get the chance to experience truly futuristic technology when Google comes to town with a self-driving car. That was part of the electrifying news from state senator Mark DeSaulnier, chair of the California state senate’s Transportation and Housing Committee, who recently announced that he will be hosting a special Town Hall meeting Oct. 30 at the Orinda Library Auditorium from 7 to 9 p.m.

Scheduled well in advance of the mass transit meltdown that has irritated commuters across the Bay Area, the timing of “The Future of Transportation: Challenges and Opportunities” could not be better. In addition to having their voices

heard on issues impacting personal and professional lives, Lamorindans will learn about intelligent transportation systems, current state policies, the negative impacts that inadequate funding and the insular culture of government agencies have on innovation, and potential reforms which could alleviate these issues.

“California will face many transportation-related challenges in the years ahead as our infrastructure ages. Fortunately, California is consistently on the forefront of new technology,” adds DeSaulnier. “As chair of the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee, I know how important it is to emphasize innovation as we plan for the future.”

The audience will also hear from expert panelists Randell H. Iwasaki, executive director of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA)

and Thomas West of California Partners for Advanced Transportation Technology at the University of California, Berkeley.

But even DeSaulnier knows it’s likely to be the Google gadgetry that will inspire the young and old to turn out. In addition to describing how self-driving cars work, Anthony Levandowski, Google’s product manager for autonomous driving, will explain why the company became involved with transportation planning, what has been done with automated vehicles to date and how their increased use could benefit society as a whole.

So, be sure to bring Judy and your boy, Elroy. The event is free, but RSVPs are requested and should be sent via [sen.ca.gov/1565/transportation-townhall](http://sen.ca.gov/1565/transportation-townhall). For more information, call (925) 942-6082.

**Life in Lamorinda B1-B12**

### A Festival of Shorts

Sophie Braccini previews the short film series featured at this year's California Independent Film Festival - page B2.



**Sports C1-C3**

### Cougars Still the Team to Beat

Campolindo remains dominant in DFAL volleyball, but the Mats did not go down without a fight Oct. 16 - page C2.



**Our Homes D1-D12**

### Lafayette's New Marquis

Construction of the Marquis Lafayette townhouses is nearly complete; Cathy Dausman takes a look - page D1.





STILL #1 FOR A REASON

2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

Striking Happy Valley Estate

1200 Estates Drive Lafayette

Incredible 5BR + Office/4.5BA, 4837 sq. ft. Mark Becker Craftsman w/extraordinary attention to detail. Private .92-acre parcel w/phenomenal views.

Offered at \$3,588,000  
1200Estates.com



Just Listed!



Dana Green  
BRE#01482454



DanaGreenTeam.com | 925.339.1918

Lafayette Civic News

Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m.  
Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, Nov. 4, 7 p.m.  
Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m.  
Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Arts & Science Discovery Center, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

City of Lafayette:

www.ci.lafayette.ca.us  
Phone: (925) 284-1968

Chamber of Commerce:

www.lafayettechamber.org

School Board Meetings

Acalanes Union High School District  
Wednesday, Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m.  
AUHSD Board Room at 1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette  
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

Wednesday, Nov. 13, 7 p.m.  
Regular Board Meeting  
Stanley Library  
3477 School St., Lafayette  
www.lafsd.k12.ca.us



Lafayette crime statistics were not available at press deadline.

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community.

Send a letter to the editor:

letters@lamorindaweekly.com



Thank you for recycling this paper. It is printed on at least 50% recycled material and vegetable based ink and should be recycled again.

Better Investments Translate to Better Return for City

By Cathy Tyson

The city of Lafayette could be making an additional \$70,000 per year in interest on its \$20 million in savings, more than double what it's currently making, according to a recent presentation at the Oct. 15 city council meeting.

While \$20 million is a whopping balance, the current rates are yielding a paltry 0.25 percent from the Local Agency Investment Fund, or LAIF, a pooled investment fund run by the state of California. Thinking there's room for improvement, several investment firms were interviewed by the Finance Subcommittee; they determined that Wells Fargo "could best meet the needs of the City."

"Wells Fargo has presented an alternative investment portfolio which could boost annual yields to approximately 0.61 percent without significantly increasing the risk or the liquidity of the portfolio," wrote Tracy Robinson, administrative services director, in her staff report. The annual return the portfolio had been making was approximately \$50,000; the new and improved portfolio would have a return of over \$121,000.

Representatives from Wells Fargo went over their suggestions to revamp the portfolio. Dale Barton, government banking relationship manager, and John Williams of Wells Fargo Institutional Securities proposed leaving

\$10 million in LAIF calling it a "safe and liquid alternative," despite its low return, and shifting the remaining \$10 million to a variety of medium and longer term instruments that provide a much better yield. The definition of medium term is from one and a half to three years, long term is three to five years in banker lingo.

Specifically they recommend moving \$1 million to Cal Trust – a pooled investment fund that is administered by the Joint Powers Authority with a yield that is approximately 0.64 percent.

A large chunk, \$5 million, would go to existing fixed income certificates of deposit that provide a 0.88

percent return, with the balance going into new CDs and long term corporate notes that allow the city to more fully diversify its portfolio.

Not surprisingly, city council members were pleased about getting a better return and unanimously agreed to direct staff to implement these new investment alternatives that conform to Lafayette's investment policy, in place since 2005. It spells out investment practices based on state law and prudent money management that has as its primary objectives: safety, liquidity and return on investment.

New Sculpture at Former Hungry Hunter Site



Photo Cathy Tyson

Is it a riff on a Mobius strip? The artist, Roger Berry, describes "Over Easy" this way: "It's a dynamically balanced form conceived to reference the experience of travel. As one passes by, the sculpture will appear to wind and unwind presenting a different profile from each vantage point."

Berry's works can be found all around the Bay Area from Berkeley and Brentwood to Sacramento and San Jose. Its beauty and definition are clearly in the eye of the beholder.

Drivers poised at a red light at the intersection of Pleasant Hill Road and Mount Diablo Boulevard should look to the southwest corner to check out the newly installed winding corten steel sculpture.

The developer of the new townhome project on the site, Signature Development Group, is responsible for funding the piece as a requirement to satisfy the Public Art Ordinance. Lafayette's Public Art Committee unanimously approved the design.

C. Tyson

Floral Arts Florist

Each and every piece is special to us

Fresh flowers for any occasion • Proms  
Sympathy arrangements • Plants • Weddings

IN LOVE WITH FALL COLORS

3584 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette  
(925) 284-5765 • www.floralartsflorist.com  
floralartsflorist@gmail.com  
Mon-Fri 9:00am 6:00pm, Sat 9:30am 3:00pm



We are NOW a part of "THE KNOT"

Walker & Bowes

## Glass Pumpkin Patch

**Lafayette - The Art Room**  
50 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette, CA

Exhibition & Sale:  
Saturday, October 26th & Sunday, October 27th, 9AM - 4PM

Artist Celebration with Bobby Bowes:  
Friday, October 25th 6PM - 8PM  
Accompanied by a wine pouring from Sequoia Grove Winery

Sponsored by

Partial Proceeds Benefit

This event is brought to you by:

MuseLuxury.com and facebook.com/MuseLuxury

**SALON CARTIER**  
A Royal Cartier Salon

**\$20 off**  
color/cuts 1st time clients to the salon men/women

Walnut Creek's Premier Hair Salon  
**925-939-7425**  
2400 Olympic Blvd., Ste. 4&5 • Walnut Creek  
www.saloncartier.com

## Weekend to Remember in Lafayette

Trick-or-Treat Street, Res Run, and a concert ... Who could ask for anything more?



Lafayette Rotary will serve the traditional pancake breakfast at the Res Run.

Photo Ohlen Alexander

The streets of Lafayette may not be lined with gold, but for one evening a year, candy awaits all who get dolled up and ask nicely at participating merchants. Does it get any better than a Friday afternoon with candy? Actually, yes – there's more. This Friday, Oct. 25, costumed kids are invited to boo-tiful downtown Lafayette to trick or treat along Mt. Diablo Boulevard from Oak Hill to Dewing and in La Fiesta Square from 4 to 6 p.m. After strolling and trolling for treats, youngsters and their parents, along with fans and paparazzi, are invited to a costume contest and refreshments in Plaza Park at 6 p.m., followed by a screening of "Ghostbusters" at 6:30 p.m. It's been just shy of 30 years since the film was released, but the hijinx of three unemployed parapsychology professors who are attempting to save New York City from the Stay-Puft Marshmallow man is still hilarious.

Once the sugar buzz has dissipated, on Sunday morning, Oct. 27, runners, joggers and walkers can participate in the 21st annual Lafayette Reservoir Run, burning a few candy calories in the process. It puts the "fun" in fundraiser, local schools and the services and programs of the Chamber will benefit. Three options

make it easy for folks of various skill levels to enjoy: a 10K and 5K certified run and a 2 mile run/walk through the heart of downtown. The event is co-sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Lafayette. Go to the Chamber website for all the details, www.lafayettechamber.org or call (925) 284-7404.

For the first time ever, on Sunday afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m. relax and enjoy beloved music maker "Diamond Dave" at a family-friendly complimentary concert at the Lafayette Reservoir's new stage, near the kids' playground. The concert is a musical thank you for the generous outpouring of support from the Lamorinda community and to celebrate the official opening of a girls' school in Farza, Afghanistan by Lafayette-based Trust in Education, founded by Budd MacKenzie. The organization seeks to provide educational, economic and health care to villages in Afghanistan. MacKenzie just returned from a trip there and will have photos on display that document the incredible changes to the school from start to finish. The school will serve approximately 250 girls in first through eighth grade. For more information, go to www.trustededucation.org. C. Tyson

**I'm Selling Moraga!**

**Keith KATZMAN**

I'm selling homes fast! Yours could be next. Call me for a no obligation visit!

925-376-7776 • kkatzman@pacunion.com

### FALL IS HERE... THERE IS STILL TIME TO SELL YOUR HOME!

Limited inventory coupled with lots of eager buyers is driving up housing prices.



**NEW LISTING!**  
16 Sarah Lane, Moraga  
4BR/2.5BA, 2046± sq. ft.  
Offered at \$900,000



**ORINDA - IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES!**  
.62±AC oak studded lot.  
Very private with a creek side setting.  
Offered at \$250,000

**PACIFIC UNION CHRISTIES**

Moraga Resident Since 1966.  
Successfully selling real estate for over 28 years.

BRE# 00875484  
A Member of Real Living

## More Lafayette Civic News on Page A12

Featuring Live Music, Classic Cars, Food Trucks and, of course, Custom Garages!

Check in at Blodgett's Flooring at 1:00pm, 3291 Mt Diablo Court in Lafayette

Tour Custom Lafayette Garages: \$35/ticket

Lunch Available for Purchase

**GARAGE TOUR**  
Lafayette Community Foundation

November 10, 2013 • 1pm to 4pm

Order tickets: www.LafayetteCF.org

For more information: info@LafayetteCF.org or 925-284-8214

LAFAYETTE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
Enhancing Life, Culture, Community

Proceeds benefit the Lafayette Community Foundation

Early sponsors and supporters include: Blodgett's Flooring, Concord BMW, Lafayette Car Wash Lafayette Chamber of Commerce and Minuteman Press.

**LANCÔME PARIS**

**FREE Gift with Purchase!**  
Choose Your Beauty Favorites with your Bag  
Yours FREE with any \$35.00 or more Lancome Purchase (Up to a 115.00 value)

- **RECEIVE:**  
GENIFIQUE Youth Activating Concentrate  
HYPNOSE Star Show Stopping Volume Mascara  
**AND** a Lancome signature cosmetics bag
- **CHOOSE A NIGHT MOISTURIZER:**  
RENERGIE LIFT Multi-Action Night  
**OR** Bienfait Multi-Vital Night
- **CHOOSE 3 BEAUTY ESSENTIALS**  
COLOR DESIGN LIPCOLOR  
JUICY TUBES LIP GLOSS  
BLUSH SUBLIL POWDER BLUSH  
LE CRAYON KHOL EYELINER  
BI-FACIL EYE MAKEUP REMOVER
- **PLUS, YOUR LANCOME SIGNATURE COSMETIC BAG**

Gift Dates: Oct 23 thru Nov 10, 2013

**McCaulou's**

**Lafayette** Plaza Center 925) 283-3380  
**Montclair** 6211 Medau Pl., Oakland (510) 339-2210  
**Napa** Napa Town Center (707) 255-9375  
**Auburn** Elm Ave. Next to SaveMart & CVS (530) 885-0500

Offer good while supplies last. One gift per customer, please.



## Moraga Civic News

### Public Meetings

#### Town Council

Wednesday, Nov. 13, 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, Oct. 23, 7 p.m.  
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School,  
1010 Camino Pablo

#### Planning Commission

Monday, Nov. 4, 7 p.m.  
Moraga Library, 1500 St. Mary's Rd.

#### Design Review

Monday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m.  
Moraga Library, 1500 St. Mary's Rd.

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

#### Town of Moraga:

www.moraga.ca.us

Phone: (925) 888-7022

#### Chamber of Commerce:

www.moragachamber.org

#### Moraga Citizens' Network:

www.moragacitizensnetwork.org



## Police Report

### A Message from the Moraga Police Department:

Early in the afternoon of Oct. 12 Moraga police officers responded to the Moraga Safeway. It was reported that two subjects had taken a shopping cart full of groceries from Safeway and fled in a van towards Orinda. Orinda police located the vehicle near Beverages and More and detained three female occupants.

Subsequent investigation revealed that a full shopping cart had been staged inside the Moraga Safeway by two of the suspects and the third suspect later entered Safeway, located the filled shopping cart, and exited the store without paying for the items, valued at over \$1,000. An alert Safeway employee witnessed the theft and notified the police. A search of the vehicle also revealed suspected rock cocaine.

Moraga police arrested the three suspects, who are all Oakland residents, and multiple felony charges have been filed.

Further investigation has indicated that this commercial burglary crew has been active throughout the Bay Area and they have been linked with thefts and attempted thefts using the same method. Anyone who has any information regarding this investigation is asked to contact Moraga's detective sergeant Brian South at (925) 888-7052.

### Moraga blotter

A parent's nightmare, 10/17/13 A family discovered early in the morning that a 12-year-old girl had left home the night before with a backpack and sleeping bag, but without her parent's knowledge. The community mobilized to search for the child, who was reunited with her family that evening.

Garage band complaint, 10/14/13 It was only 3:30 p.m. but musicians at a Crossbrook Drive house received an official shush by Moraga police spurred by an anonymous complaint. The band was advised to close the windows and turn down the volume.

D.U.I. 10/14/13 Police observed a Rav 4 without its headlights on, late at night, run two stop signs on Camino Pablo near Sanders Ranch Road. The 22-year-old driver from Lafayette happened to have a 17-year-old female with her who was hiding on the rear floorboard of the car. Turns out the girl had consumed alcohol; she was later released to her mother. Cops smelled booze on the breath of the female driver, who flunked her field sobriety test. She was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

Pink petty theft, 10/12/13 Someone entered an unlocked Toyota Siena parked in a Carter Avenue driveway and stole a small pink cloth purse that contained approximately \$10 in change sometime during the late afternoon or evening. No suspects or leads at this time.



### Local Knowledge & Extraordinary Results

Success comes only with the right marketing plan & execution strategy.

If you are considering selling your home, give us a call for assistance.

If you need referrals for home services providers, we would be happy to share our "black book" of local reliable contractors, handymen, plumbers, electricians, etc.



#### Bernie & Ryerson Team

Contact  
925.222.2000 | 925.878.9685  
gabernie@pacunion.com  
ken@ryersonrealty.com



pacifunion.com | A Member of Real Living

## Measure K Success

By Sophie Braccini

Sales tax revenue from Moraga's Measure K is higher than expected, town manager Jill Keimach announced at a Town Council meeting Oct. 9. "We had an estimate that the 1 percent sales tax would produce \$1 million annually for the roads," said Keimach. The first period was expected to

yield about \$250,000, but the town actually received \$330,000.

Other positive results include higher revenue from the planning department and lower expenses elsewhere. "This year, instead of a result close to zero, we have a surplus of \$384,000," added Keimach. "This year we can bring our re-

serve to 58 percent of our budget."

Last November the residents of Moraga approved a 1 percent additional sales tax that would go to the General Fund and that the Town Council pledged to use only for the roads. A portion of the sales tax was bonded to produce an immediate \$7 million for road repairs. The

first part of the campaign was just completed with half of the town's neighborhood streets repaved. Next year the rest of the neighborhood streets will be restored, after an assessment of the state of the underground storm drain system is completed.

## New Young Staff Faces in Moraga

By Sophie Braccini



From left, standing: Lawrence Tam, Ella Samonsky; seated: Ellen Clark, Clinton Calkins, Laurie Suggang. Photo Sophie Braccini

A couple of years ago Moraga recruited new department heads to consolidate the town's service framework. This year the town filled the middle management positions where big gaps were impacting service to residents. Five new staff have been hired in 2013: senior planner Ellen Clark and associate planner Ella Samonsky (Planning); senior civil engineer Laurie Suggang and engineering technician/inspector Lawrence Tam (Public Works); and recreation assistant Clinton Calkins (Parks and Recreation).

"I came from a much bigger agency and chose Moraga for the diversity of the things I can take charge

of," says Calkins. Suggang, who was previously in a large public works group at the county level, agrees, saying that she enjoys the different aspects of public works in Moraga – the intimate setting and the contact with the public. Tam adds that he likes the direct contact with the hierarchy. "Here you can even talk to the town manager directly," notes Clark, who remarks that Moraga may be small but the projects are large and have a complexity she enjoys. Samonsky, who just arrived from San Jose, also appreciates the transparency and open atmosphere of the small staff where everyone knows everybody else.

## Setback Solution

By Sophie Braccini

No one knows exactly how many homes were built in Moraga before November of 1980, but it is a large number. These houses, built before the town adopted its own zoning ordinance, were subject to county regulations. For current homeowners wanting to remodel their older homes the question was, which rules should apply – the town's or the county's? Moraga's municipal code was ambiguous. After months of debate and testimony from frustrated

residents, the Moraga Planning Commission decided on Oct. 7 that the rule used at the time of construction should apply to additions. The Town Council will have the final say in the matter.

Many Moraga residents have been anxiously awaiting this decision; they own homes with a certain setback, but when they planned to extend their living space, some found out that they could not do it without applying for a variance to the town's

zoning regulations; a long, uncertain and costly process.

"This issue affects a lot of people in our town, many of us purchased our homes with the understanding that the county setback would apply to us," said Moraga resident Shannon Walkman. "Some people have projects on hold ... all we want is to improve our homes and our neighborhoods." Walkman added that she even emailed the planning department to make sure that the county rules would apply to her home before she purchased it.

Making matters more complex, some homes were developed as part of a large, planned development, with setbacks that were different than the county's standard of the time. "The people who developed the Rheem Valley Manor had years of experience developing areas that are hilly," explained resident Stan Raleigh. "My entire street has a single minimum side yard setback of 5 feet, but with an aggregate of 25." He concluded

that imposing county setbacks to homeowners who want to modernize their homes now would not make sense. "Don't get hung-up on the property line, you have to consider the total layout of the land," he said.

The commission modified the proposed text to read that the front and side yard setbacks applicable to a lot which was developed before November 1980 will be the front and side yard setbacks that were in effect at the time of development, per the subdivision recorded development setbacks or the county zoning. In order to avoid ruling on Moraga Country Club homes that require a different study altogether, the commission specified that this new rule applies only to detached, single-family residences.

The Council will review the Commission's proposal at its earliest opportunity. If approved, and nobody appeals the decision, the new rules would become effective a month later.

**SAVE THE DATE - TOWN OF MORAGA STATE OF THE TOWN & VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION NIGHT THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 - 6:00 PM, MORAGA COUNTRY CLUB**

MORAGA PARKS & RECREATION  
925-888-7045 • www.moraga.ca.us

**CONTRA COSTA VETERINARY HOSPITAL**  
NOW OFFERING DAILY & OVERNIGHT BOARDING CARE FOR PETS

**(925) 376-1824**  
1025 Country Club Drive, Moraga 94556

**FREE EXAM FOR NEW CLIENTS**  
EXPIRES 12/31/13: LIMIT ONE TIME USE PER ONE PER HOUSEHOLD  
MUST PRESENT THIS AD AT CLINIC TO RECEIVE PROMO

MASSAGE BATHING PACKAGES AVAILABLE EVERYDAY

**HALLOWEEN & FALL PET TIPS**  
Keep all candy and chocolate away from pets  
Don't allow pets to play with or chew on glowsticks  
If strangers at the door in costume upset your pet, talk to your veterinarian about a possible sedative  
Make sure costumes aren't too tight or feature parts that your pet can chew off and swallow  
Keep your pets indoors on Halloween; sadly there are tales of vicious pranksters harming pets

## Looking for a New Doctor?



## There's a new Dr in Moraga

### Michelle Branchaud Simi, M.D.

Family Medicine

Specializing in Autoimmune & Chronic Disease Management, Dermatology, Cosmetic & Injury Nutrition and Home Visits

925-794-6014

1100 Moraga Way, Suite 112, Moraga

Board Certified

Member American Academy of Family Physicians

## Magic Cuts moved to Lafayette!



"After 23 years of serving the Lamorinda community in Moraga's Rheem Shopping Center, I lost my lease and we moved to Lafayette. I would like to give a big **THANK YOU** to all of my many loyal and dependable customers for coming to my new location **AND** I would also like to say a very **SPECIAL** thank you to all of my new customers as well." *Ozzie*

### Now located in Lafayette

3322 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Suite F  
**Call OZZIE: 925.389.6202**  
 Across from Lafayette Car Wash  
 Next to Casa Burrito  
 Open 7 days a week

*Providing the best European hair care in Lamorinda!*

## Family Law Litigation and Mediation

The Law Offices of Jonathan D. Larose APC

*Discreet, Settlement-Oriented, Experienced*

Offices in Walnut Creek and Fremont

Member Orinda Chamber of Commerce

Learn more at [jdlaroselaw.com](http://jdlaroselaw.com) and 866-585-6314

## Rustic or Electronic?

By Sophie Braccini

The town marquee on Moraga Road, across from the Commons Park, is rustic. Its dark wooden frame holds letters on a white background – staff manually changes the marquee's message once a week, at night so the process is invisible to residents, to keep people informed of coming events. Upgrading to a more modern way of communicating is one of the Town Council's objectives for 2013, so on Oct. 8 Jay Ingram, parks and recreation director, presented council members with a proposal to install one or more electronic signs.

"The installation of electronic signs has many potential benefits," said Ingram. "It would increase the ability to distribute important community-wide information; increase efficiency for staff; give the ability to provide a variety of messages by time of day; and offer the potential to partner with local organizations in order to reduce capital costs for installation." Ingram listed numerous organizations that use the marquee to announce their events, adding that the volume has been steadily increasing and that it is not unusual for groups to reserve marquee space three months in advance.

Ingram proposed to replace the existing marquee with an electronic

sign that could be changed remotely and would be lit. He added that such a sign would permit displaying emergency messages, notifications of town events, and would save on staff time.

Bob Reynolds of the Moraga Park Foundation agreed that the marquee has been very useful and he supported the idea of modernizing it. "I get really almost positively giddy when I think about the possibilities (of a new sign) at that location," he said. "When we advertise the summer concerts we are very limited as to what we can say. (With a new sign) we could talk about this week's concert, the specialty meals we prepare, next week's concert; for the 4th of July we could detail the program, we could also advertise classes at the library. And my understanding is that you could run many messages simultaneously on a sign like this." Reynolds recommended that staff look at Lafayette's marquee policy as it considers new guidelines – in Lafayette the use of the marquee is free but users need to provide their own displays.

Resident Ellen Beans suggested that two new marquees could be installed, one on Moraga Way, and one on St. Mary's Road.

Councilmember Roger Wykle expressed initial nostalgia for the old sign. "If there is anything that screams semi-rural, it's that sign," he said. He subsequently recognized the added functionality of an electronic sign, but warned against obnoxious luminous signage that would be out of character in Moraga, and potentially distracting for drivers.

Councilmember Michael Metcalf said he had been in town long enough to have grown tired of the old sign that according to him is nearing blight. He championed the project, which he believes can be done tastefully and will improve communication.

Mayor David Trotter recommended that staff focus first on the Moraga Road marquee then see if it could be duplicated in other locations, possibly with partners.

An initial estimate by one sign company totaled about \$37,000 per sign. Potential funding sources include the Comcast unrestricted funds – the town received a one-time distribution from Comcast in 2006. The money was placed in a separate fund and some was used to redesign the town's website in fiscal year 2010-11. The current balance is \$86,233.

## techmommy®

"A High-tech Brain with the Patience of a Mother"

\$25  
off\*

Give Your Computer a Fall Cleaning!

\*exp. 11/30

### Fast Expert Computer Help from techmommy!

- Troubleshoot any PC problem.
- Help in plain English, not tech talk.
- Virus and spyware removal, system clean-up.
- Learn all of the software on your computer.
- Master e-mail, web searches, filing, attachments.
- Pre-purchase help for computers and electronics.
- Program iPod, cell phone, Blackberry, camera, GPS.
- Set-up and configure new computer, peripherals.
- Hardware upgrades, home network repairs.
- Learn the latest software back-up techniques.
- Personal training in your home, at your pace.

help

"If your computer needs attention, call techmommy, a computer expert that can skillfully fix it. Also, techmommy guides you, teaches you, and shows you the ins and outs of your computer in no time at all!"  
 – Marian Nichols, Moraga

925-377-7711

[www.techmommy.com](http://www.techmommy.com)

Serving the Bay Area's Technology Needs Since 1985



MASON-McDUFFIE

## Real Estate...Simplified!

### 6601 Armour Drive, Oakland



Fantastic views of the Bay and Bridges from this lovely Montclair home. Move-in condition 2500 square feet with 3 bedrooms and 2.5 baths and three decks facing gorgeous views as far as the eye can see. Large front deck surrounded by greenery and rare useable yard.  
**Offered at \$900,000 by Ann Cantrell 925.639.7970 and Elizabeth Haslam 925.899.5097**

### 1681 Springbrook Road, Lafayette



This adorable 3-bedroom, 2-bath home on half an acre in the Springbrook neighborhood of Lafayette has been beautifully updated and has a peaceful and spacious backyard. Fantastic location within walking distance to Lafayette's top schools and with freeway access.  
**Available for \$725,000 by Elizabeth Haslam 925.899.5097 and Ann Cantrell 925.639.7970**

### 46 Meritage Common, #202, Livermore



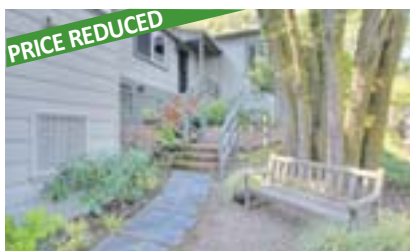
Nestled at the base of a beautiful vineyard, this home is a perfect combination of beauty and convenience. This 3-bedroom, 2-bath corner unit has lovely vistas, lots of natural light, hardwood flooring, fresh paint and many updates. Close to shopping, schools, transportation and the 580/680 split. **Offered at \$415,000 by Janine Hunt 510.409.6266.**

### 2828 Filbert, #8, Emeryville



This 1481sf, light-filled live/work loft has 1 bdr./1 bath. Loft space can be a second bedroom and/or office. The vaulted ceilings, bamboo flooring and open kitchen area make it spacious, while its 2 deeded parking spots and freeways/BART access offer convenience. Gated community with a relaxing courtyard, too. **Available for \$315,000 by Maureen Coldwell-Meuer 510.915.0092**

### 31 La Cuesta, Orinda



Carmel in Orinda! Charming 4 bedroom/2.5 bath home featuring 1903 sq. ft., beautiful wooded lot, vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors, terraced yard and flat play area. Ideal OCC location near Lake Cascade.  
**Offered at \$999,000 by Ruth Eddy. Call 925.788.5449.**

### 2926 Andrade Road, Richmond



A beautifully remodeled 4-bedroom, 2-bath home on a double-lot in desirable northeast Richmond will be available soon! This 1883 sf, one-story home has high-end finishes and comfortable interior spaces. The oversized 2-car garage and attached multi-room storage shed are finished and could be wonderful work spaces. **Offered at \$350,000 by Tania DeGroot 510.367.1422**

And here are some recent sales where we represented buyers!

- 657 Sky Ranch Court, Orinda, \$1,415,000, Ruth Eddy/Janine Hunt
- 540 Delancy Street #302, San Francisco, \$1,080,000, Kathy Wu
- 5313 Terra Granada #1B, Walnut Creek, \$709,500, Ann Cantrell
- 259 Jennifer Way, Pleasant Hill, \$685,000, Adam Hamalian
- 3304 Maybelle Way, Oakland, \$670,000, Janine Hunt
- 1700 Lucille Lane, Orinda, \$662,000, Jim Colhoun
- 35 Oak Gate Place, Pleasant Hill, \$650,000, Jim Colhoun
- 3118 Rossmoor Pkwy #3, Walnut Creek, \$600,000 Ann Cantrell
- 131 Apalachian Drive, Martinez, \$570,876 Larry Jacobs/Kress Hauri
- 233 Southwind Drive, Pleasant Hill, \$560,000, Janine Hunt
- 1240 Walker Ave. #307, Walnut Creek, \$382,000, Elizabeth Haslam
- 651 Moraga Road #11, Moraga, \$349,000, Ruth Eddy
- 1116 Singingwood Ct. #4, Walnut Creek, \$255,000, Elizabeth Haslam

## Meet our Featured Agents ...



Ruth Eddy  
925.788.5449  
[ruth.eddy@bhghome.com](mailto:ruth.eddy@bhghome.com)



Kress Hauri/Larry Jacobs  
925.899.5739/925.788.1362  
[larry.jacobs@bhghome.com](mailto:larry.jacobs@bhghome.com)  
[kress.hauri@bhghome.com](mailto:kress.hauri@bhghome.com)



Tomi Izuno  
925.890.9785  
[tizuno@comcast.net](mailto:tizuno@comcast.net)



Elizabeth Haslam/Ann Cantrell  
925.899.5097/925.639.7970  
[elizabeth.haslam@bhghome.com](mailto:elizabeth.haslam@bhghome.com)  
[ann.cantrell@bhghome.com](mailto:ann.cantrell@bhghome.com)



Sheri Wedlake  
925.324.2091  
[sheri.wedlake@bhghome.com](mailto:sheri.wedlake@bhghome.com)



MASON-McDUFFIE

51 Moraga Way, Suite 1, Orinda  
925.254.0440  
[www.bhghome.com/Orinda](http://www.bhghome.com/Orinda)

find all Agents at [www.bhghome.com/Orinda](http://www.bhghome.com/Orinda)

Our Orinda office is uniquely positioned as a gateway for sellers and buyers around the Bay Area; a central hub for our 30 Better Homes and Gardens offices.



# Orinda Civic News

## Public Meetings

### City Council

Special Meeting:  
Tuesday, Nov. 11, 7 p.m.  
Auditorium, Orinda Library,  
26 Orinda Way

### Planning Commission

Tuesday, Oct. 29, 7 p.m.  
Auditorium, Orinda Library,  
26 Orinda Way

### Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission

Wednesday, Nov. 13, 6:30 p.m.  
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,  
22 Orinda Way

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

#### City of Orinda:

www.cityoforinda.org  
Phone (925) 253-4200

#### Chamber of Commerce:

www.orindachamber.org

#### The Orinda Association:

www.orindaassociation.org

### School Board Meeting

Orinda Union School District  
Monday, Nov. 4, 6 p.m.  
OUSD Office, Vintage Building  
25 Orinda Way, Suite 200

www.orindaschools.org

See also AUHSD meeting page A2



**Orinda crime statistics were not available at press deadline.**

◆ New Owners

◆ New Attitude

◆ 30 Years in the Industry!

3344 Mt Diablo Blvd in Lafayette  
925-284-4440  
lamorindaflors.com

LAMORINDA FLOORS



Thank you for recycling this paper. It is printed on at least 50% recycled material and vegetable based ink and should be recycled again.



**Maureen Wilbur**

Direct: (925)253-6311 | [Maureen@MaureenWilbur.com](mailto:Maureen@MaureenWilbur.com) | [www.MaureenWilbur.com](http://www.MaureenWilbur.com)

CA BRE #01268536

## Selling real estate takes a true professional. Maureen Wilbur is only satisfied when her clients are!

Maureen is professional, insightful and easy to work with. Maureen had an excellent grasp of the real estate market and skillfully marketed our home in which we sold above our asking price in ten days. The sale and purchase of our homes was very easy and without a hitch. What we liked was how knowledgeable and calm Maureen always was. She knew what we needed to do and had the resources to fix up the house we were selling as well as the one we bought. We would definitely use her again. Mr. & Mrs. James C.



**33 Southwood Drive, Orinda**  
Listed at \$1,259,000 and sold for \$1,380,000



## To Pave or Not to Pave?

Orinda continues to fine tune street selection criteria for Measure L funds

By Laurie Snyder

At their monthly meeting Oct. 3, members of the City of Orinda's Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission continued discussions regarding both what the city's policy should be for prioritizing residential streets for repaving with the community's continued limited repair budget and how best to communicate that policy to Orinda's more than 17,000 residents once that policy is finally approved.

"With the adoption of Measure L," begins the current draft, "the City has an additional source of funds for road repair and reconstruction. This [half cent sales tax] Measure represents the first phase of a multi-year plan to repair all the City's streets. Even with this additional funding, current budgetary constraints and the

poor and deteriorating condition of Orinda's roads require the City to apply budgeted funds only to those residential roads where the most benefit for the most residents can be obtained."

Repair prioritization criteria currently under consideration by the CIOC include: residential street segments that are among the most heavily used – based on actual traffic counts – and segments designated among the worst residential roads with a StreetSaver Pavement Condition Index (PCI) of 25 or less with an unacceptable ride quality (with ride quality determined by an appropriate objective measure to be determined). "The road segments will be ranked in descending order of traffic volume, with the highest volume road seg-

ments forming a pool of candidate roads" for the annual pavement management program, according to the draft. The timing of underground utility work will also be factored in to minimize the need to dig up and repave up newly repaired streets.

"It may also help us to decide that segments of a road can wait," observed long-time road warrior Dennis Fay as he and his fellow commission members teased out ways to better define the concept of "ride quality." Fay urged that the same automobile should be used by staff each time that ride quality is assessed on any residential roads in order to ensure consistency of the city's measurements. Fay also noted that additional streets are now on the CIOC's radar that had not previously caught the attention of

commission members thanks to traffic count studies recently completed by city staff.

Chuck Swanson, public works director, stated that staff hope to have all of those traffic count studies completed by the end of this year. CIOC members decided to continue their fine tuning efforts, and will take another look at the draft Measure L policy at their next meeting in November.

The CIOC also heard from Swanson regarding the progress of other ongoing infrastructure projects. "The Tarabrook drainage project is moving right along. Probably in about two weeks, we'll be done with jacking and boring," said a clearly relieved Swanson.

## Spotting and Stopping Elder Fraud and Abuse – An Interview with Orinda Police Chief Scott Haggard

By Laurie Snyder

The State Bar of California reports, "As many as one in seven senior citizens nationwide falls victim to some type of elder abuse — usually at the hands of a family member." Much as Orindans would like to believe that this type of crime can't happen in America's second friendliest city, it can and does. Two cases were just recently prepared for the District Attorney's office by the investigations unit of the Orinda police department.

"There are two types of crimes that typically upset me more than others. Crimes against children, and a very close second is abuse of the elderly or dependent adults," says Scott Haggard, Orinda's police chief. "I have seen both of these types of crimes way too often, and categorize it in two different ways.

One is physical." Seniors may be neglected or left alone by their caregivers, may not be fed properly, or might even be beaten.

"The other kind is financial abuse, which is probably more prevalent." Someone could be attempting to leverage the senior out of his or her home, or a nanny or caregiver might be caught stealing. A third category – mental abuse – occurs when seniors feel threatened enough to acquiesce to whatever demands are being made by an individual who has been bullying them.

Many times, adds Haggard, it's "a silent, kept-in-the-family thing – kind of like child abuse." Incidents may increase gradually as the perpetrators grow more confident, continuing unchecked until finally caught by clergy or physicians who frequently function as the failsafe for the seniors they serve.

Unfortunately, elder and dependent adult abuse remains challenging

to prosecute.

... continued on next page

### Potential Signs of Financial Abuse:

- Signatures on checks not resembling the senior's signature, checks signed by a senior but filled out by someone else, or checks made out to "cash" at the request of someone with a caretaker responsibility for that elder.
- Signatures on financial or legal documents when the elder is physically incapable of writing, or writing of a will when the adult is mentally incapable.
- Unusually large withdrawals from a bank, withdrawals from automated teller machines when an elder is unable to visit the bank, or a sudden surge of activity in accounts which have seen little to no activity in prior years.
- Contributions made to newly formed charitable or religious organizations, or investments made in annuities or other financial products.
- Investments or large loans made in time shares or other real estate.

Sources: California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform (www.canhr.org), Investor Protection Trust (www.investorprotection.org), State Bar of California (www.calbar.ca.gov).



*Ware Designs*  
Fine Jewelry since 1977

3645 Mt. Diablo Blvd.,  
Lafayette  
between Trader Joes & the Post Office  
283-2988  
www.waredesigns.com

**50% off**  
**Watch Battery**  
Now \$5, Reg \$10  
1 watch battery per person. Exp. 11/30/13. Usually installed while you wait. Wagon. Restrictions apply.

**Tuesday-Saturday 10-6**



**RESIDENTIAL DESIGN & REMODELING**

- KITCHENS
- BATHS
- ADDITIONS
- EXTERIORS



www.CanyonDesignBuild.com | 3630 Park Blvd. Oakland CA 94610 | 510.482.0300

## Haddon

**HEATING & COOLING**

Lic #855456 The Haddon Family, Orinda Residents, Owners/Operators




**Your comfort is our #1 priority**

**Up to \$1900 in incentives now available. Call Today!**

925-521-1380

www.haddonheatingcooling.com


## Rheem Valley Convalescent Hospital & Rehabilitation



Award Winning Care & Rehab

Rheem Valley Convalescent Hospital & Rehabilitation has earned the CMS 5-Star Rating, the AHCA National Quality Bronze Award and has been ranked as one of the Best Nursing Homes by U.S. News & World Report. 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.

**Rheem Valley Convalescent Hospital & Rehabilitation**



348 Rheem Blvd, Moraga CA 94556, 925.376.5995

**Certified Green Builder**



**McCartt Construction Inc.**  
Custom Homes & Renovations

*Building in Lamorinda Since 1999*

**(925) 376-5717**

mccarttconstruction@msn.com

Orinda, CA  
Lic. # 770687



*Frank Woodward proudly presents a New Lafayette Listing*



Beautiful  
Burton Valley  
6 BR, 4 full BA  
Apprx 3,000 sqft  
Flat yard, pool

More at  
**3189LucasCircle.com**

Offered at  
\$1,495,000

*Integrity  
Knowledge  
Results*



925.788.4963

Frank@FrankWoodward.com



**Frank Woodward**  
LamorindaValues.com

BRE# 01335916. ©2013 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office is owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. BRE License # 01908304

# Spotting and Stopping Elder Fraud and Abuse

... continued from page A6

Victims are often isolated and, even with anonymous tips, police may be unable to gain access. Successful intervention generally happens when there is a 911 call. Plus, knowledge that a family member or caregiver is not behaving as usual may also make some reluctant to reach out for relief. In the cases he has investigated, Haggard has noticed that those harming elders would never normally behave in an abusive manner, but are often being driven by an addiction to alcohol or drugs.

And even when police do connect, the person in trouble may still refuse to take action. "Many elders are unwilling to cooperate with law enforcement because they're afraid that the alternative means being separated from their families and placed in nursing homes," he says. This

hesitancy is particularly frustrating because there are trustworthy resources available to help. Contra Costa County operates several hotlines, including the Senior Fraud Fighter Bureau, Senior Legal Services and Seniors Against Investment Fraud.

"If we can get them into the system and work with Adult Protective Services and provide a pathway to sobriety – or maybe even skills in handling finances," Haggard explains, families can turn challenging situations around. "The object is certainly not to punish. It's to try to stop it and repair it – and heal the family."

The point of all this, reads the Adult Protective Services website, is to keep seniors independent and in their homes as long as possible. "One thing APS cannot do is take an elder or dependent

adult out of the home and place them in 'protective custody.' All services provided by APS are voluntary and can be declined by the elder or dependent adult." If need be, the reporting party's identity can be kept confidential.

"If you see a recurrent pattern, it warrants an investigation," urges Haggard. "The problem needs to end. It's a serious and severe crime."

To learn more about how you can keep the seniors in your life safe, call Orinda police at: (925) 254-6820, or visit the State Bar of California: [www.calbar.ca.gov/Public/Pamphlets/ElderAbuse.aspx](http://www.calbar.ca.gov/Public/Pamphlets/ElderAbuse.aspx). To contact Adult Protective Services in Contra Costa County, call: (925) 646-2854, or visit: [www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=914](http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=914).

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community. **Send a letter to the editor:** [letters@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:letters@lamorindaweekly.com)

# Theater View Veterinary Clinic



"Dr. Laurie" Langford

Theater View Veterinary Clinic is a brand new facility owned by "Dr. Laurie" Langford who has been caring for animals in Orinda for 15 years.



Phone: (925) 317-3187

Fax: (925) 334-7017

Email: [tvvc@theaterviewvetclinic.com](mailto:tvvc@theaterviewvetclinic.com)

[www.theaterviewvetclinic.com](http://www.theaterviewvetclinic.com)

**1 Bates Blvd., Suite 200, Orinda**

# COLDWELL BANKER *Orinda*

The Real Estate Firm people trust



Habitat build volunteers pictured above: Suzanne Geoffrion, Michele McKay, Jon Woodcox, Quinn Berg, Chad Morrison, Cathy Schultheis, Tracey Fordahl, Kirsten Buckley, Mia Remar, Kathryn O'Donnell, Karen Lewis, Jim McGill, Lance Burke, DeAnne Gleidt, Brittney Gleidt, Lisa Gardelle

*We did it!*

Coldwell Banker Staff,  
Sales Associates,  
Clients and local  
Lamorinda businesses  
raised over \$11,000 to  
support Habitat for  
Humanity Homes and  
Hope.

Thank you!

- Maram Bata | Glenn & Kellie Beaubelle | Quinn Berg | Nancy Booth | Andi Brown | Patti Camras | Cynthia Coito | Val Cook-Watkins | Val Durantini | Jim Ellis | Jason Evans | Finola Fellner | Tracey Fordahl | Dick Holt | Larry & Elena Hood | Tina Jones | Shellie Kirby | Karen Lewis | Michele McKay | Lynn Molloy | Chad Morrison | Walter Nelson | Suzi O'Brien | Kathryn & Mike O'Donnell | Diane Petek | Lilli Rath | Dana Reedy | Susan Schlicher | Melanie Snow | Tom Stack | Steve Stahle | Ted Streeter | Nancy Stryker | Jerry Wendt | Corey Wilson | Frank Woodward | Ana Zimmank
- Casa Orinda | Danielle Cirelli | Entourage | G Reedy Wines | Kirby Carpet & Upholstery | La Piazza | Lafayette Car Wash | Lafayette Town Theatre | LeapFrog Plumbing | Miguel Resendiz Painting | Mt. Diablo Garden & Nursery | Nikolene Isley | Oakland Zoo | Orchard Nursery & Florist | Orinda Auto Detail | Orinda Country Club | Princeton Capital | Shelby's | Table 24 | The Olympic Club, SF | Transaction Services by Wendy Tam

Whether it is helping you with your real estate needs or building homes and hope in our community, you can depend on Coldwell Banker Orinda the Bay Area's real estate leader.

5 Moraga Way | Orinda | 925.253.4600  
2 Theatre Square, Suite 211 | Orinda | 925.253.6300



[californiamoves.com](http://californiamoves.com)



## STOP CLEANING Get Gutter Guards!

- Fits all sizes of gutters
- 10 year No-Clog Warranty
- High quality aircraft alloy
- We will clean and repair your gutters before installation of your new guards

Licensed & Insured #939838

### Fall Special - 20% OFF

The Gutter Guard Company

925-247-7044

www.bayareagutterguards.com

## Letters to the Editor



Share your thoughts with our community! Opinions in Letters to the Editor are the express views of the writer and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly. All published letters will include the writer's name and city/town of residence -- we will only accept letters from those who live in, or own a business in, the communities comprising Lamorinda (please give us your phone number for verification purposes only).

Letters should be 350 words or less; letters of up to 500 words will be accepted on a space-available basis.

email: [letters@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:letters@lamorindaweekly.com); Regular mail: Lamorinda Weekly, P.O.Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570

Editor:

Waking up to a crisp Moraga Fall morning and seeing the sun rise over the beautiful hillsides. Listening to the owls hoot, the turkeys gobble and the cows moo as I go through my day. Watching the kids walk safely, and happily to school each morning. Chatting with neighbors and friends on the fields, in the stands and on the pool deck. Running on the trails behind Rancho Laguna Park with my best friend (who I met when I moved here). These are the things that I love about Moraga.

But all of that could change on November 5th, if Moraga does not support Measure B -- a six-year, parcel tax in the amount of \$192 per year to help fund the Moraga School District. It won't change everything overnight, but will begin to change the fabric of our community.

Sacramento continues to short change towns like ours and the funding never seems to make it back to Moraga (or Orinda or Lafayette for that matter). That is why I am voting Yes on Measure B. It is local, it goes directly to our school programs, and it helps ensure that Moraga's children will continue to get one of the best educations in our state for years to come. Without strong schools, Moraga will no longer attract the kinds of families that value a great education. And while the beautiful crisp Fall mornings, and owls, turkeys and cows will all still be here -- the people that make this town a great place to live will be forced to look elsewhere.

Please vote Yes on Measure B and keep Moraga a great place to both live and learn!

Denise Duff

Moraga

Editor:

When my husband got a great job offer in the Bay Area more than 40 years ago, I reluctantly moved from the East Coast with a condition that we would go home after one year. We fell in love with this amazing, little town called Moraga and eventually built our dream house. Our children grew up here, went to school here, left for college and we are lucky that our daughter came back to raise her family here.

We gave a lot of time and money to the schools when my kids were young because we wanted the best for them. And now that we are older, it would be easy to say "we have done our part". But the reality is that our Moraga Schools, and more importantly the children of Moraga, need our continued support. Whether your kids are still making their way through college, starting their careers, or raising a family of their own, it is all of our responsibility to keep our Moraga schools strong. It was done for us and we need to continue to support the schools and our community, because that is the prudent thing to do. I am voting Yes on Measure B and urge you to join me. Great schools in Moraga are good for the whole community. In addition, the excellence of our schools keep our property values high. In the long run the passage of Measure B will put more money in our pockets than it takes out.

Janet Forman

Moraga

Editor:

I am proud to admit that I was a teacher in the Moraga School District for 37 years! My career was highlighted in 2002 when I was chosen as an outstanding teacher by the Warren W. Eukel Teacher Trust. I served as president of the Moraga Teachers Association and participated on the Negotiating team for six year, chairing the team twice.

My children all attended Moraga schools and have graduated from major universities with advanced degrees. Their elementary education prepared them for competitive academic careers. Moraga has educated astronauts and Olympians! I am now privileged to have my grandchildren living in Moraga and attending school here. I want the best education for them as their parents received!

Recently literature was mailed to select Moraga residents advocating voting NO on measure B. This is a democracy and others have their opinions. However, it is disturbing that this information was distributed with incorrect information/assumptions, and had no return address or creator's name. Teachers' pensions are received from STRS (not CalStars) and are the result of contributions made by the District and teachers. The more years a teacher contributes, the higher the retirement benefit. After retirement, the Moraga School District makes no contribution to retiree's benefits. Therefore, the \$532,699 mentioned in the flier is not money from the District budget. I doubt the truthfulness of these figures since my STRS account is confidential and can only be accessed by password. For many years Alberta Svendsen was a treasured kindergarten teacher in Moraga and her husband taught in the Acalanes High School District. To my knowledge, she was never an administrator as stated on the flier.

From my years of association with the Moraga School District I have not seen any waste of school funds. As a negotiator, I have studied many a budget. The District has been fiscally responsible in its programs and expenditures. Since my first year in 1969 I have seen state funds reduced consistently, program cut-backs and staff reductions.

As property owners in Moraga for 69 years, my family has voted for parcel tax increases because we value the quality education received, the valuation of our property and the advantages our family earned from living in this community. I would like to see the quality of education in Moraga remain outstanding for my grandchildren and for future generations.

Susan Johnson-Sperry

Moraga

Editor:

Here we go again in Moraga with signs and mailers that can't be traced to their source. Opposing the Measure B school tax is acceptable if we know who is doing the opposing and if their information is accurate. The leader of the movement is anonymous and one of the active subordinates doesn't even live in Moraga. The mailer they sent out is misleading in that it frightens voters into thinking that the pensions for retired school superintendents are paid by the Moraga School District. The truth is that these pensions are paid by the California State Teachers Retirement System. The School District pays nothing after they retire and it has no unfunded pension liability. The mailer's list of superintendents' salaries also is misleading, although it does show that Moraga's superintendent's salary is the lowest of the districts listed. However, a comparison of total compensation would show a greater difference because the others typically receive things like health insurance, relocation allowances, and car allowances. All that Moraga's superintendent receives is his basic salary and a \$75 monthly cell phone allowance. I'm told that he has yet to receive a raise because things are tight and the district is trying to squeeze as much as possible out of declining revenue. For education. For the children.

I recognize that many voters of my generation (age 77, a 34-year resident of Moraga) resent the size of some public pensions, but let us address that issue separately. It shouldn't be used as an excuse to vote against needed funding for our schools. Every penny of the Measure B revenue will go to support classroom instruction. None of the money can be used for administrative salaries. We shouldn't be voting on pensions in this election. We should vote yes to make up for reduced funding from the State. That is the issue here.

Dale Walwark

Moraga

Editor:

"[F]rustrated and weary" are the words used to describe Orinda City Council members attending an October 1 city-council meeting that examined Orinda's Housing Element (Lamorinda Weekly, Oct. 9).

The Housing Element is a plan that "is intended to benefit all Orinda households, with a particular emphasis on seniors, persons with disabilities, and persons of low and moderate incomes" (City Council Staff Report, Sept. 17, 2013).

Page 35 of the report (also designated as page 3-25) lists several categories of income. "Extremely Low" income is defined as a median household income of \$26,790 per year. "Very Low Income" is defined as \$44,650 per year.

The Staff Report does not explain how income is verified or calculated. For example, the report does not state if income levels are verified by examining a low-income person's recent tax returns (assuming there are such returns).

With low-income households, there may be additional government-provided income derived from food stamps, housing allowances (often called Section 8 money), medical benefits (called Medi-Cal in California), and energy assistance grants. Some or all of this government-provided income may not be taxable. The Staff Report does not address the calculation of income.

A low-income person could be asset-rich. Such a person could have huge assets in gold coins stored in Canada. These coins could easily be converted into American dollars and brought back to Orinda. The report does not mention if Orinda will be examining a low-income person's total assets.

There is nothing wrong with low-income people living in Orinda or anywhere else.

However, there are plenty of objections to Orinda's failure to determine if a low-income person is really a low-income individual.

Richard S. Colman

Orinda

**ADULT DAY PROGRAM**  
for those with Alzheimer's or other related dementias

- STIMULATING ACTIVITIES
- LIVE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT
- GAMES
- CRAFTS
- EXERCISE
- FRIENDSHIP

**New Expanded Facilities!**

**LARC**  
LAMORINDA ADULT RESPITE CENTER

**925-254-3465**  
433 Moraga Way Orinda www.holyshepherd.org

**CALVIN CRAIG LANDSCAPING**

- GARDEN DESIGN AND PLANNING
- CUSTOM LANDSCAPE INSTALLATION
- EXPERT GARDENING AND HORTICULTURE

**AWARD-WINNING SERVICE**

- ATTENTION TO DETAIL
- LOW-MAINTENANCE DESIGN
- CLIENT-FOCUSED
- SUSTAINABLE
- PLACE-APPROPRIATE
- SINCE 1988

WWW.CRAIGLANDSCAPING.COM  
925-935-5269  
CL# 545003

INDEPENDENTLY RATED  
Highest in Quality

### Join our Public Forum

If you have significant knowledge about an issue facing Lamorinda or one of its cities that requires more than the 350 words to which we must limit Letters to the Editor, don't despair! You can submit your letter to our Public Forum section. Just send your letter to [letters@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:letters@lamorindaweekly.com) and let us know you'd like to be considered for the Public Forum.





**Lisa Brydon & Kristi Ives**

Top 1% of Lamorinda Realtors ~ Local Residents



TWO WORKING FOR YOU

**Why choose the Brydon & Ives Team?**

- Years of proven success.
- Local residents.
- Top 1% of Lamorinda Realtors year after year.
- Relocation Specialists.
- Integrity & Community Commitment.

**92 Devin Drive, Moraga**



**Beautiful Park-like Setting  
PENDING Represented Buyers**

List Price: \$ 1,099,000

**171 Corliss Drive, Moraga**



**Upscale Moraga Traditional  
PENDING Represented Buyers**

List Price: \$ 1,598,000



2 Theatre Square, Ste. 215, Orinda BRE#: 01408025/01367466  
925.438.2053 www.BrydonIvesTeam.com



**MOFD Board Approves Staffing Cuts**

By Nick Marnell

After requesting public input at two financial workshops, and despite being divided on the specifics of the implementation, the board of directors authorized fire chief Stephen Healy to put into effect a staffing model that may result in service reductions for the Moraga-Orinda Fire District. The new plan will lower the number of daily on-duty safety personnel at the district's five fire stations from 19 to 17. The directors unanimously passed the motion Oct. 16.

The district's current staffing model includes five fire engines, one full-time ambulance each in Moraga and Orinda, and one cross-staffed ambulance. The cross-staffed ambulance – an ambulance staffed by the crew of the station's engine company – resides at station 44 in Orinda. Under Healy's recommended staffing model, which he presented at an

Orinda community workshop prior to the meeting, the district will employ three cross-staffed ambulances at the Orinda stations, with a full-time ambulance at station 41 in Moraga. The engine-only company at station 42 will remain unchanged. The proposed model – labeled "17-2" – will result in a reduction of two on-duty employees per day but will require the purchase of an additional ambulance.

"It's the quickest way to make a difference," said John Wyro, board president. The district is staring at a third consecutive year of red ink, and the revised staffing model is estimated to save more than \$70,000 a month in operating costs.

Not everyone saw the solution as so simple and obvious.

"How much money are you trying to save?" asked Vince Wells, president of Local 1230, United

Professional Firefighters of Contra Costa County. "Maybe we can find the money other than in service reductions and personnel costs." The district is forecast to lose \$950,000 this fiscal year.

Even the board members did not agree on the details of a new staffing model. Though he voted with the board to pass the motion authorizing service reductions, director and northwest Orinda resident Alex Evans was vehemently opposed to the plan that Healy recommended. "I'm not voting for 17-2. Not today, not next week, not ever," he said. The proposal also disturbed MOFD union representative and Orindan Mark DeWeese. "Orinda will see a service reduction with 17-2," he said.

Others cautioned that additional senior housing was coming to Orinda, which may put a strain on MOFD

services if they are cut back there. And a citizen wondered aloud how the new staffing model will be affected if "station 43 becomes 46," the proposed station on the Lafayette-Orinda border that would be jointly owned by two fire partners.

"Yes, everything needs to be on the table," said Wyro. "(17-2) is not the only thing that we will look at."

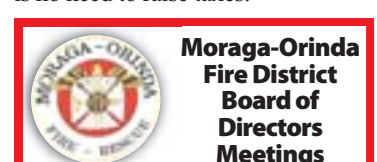
"We are at great risk," added Evans. "Other things that we may have to do will be much worse."

One of the first orders of business for the district is to discuss the proposed changes with the firefighters union. So, before any action is taken, Healy and Wells will meet and confer over the effect of the proposed

changes on firefighters' workloads and their safety.

Wyro did find a positive for district residents amidst all of the uncomfortable news that was shared that evening.

"We will be able to handle this problem ourselves," he said. "There is no need to raise taxes."



**Next meeting:**  
**Wednesday, Nov. 6**  
(Go to www.mofd.org as the meeting date approaches for location and more information)

**More fire district news on pages A11 and A14**

**BUY NEW.  
BUY NOW.**



**We Pay the Closing Costs\***

Taylor Morrison will pay Buyer's closing costs on all new home purchases at Marquis. Don't delay - this limited time offer won't last long. Buy now and start enjoying your Marquis dream home today!



**Marquis**

*in Lafayette*  
(925) 357-4241  
1,967 - 2,074 sq. ft.  
4 beds • 3.5 baths  
**From the high \$700,000s**

[taylor Morrison.com](http://taylor Morrison.com)



\*Offer valid at participating Taylor Morrison Sacramento communities only. Valid on new contracts written between 10/14/2013 and 11/30/2013 only. Seller will pay all applicable Closing Costs at Closing, excluding discount points or pre-pays, if qualified buyer utilizes Seller's Approved Lender, Taylor Morrison Home Funding, LLC; CA DOC #4131114; NMLS #149227. Total closing cost contribution credited at Closing and subject to Seller's contribution limitations based on mortgage program and loan to value guidelines. All loans are subject to underwriting and loan qualification of the lender. Services not available in all states. Rates, terms and conditions offered are subject to change without notice. Additional licensing, disclaimers and other details, including special financing incentives (as applicable), may be found at www.taylorMorrison.com. Offer void where prohibited or otherwise restricted by law. All incentives, pricing, availability and plans subject to change or delay without notice, and pricing does not include options, upgrades, lot or elevation premiums. Square footage is estimated and may vary in actual construction. Limited time offer, additional restrictions and limitations may apply. Please see a Taylor Morrison Sales Associate for details. Taylor Morrison Services, Inc., BRE #00968975. © October 2013, Taylor Morrison of California, LLC. All rights reserved. 10/23/13

**GET AHEAD IN MATH THIS YEAR**

**WHEN MATH MAKES SENSE, YOU SUCCEED!**

**MATHNASIUM**  
The Math Learning Center

**GRADES K-12**  
Pre-Algebra • Algebra 1 & 2 • Geometry  
Pre-Calculus & Calculus  
SAT/ACT Preparatory  
Individualized Instruction

**HOMework HELP FOR ALL LEVELS**  
*Flat Monthly Fee*  
*Drop-in any time, no scheduling needed!*

**1 WEEK FREE TUTORING & HOMEWORK HELP**  
Must present coupon. New students only.

3435 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette  
(Golden Gate Way at Mt. Diablo Blvd.)  
(925) 283-4200 www.mathnasium.com

**Position Available:  
Sports Reporter**

Lamorinda Weekly is looking for a sports reporter to cover a variety of high school, college and club sports. A journalism background and understanding of AP Style is helpful, but not required. Please send your resume and writing sample to wendy@lamorindaweekly.com or call (925) 377-0977; \$50-\$75 per published article.

**LAMORINDA WEEKLY**

**Community Service**

We are pleased to make space available whenever possible for some of Lamorinda's dedicated community service organizations to submit news and information about their activities. Submissions can be sent to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com) with the subject header In Service to the Community.

**Brothers Take CPR Training to Las Lomas High School Honoring Wrestler's Memory**

Submitted by Sandy Lilienstein



Las Lomas High School nurse Kathleen Mooney, De La Salle High School student Jake Lilienstein, Las Lomas High School student Akmal Khakimov, and Acalanes High School student Brian Lilienstein stand with a CPR mannequin. Photo Sandy Lilienstein

Brothers Brian and Jake Lilienstein wanted to honor the memory of wrestler Amir Khakimov, a beloved Las Lomas High School student who passed away last May. Amir's younger brother, Akmal Khakimov, joined the brothers and helped train 400 Las Lomas freshman students led by school nurse, Kathleen Mooney and David Lilienstein, MD. The program was such a success Las Lomas will have their sophomore class also trained. The CPR mannequins belong to Acalanes High School and were gifted by the City of Lafayette and Acalanes Boosters through a program started by Acalanes student

Brian Lilienstein with the help of Athletic Director Chris Clark and school nurse Dvora Citron. Brian raised an additional \$500 for Las Lomas, through a donation from Fertility Bridges. Las Lomas was then able to purchase 14 CPR mannequins to seed their program. Through Brian's project, Acalanes High School now has bystander CPR training built into freshmen physical education classes and Las Lomas is hoping to raise additional funds to support a sustainable CPR training for their students, too. By December 2013, their community service program will have trained over 1,500 students.

**Annual Rummage Sale Benefits Local Charities**

Submitted by Christy Mack



Photo provided

The Lafayette Juniors 20th Annual Rummage Sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2 at Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive in Lafayette. A special early bird entrance from 7 to 8 a.m. is available for \$3 per adult. The sale, which benefits First Place for Youth, the Lafayette Library, SEED, STAND and Twin Canyon Camp, will feature pre-loved designer clothes, baby and kid clothes, toys, and gear, furniture, household goods, and much more. "Each of these non-profit organizations provides exceptional support to children and families in Contra Costa and neighboring East Bay counties," says Christy Mack. Cash only. For more information, visit [www.lafayettejuniors.org](http://www.lafayettejuniors.org).

**SMGA Golf Tournament to Benefit Food Bank**

Submitted by Doug Brown and Rich Larsen

The Moraga Senior Golf Association (SMGA) is hosting a major fundraising golf tournament Nov. 7 at the Moraga Country Club to raise money for the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano. This tournament will help provide turkeys and food to needy families during the holiday season. A private foundation has already pledged \$5,000 to benefit the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano and to supplement the Moraga Country Club (MCC) contribution. Individuals have also offered to sponsor the event with \$1,000 contributions. The format for this event will be a Shamble. Breakfast will be provided prior to an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start. At the end of the round, lunch will be provided and awards and prizes will be given.

SMGA is encouraging the support of all MCC golfing groups – Seniors, MWGA, Niners, MGA, the "Bulls" and any non-affiliated golfer – and hopes to have 100 golfers from MCC participate. There will be space for some additional golfers. The cost is \$75 per person (MCC members); \$125 (non-MCC members), which includes golf cart, range balls and the two meals. Cost for guests who do not wish to play golf, but would like to join the group for lunch and donate to a worthy cause, is \$40 per person. All MCC members, not just golfers, are encouraged to make donations to this charitable event. For information, contact co-chairmen Doug Brown at [tahoedoug@hotmail.com](mailto:tahoedoug@hotmail.com) or Rich Larsen at [rlarsoni@hotmail.com](mailto:rlarsoni@hotmail.com).

**New Eagle Scouts for Troop 233**

Submitted by Emily Hause Brooks



From left, Daniel Cook, Mitch Brooks, and Mitchell Chow Photo provided

Boy Scout Troop 233 announced its most recent Eagle Scout rank awards for Mitchell Brooks, Mitchell Chow and Daniel Cook. These three

Scouts will receive their Eagle Scout awards at a national court of honor on Saturday, Nov. 23 at Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church. For their Eagle Scout Service Projects, Brooks built a 75-foot-long two-rail fence for Castle Rock Regional Recreation Area in Walnut Creek; Chow painted a map of the United States as well as a large map of California at Glorietta Elementary School in Orinda; and Cook constructed a brick fire pit and a covered wood storage shed at the Wagner Ranch Nature Area in Orinda. All three Scouts earned their Eagle awards under the leadership of Scoutmaster Don Larwood with the Assistance of Bruce McGurk and Wes Riggins.

**sewnow!**  
fashion studio

**Fashion Design & Sewing Classes**

Adults, Kids, Teens - Beginner to Advanced



**Learn new skills, express your creativity, and have lots of fun!**

Kids + Teens + Adults - Learn to design and make your own fashions:  
Fashion Clothing - new! Teen Group - Modern Quilts - Holiday Gifts  
Winter Break Camps  
4 week or 7 week sessions & 2 hour workshops

[www.sewnow.com](http://www.sewnow.com)  
3534 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette (925) 283-7396 info@sewnow.com

**Girl Scout Ambassador Works to Keep Library Materials Pristine**

Submitted by Teresa Lo



Image provided

Girl Scout Ambassador of Lafayette Girl Scout Troop 31042 Teresa Lo, a senior at Acalanes High School, has worked on a Girl Scout Gold Award Project over the past year titled, "How to Take Care of Your Library," and addresses the abuse of library materials. "With the guidance of my Advisor, Mrs. Kimberli Buckley, I created some media to help achieve this goal," Lo said. "These include posters, bookmarks, and a video. I submitted those to Marissa Comins, the librarian of Lafayette Elementary School, to distribute and show to her students at the beginning of this school year." Lo also delivered posters and bookmarks to the Happy Valley, Burton Valley, and Springhill elementary school libraries, the Stanley Middle School library, and the San Pablo Public Library. "Instead of replacing or repairing damaged items," Lo said, "a library could use its budget to acquire new materials or technology and the whole school community benefits from the project."

# Task Force Speaks Out

By Nick Marnell

In response to the district's recent request for public input, the most visible and critical of the community groups that go toe-to-toe with the Moraga-Orinda Fire District has offered suggestions to the district on how to properly present its financial situation to the public ... and to do it soon.

"Hands-on leadership is missing in the district," said Orinda Emergency Services Task Force member Diana Stephens, speaking of the MOFD board of directors. The group complained that, despite the bleak financial situation, it took the district's finance committee nearly one year to meet. And Steve Cohn, the task force member who parses the district's financial data, pointed out what he interpreted were serious flaws in the district's recently released long-range financial plan.

The task force is a self-appointed grass roots organization of Orinda citizens. In 2012 the group delivered a formal presentation to the MOFD that criticized its response times and its unfunded pension liability, and demanded that what it perceived was the subsidizing by Orinda of Moraga's costs for emergency services be stopped.

"I'm not convinced that the district knows the true value of its liabilities," said Cohn. "MOFD needs to confirm its unfunded pension liability, and find out what it will really cost to bring that liability down." He indicated that the district may need to get an outside opinion to find that answer.

Cohn then suggested three revisions to the district's long-range financial plan, which he says understates MOFD liabilities by more than \$30 million over the next 15 years.

Property tax revenue should be increased at a 5 percent rate, rather than the 4 percent rate used in the plan, said Cohn. And if expenses increase not at annual average of 1.7 percent but at 2.62 percent - which he said was the average Bay Area inflation index of the past 15 years - he

noted that "the two revisions should produce a net benefit of \$6.5 million."

For the unfunded pension liability, Cohn said that, if the district's current debt of more than \$45 million is paid down to \$23 million in 15 years, as stated in the plan, it will take \$3 million more in payments. "This is not a big difference," he said. "But they should get their math right."

Cohn singled out the district's other post-employment benefits unfunded liability, which consists mainly of retiree health benefits, as the largest miscalculation in the plan. The discounted liability should be \$31 million, not the \$11.9 million that MOFD reports, said Cohn. He claimed that the \$24 million liability that he said was calculated in a 2009 actuarial accounting of the other post-employment benefits has increased 30 percent. To totally fund this liability would take \$48 million, he said, not the \$14 million the MOFD plan assumes. "How does MOFD think they can pay off what was \$24 million in 2009, and has increased 30 percent since then, with \$14 million?" said Cohn.

The net result of the revenue increase, correctly amortizing the pension liability and paying off the current other post-employment benefit liability is more than \$30 million, according to the task force.

The group acknowledged that a reduced staff and lower wages and benefits were the only methods for the district to achieve any real operational cost savings. "Cut salaries by 10 percent, and cut medical by 20 percent," said Stephens.

Both Stephens and Cohn did concede that, despite what they noted as its flaws, the long-range financial plan was a good starting point for prudent fiscal management by the district. The latest version of the MOFD long-range financial plan is available online at www.mofd.org; the task force response can be found at www.orindataskforce.org.

## NEED HELP NAVIGATING THE MARKET... The Right Broker Makes All The Difference



**DAVID PIERCE**  
BROKER-REALTOR  
925 . 254 . 5984

Rewarding  
Real Estate Outcomes  
for Lamorinda Since 1987

david.pierce@cbnorcal.com  
web | www.davidpierce.net  
5 Moraga Way | Orinda  
BRE #00964185



©2013 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office is owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. BRE License # 01908304

"David Pierce just recently sold my home in Orinda very quickly and for more than the asking price. His vast experience in the world of real estate enabled him to obtain five solid bids for my home, which led to a very satisfactory sale."  
  
"I would not hesitate to highly recommend Mr. Pierce to anyone looking for a realtor."  
  
**JOANNE FRUDDEN**

**Celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** *Thank you Lamorinda*

Offering Complete Systems, Upgrades & Universal Remote Solutions  
Proudly Serving The Lamorinda Community Since 2002

**SOUNDWORKS**

Free-In-Home Estimates  
**925-209-7001**  
P.O. Box 365  
Moraga, CA 94556

**Boston Acoustics**  
**marantz**  
**Panasonic** Ideas for Life  
**PREMIERE**

### Films and Events Schedule\* | Location

#### Thursday, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>

5:30PM   <b>Opening Night Reception</b> 2013 Slate Awards Presentation	Rheem
7:00PM   <b>Le Week-End</b> (93 min, Comedy/Drama)	Rheem

#### Friday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>

1:00PM   <b>Short Program A</b> (89 min)	Rheem
1:00PM   <b>Short Program B</b> (104 min)	Orinda
3:00PM   <b>Short Program C</b> (80 min)	Rheem
3:30PM   <b>Sapporo Shorts</b> (92 min)	Orinda
6:00PM   <b>Garibaldi's Lovers</b> (108 min, Comedy)	Rheem
6:00PM   <b>Short Program D</b> (97 min)	Orinda
8:15PM   <b>Broken</b> (90 min, Drama)	Orinda
8:30PM   <b>Key of Life</b> (128 min, Comedy)	Rheem
9:30PM   <b>Festival Social CAIFF Lounge</b>	Orinda

#### Saturday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>

10:00AM   <b>Iron Filmmaker Contest</b>	Rheem
12:30PM   <b>Short Program B</b> (104 min)	Rheem
1:00PM   <b>Short Program A</b> (89 min)	Orinda
1:30PM   <b>Sapporo Shorts</b> (92 min)	Rheem
3:00PM   <b>Wet Behind the Ears</b> (90 min, Comedy)	Rheem
3:30PM   <b>Desert Runners</b> (92 min)	Orinda
4:00PM   <b>Short Program D</b> (97 min)	Rheem
5:15PM   <b>Coldwater</b> (104 min, Drama/Thriller)	Rheem
6:00PM   <b>G.B.F.</b> (98 min, Comedy)	Orinda
6:00PM   <b>We the Owners</b> (52 min)	Rheem
7:30PM   <b>A River Changes Course</b> (83 min)	Rheem
7:45PM   <b>Along the Roadside</b> (108 min, Comedy)	Rheem
8:00PM   <b>Love or Whatever</b> (84 min, Comedy)	Orinda
10:00PM   <b>American Pie</b> (95 min, Comedy) Q&A with Thomas Ian Nicholas	Orinda
10:00PM   <b>Saturday Night Party</b>	Shelby's Orinda Theatre Square

#### Sunday, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>

11:00AM   <b>Rookie of the Year</b> (120 min) Q&A with Thomas Ian Nicholas (Kids Program)	Rheem
11:00AM   <b>Bay Area Showcase of Shorts</b> (82 min)	Orinda
1:15PM   <b>Valentine Road</b> (89 min)	Orinda
1:30PM   <b>Bullying in Schools</b> (120 min) Q&A with Bruce Burns and Heidi Hoihn Felt	Rheem
3:15PM   <b>Bluebird</b> (90 min, Drama)	Orinda
4:00PM   <b>Short Program C</b> (80 min)	Rheem
6:00PM   <b>Closing Night</b>	Orinda
6:00PM   <b>Jackpot</b> (86 min, Action/Comedy)	Orinda

Special Event   Features   Documentaries   Shorts

### SIXTEENTH ANNUAL

# CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT

## FILM FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 7-10

THE ORINDA THEATRE • THE RHEEM THEATRE  
56 FILMS, DOCUMENTARIES AND SHORT FILMS

### Movie Reviews by Adam Reeves

#### Along The Roadside

Playing at The Rheem Theatre –  
Sat., Nov. 9 – 7:45pm

This is a must see movie!



A man named Varnie (Iman Crosson) picks up a female hitch hiker named Nena (Angelina Hantsch) while driving on a journey to escape his past and his responsibilities. The dialogue and interaction between this odd pair as they travel together on the road make one great story. The story is told lightly and believably by the great ensemble cast directed superbly by Zoran Lisinac. Every character is real and yet so unbelievable in their encounters and situations.

The people they encounter include Michael Madsen (from "Kill Bill" fame) who comes in one of the funnier pit stops in the film. You will feel like you are the "third" person on this trip as you sit back and enjoy getting to know your traveling companions and the adventures they will take you on. There are so many clever elements in this film it is well worth seeing. The movie starts a little too slow – but give it about seven minutes and you will be glad you stayed for the entire 108 minutes.

#### Ticket Prices

General admission .....	\$12.00
Opening Night Reception & Movie .....	\$50.00
Opening Night Movie Only .....	\$15.00
Closing Night Film and Reception .....	\$20.00

#### G.B.F.

Playing at The Orinda Theatre –  
Sat., Nov. 9 – 6:00pm

Pure entertainment based on adolescent humor



The newest and latest fashion accessory that you must have is a Gay Best Friend (G.B.F.). Who knew? Well, obviously the most popular girls at the local high school found this out and now they want to accessorize!

The witch hunt is on to find a gay student (Tanner played by Michael Willett). Once found, the three most popular girls - Fawcett (Sasha Pieterse), Caprice (Xosha Roquemore), and 'Shley (Andrea Bowen) - compete to make him their own pet. The competition, the cat fights, and the shallowness of each of the senior females in their pursuit to accessorize are what makes up the majority of the humor in this film.

A big shout out to the actors playing the parents and adults in this film, they each steal any scenes they appear in. Tanner's parents (Rebecca Gayheart and Jonathan Silverman) are hilarious when Tanner decides to "come out" to them. And the ever supportive mom of Tanner's best friend Brent (Paul Iacono) is played by Megan Mullally from "Will and Grace" fame and she will have you falling out of your chair laughing!

G.B.F. is 92 minutes

#### Purchase Tickets Now:

On sale at Rheem or Orinda Theatre Box Offices  
or online at www.caiff.org.

PICKUP A FESTIVAL GUIDE AT YOUR THEATRE OR GO TO WWW.CAIFF.ORG

## business briefs

**Jennifer Lenfestey Takes Over the Rheem Valley Pet Shoppe**  
388 Park St., Moraga  
(925) 376-8399



Jennifer Lenfestey, Rheem Valley Pet Shoppe. Photo Sophie Braccini

At the beginning of October, the Rheem Valley Pet Shoppe changed ownership when Jorge Quintero sold his longtime business to store manager Jennifer Lenfestey. "I plan to continue to run the store with the same types of products and expand the inventory across the board by 25 percent," says Lenfestey, who was Quintero's employee for 17 years and the Moraga store manager for six. She also re-hired Carolyn Green who is a very active member of East Bay Rabbit Rescue. "We are expanding our business, offering small rescue animals," says Lenfestey, adding that rabbits will be available at the store, as well as guinea pigs and gerbils. "You might even see lizards and an occasional Leopard gecko," she adds with a smile. The store will continue to carry fish, and aquarium plant choices should grow. "We are also adding new lines of dog toys, new rabbit bedding," she adds,

"and we will start a new frequent buyer program soon." The pet shop will renew its involvement with the community and the schools, such as Canyon School's eight-week internship program for middle schoolers.

Quintero continues to own and manage the Lafayette Pet Shoppe at 3517 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

**Klein Gallery Opens Across From Chow**  
50 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette

The new Klein Gallery is opening in the space formerly occupied by the Lafayette Art Gallery (which moved to Mt. Diablo Blvd. next to Bo's Barbecue and Artisan Bistro). The building is also home to The Art Room studio, which offers art classes to teens, adults, and children; not really a coincidence, since both are owned by Carrie Klein.

**SmileLABS Dealer Opens in Lafayette**  
3483 Golden Gate Way, Ste. 16, Lafayette  
(925) 826-6463

[www.mysmilelabs.com/yourperfectsmile/](http://www.mysmilelabs.com/yourperfectsmile/)

This month, after seeing the SmileLABS teeth whitening business on the east coast and extensively studying the products and company, business owner Teresa Ketterman decided to become a Lafayette dealer. The SmileLABS system combines a higher concentration of peroxide gel with the use of a strong, safe wavelength of blue LED light as an accelerator or catalyst to the teeth bleaching reaction. This provides a much shorter time of contact between gel and tooth that increases the bleaching efficiency of the gel and shortens treatment time by a large factor, while keeping the process mostly free from sensitivity, the company states. On her website, Ketterman advertises a 15 minute treatment time. The store is opened Monday and Tuesday in a private room located in the salon on Golden Gate Way.

**Kaur Photography Becomes Bright Baby Photography**  
3538 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette  
(415) 810-8615, [brightbabyphotography.com](http://brightbabyphotography.com)



Gurpreet Kaur is now offering newborn portrait sessions in her newly remodeled studio.

For the last several years, the professional photographer has specialized in wedding photography, but recently decided to change the direction of her studio with a focus on newborn portraits – a photograph taken in a baby's first 10 days of life. "This is a momentous time for a new life, and a portrait captures their innocence, almost as if they are still in the womb," says Kaur, who tries to capture an infant's perfect temperament with endearing, 'au naturel' poses during a session that can last approximately 3 to 4 hours. Up to five family members can also be in the portraits and a variety of photography props are available.

**Daljit Singh Named Moraga Employee of the Month**



From left: Harry Singh, Daljit Singh and Nora Avelar.

Photo provided Popular Mountain Mike's Pizza manager Daljit Singh has been named Moraga's Employee of the Month for September. Singh has served as owner Harry Singh's right hand man since it opened in 2005. He works six days a week and greets most of his customers by first name when they arrive. "Daljit is a big reason for our success here in Moraga," said owner Harry Singh. "He not only is reliable and trustworthy, but knows all of our customers and they really like seeing his familiar and friendly face when they come in to enjoy our pizzas." The Moraga Rotary and Chamber of Commerce will award Singh a gift card to Safeway as well as a gift certificate to TJ Maxx in Moraga, which will be presented at the Moraga Rotary luncheon Nov. 5.

**Construction Place Becomes Ponta - Offers New Services**  
(925) 324-4718

Moraga resident Gary Westernoff, who began offering integrated online tools to property managers, real estate and construction professionals a few years ago with Construction Place, has changed the business name to Ponta, while improving the online functionality, and adding mobile device capabilities. A new software offering on Ponta is called PropertyAndProjects.com, which makes it easy to digitize, manage, share, and archive information for owned or managed property(s) and their respective projects and/or improvements while always being in control of the content. Westernoff also added a travel company to Ponta's service offerings. Tabitours.com facilitates group tours to and from Japan, weddings in Hawaii, and offers liaison services between businesses in Japan and the United States.

**News from the Three Chambers of Commerce**

Tonight! The Orinda, Lafayette and Moraga chambers join together to kick off the California Independent Film Festival from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 23 in the lobby of the Orinda Theatre. In addition to networking, hear about and preview some of the films that will be screened at this year's festival.

**Lafayette**

Ribbon Cutting at California Human Resources LLC at 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 24 at 201 Lafayette Circle, Suite 200.

Trick-or-Treat Street on Oct. 25 (see article page A3). For a fun, safe Halloween event, children and their parents are invited to trick-or-treat on Mt. Diablo Boulevard from Oak Hill Road to Dewing Avenue and in La Fiesta Square from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25. All participating businesses will display a "Trick-or-Treat" poster and balloons. Please come in costume to receive a special treat. Then head over to the Plaza for a costume contest and a special viewing of "Ghostbusters" at 6:30 p.m.

The 21st Annual Reservoir Run includes a choice of races and fun for all levels of difficulty to fit all ages on Sunday, Oct. 27. Registration opens at 6:30 a.m. with staggered start times beginning at 8 a.m. with a two mile fun run/walk, and 5K and 10K certified runs. Registration is required, either online at [register.bazumedia.com/reg/form?eventID=3516](http://register.bazumedia.com/reg/form?eventID=3516), or at the chamber office at 100 Lafayette Circle.

**Moraga**

Membership meeting at 7:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 25 at the Hacienda de las Flores. Roger Poynts will discuss his project for the 'painted rock' property.

Save the dates: Nov. 19 Mixer at the Barn hosted by Canyon Construction and Dec. 10 Holiday Party hosted by Moraga Royale.

**Orinda**

Orinda Chamber Member Luncheon at noon Friday, Oct. 25 at the Orinda Country Club with guest speaker FBI Agent Joy Mihara-Meer, who will discuss "Spear Phishing," cyber attack on small businesses, your parents and your children. For tickets and reservations, go to [OrindaChamber.org](http://OrindaChamber.org).

### All Rainwater Systems

925-381-7620

Over 20 yrs  
Experience  
Local Family  
Owned

Serving Contra Costa & Surrounding Areas

---

Seamless Gutters • Roofs • Flashing • Dry Rot

Lic #793315

### New Installations Repairs-Cleaning Dry Rot Gutter Screens with Micro Mesh

We Do It All  
We Do It Right!

Free Estimates - Call 925-381-7620

Licensed-Bonded-Insured

# Orinda Motors

Your affordable one-stop solution for service you can trust!

**ASE Master Technicians that have specific experience with the vehicles you drive, Domestic, European & Asian.**

We offer fast & convenient service that you can trust!

**We can perform required maintenance while your vehicle is still under factory warranty.**

We work hard to make your service experience easy and painless.

Only Diamond Certified auto repair facility in the whole Lamorinda area.

Use a local company that supports our community!

## 925-254-2012

Make an appointment on line! [www.orindamotors.com](http://www.orindamotors.com)

QUALITY - VALUE - TRUST

Orinda Motors 63 Orinda Way, Orinda, Ca., 94563

Approved Auto Repair

If you have a business brief to share, please contact **Sophie Braccini** at [sophie@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sophie@lamorindaweekly.com)

# CaHR: Back to Lafayette to Manage Human Resources

By Sophie Braccini



From left, CaHR V.P. of Sales Michael Harrison and CEO Matt Delaney. Photo Sophie Braccini

There is no place like home, for family or for work, according to Matt Delaney, who returned to his home town of Lafayette to develop and expand the business he started in Hawaii five years ago. Almost a business adventurer, Delaney looks like nothing would be able to slow him down, not even the cancer that struck him some 15 years ago. Still going back to Hawaii regularly while his family is settled here, the CEO is focusing his energy on developing the California market for managing and outsourcing human resources functions, and more, and is thinking about expanding to the rest of the states.

And his Lafayette company is hiring.

Everything at CaHR in Lafayette speaks of local connections re-activated. The building Delaney is leasing belongs to his next door neighbor from a family he knew when he was growing up. To kick start his implementation in California he bought a Lafayette firm called Human Resource Advisor that belonged to Barbara Freet, whose daughter, Amy, went to Stanley Middle School with Delaney. Coming back to Lafayette to raise his family in Burton Valley and establish his California headquarters, he reconnected with many friends, including Michael Harrison, a Campolindo High School buddy who became a baseball pro before hanging up his mitt and going into sales; he is now CaHR's vice president of sales.

Delaney's professional life, however, has taken him quite far from Lafayette. After graduating from USC in accounting, he worked for E&Y Kenneth Leventhal Real Estate Group where he was a senior consultant and CPA. He became part of Sunterra's acquisition and development team, before becoming the CEO of Marc Resorts Hawaii which operated 22 resort properties with over 1,000 employees. Twelve years before creating the Hi-Group, Delaney held various executive positions in Hawaii. It is there that he saw an untapped market for human resource services. In the meantime, he found the time to marry Karen, his Campo sweet heart.

HiHR in Hawaii has 100 internal employees with 286 clients last year representing 5,000 employees – a nearly 500 percent increase in clients from the end of 2009, translating to \$71 million in revenue.

The Lafayette office will provide human resource services for businesses of all sizes. "Businesses do not always have the resources to manage their workers' comp, payroll, and now the Affordable Care Act (ACA) benefits," says Delaney. He adds that the ACA, which can be confusing to a lot of business owners, is not

something new to his company. "In Hawaii, we have had the pre-paid health care act since 1974 that companies have to subscribe to even if they have only one employee, so we know the game of eligibility, tracking the hours, et cetera," he said. "Right now there is so much confusion, and reporting compliance requirements, business owners will have to turn to somebody."

CaHR is a full resource outsourcing firm. "There are two models to manage employment and administrative functions," says Delaney. "PEOs (Professional Employer Organizations) where we are the co-employer handling all the back-office and taking responsibility for it, and ASOs (Administrative Service Organizations) providing the same services but with the paperwork being filed under the client's federal employer's identification number." CaHR also does full staffing and recruiting.

"We already have clients in many states, but to develop the California market, it is important to have a local office," says Delaney, who believes in creating relationships with his clients, which means that he is looking for the right partners to expand in other regions. He also plans to diversify the services in California by adding accounting and marketing, just like HiHR does in Hawaii. "In a few years, all the subsidiaries will be regrouped under a national holding called Demand HR," he adds.

The market of CaHR is mostly small companies. "The laws in California are a pain in the neck for small companies," Delaney says, "but there is opportunity for us to come in and help." He adds that size is not an absolute limiting factor. "In Hawaii our smaller client has one employee, the biggest has 800."

Right now CaHR is looking for a receptionist, an executive/personal assistant, a staffing manager, a recruiter, some sales people, a benefits specialist, and a payroll specialist.

The Hawaiian blessing of the office – a traditional blessing in the islands that honors those of the past, present, and future – by Kahu Curt Kekuna, is scheduled from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Oct. 25 at 201 Lafayette Circle, Suite 200. The energy, or "mana" (power within), left behind from the people who once held a place here, and even those before are honored and blessed, as they allow new energy to enter, dwell, and prosper. To RSVP, email mdelaney@ca-hr.com. For more information, visit www.ca-hr.com or call (925) 310-5400.

Lamorinda Weekly business articles are intended to inform the community about local business activities, not to endorse a particular company, product or service.

## Opening Special

\$5 off any purchase of \$25 or more\*

\*With coupon. 1 coupon offer per customer per day. Exp. 11/15/13

3606 Mount Diablo Blvd, Lafayette (a few doors down from Pizza Antica)  
925-284-8600 www.lafayettebeauty.net

## LAFAYETTE

beauty store & salon



## Excellent Care AT HOME



Heartfelt & Supportive Care At All Times...

3645 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite D Lafayette (beside Trader Joe's)  
www.excellentcareathome.com



Our mission is to provide personalized care, help maintain independence and enhance our client's quality of life on a daily basis.

- Fully bonded and insured
- Geriatric care management
- Hourly care
- Live-in care
- Transportation to and from medical appointments
- Medication reminders

Call to schedule a free assessment and plan care review. 925-284-1213



## 5A HAS BOXES, LOCKS, ALL KINDS OF PACKING SUPPLIES!

- Boxes in all sizes • Tape • Bubble wrap
- Specialty packing supplies • Dish packs
- Glassware compartments • File boxes w/lids

DOWNLOAD A PACKING SUPPLY COUPON FROM 5Aspace.com

5A RENT-A-SPACE  
455 Moraga Rd. Suite F  
(925) 631-7000  
www.5Aspace.com



## Care. Comfort. Compassion. When you need it most.

### Your Lamorinda Senior Checklist ...

- Find cook for better nutrition ✓
- Get driver to appointments, groceries ✓
- Get help with laundry & changing sheets ✓
- Find somebody for companionship, exercise, puzzles ✓

CALL SENIOR HELPERS ✓✓✓✓

We can assist with these activities and more.

Call for a free assessment 925-376-8000



Bonded and insured. Senior Helpers locations are independently owned and operated. ©2011 SH Franchising, LLC



SENIOR HELPERS

Care and comfort at a moment's notice

## How can we serve you? Let us count the ways.



At the UC Eye Center in Berkeley, how you see is what you get. Because we're part of the top-rated UC School of Optometry, we're here for you and your family in a whole range of ways:

- Pediatric Vision Care • Eye Examinations
- LASIK Surgery • Geriatric Vision Care • Contact Lenses
- Eyewear Center • Specialized Vision Care

Make an appointment and go Call!



Open to the Public 7 Days a Week • www.caleyecare.com  
510.642.2020 • Free Parking with Appointments



**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

**~ HE'S ALL ABOUT LAMORINDA ~**



**CLARK THOMPSON**  
REAL ESTATE BROKER  
Village ASSOCIATES REAL ESTATE

Office: 925-254-8585  
Cell: 925-998-7898  
email: ct@clarkthompson.com  
Search the MLS: www.clarkthompson.com



93 Moraga Way, Orinda  
BRE #: 00903367

**Rose Hardwood Floors Inc.**

Don, Manager  
925-349-8509  
www.RoseHardwoodFloorsInc.com  
CA Lic#978671

NWFA certified Installation, Sand & Finish  
**Quality Workmanship**  
**Dust Containment System**



**Free Estimates**

**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

**TAXI BLEU** All Airports Served 24/7

Dispatch: **925-849-2222**  
Direct: **925-286-0064**  
www.mytaxibleu.com  
mytaxibleu@gmail.com



**Rosewood House.com**

FINE FURNITURE & ASIAN ANTIQUES SINCE 1969

CONCORD 4700 CLAYTON RD. (925) 827-9588  
OAKLAND 2523 BROADWAY (510) 451-7373

**Siggy's**

**CARPET CLEANING**

LAMORINDA'S FAVORITE FAMILY OWNED BUSINESS FOR OVER 36 YEARS

**(925) 283-8744**  
www.siggyscarpetcleaning.com  
3408 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette

**FALL SPECIAL 15% OFF**



**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

**Civic News Fire Departments**

**Healy Named MOFD Fire Chief**

By Nick Marnell

The Moraga-Orinda Fire District removed the interim tag from Stephen Healy's title Oct. 16 and appointed him as the fifth fire chief in the history of the district. Healy succeeds Randall Bradley, who departed in July.

Healy confirmed that he is taking on his new role as the district faces significant challenges. In fact, the board announced his appointment the same day it authorized him to initiate district service cutbacks. But Healy appeared undaunted by the task. "I have a high degree of confidence that

we will stabilize our finances and move forward as an organization," he said.

Having the top candidate in-house obviated the need to conduct an executive search, according to board president John Wyro. "The search firms know who's out there," he said. "We knew we already had the right guy."

Wyro also noted that there was a significant benefit to promoting a candidate from the ranks. "Keeping our team together has great value," he said. "Especially during such a chal-

lenging time for the district."

"I was delighted to hear of the appointment of chief Healy to this permanent position," said county supervisor Candace Andersen. "He brings the strong leadership and experience we need for MOFD as it works together with ConFire to determine how to best provide the fire, disaster and emergency medical services for our Lamorinda region."

Healy has been with MOFD for seven years and has over 27 years of experience as a fire service professional in California.

**Civic News Lafayette**

**What's the Future of Two Vacant City-Owned Buildings?**

By Cathy Tyson



Former doctors' office on Moraga Road



Old library building

Photos Cathy Tyson

Lafayette recently authorized the creation of a volunteer task force to help analyze options that would be the highest, best, and most fiscally responsible use of two vacant, city-owned properties. At issue is 949 Moraga Road, the former doctors' office that was acquired as part of the purchase of four parcels that make up Lafayette's newest parking area, along with the old library building. For years rumors have been swirling about both properties, but no decisions have been made on either one for a variety of reasons.

The citizen's task force will feature representatives from a wide variety of stakeholders that potentially have some skin in the game, to come together and make recommendations about both properties. A list of 15 constituencies was drawn up, with slots for representatives from the Methodist Church, which is directly adjacent to the doctor's office, as well as from the Lafayette school district, a person from Senior Services, an architect, police and more. "Wow, that's a really big task force," said Steven Falk, city manager, echoing

the sentiments of city clerk Joanne Robbins.

The more prominent of the properties is the old library that the city is required to purchase under a 1994 Settlement Agreement with Contra Costa County and the now dissolved Lafayette Redevelopment Agency. Questionable title issues have finally been resolved. "We may be jumping the gun here," said school board president Art Kapoor at the Oct. 15 City Council meeting, "but the School District is interested," in the library property. With Lafayette Elementary School right next door, the old library's parking lot is full to the brim with parents dropping off and picking up children every school day.

Falk said the structure is in "relatively good condition," but noted asbestos in the ceiling tiles and bathrooms that are not handicap accessible. Peering inside, there's nothing but cobwebs and worn out carpet, set in a mid-century modern shoe box.

Concluding that moving the city offices to the old library, instead of continuing to lease office space at Desco Plaza on Mt. Diablo Boule-

vard, where the rent is currently \$280,000 per year, even factoring in approximately \$4 million for acquisition and renovations, would mean significant savings over the medium and long term, according to city staff who crunched the numbers.

The former doctors' office has a lot of potential, but also needs some love. There had been some discussion in the past about turning the doctors' office into a new location for a senior service center or perhaps a location for the police department – possibilities that a fellow task force member representing the Circulation Commission could weigh in on to consider the impact of traffic on accessibility. It could be demolished to make room for additional parking, used for something else or even reserved for future housing.

Ultimately the task force will examine all the moving parts and make recommendations. To check out the full constituency list, read the staff report from the Oct. 15 city council meeting. For those interested in serving, contact city clerk Joanne Robbins at jrobbins@lovelafayette.org.

**From Front Page**

**Drumming Circle Creates Good Vibrations**

... continued from page A1

Sixteen women, ranging in age from their late 40s to beyond 70s, showed up for the second meeting to learn from Mary Ferrick how to improve brain health and have fun.

Ferrick holds a master's degree in social work and has been drumming for 30 years. "You are a walking, living, breathing drum," she told each participant. Following her lead, the group rapped on frame drums and hourglass-shaped African djembes – one, two, three ... one, two, three ... with fingers or mallets. The beating resonated around the room before settling in each sternum.

"See how naturally you fell into the elephant rhythm!" Ferrick exclaimed. "It's very matriarchal," she added. Ferrick explained research shows that women became the

world's first drummers when they discovered the musical beat grains made while being winnowed in a bowl or shallow pan. She passed around the depiction of a woman drummer circa 2500 B.C.

Ferrick was on a percussive mission, using the primitive rhythms to encourage meditation and healing. She said the drum's vibrations can "wash away trauma and pain."

"Be sure to drink [plenty of] water," Ferrick said, and then cautioned participants not to worry if they

fell out of sync with the rest of the group. It never happened. The women, smiling and relaxed, some with eyes closed, kept the beat.

When asked why she wanted to form a drumming circle, Kloss replied with her own questions: "Did you see the smiles? Did you feel the energy?"

At session's end, one woman said she'd bring her 96-year-old mother next time. Another, upon leaving, shook her head incredulously, simply saying, "Wow."

*Lamorinda Community Drumming for Seniors (all adults welcome, no children please) meets at 11 a.m. the second Monday of each month at Lamorinda Music, 81 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette. For information, e-mail Community.drumming.seniors@gmail.com or call (925) 385-0963. To learn more about the history of drumming, Ferrick suggests reading "When Drummers Were Women" by Layne Redmond.*

# Local Teens Start Lafayette Writing Contest for Middle School Students

By Clare Varellas



Linnae Johansson and Uma Unni

Photo provided

When Acalanes freshman Uma Unni began to experience the typical boredom that comes with being out of school this past summer, she and her friend, Stanley Middle School eighth grader Linnae Johansson, decided to put their technological and planning skills to the test by creating a Lafayette youth writing and photography contest.

"I really like technology, so I wanted to make a website," said Uma. "I also really like writing, so I thought I would make a literary website. But we had no idea how to make people come to it, so we thought we'd make a contest. Then Linnae agreed to help me out. That's how it started."

Uma and Linnae are the founders of the newly formed Lafayette Youth Arts Society, which will be hosting its first annual writing and photography contest this winter. The contest, which is to open Nov. 15, offers all middle school students (students in grades 6-8) who reside or attend school in Lafayette the opportunity to showcase their artistic abilities. The girls based their contest model off of that of the Orinda Junior Women's Club Youth Ink Contest, which is only open to Orinda residents.

"There's a contest like this in Orinda called Orinda Ink, and it's only open to Orinda kids, so there's part of where we got the idea," said Uma. "Lafayette kids aren't allowed to enter, so we don't have anything to do like that."

The contest, which Uma and Linnae largely planned over the summer, is no small affair. Not only have the girls raised over \$2,000 to be awarded as prize money, but they have also secured none other than the acclaimed author Lemony Snicket (Daniel Handler) to judge the writing entries, along with two other experienced writers. Uma and Linnae, avid fans of Snicket's works, are ecstatic to have him on the judging panel.

"I'm really excited," said Linnae. "I read his books so much as a kid, and now we might actually meet him."

The judging panel for the photography contest is impressive as well, with experienced local photographers, two of which are professionals.

The girls raised funds by contacting local businesses and requesting support; many, like Susie Cakes, Patxi's, Diablo Foods, Metro Lafayette, and Powell's, agreed to contribute. Uma and Linnae have the support of the executive director of the Lafayette Library as well, and have made plans to display winning entries at the library after they are announced.

The girls were initially inclined to create the contest because of their passions for writing. Both Uma and Linnae write in their free time and post entries on writing blogs regularly. They feel that the writing contest will give middle schoolers the ability to write about a topic and in a format that appeals to them, whether the piece takes form in a poem, essay, or short story. In turn, they hope that through this contest, more students will realize the joys of writing.

"In school, you generally are told to write an essay, but here we're only giving them a theme, and we're telling [contestants] to write what they want," said Linnae. "So it makes them think about [what they want to write about]."

The only limitations on entries will be that the writing piece cannot exceed 1,000 words, the photography may only be edited to an extent, and there will be certain themes for entries to be announced on Nov. 15. The contest will last two months, with final submissions due Jan. 15. Winners will be announced March 30, and an awards ceremony will follow.

After spending so many hours planning the contest, the girls are very excited to see its results. If

all goes well, they want to continue hosting the contest, and will even consider opening it up to communities outside of Lafayette, provided there are enough judges.

"We are hoping that kids in other communities will also be inspired to start their own contests," said Uma. "But they need to know that even though they may not get a positive response right away, they need to persevere and then they will be successful."

For further contest details, visit [www.lafayetteyouthartsociety.com](http://www.lafayetteyouthartsociety.com). Writing contest themes will be announced on Nov. 15. There will also be a book fair at Barnes and Noble in Walnut Creek Nov. 24-25 where the store will give 20 percent of all sales, both online or at the store, to benefit the Lafayette Youth Arts Society when the organization is mentioned.

## Life in LAMORINDA

Orinda Chamber of Commerce Invites you to the next Luncheon at Orinda Country Club

October 25, 2013 - Cost: \$30

12:00 to 1:30pm

Guest Speaker:

**FBI Agent Joy Mihara-Meer**  
"Spear Phishing"  
*Stealing Your Financial Information*

RSVP by Noon October 23<sup>rd</sup> 254.3909  
or purchase luncheon tickets on line at  
[www.orindachamber.org](http://www.orindachamber.org)



### IT'S EASY TO FIND DR. RIGHT

At our Orinda Care Center, you have access to top-quality primary and specialty care physicians right in your neighborhood. And with our extended hours, it's easy to schedule an appointment that's convenient for you. It's another way we plus you.

LOCATION:

**Sutter Easy Bay Medical Foundation**  
12 Camino Encinas  
Orinda, CA 94563  
(510) 204-8166

[SutterEastBayDoctors.org](http://SutterEastBayDoctors.org)

**Sutter Health**  
Sutter East Bay Medical Foundation  
We Plus You

## Fall Specials from Entourage!

**Special #1:**  
50 minute Entourage Signature Massage \$50

**Special #2:**  
100 minute Entourage Signature Massage. Finish with a fresh shampoo and blow dry. \$100

**Special #3:**  
dermalogica® Winter Protection Facial \$95

**Special #4:**  
The Ultimate Pedicure! All the benefits of a facial for your feet. Cleanse, exfoliate, mask, massage, moisturize, polish. \$85 service NOW for \$45

Holiday shopping? All fall specials may be purchased as gift certificates.

**BEST all the time**  
BOOK YOUR SPA PARTY INTO THE MIDNIGHT HOUR

Complete line of  
**bareMinerals® dermalogica® JANMARINI**

**ENTOURAGE INC.**  
Day NIGHT Spa, Salon & Café

Serving the Community & Giving to Local Schools since 2003

Theatre Square Orinda
[www.entouragespa.com](http://www.entouragespa.com)
925-254-9721

**THE BMW 4 SERIES.**  
UN4GETTABLE:  
DESIGNED TO CATCH YOUR EYE.



Michael Heller, BMW Concord, mlheller78@hotmail.com

**Call Michael Heller**  
**925-998-2150**

**BMW Concord | 1967 Market ST. | Concord**

# A Festival of Shorts

By Sophie Braccini



Death of a Shadow

Photo provided

The short film is like a fine perfume: you need only a small amount for the ultimate effect. The 2013 California International Film Festival will feature 31 short films presented in five groups lasting about 1.5 hours each beginning Nov. 8 at the Orinda and Rheem theaters. These short films, which range from 3 to 30 minutes long, give spectators a rush of sensation that can last a lifetime.

The series is grouped as A, B, C, D and Sapporo shorts. Short program A is called "All in the Family." From the very funny "God Don't Like Ugly" to the awkward "OMG," from the poignant Creole gem "Soup a Pye" to the dramatic "Teilhard," the seven stories touch on family issues or social hurdles, like in the Romanian short "Way of the Danube."

Short program B, called "They Work Hard for the Money," showcases seven short films that explore the humorous side of the work place, whether discussing culture clash in "Farid in the West," strange business practices in "Strange Fish," down-right hilarious situations in "The Op Shop," or more serious and historical stories like those in "Lil Tokyo Reporter."

Short program C, "That's What

Friends Are For," delves into friendship, both good and bad, with unlimited imagination and creativity. Drama unfolds quickly in "Black and White Lines" and "Trivial" (a USC thesis film set in Pleasanton), vision sparks from every day remarks in "Animation Hotline," while "Last Call" is sensitive and heartfelt and "Just a Favor" is as gripping as any good dark thriller.

The five films in short program D, "Celebrities," show that stars of the screen can also have self-mocking irony. You feel almost sorry for Gerard Depardieu in his failure to become a salesman in "Frank-Etienne," Lee Meriwether breaks your heart as she relives her past in "Remember to Breathe," and Ian McKellen mesmerizes in "The Egg Trick."

Finally, CAIFF presents the Sapporo Shorts. Out of the 3,000 short films that were submitted to the Sapporo Short Film Festival, 80 were selected. Of those 80, CAIFF selected five unique creations. These movies are all award-winning films from all over the world. Tom Van Avermaet's "Death of a Shadow," for example, is a beautiful, frightening and ultimately romantic tale that develops in the

span of just 20 minutes.

As always with these series of shorts, the contrast between films is almost violent. From "Death of a Shadow" to "Letters from Pyongyang" there is a world of difference in terms of space, time and vision. The second is no less interesting than the first, opening a completely different window in the spectators' imagination. The other three are also very personal and interesting. The viewer will need some emotional stamina to take it all in.

Short films are often the launch pad of future talent. Four years ago, CAIFF featured the short "Next Floor," directed by Denis Villeneuve, whose feature film "Prisoners" is currently getting great reviews. Not only does it cost less to make a short, it is also often not financed by studios that will have their own priorities. You get the real voice of the artist. And shorts are also made more quickly, so they can closely speak to present day events.

The five shorts programs will play on different days Friday through Sunday, Nov. 8-10 at the Rheem and Orinda theaters. For show times, more information and tickets, visit [www.caiff.org](http://www.caiff.org).



**TREE SCULPTURE**

**COMPLETE TREE CARE**  
*Proudly serving the East Bay since 1965!*  
Fully Insured ❖ Certified Arborists ❖ License #655977  
**(925) 254-7233 ❖ www.treesculpture.com**



**Lafayette Motors**  
Independent service and repair for Mercedes Benz

**JERRY FIGUEROA**

Shop (925) 284-4852  
Cell (510) 754-1942  
lafayettetmotors@gmail.com



3470 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette, CA 94549



**Lafayette Motors**  
Independent service and repair for Jaguar

**CARLOS "KIKO" CAICEDO**

Shop (925) 284-4852  
Cell (925) 285-0783  
lafayettetmotors@gmail.com



3470 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette, CA 94549

## Eat Your Vegetables and Smile!

Vegetarian cookbook author Mollie Katzen to speak in Lafayette Oct. 29

By Lou Fancher



Mollie Katzen Photo Lisa Keating

Cookbook author and illustrator Mollie Katzen changed the reputation of cauliflower from lowly, loathsome vegetable to sexy "Cauliflower Cheese Pie with grated potato crust" in 1977 with the publication of her best-selling "Moosewood Cookbook." Suddenly, "vegetarian" no longer meant a trip to the restaurant salad bar. The term became synonymous with succulent Succotash Chowder, Exotic Walnut Paté and Montana's Mom's Dynamite Cheesecake blowing everybody out of their naturally spring-fed water.

Of course, she didn't do it alone. But it seemed that way to us pioneering "veg heads" whose meals achieved the pinnacle of gastronomic grossness on airlines. Recalling the result of ordering "vegetarian meal" (during that antiquated time when eating meals on a plane was admittedly risky, but happened), is akin to a nightmare. Rice, shredded carrots and raisins eternally stewed in a dark sauce mysteriously similar to the substance coating a nearby passenger's chicken still causes shudders.

But Katzen and her merry band of "Moosewood People" at the Moosewood Restaurant in Ithaca, N.Y., served delectable food, both on the plate and on the pages of their collective cookbook. It came with no dogma attached. Eating vegetarian was less about not eating meat – the

restaurant served fresh fish on week-ends – and entirely concentrated on creating fresh, flavorful meals. Most recipes included a solid dose of sour cream, butter or cheese. Or all three.

Four years after Berkeley's Ten Speed Press published Katzen's hand-written and mostly self-illustrated first cookbook, she split from the restaurant, rather unhappily. Subsequent cooking and book-writing followed: "The Enchanted Broccoli Forest," a trilogy of children's cookbooks; several collaborative projects, "Get Cooking," and others. A casual perusal of her (now) 12 books is rather like watching a cake rise in the heat of an oven. Baking is evolution and so were the years she became a James Beard Cookbook Hall of Fame inductee (2007), published less artful companion cookbooks for a 26-part public television cooking series (1997) and consulted with the Harvard University Dining Services, where she co-created their Food Literacy Project (2003-11).

With her September 2013 release, "The Heart of the Plate," Katzen finds an old/new hybrid. The 500-page cookbook is sprinkled with her art: nearly every page boasts a whimsically rendered painting or her bold, tightly cropped photographs. Although it's slightly sterile, especially compared to her earliest books, the visuals stir fond, even nostalgic, '70s era memories (although not of airline meals).

Katzen claims, in the book's subtitle and brief introduction, to have developed "recipes for a new generation." The changes are slight, but paradigm shifting. Pasta "peppers" a main (pasta) entree now mostly composed of vegetables; garlic and specialty oils replace yesterday's cream and butter sauces; novel texture, color and flavor blends are center stage. Moving from menus to soups, salads, stews, mashes, suppers from the oven, burgers, pancakes, and desserts, plus the expected grains, vegetables and sauces, there is a casual, light

hand in Katzen's contemporary kitchen.

Katzen's soups have always been evidence of how simple ingredients can be made into a nectar worthy of the gods without being "fancy." Green Matzoh Ball Soup requires only seven everyday ingredients. (Unless you prefer to avoid store-bought stock and make Katzen's vegetable stock. Even that has only six ingredients; the most "exotic" being garlic.) Salads are equally accommodating: Fattoush, a Middle Eastern bread salad is fun to say and even more fun to eat. A bounty follows: Very Simple Lentil Stew with Cottage Cheese Dumplings (optional, but unless you are vegan, make them), Roasted Cauliflower Mac and Cheese (she's still got the magic with this cruciferous item), Cajun-Style Tofu Burgers, and "mashes" (vegetable "beds" or "nests" made of mashed vegetable-spice blends) – and to top it off, Bittersweet Mocha Bundt Cake, Bruléed Persimmon Pudding and more.

More than half of the recipes are vegan and most come with appealing suggestions for additions or variations. Best of all, they come without the heavy definition and heavier dining of 30 years ago – and without that recipe for disaster served to frequent vegetarian flyers. "The Heart of the Plate" is filled with fresh, simple, fantastic vegetables. Vegetable eaters, rejoice.

Katzen lives in Berkeley and is a popular speaker on subjects relating to sustainability, nutrition and community. She will be appearing at a Commonwealth Club event at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, in conversation with John Birdsall, senior editor of Chow.com, at the Lafayette Library, (3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette. Check-in time is at 6 p.m. Cost: \$22 non-members, \$12 members, \$7 students (with valid ID).

**Your one-call plumber!**



**LeapFrog Plumbing**  
GAS WATER & SEWER

**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 eeeee!

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

\*visible and accessible plumbing; Homeowners only; most houses Thru 11/15/2013



Family-owned & serving Lamorinda since 1993  
**green solutions!**

**We Hop To It!**

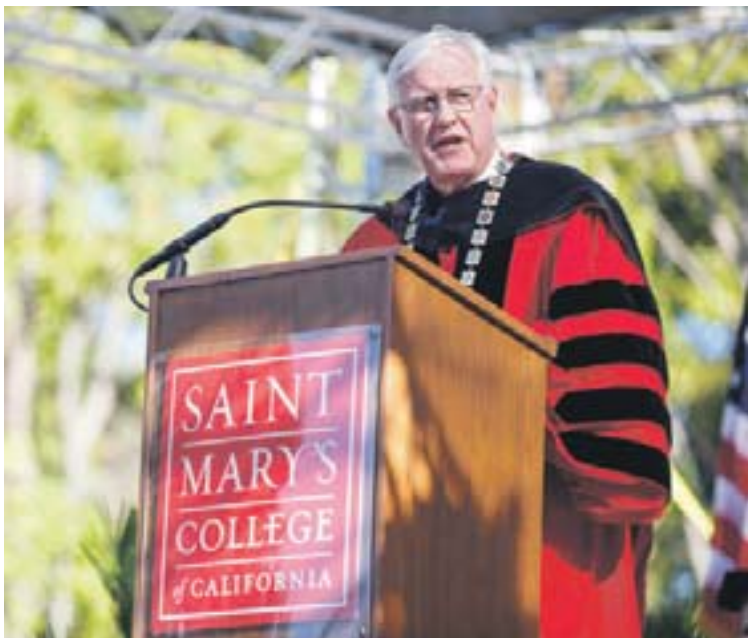
**(925) 377-6600**  
www.LeapFrogPlumbing.com

CA Lic 929641



# Inauguration of President James Donahue

By Sophie Braccini



James Donahue

Photo Stephan Babuljak

Saint Mary's College held the inauguration of its 29th president, James Donahue, Ph.D., Oct. 11, which included messages and blessings from Christian Brothers and representatives of other faiths. Presenters talked about the high expectations they have of the lay president, who comes with a proven track record as an educator, a scholar and administrator. In his introductory speech Donahue reaffirmed his passion for the

mission of the college and his determination to contribute to the flourishing of an institution he defined as "extraordinarily good." He indicated that the main challenges for the years to come are how to make technology simultaneously high-touch and high-tech; how to provide enrollment affordability for all; and how to align the relevance of the liberal arts with the practicalities of job creation for students.

## Two Local Opportunities to Learn About the Affordable Care Act

By Cathy Tyson

You've heard about it on TV, read about it in the paper, but now, live and in person get the scoop from Covered California Certified Educator Sue Hamill. She'll be discussing and answering questions at an upcoming presentation, Understanding the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare. With enrollment now open and the program taking effect in January of 2014, now is a good time to compare and contrast coverage choices. This is a change in the delivery of healthcare for many Californians; this event is an opportunity get the facts, possibly dispel some myths and ask what it all means.

"Specifically, the presentation shows how the Covered California healthcare marketplace exchange works, so people can find out what new healthcare insurance options are available to them thanks to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. I describe what services are included in the health plans offered through Covered California and how the pricing structure works," said Hamill. "I show people how to determine what insurance system they are eligible for and is most financially feasible. It might be Medi-Cal, Covered California, or their current employer sponsored program."

The free event is scheduled from

6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29 in the Arts and Science Discovery Center on the Mezzanine floor of the Lafayette Library and Learning Center.

Alison McKenzie, who has been recruited by the California State Department to train county leaders about the Affordable Health Care Act (ACA) and its implications, will also discuss the ACA provisions at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 19 at the Serbian Cultural Center, 1700 School St. in Moraga. She will answer the following questions: What is the ACA? Who does it cover? and How does it work? Her free presentation applies to an audience of all ages.

McKenzie served as an administrative law judge in social services for the State of California. She knows firsthand the "ins and outs" of many of the state's publicly funded service programs, including Home Supportive Services, CalFresh (aka Food Stamps), Foster Care, and Aid to Adoptive Children. Although newly retired, she continues to be involved with administrative hearings on a part time basis and, because of her familiarity with Medi-Cal eligibility.

The presentation is sponsored by the American Association of University Women (AAUW), Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette (OML) Chapter. For more information about the event, visit [www.aauwoml.org](http://www.aauwoml.org).



Call us anytime you need an extra hand. Our caregivers--all bonded and insured--lend a hand in caring for your loved ones.

"When I had angioplasty last January, I had to stay overnight at Stanford and was supposed to be discharged by noon on Saturday. Because of complications, it was after 3:00 p.m. before I could actually leave and was informed I would need someone to stay overnight with me. My friend contacted Vanessa at Care Indeed sometime between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. and she was able to arrange for a very nice and competent caregiver to arrive by 7:00 that evening. For a Saturday so late in the afternoon, I find this totally remarkable!  
~Darlene, Palo Alto



(925) 317-3080  
www.HomeCareOrinda.com  
61 Moraga Way, Suite 9,  
Orinda, CA 94563

## An Elder Law Workshop

Presented by

The Law Offices of Michael J. Young

Michael J. Young, Attorney at Law



Two Thursdays, Nov. 7 and Nov. 14, 2013  
3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

1931 San Miguel Drive, Walnut Creek  
Channell Room

- **Don't go broke in a nursing home.** Learn how to get Medi-Cal coverage for your nursing home care, without selling your home or draining your family's reserves.
- **Learn about the Veterans Administration Aid & Attendance Pension Benefit** for Wartime Veterans and how this program can help pay for care in assisted living communities, board and care, and in-home care.
- **Baby Boomers: Prepare for the second half of life!** Learn how to take advantage of long-term care planning options in your estate planning documents.

Attendance is complimentary, but seating is limited.

To reserve your spot, call 925-256-0298

Call now--these workshops fill up quickly!

**Special bonus:** attendees will receive a **FREE** copy of our *The Alzheimer's Legal Survival Guide*, and *The Nuts and Bolts Guide to Veterans Benefits*.

Law Office of Michael J. Young | [www.WalnutCreekElderLaw.com](http://www.WalnutCreekElderLaw.com) | [lawyoung1@gmail.com](mailto:lawyoung1@gmail.com)

## As Seen in Lamorinda Blessing of the Animals



Brother Brendan Williams stands with Lafayette resident Nelita Antezana and her Nubian goats, Florencia and Florentina, during the St. Giles congregation blessing of the animals. Brother Williams belongs to the religious Order of St. Francis; St. Francis was the patron saint of animals. - C. Dausman



## Not All Home Care is Alike

### Known for the Industry's Best Caregivers!

- Home Care Assistance is the only senior care company with a **Home Care University** to train and develop caregiver employees. We also offer culinary training with an emphasis on nutrition to improve our caregivers' skills and our clients' meals.
- Home Care Assistance boasts a **97% satisfaction rate** and has been endorsed by Harvard geriatrician, Dr. Dennis McCullough and University of Washington Geriatrics Clinical Director, Dr. David Carr, among others.
- Home Care Assistance has produced an award-winning senior wellness book series, including *Happy to 102* and *Mind Over Gray Matter*, and a renowned healthy longevity webinar series in partnership with the **American Society on Aging**.



**Meet Jill.** Jill Cabeceiras is one of the client care managers for the East Bay. She has been working with older adults for more than ten years and is an expert on managing care within the home. Let Jill help your and your family!

**Call Jill to schedule your free assessment today!**



**925-820-8390**  
480 San Ramon Valley Blvd.  
Danville, CA 94526  
[HomeCareAssistance.com](http://HomeCareAssistance.com)

## CUSTOM FRAMING OUR 40th YEAR

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1973

Superior Framing Design Services by our  
Professional and Experienced Staff

See our website gallery of clients framing projects  
[www.ArtLoftFraming.com](http://www.ArtLoftFraming.com)

- mention this ad for -  
**15% OFF**  
your entire 1st order  
Expires 12/31/2013

10 minutes from Orinda Crossroads  
10 minutes from Moraga (via Canyon)



2082 Antioch Ct. (Montclair Village) Oakland  
(510) 339-0890  
HWY. 13 (between Hwy. 24 & Park Blvd.)

## Non-Random Acts of Kindness

By Cathy Dausman



Heidi Felt holding the iKind T-shirt

Photo Cathy Dausman

It began last May with a simple question: how to recruit more Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School staff to mentor the peer leadership groups already in place.

With the Safe School Ambassadors program starting its sixth year, counselor Heidi Felt and others brainstormed on ways to expand teacher involvement for that small group support system. The first question, Felt said, quickly led to a second, more fundamental query: "Why can't everyone just be nice?"

We do a lot of looking for what's wrong, she said; why not look for kindness? "Middle school kids are like a kaleidoscope," Felt said, because "everything's changing." That leaves many students feeling vulnerable, exposed and especially sensitive to bullying in its many forms.

At that age they'd rather be cool than be kind, she said. The group, comprised of principal Joan Danilson, Felt, outgoing PTA president Stacy

Giglio and former Joaquin Moraga student Debbie Ruitter, kicked around ideas for a name. They considered "be kind" using a bee instead of "be." Then they hit on iKind, and the name stuck.

The iKind concept was originally presented to the teaching staff last May. It was introduced to the student body this month during a school-wide assembly featuring the screening of "Finding Kind." Filmmakers and friends Lauren Parsekian and Molly Thompson travelled across the U.S. for more than two years to make their award-winning independent film festival presentation on the effects of bullying in young girls' lives.

"You could have heard a pin drop" during the movie, Felt said. "Even [Moraga School District superintendent] Bruce Burns couldn't believe how quiet the students were."

The staff worked hard to prep both genders for the assembly to counter the notion that the movie ad-

dressed only a "girl problem."

"Before their assembly, we held a conference call to make sure their assemblies were designed for both males and females. [Parsekian and Thompson] have been in over 500 schools since 2009 and [we] felt confident our student and staff would find value for all students," said Felt. "The post-film interactive session was definitely co-ed."

Parsekian and Thompson handed each audience member three cards to complete. The first was a pledge card, or promise to end bullying; the second was an apology card to give to someone you had offended; the third, a "kind" card to share. The kind cards were then posted on a "kind wall" banner, iKind T-shirts are in evidence on campus — black tees for staff members, white tees for students; each complete with a tiny "JM" where the trademark logo would go — and iKind announcements are made via PA system and decorated Kind Card boxes populate classrooms making it, as one poster puts it, "kool" to be kind.

"The ["Finding Kind"] messages were powerful," said sixth grade core teacher Dawn Lezak. "The proof that it was good for me was that I talked about it at length with my family and friends."

Danilson said the iKind program aligns with district and school goals by supporting socio-emotional development in a safe and healthy environment.

"I love that [kindness] is a subtle idea," Felt said. "I wish we'd thought of it 10 years ago."

Details about the movie and the kindness campaign can be found online at [www.findingkind.com](http://www.findingkind.com).

### OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE



Beautiful handcrafted items,  
gourmet goodies, and works of art.

Friday, Nov. 8  
11 am - 7 pm

Saturday, Nov. 9  
9 am - 5 pm

ELK'S LODGE  
1475 Creekside Dr., Walnut Creek

## Get Clean.

**Total Clean 376-1004**  
For your home.

**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](http://www.bayareadrainage.com)

### JM Students Respond to Bullying Film and iKind Program

A cross section of sixth, seventh and eighth graders, both boys and girls, responded via e-mail to *Lamorinda Weekly* with their thoughts on the "Finding Kind" assembly and iKind program. Their responses appear in edited versions below:

"Recently, a group of classmates have been rather unkind to me. They [shall] go unnamed," said eighth grader Brigitte Jia. She brought the group's actions to the attention of her counselor and the school's vice principal.

Conor O'Brien, seventh grade, said he was made fun of "on the way to the movie." But "the person who bullied me made a kind card apologizing [afterwards]. He felt really sorry that he [bullied] me."

Amy Flett, sixth grade, saw the movie with her mother before it was shown at Joaquin Moraga. She said her mother was happy "that a bunch of moms and daughters saw the movie together and that we could talk about it after," and thinks "about half" her fellow students are putting the change in attitude into practice.

Maggie O'Connor was "shocked and hurt" by a recent episode of peer unkindness directed at her. "The film made my mom sad about what girls are going through today," she said.

Eighth grade student Ben Miller said the movie did not affect him as a boy, but did admit "everybody can be unkind no matter their age or gender." Miller was unfazed when a best friend recently called him a name. "Everyone does that and no one really means it," he said.

Eighth grader David Gomez Siu considers Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School "a very safe place to learn and grow," but said "everybody is mean at one point or another." The real difference is how it is dealt with, he said. "Girls usually hold grudges for long periods of time, whereas boys usually make up fairly quickly."

Chase Giglio, sixth grade, was surprised to learn so many people had been bullied. "Sometimes bullying doesn't seem like such a big deal just one time, but when it happens repetitively, it can be really depressing for people," he said. "Probably 60 percent are buying into this attitude change, the others think it's 'lame' because they are not the ones getting bullied."

Viewing the movie left sixth grader Allie Appleton "in tears." "To know Lauren tried to kill herself ... that's just really sad," she said. "Bullying is sad and needs to stop."

"Many people in the movie said that they wished they could go back in time and change how they had treated someone. [That] made me not want to have to think back and regret something," said eighth grader Aaron Moranville.

"A lot of times, people [bully others] unknowingly," said eighth grader Kate Ginley. "But I always remember that they are just words, they can't affect you unless you let it get to you. Being unkind is a choice, not something that comes with gender."

"It kind of scares me to think that I could do something or write something that could really hurt someone else in such a big way," said Jessalyn Simon-Parker, eighth grade.

Classmate Isabel Artiaga thinks bullying "is definitely a phase that people go through, especially at this age. It was kind of funny to see people who are usually so mean walk up to each other and start apologizing," adding that girls "can be your best friend one day, then a mean text or something else comes along, and suddenly we are enemies and don't talk to each other for two years."

She believes eighth graders at least are buying into this "iKind" campaign, "because we have had some forms of bullying over the past three years, and most people are starting to realize that it's really okay to be yourself!" — C. Dausman

### Look, Up in the Sky!



Photo Sarah Ellison

Henry Ellison, 2, of Lafayette, rides his dad Kirk's shoulders as they watch an East Bay Regional Parks helicopter land at the Stanley Mid-

dle School field in Lafayette. The helicopter was part of a Safety Fair and CERT exercise held there Oct. 12. — C. Dausman

# Natalie Coughlin Dares to Show Her Roots Oct. 26

By Laurie Snyder



Natalie Coughlin Photo provided

What does it take to get air guitarists in a room with history buffs and gimpy weekend outfielders? Natalie Coughlin.

The 12-time Olympic medalist will reveal her fascinating family tree at "Their Roots Are Showing!" Oct. 26. Presented by the California Genealogical Society and Library (CGSL), the sure-to-be-a-blast celebration of Family History Month will also feature a silent auction of celebrity memorabilia, along with the intriguing ancestry of Grammy-winning rock drummer, Tim Alexander, and Oakland A's general manager and "Moneyball" subject, Billy Beane, who has donated use of an A's luxury suite as an auction prize.

"Her story is a true American story," says CGSL's Therese Hart-Pignotti of Coughlin, whose family has serious American roots. One of

the nation's two most decorated female Olympians, Coughlin recently returned from a USO tour at the Naval Station Rota in Spain where she conducted a children's swim clinic. Her mother, she says, "grew up on military bases. It's hard on the families. If the kids are in sports, they get different coaches every year." Coughlin, who mentors as time permits, muses, "I know when I was a kid and I went to a clinic where Olympians stopped by, I remembered it. We're all busy, and we have stresses, but it's important to make the effort."

Coughlin also continues to find fame beyond the pool. She recently shadowed a master chef and winemaker for Lifetime television's "Celebrity Bucket List," and has also appeared on the Food Network. "The way that I decompress for the day,"

she explains, "is to cook a great meal." She makes pasta "especially this time of year when it gets to be fall – and you love that cozy comfort. I love kneading and rolling out the dough – the product you get is so delicious and rewarding." Family and friends are often in on the nurturing noshes.

As for the horizon, "My next competition is going to be in Italy – the first and second weekend in November. And then I have short course nationals in Knoxville, Tennessee." She hopes that, in addition to cheering her on, fans will support one of her favorite charities, Right to Play ([www.rightto-play.com](http://www.rightto-play.com)). "They had a very big presence in the Olympic Village at Athens and especially at Beijing." A supporter since 2004, she did her first field work in Rwanda, foster-

ing anti-malaria efforts by "teaching kids how to prevent and recognize the symptoms" through simple games of tag.

Coughlin also has a message for young Lamorinda fans who find it hard to fit everything into their own busy days. "There is enough time," she says. But, "It's important to have balance. When you're in school, focus on school." When you're with your coach and team, she says, "Focus on practice." And when you're with friends, just concentrate on enjoying the time you have. "It's really just being present in the moment."

"There Roots are Showing!" will begin at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26 at Walnut Creek's Del Valle Theatre. For tickets, visit: [www.lesherartscenter.org/event/california-genealogical-societys-their-roots-are-showing/](http://www.lesherartscenter.org/event/california-genealogical-societys-their-roots-are-showing/).

# "The West Without Water"

By Lou Fancher



Authors B. Lynn Ingram and Frances Malamud-Roam Photo provided

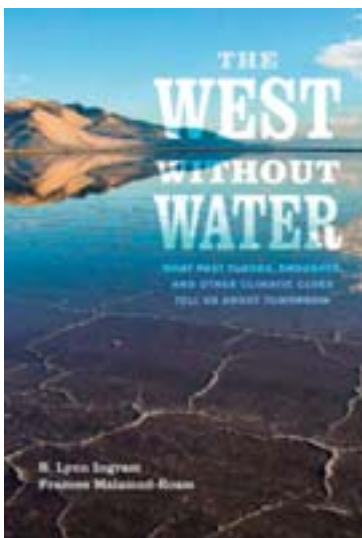


Image provided

A new book by two Bay Area authors reads with the surprising velocity of a murder mystery and the intrigue of a rigorous, detective investigation. Why surprising? Because paleoclimatologists B. Lynn Ingram, of Moraga, and Frances Malamud-Roam write in measured, non-dramatic tones, braced with hard data – about water. It isn't homicide (at least, not in the traditional sense), but their storytelling momentum will have readers itching to flip to the final pages. Burning in their minds, the underlying question: How will the perpetrators pay for their crimes?

"The West Without Water" (University of California Press, 2013) introduces climate as an ancestral protagonist. As such, water is climate's offspring; liquid generations spanning 20 millennia revealing the underlying history of the West's relationship to its most precious resource. In a three-part treatment, Ingram and Malamud-Roam "crack the code" of climate and paleoclimate research, explain the methods and mindsets of pioneering efforts made by mankind to capture and control Earth's water resources, and merge past, present and future with an investigation of the emerging water crisis in light of global warming predictions. Infinitely readable due to the author's clear and compelling storytelling abilities, the book's solid science is mostly easy to digest. Thankfully, final chapters offer thoughtful, real, and realistic solutions to the problems from the authors and a number of experts.

Ingram is a professor in the Earth and Planetary Science Department at the University of California, Berkeley. Cracking into fossil shells from basement core sediment in the San Francisco Bay, she writes in an introductory chapter of how she came to understand marsh ecosystems. Tracing the nomadic lifestyles of indigenous populations prior to gold-seeking, westerner's intrusion, the authors unearthed a wisdom often

heralded by 21st century "green" activists as their own: respect the earth's resources, or perish. Stepping through archeological remains, she and Malamud-Roam, a Caltrans associate environmental planner and biologist and visiting scholar at Cal, chronicle past societies' symbiotic relationship with the natural world as they shifted according to environmental stresses. One example, natives fishing and hunting in wetlands, but not constructing permanent residential developments on what were potential floodplains, provides an instant, learn-from-elders lesson.

The book's Part I aims scrupulous science at why climate matters. What is "normal" for the semi-arid West? After all, Western history holds both devastating floods, like that of 1861-62, and the "Dust Bowl" of 1987-92, a cataclysmic, six-year drought. Climate emerges as a character; mischievous, capricious, prone to climatic (and climactic) bipolar disorder.

Part II digs beneath the surface, untangling the mysteries of 20,000 years of "water family" history. Understanding how climate grandparented change – from gigantic comings and goings, like the advent of ice ages or pueblo collapse, to miniature migrations, like that of diatoms, microscopic phytoplankton preferring fresh over salt water, or vice versa – the authors spin into technicalities the casual reader may find thick.

The immediacy of Part III, addressing today's water crisis, will revive and arouse any student, scholar, or reader interested in mankind's survival. Simple questions – "Why Does Spring Come Earlier?" – receive simply stated, factual answers. "Nine of the ten warmest years in the West have occurred since the year 2000," the authors write. "This warming is the result of changes in the earth's atmosphere: carbon dioxide levels have risen to 390 parts per million..."

And there is no "fishing around" in murky waters for clues to man's impact on wildlife. Instead, the authors examine the plight of fish. Dam building in West Coast rivers diverted water to thirsty agricultural fields and populous cities, but "The Salmon Story" makes plain the devastation caused by "hydraulic capture" altering the temperature and timing of salmon's natural environment. Adding to the gravity of disappearing food sources, Ingram and Malamud-Roam cite data-supported evidence of increasing wildfires, insect infestations, premature snowpack melting, levee-busting floods, and drought. "The recent trend in urban sprawl seems to dance on the edge of disaster," they write.

Admittedly, climate's shifting profile invites opposing perspectives: Is it Chicken Little's "the sky is falling" false panic, or the "recognize-the-truth" of the boy who announces

the Emperor's new clothes are missing? The authors take a "no regrets" approach, suggesting a number of ways to reduce our water footprint, reverse environmental damage, re-

sponsibly remove dams, enable coalitions to collaborate, fund innovative technologies aimed at preserving the West's water, and support legislative change.

**ORINDA ACADEMY**  
PARENTS, STUDENTS & TEACHERS WORKING TOGETHER

College Prep for Students (Grades 6-12)

**OPEN HOUSE OCT. 27TH FROM 1-4PM**

Limited Openings for Fall 2013

**(925) 254-7553**  
[WWW.ORINDAACADEMY.ORG](http://WWW.ORINDAACADEMY.ORG)  
"INSPIRING SUCCESS – FULFILLING POTENTIAL"

Presents  
**The 21st Annual Reservoir Run**

*Adaptation of an Original Design by Miles Hoerer*

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2013**

8:00AM DOWNTOWN LAFAYETTE, PARKING AVAILABLE AT BART  
2 MILE FUN RUN 8:00AM • 5K RUN 8:30AM • 10K RUN 8:45AM

**ONLINE REGISTRATION: [WWW.LAFAYETTECHAMBER.ORG](http://WWW.LAFAYETTECHAMBER.ORG)**

**Special Events:**

<b>Friday Oct. 25</b>	<b>Sunday Oct. 27</b>
4-6PM <b>Trick or Treat</b> downtown	1-4 PM Concert at the stage at the Res after the Run " <b>Diamond Dave</b> " to celebrate the new girls school that <b>Trust in Education</b> opened Afghanistan.
6-6:30PM Costume contest and entertainment in the plaza	
6:30PM <b>Ghostbusters</b> , movie & refreshments for the kids under the stars (in the plaza)	

The Saklan School  
Pre-K through 8

creatively  
**think**  
compassionately  
**act**

Open House Dates  
K-5 11/15 & 12/13  
Middle School 11/8 & 1/17  
www.saklan.org

Est. 1954  
**live**  
courageously™

## Great Shake-Out Teaches New Lessons

By Sophie Braccini



Orinda staff drop, cover, and hold at the EOC.

Photo Sophie Braccini

This year's Great California Shake-Out, conducted within the three Lamorinda communities Oct. 17, had a different scenario than last year: what challenges arise after the first 48 hours of a major earthquake.

The three Emergency Operations Centers of Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda as well as the Saint Mary's College EOC, the Orinda School District and Miramonte and Campolindo high schools participated. Dennis Rein, Lamorinda emergency preparedness coordinator, had given all participants a detailed scenario. At 10:17 a.m. last Thursday everyone at the EOCs dropped, covered, and held, then continued as if 48 hours had passed, organizing their resources to respond as well as possible to reports of problems coming to them. Initially, this involved testing the communication between radios at the different centers. Difficulties were identified immediately, such as one school that could not connect, and outdated contact lists. "Overall, things went well," said Janet Keeter, the Orinda city manager and incident commander. "It became very clear though that sustaining the rescue and organization with our limited staff would quickly become very difficult."

Orinda's EOC is located in the

City Hall building that is fully equipped and built to sustain a large magnitude earthquake. Lafayette's EOC is located in the Lafayette Library and Learning Center Community Room that was built with emergencies in mind, and includes an automatic generator and a kitchen. The biggest challenge in Moraga is that there is no permanent EOC and it took staff an hour to set one up at Fire Station 42.

The three incident commanders, Keeter, Lafayette's city manager Steven Falk and Jill Keimach, Moraga's town manager, confirmed that if a disaster were to hit Lamorinda, after

a few days the EOC would be consolidated into one location to be able to sustain the rescue operations. "By doing so we would have three people for each position," noted Falk. He said that conversation on that topic would continue between the three cities.

Saint Mary's College also reported good results. "The usual people who staff our EOC were not on campus that day," says Adan Tejada, the college's director of public safety, "so this was good practice and it went well." Tejada indicated that Saint Mary's would be open to discussing different possibilities, including a consolidated EOC.



Miramonte students evacuate buildings through a narrow gate during participation in the Great California Shake-Out Oct. 17. Photo Andy Scheck

## The Common Application: A Failed Launch That Keeps on Failing

By Elizabeth LaScala

Some 500 colleges and tens of thousands of students have come to depend on the Common Application. For those unfamiliar with the Common Application, what it is and what it does, consider yourselves lucky. That means you are not dealing with the problems it is causing high school seniors this fall. The Common Application (informally known as the Common App) is an undergraduate college admission application that students may use to apply to any of its 517 member colleges and universities in 47 states and the District of Columbia, as well as a half dozen international countries. The Common Application, Inc. is managed by the staff of a not-for-profit membership association governed by a volunteer member board of directors drawn from college admission deans and college guidance counselors.

An overhauled Common Application version went live on Aug. 1. The new platform was preceded by a full-blown marketing campaign and touted to offer many enhancements sure to please. Unfortunately, the Common App was beleaguered by opening day glitches and hobbled through its first week. As of this writing, issues continue to plague the system 79 days after its initial launch. As college counselors around the country work with panicked students, one name stands out among the rest as a beacon to guide us through the maze. Nancy Griesemer has been reliably and systematically addressing Common App issues from the launch date. Griesemer writes for the DC College Admissions Examiner and on Oct. 8 she offered tips that still make good sense today. They are summarized below along with some of my own advice:

1. "Don't procrastinate!" was always a good mantra for seniors applying to college. Now it is a survival strategy. Don't wait until the last minute to fill out the Common Application and avoid the 24 hours immediately preceding application deadlines. Of course, the deadlines are now a moving target since some

(but not all) colleges are responding to student distress (bless them) by extending their deadlines. Check your college website for up-to-the-minute information – your college is your absolute best go-to source for reliable, timely and accurate information.

2. Check the Common Application system requirements which are found at the bottom of each page of the application and follow them.

3. Avoid editing your essays in the text box. Your essay should be prepared as a Word document using simple font, single-spaced with no indents. To do paragraphs, double space (make two hard returns). Once you are satisfied with the document cut and paste it directly into the text box.

4. Print Preview is your best friend, but it is at the end of the process. You must complete each section of the application and obtain 'green check marks' for each part of the application before you are permitted to Print Preview. This is when you can check your application and be certain all the information you entered appears as you intended, including how your essay survived being added to the text box. If anything doesn't look right, go back and try again.

5. If problems continue, reboot your computer, check system settings, and change browsers to see if that helps. If you still have problems, contact the Common Application Help Desk.

6. Documentation is important. Print out and date your Print Preview just prior to submission so you have a hard copy.

7. Avoid paying twice. If you pay and you don't get a signature page, do not pay again. In other words, do not enter your credit card information twice. If your signature page (the last step in the process) does not appear after you pay, wait 48 hours for the Common App system to clear and then try again. If you are still unable to get to the signature page contact the Help Desk. For those of you who have already paid twice, the Common Application is arranging for refunds.

8. Sign your application. It is not

complete unless you sign it. Once you have paid, signed and submitted your application, you will receive a green check mark. This means you are able to submit part two of the app which is the Writing Supplement. These additional writing prompts require time to complete and colleges value them highly, so leave time to do a good job. And be sure to generate and print a Print Preview before submitting your writing supplement.

Most importantly, don't despair and don't give up. Remember, even though you may feel like crying, screaming or throwing something (or all three), you are not alone with these problems. The colleges do understand and will remain flexible. They don't want to lose your application. Use the Common App Help Desk that is available 24 hours a day. Keep up with the Common Application issues and solutions by 'liking' the Common Application on Facebook, following on Twitter and/or subscribing to updates from the support team <http://myemail.constantcontact.com/An-Update-From-The-Support-Team.html?soid=1102398051782&aid=UIrzlNjZq7Y>.



Elizabeth LaScala Ph.D. guides college, transfer and graduate school applicants through the complex world of admissions. She develops best match college lists, offers personalized interview and essay coaching, and tools and strategies to help students tackle each step of the admissions process with confidence and success. Elizabeth helps students from all backgrounds to maximize merit and financial aid awards. Visit [www.doingcollege.com](http://www.doingcollege.com); Call (925) 891-4491 or email at [elizabeth@doingcollege.com](mailto:elizabeth@doingcollege.com).

**CUSTOM PRINTED T-SHIRTS**  
Businesses Schools Reunions Sports Teams Fundraisers

Your Fundraiser Here  
Your Logo Here  
Your Event Here  
Your TEAM Here

PRINT USA ALL

BUSINESS CARDS / BROCHURES / POSTCARDS / BANNERS  
SIGNS / GRAPHICS / DECALS / POSTERS / VEHICLE MAGNETS

**Lamorinda Tutoring**

**LAMORINDA TUTORING**

925.708.4213  
[lamorindatutoring.com](http://lamorindatutoring.com)

**Mathematics**  
General Math  
Pre-Algebra  
Algebra I  
Geometry  
Algebra II/Trigonometry  
Other subjects available upon request

is an educational support service that specifically meets the needs of the area's aspiring K-12 student. One-on-one tutoring in your home by a California credentialed teacher.

Owner: Matthew C. Leutza, M.B.A., M.Ed.  
CA Credential: #060096281

**College Success**

**Learn What You Need to Know**

- Exploring **Majors and Careers**
- Picking the **Right Colleges**
- Writing **Great Essays**
- Preparing **Strong Applications**
- Getting **Financial Aid**

**Elizabeth LaScala, PhD**  
925-891-4491  
[www.doingcollege.com](http://www.doingcollege.com)

**Doing College**

**The Writing Studio**  
A Place for Young Writers

November 12 - February 7

Join **THE WRITING STUDIO** this fall as your children enter a world of **CREATIVE NARRATIVE AND ESSAY-BASED EXPOSITORY WRITING PROJECTS**. Through grade appropriate classes and one-on-one consultations, students learn proper sentence structure, organizational skills, the elements of well-written essays, creative use of descriptive words, correct grammar, usage, and so much more.

**THE WRITING STUDIO** is open to elementary, middle and high school students who strive to improve their writing skills. Projects consist of absorbing writing assignments, from first person narratives and persuasive essays to biographies and research projects. Our ten-week program will take place November 12 - February 7. For further information, contact [www.lafayettewritingstudio.com](http://www.lafayettewritingstudio.com) or call 925-285-0211.

**THE WRITING STUDIO**  
Where Words Come to Life

3455 Golden Gate Way, Suite A, Lafayette (925) 385-0211

# Lamorindans Learn about Tough Cancer Problem

By Laurie Snyder

*“Cancer is still a word that strikes fear into people’s hearts, producing a deep sense of powerlessness. But today it is possible to find out through a blood test whether you are highly susceptible to breast and ovarian cancer, and then take action.” – Angelina Jolie*

The ever beautiful and oft-controversial humanitarian and Oscar winner, Angelina Jolie, recently lit a fire with those words in a May 14 New York Times op-ed piece, “My Medical Choice.” Receiving news from physicians that she was at 50 and 87 percent risk, respectively, for ovarian and breast cancer from a genetic mutation, she elected to undergo a preventive double mastectomy.

But while the spotlight on Jolie raised awareness, says Rabbi Dovber Berkowitz, it also caused confusion and intensified debate about what’s best for women. For example, 1 in 40 women of Ashkenazi Jewish descent carry a BRCA gene mutation similar to Jolie’s – compared to about 1 in 400 in general, says the Jewish Learning Institute (JLI) rabbi from Contra Costa County. Potentially, these women have a 50 to 80 percent risk for breast cancer as early as their 20s and a 20 to 40 percent risk for ovarian by their 30s. Ovarian cancer is often deadlier though, he notes, because medical tests rarely diagnose before the disease reaches stage three or four.

Dr. Wendy Rubinstein, director of the National Institute of Health’s genetic testing registry, believes genetic testing for all women of Ashkenazi Jewish descent could save 2,800 lives each year. Yet other healthcare providers view such testing and resulting prophylactic procedures as going too far too fast.

To help clear this fog and celebrate National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, JLI presented a program Oct. 22 at the Lafayette Library, “An Ounce of Prevention: BRCA, Genetic Testing, and Preventive Measures.” Speakers reviewed the biblical requirement to safeguard one’s health, whether it requires Jews of Ashkenazi descent to test for mutations, and what Jewish law says about radical procedures for those testing positive for BCRA-1 or 2.

“Some 1,500 years ago when rabbinic scholars wrote the Talmud, they didn’t have questions about screening for cancer genes like we have today,” observes Berkowitz. “However, there are guiding principles found in the Talmud that can help us determine how to respond to these very perplexing and life-altering medical quandaries. One of the Talmud’s most important lessons that must guide our response is that saving one life is like saving an entire world.”

The class was the first of a new JLI series, “Life in the Balance.”

# “Le Week-End” (2013)

By Leonard Pirkle



Jim Broadbent and Lindsay Duncan in Le Week-End Photo provided

The 16th California Independent Film Festival opens with a fun little film, “Le Week-End,” that will resonate with the particular demographics of this geographic region and the CAIFF audience in particular. The need for married professionals to reconnect after years of marriage, family and career is a common theme for those finding themselves suddenly in mid-life or “empty nesters.” This film tells the story of a British couple who return to Paris for a second honeymoon but much like similar films, what ensues is not necessarily what was planned or hoped for.

Starring a wonderful cast led by Jim Broadbent (“Harry Potter”) and Lindsay Duncan, a well-known British actress who has been seen in numerous productions from “Alice in Wonderland” to HBO’s “Rome” a few years ago, with a memorable guest appearance by Jeff Goldblum, scene stealer from too many films to mention, including “Jurassic Park,” “Independence Day” and one of this writer’s favorites – “The Big Chill.” The revelations, confrontations and surprises that unfold during this compressed week-end trip to reconnect are at times shocking, but never dull or predictable.

This independent film is lifted to a level above most film festival fare by the locations, writing and superb acting. The dialog and delivery is rapid paced but sharp, funny and at times quite cutting, much like we imagine our own dialog could be if we thought a little more before speaking. In the hands of these professionals it seems very natural and not delivered from a script – even one as well written as this.

There are a few scenes that will not be appropriate for younger audiences, but mature experienced film goers will enjoy the tempting and teasing of things not necessarily graphically displayed – enough said. For those who enjoy Paris, this will bring back some memories and hopefully a desire to return. For those who have not been to Paris – well, what are you waiting for?

Take a chance, buy a ticket and experience a good film that you will not likely have a chance to see in the theaters. Support your local film festival and be a supporter of the arts and the exhibition of someone’s hard work and passion.

For more information regarding this film and others at the 16th California Independent Film Festival, please go to www.caiff.org – get your tickets early as we expect this event to sell out. Au revoir.

**Submit stories and story ideas to storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com**

## HunterDouglas

’tis the season for style  
saving celebration

\$100 rebate\* with any of the following purchases:

- 4 Duette® Architella® Honeycomb Shades (plus \$25 rebate each additional unit)
- 2 Pirouette® Window Shadings or 2 Silhouette® Window Shadings or 2 Vignette® Modern Roman Shades (plus \$50 rebate each additional unit)
- 1 Luminette® Privacy Sheer or Modern Drapery or 1 Skyline® Gliding Window Panels or 1 Vignette® Traversed™ with Vertiglide™ Shade (plus \$100 rebate each additional unit)



Ask about FREE Measuring and Installation

SEPTEMBER 14 – DECEMBER 17, 2013

# cheers.

It’s time to decorate your windows for the holidays.



CALL FOR APPOINTMENT TODAY!

ASK ABOUT OUR CUSTOM DRAPES AND SHADES AS WELL



Follow Us At Facebook or Twitter

Walnut Creek 925-935-2161 www.plumdesignsandblinds.com

\*Manufacturer’s mail-in rebate offer valid for qualifying purchases made 9/14/13-12/17/13 from participating dealers in the U.S. only. A qualifying purchase is defined as a purchase of any of the product models set forth above in the quantities set forth above. Offer excludes Nantucket™ Window Shadings, a collection of Silhouette® Window Shadings. If you purchase less than the specified quantity, you will not be entitled to a rebate. Rebate offers may not be combined for each qualifying purchase, the higher applicable rebate amount will apply. Rebates will be issued in the form of a prepaid reward card. Funds do not expire. Subject to applicable law, a \$2.00 monthly fee will be assessed against card balance 7 months after card issuance and each month thereafter. Additional limitations apply. Ask participating dealer for details and rebate form. © 2013 Hunter Douglas. All rights reserved. All trademarks used herein are the property of Hunter Douglas. 37700

MOVIE REVIEW

## 5A’S FALL SPECIAL

### 25% OFF FOR 3 MONTHS!\*

**ANY STORAGE UNIT IN STOCK\***

FROM OUR SELECTED UNITS, 9 X 10 OR SMALLER

SHOP OUR COMPLETE PACKING SUPPLIES INVENTORY

RENT A UNIT & MOVE IN WITH OUR FREE TRUCK!

CHECK UPCOMING EVENTS ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA!

Like us on Facebook

FOLLOW US ON Twitter

Blogger

\* SELECT UNITS LIMITED; 1ST COME, 1ST SERVED. OFFERS EXP. 10/31/13

ASK FOR YOUR 2013 NEIGHBORHOOD COUPONS WHEN YOU COME VISIT US!

455 MORAGA ROAD, SUITE F (925) 631-7000 WWW.5ASPACE.COM

# THE APP RAP

By Eric Pawlakos

**App: SleepBot by SleepBot LLC**  
**For: iPhones and Android phones**  
**Price: Free**

There seems to be a smartphone app for nearly everything. Therefore it should come as no surprise that there is an app that actually monitors your movement during sleeping. It uses this data to ensure that your alarm wakes you during the optimal time of your sleep cycle. The developers of this app recommend that you place your phone next to your pillow when you go to bed. SleepBot uses movement tracking to monitor your movements while you sleep, allowing it to distinguish between REM (deep sleep) and lighter sleep (non-REM). The science of sleep tells us that if you are awakened during a non-REM sleep cycle stage, you will feel much more rested than if you are awakened during REM sleep. You set your wake-up time, and SleepBot's alarm will wake you during a 30 minute window (no later than your set time) when it determines that you are in your lightest sleep phase. This app is not a gimmick, as both the United States National Institute of Health and

the National Academy of Engineering awarded SleepBot the First Place Winner of the "Go Viral To Improve Health" competition. There are many more features that come with this app, but the optimal wake-up is the primary feature. Try SleepBot. You may get awakened a little earlier than your set time, but you will wake up feeling more refreshed and ready to meet the day.



Eric is a sophomore at UC Davis, majoring in statistics. He is a member of the UC Davis rugby team, a reporter on Express Yourself™ Teen Radio, and enjoys playing guitar and exercising.

# TEEN SCENE

## Are Teens Too Old to Trick or Treat?

Two local teens offer differing opinions on the Halloween tradition

### Leave it for the Little Kids

By Youngjoo Ahn

Now in my fourth year of high school, I've learned that life is always hectic. There are constantly more tests, volunteering opportunities, club meetings, and even school dances. This whirlwind of activity never seems to stop for a moment so that we can embrace the child within. Halloween is that one special day where everyone can let loose and celebrate silly fun. There are many ways to enjoy Halloween without going through neighborhoods to find the most candy. Dressing up in costumes for school with friends creates memories to cherish, while teenage trick-or-treating should be taboo.

Many high school students view trick-or-treating as an opportunity to gather loads of free candy, but childhood trick-or-treating remains a fond memory in many of our minds, and should stay that way. Doing something just for the sake of hoarding candy detracts from the adventure.

"As a kid I loved trick-or-treating but now it just feels like something I've out grown. I don't want to tarnish all my cherished childhood memories of Halloween," senior Evan McAvenia said.

"Parents buy candy because they enjoy seeing cute little kids in their costumes, and want to add to the fun of their Halloween. Little kids take Halloween much more seriously. They dream about their costumes weeks in advance. Adults appreciate that excitement," junior Cece Andrews said.

When high school students take to the streets with paper bags or worse yet, pillowcases, they take away from the experience that little kids enjoy," Andrews added.

It's a treat to have adorable little ones at your door, but it feels more like a trick when a band of teens knock.

For teens, I suggest celebrating Halloween without trick-or-treating. Why not dress up in a crazy costume and spend the evening handing out the candy to the children? Or get your friends together for a scary story circle or to watch frightening movies?

If getting lots of candy is the main motivator, pick up bagfuls for a pittance at the spectacular post Halloween candy sales. Leave trick-or-treating to the kiddies.

Youngjoo Ahn, a senior at Miramonte High School, is co-president of Club Be the Star You Are and host of international teen radio Express Yourself. In her free times she enjoys to bake, write, and drink hot chocolate in the fall.



Youngjoo Ahn

### Halloween's Fun for Everyone

By Konnie Guo

Trick-or-treating is a timeless tradition that should be for all ages, not just little children. Teenagers are always told to grow up and get ready to be an adult. The pressure they constantly face leaves them with very few opportunities for fun. However, the end of October provides teens with a much welcome escape from their stressful lives.

Some teens enjoy going trick-or-treating simply to have a good time. It's nice to get out and stop stressing about school and grades once in awhile. Chris Ramirez, a junior at Miramonte High School, gave his input on this entertaining holiday: "I really enjoy being able to relax with a night out with my friends on Halloween. Plus, getting lots of candy is a bonus!" At a time when homework and extracurricular activities begin to pile up, the festivities of Halloween allow for a welcome break.

Trick-or-treating can be used as an opportunity to help others. The Orinda Juniores Club is a local group of teenage girls who work together to do various acts of community service. This Halloween, they are planning to raise money for charity by participating in "Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF." According to UNICEF's website, this campaign has been going on for over 60 years. Instead of getting candy, the Juniores will go door-to-door asking for donations for their cause. Trick-or-treating is much more than a simple activity for children. Instead, it can be utilized as a great way to help those who are less fortunate.

Sondra Abruzzo, president of the Juniores, explains, "Trick-or-treating is far more important than just getting free candy. Halloween is the perfect time to collect aid for those who need it the most." Abruzzo's compassionate stance on the importance of trick-or-treating takes the activity far beyond some trivial activity.

As Halloween rolls around, don't dismiss it as being too juvenile. Trick-or-treating is an endearing activity with a purpose for everybody, whether it's simply blowing off some steam or helping a greater cause. No matter how old or young someone is, one phrase is certain to be on the lips of many this Halloween: trick-or-treat!

Konnie Guo, a junior at Miramonte High School, is a member of Club Be the Star You Are! She is an avid reader, and during her spare time, enjoys playing the piano and doing volunteer work.



Konnie Guo

Teen Scene is YOUR voice. If you have something to say or have writing skills and want to be part of our Teen Scene team, email our Teen Coach, Cynthia Brian, Cynthia@CynthiaBrian.com.

The opinions expressed in Teen Scene are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly.

## Writing College Essays? Need help?



Writing coach Cynthia Brian helps college applicants write compelling essays.

"Rachel powered through her essay and application after her session with you. Working with you was the right focus, right person, right time. We can't thank you enough! You are amazing!" Mother

Call 925-377-STAR or email Cynthia@CynthiaBrian.com

Hourly fees. Book your writing session today. Cynthia cares.

"Honestly, the Lamorinda Weekly is always the best source for our efforts. Everyone reads it, thoroughly!" Lucy

Advertise in Lamorinda Weekly  
 Call 925-377-0977 today

## Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified

### Personals

Looking for my dance partner from Rheem Theatre Dance Class Sept 21st. Wife's name was Patricia. Call me (also Patricia) 925-938-4388.

### Music Lessons

Piano/guitar w/Robbie Dunbar  
 All levels welcome!  
 I travel to your home.  
 M. A. Music Composition  
 Piano tuning as well!  
 925-323-9706  
 robbiednbr@gmail.com

### Balance Class

Balance Class Lafayette  
 Dance and Movement Center,  
 1018 Almanor Lane Weds: 1-2pm;  
 \$20 per class. Fun movements  
 designed to improve your balance.  
 Simple choreography (no dance  
 experience necessary) plus exer-  
 cises for balance, coordination,  
 strength and flexibility. Must be  
 able to walk without assistance  
 and to get down and up from  
 the floor. To confirm space:  
 estherwetzal@yahoo.com or  
 (925)262-3155.

reach 60,000+ with your ad

### Insurance

Totalintegrityinsurance.com  
 20+yr Lamorinda resident.  
 My independent insurance  
 brokerage is here to serve you.  
 Over 100 top carriers = great  
 pricing and coverage for Biz  
 Gen Liab, W Comp, Homes, Auto,  
 Life. (925) 247-4356 0E90108

### Computer Service

COMPUTERS' BEST FRIEND  
 Home & Office Computer Service  
 • ONSITE REPAIRS • VIRUS REMOVAL  
 • WINDOWS TUTORING  
 • HARDWARE UPGRADES  
 • NETWORK SETUP AND SUPPORT  
 • REMOTE DESKTOP/TELEPHONE SUPPORT  
 www.computersbestfriend.com  
 925-682-3408 • 510-938-1881

### Plumbing

WE HOP TO IT!  
 (925) 377-6600  
 LeapFrogPlumbing.com

### Office For Rent



Premium office space  
 in Moraga available immediately.  
 Beautiful mission style bldg faces  
 Rheem shop Ctr, near restaurants,  
 theatre & plenty of parking.  
 866 SF \$1500+ CAM per month.  
 Beautifully landscaped.  
 (510) 727-1800 x313 Kate

### FREE Kittens

Will you love me?



I am looking for a home with  
 loving parents in a safe  
 environment. Could that be you?  
 There are many adorable cats &  
 kittens to choose. Give us a call:  
 Judy @ 925-788-8675 or  
 Michelle @ 925-324-7519.  
 Video You tube:  
 contracostacatsneedrescuepleasehelp

### House Cleaning

www.totalclean.biz  
 Serving Lamorinda since 1985.  
 Insured and bonded 376-1004.

### Monica's Cleaning

Residential & Commercial Janitorial Services  
 Lic. Free Estimates (925) 348-3761

### Handyman

Rusty Nails Handy Man Service  
 Repair • Restore • Revamp  
 Call Rusty- (925) 825-6997

### Painting Contractor

Interior, Exterior & Repairs  
 Professional & Reliable  
 Call Terry 925-788-1663 Lic. # 851058

### Windows & Gutters

Reliable Window Cleaning  
 Friendliness & remarkable results.  
 Windows, Gutters, Pressure  
 Washing. (925) 254-7622  
 ReliableWindowService.com

### Tree Service

East Bay Tree Service.  
 377-8733. Fine pruning, large  
 tree removal, stump grinding  
 License #805794

### Tree & brush removal.

Poison Oak removal. 376-1995,  
 Licensed, insured & bonded

### Construction

### Concept Builders

Remodeling, Home Repair &  
 New Construction  
 Bonded & Insured. License no. 842563  
 (925) 283-8122, Cell: (925) 768-4983

Jacob Spilsbury - General Contractor  
 American owned and operated  
 Renovation • Remodeling • Home Repair  
 Big & Small Jobs • Bonded & Insured  
 Lic # 898775 925-825-5201

\$8 per 1/2" classified ad height Email to:  
 classified@lamorindaweekly.com

**ADULT DAY PROGRAM**  
for those with Alzheimer's or other related dementias

- STIMULATING ACTIVITIES
- LIVE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT
- GAMES
- CRAFTS
- EXERCISE
- FRIENDSHIP

**New Expanded Facilities!**

**LARC**  
LAMORINDA ADULT RESPITE CENTER  
**925-254-3465**  
433 Moraga Way Orinda www.holyshepherd.org

**very nice pools**  
verynicepools.com  
925-283-5180

*We do the work. You get to play.*

Maintenance • Repair • Build

Established 1977 in Lafayette, California. Serving the entire Contra Costa County area and beyond.

# Moraga Pear & Wine Festival Recipe Contest

By Susie Iventosch



Karen Reed's pear and cheese pinwheels

Photo Susie Iventosch

This year's Pear Recipe Contest boasted five winners for a wide variety of recipes, including Nancy Ogden's Pear Coffee Cake, Karen Reed's Pear and Cheese Pinwheel appetizers, Elaine Cable's Rustic Chai Pear Scones with pear butter, Eva Spindler's Pear Cake dessert and AJ Russell's Pear-Oatmeal Cookies.

While they all sounded fantastic, I only had enough time – and ripe pears – to try two of them. So, I made the Pear Cheese Pinwheels and Miss Spindler's Pear Cake. Both were delicious! I wound up eating the pinwheels for dinner one night and the following day consumed a hefty portion of pear cake, fresh out of the oven. Beware, it is tough to eat just one piece.

The fun thing about recipe contests is that they challenge the imagination.

"I've done the pear recipe contest in the past," said Karen Reed, who won for her pinwheel appetizers. "What usually comes to mind are sweets. This time I tried to create something simple, easy to put together and a dish where you can be creative. I love the creativity aspect of the contest."

In fact, I did not try this, but goat cheese would probably be a fun alternative to the cream cheese for a little different flavor in the pinwheels.

Reed, vice president of the Moraga Park Foundation board, said she really enjoyed the entire festival. "It was perfect weather and there were lots of fun activities going on all day."

In addition to the many activities, the Park Foundation sold a record number of pear pies for people to take home, as well as for the pie eating contest. Nations Giant Burgers doesn't

normally make pear pies, but they made 450 of them for this single event, roughly 25 more than last year!

Eva Spindler, a sophomore who plays volleyball, basketball and swims for Campolindo High School, found out about the recipe contest about two hours before the final dishes were to be delivered to the festival. She made up her recipe in quite a big hurry!

"My mom told me about the contest, and I said, why not," Spindler said. "Every cake needs flour, so I started there!"

She was reviewing other recipes online and found a cinnamon cake. Since she had entered a few other recipe contests, she knew what went well together and converted that cinnamon cake into her pear cake.

During the contest, she and her mom left to donate at a blood drive and when they returned, she was informed that she had won the youth dessert division! She never had a chance to taste the cake, so she asked if there was any left for her to try. Apparently, not even a crumb could be found.

"Well, I am really glad they enjoyed it, but I would've liked to have tried it," she said.

With most of her life devoted to sports, Spindler will have to carve out enough time to try this recipe again, because it really is superb!

"I will probably enter more recipe contests, because you make your own creations that you can share with others. I would love it if more people would participate in these recipe contests!"

You can see all of the winning recipes at: www.lamorindaweekly.com under the FOOD tab.

## Pear and Cheese Pinwheels

Karen Reed  
2013 Adult "Appetizer" Winner

- Ingredients**
- |                                |                                      |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2 pounds ripe Moraga pears     | 2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese |
| ½ cup cream cheese             | 2 cups shredded Monterey Jack Cheese |
| ½ cup onion chive cream cheese | ½ cup Craisins                       |
| ¼ pound thinly sliced ham      | ½ cup finely chopped pecans          |
| 4 whole wheat wraps            | 4 garden herb wraps                  |

**Directions**  
Pear, ham and cheese pinwheels: Peel, core and thinly slice pears. Spread a thin layer of onion chive cream cheese on each whole wheat wrap. Sprinkle lightly with Craisins. Cover with a layer of pear slices, then a layer of ham and a layer of Monterey Jack cheese. Roll wraps tightly into log shapes. With a sharp serrated knife, slice the logs into 1-inch sections. Lay the sections on their sides on a serving dish to show the pinwheel design.

Pear, cheddar and pecan pinwheels: Peel, core and thinly slice pears. Spread a thin layer of plain cream cheese on each garden herb wrap. Sprinkle chopped pecans lightly over the cream cheese. Cover with a layer of pear slices and a layer of cheddar cheese. Roll wraps tightly into log shapes. With a sharp serrated knife, slice the logs into 1-inch sections. Lay the sections on their sides on a serving dish to show the pinwheel design.



Eva Spindler's pear cake

Photo Susie Iventosch

## Eva Spindler's Pear Cake

Eva Spindler  
2013 Youth "Dessert" Winner

- Ingredients**
- |                              |                                      |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ½ cup butter                 | 1 teaspoon baking soda               |
| 1 cup brown sugar            | 1/2 teaspoon salt (Susie's addition) |
| 1 tablespoon vanilla extract | 1/2 cup buttermilk                   |
| 1 egg                        | 2 pears, cut up                      |
| 1 1/2 cups flour             |                                      |

**Directions**  
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a baking dish. (Eva used 9x13 and also has tried a bread loaf pan. I used an 8x8 and loved the way it turned out!)

In a large bowl, beat butter and brown sugar until smooth and creamy. Add egg and vanilla and beat well. Mix flour, salt and baking soda and add to butter mixture alternately with buttermilk. Stir in pears.

Bake for approximately 25 minutes, or until a tester comes out clean and top of cake is golden brown. Serve warm or at room temperature.

Susie Iventosch is the author of Tax Bites and Tasty Morsels, which can be found at Across the Way in Moraga, www.amazon.com, and www.taxbites.net. Susie can be reached at suziventosch@gmail.com.

**This recipe can be found on our website:**

www.lamorindaweekly.com. If you would like to share your favorite recipe with Susie please contact her by email or call our office at (925) 377-0977.



# Business Directory

Heating

Underpinning

Gardening

Advertise

**ATLAS**  
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING COMPANY  
CA LIC. #489501

Old-fashioned service and high-quality installations.

**925-944-1122**  
www.atlasheating.com  
Since 1908

**Bay Area UNDERPINNING**  
GENERAL CONTRACTOR LIC. 947129

BUILDING FOUNDATIONS • LIFTING  
LEVELING • STABILIZING

**707 310-0602**  
www.bayareaunderpinning.org

**J. Limon Gardening**

Maintenance/Clean-up  
Monthly Service  
Sprinkler  
System Repair

**Call Jose**  
**(925) 787-5743**  
License #: 018287

25 yrs. experience in Lamorinda

Reach 60,000+ in Lamorinda

Advertise in Lamorinda Weekly  
Call 925-377-0977 today

# Chef Chao

FINE CHINESE CUISINE

## Holiday Celebration Special Dinner Menu Now Serving Daily

925.376.1740

www.chefchaorestaurant.com

343 Rheem Blvd • Moraga

## Lamorinda's Religious Services



### Lafayette United Methodist Church

955 Moraga Rd., Lafayette,  
284-4765, office@thelumc.org

Worship	Sunday	10 am
Children/Youth Sunday School	Sunday	10 am
Youth Fellowship	Sunday	6 pm



- ▶ Something for everyone, birth through senior adults
- ▶ Seedlings Preschool
- ▶ lamorinda familycenter
- ▶ Sunday Worship

LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
See more at LOPC.org

### ORINDA CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH SECURITY - LIVING WITHOUT FEAR

Explore how effective prayer can bring practical healing and freedom to your life  
**Oct. 29, 7:30 p.m. Orinda Library**  
Free talk - all are welcome  
www.christianscienceorinda.org 254-4212

### Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church 433 Moraga Way, Orinda, 254-3422 www.holy shepherd.org



8:15 a.m. Traditions Worship Service  
9:40 a.m. Education for all ages  
10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
Coffee Fellowship at 9:15 and 11:45 a.m.  
Childcare available for ages 5 and younger



*St. Giles Episcopal Church*  
**An Inclusive & Affirming Community**  
Sunday School & Eucharist at 9am  
St. Mary's College Chapel  
1928 St. Mary's Rd., Moraga  
925-376-5770 - www.stgiles-moraga.org  
Traditional Church Service & Music Yet Forward Looking & Open Minded

### The Orinda Community Church

10 Irwin Way, Orinda | 925.254.4906 | www.orindachurch.org  
"No matter who you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!"

Join us Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

### St. Anselm's Episcopal Church A Loving Community

**Sunday Services: 8 and 10 AM**

In-church Youth Zone, 10 AM Nursery Childcare  
682 Michael Lane, Lafayette, 284-7420, www.stanselms.ws

## ◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆

### ART

**Barbara Hudler Cella is delighted to announce a new exhibit** of her paintings at the Moraga Library. The exhibit will run through the month of October. The library and exhibit are open Tuesday and Thursday, noon to 8 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hudler Cella highlights the Moraga Library show with her brilliant new paintings of sardine boats in Italy and paintings of Saint Mary's College. For more info about the show and the artist, visit www.barbaracella.com, or call (925) 878-9723.

**A sale of Guatemalan jewelry and hand-woven items** coordinated by Maya Works – a nonprofit social venture that empowers indigenous women of Guatemala (Mayan Artisans) to achieve economic security by providing markets for their handcrafted products and expanded educational opportunities – will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 3 at the Orinda Community Church. For info, call (925) 254-4906.

**Unusual and mundane recyclable materials, dynamically** re-imagined and creatively blended with fresh and dried floral materials, will comprise a large indoor/outdoor exhibition from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 27-28 at the Orinda Community Center, 28 Orinda Way. Titled "Dynamic Ikebana Flower Show," this event also includes live demonstrations by Ikebana teachers throughout both days. Cost: \$10 general (includes all day exhibits and two teachers' demonstrations); \$20 feature admission (adds the featured demonstration with Gail "Koho" Emmons, Riji, or Yayoi "Soho" Sakai, Riji). Tickets are available at the door.

**After 14 years on LaFiesta Lane, the Lafayette Art Gallery** opened its doors Oct. 8 at its new and greatly expanded location, in the historic Forge complex of Lafayette (3420 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, next to Bo's Barbecue, and adjacent to The Artisan Bistro). The new space was formerly occupied by the Pacific Wildlife Galleries, and has been designed expressly for displaying art, photography, ceramics and jewelry. A new exhibit titled "The Heart of Art" will inaugurate the opening, and will feature warm and emotional works by both current and new members. It will run through the holiday season, ending Dec. 28. For info, call (925) 284-2788 or visit www.lafayettegallery.net.

**Meet artist Bobby Bowes at the first annual Glass Pumpkin Patch** in Lafayette from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25. Wine tasting presented by Sequoia Grove Winery. Exhibit and sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 26-27 at The Art Room, 50 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette. For info, call (925) 299-1515.

**The Moraga Art Gallery announces a new show entitled "Capturing Light: Lens and Glass"** highlighting photography by resident artist Wenda Pyman, and cast sand glasswork and flame-work by guest artist Janice Peacock. The show opens Oct. 30 and will run through Jan. 4, 2014. There will be a free opening reception to see the exhibit and meet the gallery's artists from 5 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2. The show also includes works by the gallery's 14 resident artists and several guest artists. The show entitled "Indian Summer," highlighting ceramics by resident artist Donna Arganbright, and jewelry by guest artist Terri Durkovic runs through Oct. 26 at 522 Center Street, Rheem Shopping Center, Moraga. Free. The gallery is open Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. For more information, email moragaart-gallery@gmail.com or call (925) 376-5407.

**Saint Mary's College Museum of Art's Schedule** of Exhibitions through Dec. 15: Photographer "Judy Dater: Edo Redux" in the new Studio Gallery. "The Artist Revealed: Artist Portraits and Self-Portraits" in the Hearst Gallery; fifty portraits and self-portraits are on loan from the Syracuse University Art Collection. "Malcolm Lubliner: The Automotive Landscape" in the new Armistead Gallery. "Nature's Placid Splendor" in the Keith Gallery; landscapes include three private collection paintings never before on public

view. Open 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. For info, call (925) 631-4379 or visit stmarys-ca.edu/museum. Admission: free to K-12 graders; \$5 adults. Free parking.

### MUSIC

**Free Range Opera presents Irene (1919) - A Cinderella Story** from 2:15 to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 9, at Leshar Center - Knight 3, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek. Free Range Opera's darling revival of "Irene" to benefit Bay Area charity, Career Closet. This is a rare opportunity to hear the original 1919 hit! Cost: \$30. For more info, visit www.freerangeopera.com or call (408) 475-1376 or email info@freerangeopera.com.

### THEATER

**Role Players Ensemble presents Peter Shaffer's "Lattice and Love,"** a funny look at the value of friendship and storytelling. Shows start at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays through Nov. 9 at the Village Theatre, 233 Front Street, Danville. Tickets: \$20-28; online at www.RolePlayersEnsemble.com; at Danville Community Center, 420 Front St, Danville; or call (925) 312-3400.

**"The Man Who Came To Dinner" by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman,** acknowledged as one of the funniest comedies ever written, is coming to the Acalanes High School theatre, Nov. 13-16 with a 7 p.m. curtain (house opens at 6:30 p.m.), directed by Ed Meehan. Tickets: \$10 general; \$7 students. Tickets are available at the door or online at ahsperformingarts.org. All proceeds benefit the Acalanes Performing Arts Boosters-Drama.

**Saint Mary's College, Performing Arts Department Theatre Program** proudly presents the West Coast premiere of "And When We Awoke There was Light and Light," Laura Jacqmin's contemporary fable about teenage idealism and activism in the age of global connections. Guest director Susannah Martin stages the production, which opens Thursday, Nov. 14 and performs for two weekends on the Saint Mary's College campus. And when we awoke performs at 8 p.m. on Nov. 14, 15 and 16, 21, 22 and 23, and a matinee at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 24. Tickets are \$10 general; \$8 seniors (65+) and non-SMC students; \$5 SMC students, faculty and staff. Tickets are available online (www.brownpapertickets.com), by phone ((925) 631-4670) or at the door.

### LECTURE & LITERATURE

**Creative Writing Reading Series at Saint Mary's College:** Rae Armantrout will speak about her most recent book of poems "Just Saying" (Wesleyan University Press, 2013) at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 23 at the Soda Center Claeys Lounge. Cristina Garcia, author of five novels: "The Lady Matador's Hotel," "A Handbook to Luck," "Monkey Hunting," "The Agüero Sisters" (winner of the Janet Heidiger Kafka Prize), and "Dreaming in Cuban" (finalist for the National Book Award) will speak at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 13 at the Soda Center Claeys Lounge. Her next novel, "King of Cuba," will be released in 2013.

**Moraga Attorney Turns to Romance and Mystery.** When Jeanne Marie Olin decided to write her first novel, she knew it would take place in her favorite city, but San Francisco is more than the setting for her mystery romance. The City by the Bay is a prominent character in the tale of a young woman from the Midwest seeking romance and excitement in the turbulent 1960s. Jeanne Marie Olin will be signing her debut novel at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3 at Orinda Books.

### KIDS, PARENTS & TEENS

**Please join us for Orinda Intermediate's annual Diverse Abilities Awareness Week Open House** from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 23 at Orinda Intermediate School, 80 Ivy Drive, Orinda. Highlights include hands on learning stations, community group representatives sharing support resources, and a wheelchair basketball game between OIS students and the Bay Area Outreach Program that is not to be missed! Come ready to learn and

have fun! All are welcome; family participation is encouraged. (Students, bring adult supervision.) Free. For more information, please contact Anna Tague: Tague6@comcast.net, or go to http://tinyurl.com/OIS-DAAW.

**Owl Prowl. Owers will gather at the staging area at Fernandez Ranch** for a presentation on owls that live in this area from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1 at Fernandez Ranch, 1050 Christie Rd., Martinez. Discover what makes owls so unique and head to nearby fields where we will attempt to call in screech owls and great horned owls. Parents urged to bring children of all ages. Free. Sign up at outreach@muirheritage-landtrust.org.

**Free College Planning and Information Session.** Minimize Stress and Demystify the College Planning Process discussion and question and answer session offered by Smart Cookie Learning in partnership with the Lafayette Library and Learning Center from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 3 is designed to help high school students (of all grades) and their parents effectively manage the college planning process. Learn more about what to expect and how to plan and prepare your student's path to college and find the right fit. Free. Space is limited. Please register at www.smartcookielearning.com or call (925) 297-5304 with questions.

**Lamorinda Moms will host the 16th annual Preschool Fair** designed to help parents find the perfect preschool for their children from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 14 at Oakwood Athletic Club, 4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette. Free. Children are welcome to attend. For info, contact Catherine Aker, Lamorinda Moms publicity chair at publicity@lamorindamoms.org.

**Turkey Trot Fun Run and Walk from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16** at Fernandez Ranch, 1050 Christie Rd., Martinez. Run with the wild turkeys at Fernandez Ranch during the first annual turkey trot, open to all ages. Walkers welcome to join in the fun, too. T-shirts and refreshments included with registration. Cost: \$25 adults; \$20 Under 18. To register, visit muirheritage-landtrust.givezooks.com/events/turkey-trot-fun-run-walk.

### OTHER

**Creative Writing Workshop series from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** Oct. 24, Nov. 7 and 14 in the Orinda Library Gallery Room. This six-week series led by author and writing instructor, Jessica Barksdale Inlan, is free and open to the public. Pre-registration required by visiting ccclib.org or register at the Orinda Library information desk, (925) 254-2184.

**Don't let the challenges of aging defeat you or your loved one.** Mary Ballin, CFP practitioner, client relationship advisor, Mosaic Financial Partners has been invited by Eldercare Services to participate in the upcoming community event, "The Family Circus: Walking the Tightrope of Elder Care and Aging" from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette. Ballin will be available to answer attendees' questions about the role that a financial advisor plays in helping families ensure that all the pieces of the plan for care are considered and followed through on. Registration required by Thursday, Oct. 24 via email to Danielle Miller at DanielleG@EldercareAnswers.com or by calling (925) 937-2018.

**Daughters of the Goddess welcomes women and girls of all ages** to join their Annual Spiral Dance beginning at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25 at the Orinda Masonic Temple, 9 Altarinda Rd., Orinda. Opening is a spectacular marketplace filled with beautiful crafts and services from women all over the Bay Area. The ritual, led by Daughters of the Goddess Kahuna and High Priestess Leilani, will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$23 advanced before Oct. 22; \$29 at the door. Student and Crone discounts are available. Daughters of the Goddess asks that you please bring your drums and rattles, as well as pictures of your loved ones that have passed to be placed on the Ancestor Altar. For info, contact Leilani at (925) 787-9247.

... continued on next page



◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆

**OTHER ... continued**

**Lafayette Hiking Group - Lafayette Reservoir - rim and side trails.** Discover new areas of this favorite strenuous 5-6 mile Lafayette walk with leader Alison Hill on Saturday, Oct. 26, following part of the rim trail, then hiking down into a valley on one trail and back up to the rim on another. There is a possibility of seeing some interesting birds - bring binoculars. There are steep hills so bring hiking sticks if you use them. The hike will be modified if the ground is very muddy. Meet in the parking lot out from Lafayette BART's main entrance at 8:30 a.m. We form carpools to the trailhead. Bring lunch or snacks, water, layered clothing, good walking shoes, sun protection and money to contribute toward gas, bridge tolls and parking. Cost: \$3 local.

**Fall Festival at the Lafayette United Methodist Church,** Fellowship Hall from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26. Boutique items, jewelry, crafts, plants, food items, note cards, doll clothes, plush animal puppets, and more. Lunch available from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**21st Annual Lafayette Reservoir Run – Sunday, Oct. 27, co-sponsored** by the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Lafayette to benefit local schools and the services and programs of the chamber. Approximately 2,500 participants compete in a 10k or 5k Certified Runs and a 2-mile run/walk for fun through the heart of downtown, around the reservoir and back. Sprinters, walkers, the "stroller brigade" and many of Lafayette's top four legged residents share the streets. Starting location is Mt. Diablo Boulevard between First Street and Moraga Road. Registration opens at 6:30 a.m., staggered start times: 2mi run/walk 8 a.m., 5k Certified Run 8:30 a.m., 10k Certified Run 8:45 a.m. Race Course: 10k Moraga Road west to El Nido Ranch Road, around the Lafayette Reservoir and back to Moraga Road. 5k or 2-mile DO NOT go around the Lafayette Reservoir. Adult registration fee: \$30; or \$35 (day of race). Elementary school fee: \$22; or \$27 (day of race). For info, visit <http://www.lafayettechamber.org/events/reservoir-run/>.

**Widowed Persons Support will have its monthly meeting** at the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 28 in the Davies Room, 49 Knox Drive, Lafayette. Learn about the new Panama Canal to be built by 2015. The program begins after the social half-hour with refreshments. No charge, reservations not required. All widowed persons and guests welcome.

**"Security - Living without Fear." The Christian Science Church** in Orinda is presenting this special program in recognition of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29 in the Orinda Library Auditorium. Hear from international speaker, Suzanne Riedel, a practitioner and teacher of Christian Science who says, "No one needs to feel their lives are controlled by fear of health-issues, safety concerns, or financial disaster." For more info, call (925) 254-4212 or visit [www.christianscienceorinda.org](http://www.christianscienceorinda.org).

**Town Hall meeting on The Future of Transportation in California:** Challenges and Opportunities from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30 in the Orinda Library Auditorium. Hear from a panel of experts: Contra Costa Transportation Authority, Google, Inc., and California Partners for Advanced Transportation Technology. For more info, call (925) 942-6082 or RSVP at [sen.ca.gov/1565/transportationtownhall](http://sen.ca.gov/1565/transportationtownhall).

**John Muir National Historic Site reopened to visitors** on Oct. 17. Visitors can access the site between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday year-round, except Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. The park has been closed since Oct. 1 due to the lapse in Congressional appropriations. John Muir NHS, located at 4202 Alhambra Avenue, Martinez. Admission to the site is free

of charge. For more information, please visit the park website at [www.nps.gov/jomu](http://www.nps.gov/jomu) or call (925) 228-8860.

**Come and start your holiday shopping at the Orinda Community Center Auxiliary [OCCA] 37th Annual Holiday Bazaar** from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2 at the Orinda Community Center, 28 Orinda Way. There will be lots of vendors featuring products including jewelry, cards, food varieties, accessories, arts and crafts, as well as family entertainment.

**Lafayette Juniors 20th Annual Rummage Sale** from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2 at Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Drive in Lafayette. Special early bird entrance fee \$3 per adult from 7 to 8 a.m. Pre-loved designer clothes, baby and kid clothes, toys, and gear, furniture, household goods, and much more. For info, visit [www.lafayettejuniors.org](http://www.lafayettejuniors.org).

**Join Boy Scout Troop 224 for an open house with activities and dessert** at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 4 at Happy Valley School, 3855 Happy Valley Road, Lafayette (behind the multi). Boy Scouts is open to boys who are at least 11 years old or who are completing fifth grade in 2014, and you do not need to have been a Cub Scout to join Boy Scouts. If you have any questions, please contact assistant leader Cheryl Tyler at [ctcalbear@comcast.net](mailto:ctcalbear@comcast.net) or (925) 283-2506.

**Sons in Retirement Lamorinda Branch 171 meets the first** Wednesday monthly at Holy Trinity Culture Center 1700 School St. Moraga. Social hour 11 a.m., lunch at noon. The after lunch speaker on Nov. 6 will be Wayne Korsinen, who, in monologue style, will portray Secretary Knox as he visits with the Chief of Naval Operations during the early hours of December 7, 1941 at Pearl Harbor. For membership information, call Larry at (925) 631-9528.

**Travels through Southern Asia. Filmmaker Nateon Ajello** and his wife Pam traveled 1,300 miles by bicycle, bus and train through India, Nepal and Bhutan. Come and hear about their adventures abroad, the people they met and the sights that they saw at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6 at the Arts and Science Discovery Room, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette.

**Maintain Your Home's Interior. Mark Shaw, 15-year real estate broker,** will discuss interior maintenance tasks that are critical to the long-term performance of your home from 10:30 a.m. to noon Thursday, Nov. 7 at the Lafayette Library, Arts and Science Room. Regularly-scheduled maintenance can help you avoid serious problems, or at least identify issues early so problems can be addressed in a timely manner with minimal adverse effects. Cost: \$1 Members; \$3 Non-Members.

**The 16th Annual California Independent Film Festival** will be held once again at the Orinda Theatre and the New Rheem Theatre in Moraga Nov. 7-10, with the biggest lineup of films to date for this festival. For more info, visit CAIFFA at [www.caiff.org](http://www.caiff.org). (See ad page A11)

**The Orinda Community Foundation (OCF) invites community organizations** to apply for grants for projects that enhance the quality of life in Orinda. To be considered in the current cycle, grant applications must be received by Nov. 8. The application can be downloaded from [www.orindafoundation.org](http://www.orindafoundation.org). Questions can be emailed to [orindafoundation@gmail.com](mailto:orindafoundation@gmail.com).

**Reaching out to Korean War Era Veterans. Contra Costa County** is seeking connections with Korean War era veterans who served in the "Forgotten War" and to encourage them to be a part of the 2013 Veterans Day celebration. If you or a family member served on the Korean Peninsula or provided support back home, please contact the Veterans Service Office at (925) 313-1481 or email [veterans@vs.cccounty.us](mailto:veterans@vs.cccounty.us).


**Tired of that boring, cluttered old garage? Come to the Lafayette Community Foundation's first ever Garage Tour** from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 10 featuring custom garages, shops and man caves in the Lamorinda area. In addition to some great ideas for transforming your garage in to the retreat of your dreams – there will be classic cars, live music and food trucks. Tickets are available for \$35 online at [www.LafayetteCF.org](http://www.LafayetteCF.org), and locally at Blodgett's Flooring, Lafayette Car Wash and the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce. Day of the Tour tickets will be available at Blodgett's Floor, 3291 Mt. Diablo Court, Lafayette. Proceeds from the Garage Tour support neighborhood projects through the Lafayette Community

Foundation. Learn more at [www.LafayetteCF.org](http://www.LafayetteCF.org).

**The Moraga Women's Society's Goodwill Bays Fashion Show** and Luncheon will present at 11 a.m. on Monday a museum collection of antique clothes that span over 100 years Nov. 18 at the Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga. Check-in and social time starts at 10:30 a.m. Lunch will be served following the fashion show. Cost: \$35. For tickets or questions contact Nancy Comprelli, (925) 376-3187. Please mail check to Moraga Women's Society, c/o Nancy Comprelli, 1844 Joseph Dr., Moraga, CA 94556-2711. Deadline is Nov. 11.

**Alison McKenzie, who has been recruited by the California State Department** to train county leaders about the Affordable Health Care Act (ACA) and its implications, will discuss the ACA provisions starting at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday Nov. 19 at the Serbian Cultural Center, 1700 School St. in Moraga. She will answer the following questions: What is the ACA? Who does it cover? How does it work? Free for all ages. Sponsored by the Lafayette-Orinda-Moraga (LOM) Chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). For more info, email [communication-publicity@aauwoml.org](mailto:communication-publicity@aauwoml.org).

... continued on page B12



Do you qualify for a tax free, **VA PENSION BENEFIT?**

Learn about the "Aid and Attendance Benefit" for Wartime Veterans and Spouses.

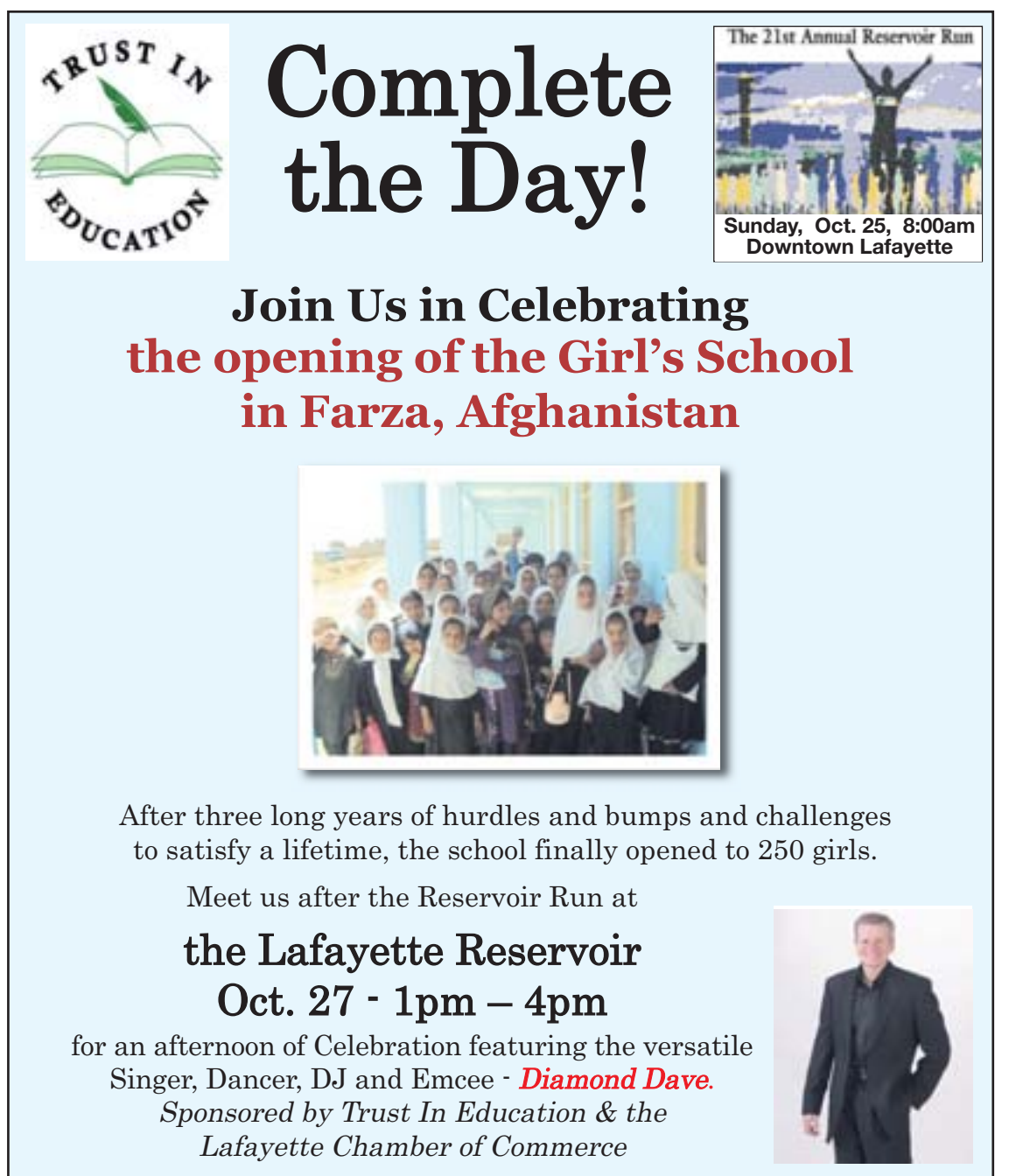
If you are a wartime Veteran or spouse, you may be eligible to receive benefits to help pay for your healthcare costs, up to:

<b>\$1,732</b> Single Veterans	<b>\$2,054</b> Veteran & Spouse	<b>\$1,113</b> Surviving Spouse
-----------------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------------

**Tuesday, October 29, 5:00 pm – 6:30pm**

Presented by: Littorno Law Group  
RSVP by October 25th to 925-377-7900  
[nancy.robinson@aegisliving.com](mailto:nancy.robinson@aegisliving.com)

**Aegis Living of Moraga**  
950 Country Club Drive, Moraga, CA 94556  
[aegisofmoraga.com](http://aegisofmoraga.com)



**TRUST IN EDUCATION**

**Complete the Day!**

**Join Us in Celebrating the opening of the Girl's School in Farza, Afghanistan**

After three long years of hurdles and bumps and challenges to satisfy a lifetime, the school finally opened to 250 girls.

Meet us after the Reservoir Run at **the Lafayette Reservoir Oct. 27 - 1pm – 4pm** for an afternoon of Celebration featuring the versatile Singer, Dancer, DJ and Emcee - **Diamond Dave**. Sponsored by Trust In Education & the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce



# trick or treat

Costumed children are invited to Trick or Treat the businesses of Rheem Valley on Halloween, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.  
Free\* Trick or Treat Bags & Halloween Candy from participating businesses.

[rheemvalley.net](http://rheemvalley.net)

Rheem Valley Shopping Center  
...a Moraga tradition

Sponsored by Rheem Valley businesses. Children must be accompanied by an adult. \*While supplies last. Rheem Blvd. at Moraga Rd. in Moraga

# HAUNTED HOUSE



**OCT. 26 -30**  
**6PM TO 8PM**  
**5PM START SAT & SUN**

ORINDA THEATRE SQUARE

Admission: \$2 donation or dry food or canned goods donation for the Food Bank of Contra Costa

[orindatheatresquare.com](http://orindatheatresquare.com)

## Not to be missed

### OTHER ... continued

For the 16th year Bobbie and Tom Preston will be holding the Cycle Recycle, collecting repairable bikes to be refurbished and given to charitable groups to distribute at Christmas. New and/or used bikes and trikes—in working order or repairable – or useable bike parts may be delivered to the side driveway of the Preston’s home at 1307 Larch Avenue in Moraga throughout the month of November only. No skateboards please; no need to call beforehand. For info, contact Bobbie or Tom Preston at (925) 376-8474.

### GARDEN

The Orinda Garden Club invites you to enjoy “A Feast from the Forests and Fields,” featuring Kevin Feinstein, author, teacher and foraging expert at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 24 in the Orinda Library Auditorium. Kevin’s presentation will focus on Contra Cost County. Coffee will be served at 10 a.m. prior to the program.

Lafayette Garden Club “Encouraging Children to Garden” with author Stephanie McInnis begins at 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 14 at the Lafayette Christian Church, 584 Glenside Dr., Lafayette. Visitors and new members welcome. For info, contact Carolyn Poetzsch at (925) 944-1737.

Montelindo Garden Club meets every third Friday, September through May. Ted Kipping, arborist who travels the world, locating rare flora and fauna will discuss “Flowering California Native Shrubs for Gardens” at 9 a.m. Friday, Nov. 15 at St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church, 66 St. Stephens Drive, Orinda. For info, visit [www.montelindogarden.com](http://www.montelindogarden.com). Visitors welcome.

### SPOOKY



Trick-or-Treat Street on Oct. 25. For a fun, safe Halloween event, children and their parents are invited to trick-or-treat on Mt. Diablo Boulevard from Oak Hill Rd to Dewing Avenue and in La Fiesta Square from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25. All participating businesses will display a “Trick-or-Treat” poster and balloons. Then head over to the Plaza for a costume contest at 6 p.m. and a special viewing of “Ghostbusters” at 6:30 p.m.

It’s time again for Sleepy Hollow Elementary School’s Annual Pumpkin Patch – and you won’t want to miss it! Head over to the school’s grounds from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26 at 20 Washington Lane in Orinda and enjoy a day of old-fashioned fun and games with family and friends. This year’s attractions and festivities include: haunted house, carnival games in the quad, jump, climb and bungee, face painting, a cupcake walk, cake decorating contest, and food.

Second Annual Orinda Theatre Square Haunted House will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Oct. 26 - Oct. 30; Saturday and Sunday the Spookiness kicks off at 5 p.m. This year, the admission fee is \$2 or a non-perishable food donations onsite. All money and food donations collected will be donated to the Food Bank of Contra Costa County.

Brasarte presents: A Brazilian Family Halloween Ball from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct 26, at Casa de Cultura, 1901 San Pablo Ave, Berkeley. This family Halloween ball Brazilian style includes music and dancing, and a costume contest, with Brazilian snacks and drinks for sale. Cost: \$5, adults and children. For more info, visit [www.Brasarte.com](http://www.Brasarte.com), call (510) 528-1958 or email [damasceno@Brasarte.com](mailto:damasceno@Brasarte.com).

Haunted House Friday and Sunday, Oct. 25 and 27 at the Live Oak Room, Lafayette Community Center, 500 Saint Mary’s Road, Lafayette; (not too scary) from 5 to 7 p.m., parents accompany children 7 and under. Very scary from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. for children 8 and over. Cost: \$3 (ages 7 and under); \$5 (ages 8 and over). For info, call (925) 284-2232.

Rheem Valley on Halloween. Costumed children are invited to trick-or-treat from 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31 at participating businesses in the Rheem Valley Shopping Center in Moraga. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Halloween night fun in Moraga! If you’re out trick-or-treating in Moraga don’t miss 12 Lynwood Place, home of the traditional Halloween skit. This year’s show, “Snow White,” runs continuously from 7 to 9 p.m. Oct. 31.

The Celtic/Folk/World music duo, Four Shillings Short, is coming to town. Samhain/Halloween concert celebrating the Celtic New Year with music, ghost stories and poetry from 8 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2 at 85 Lafayette Circle. Suggested donation: \$15-20. For info, call (925) 268-8226 or visit [www.reverbnation.com/venue/1208316](http://www.reverbnation.com/venue/1208316).

Please submit events to:  
[calendar@lamorinda.com](mailto:calendar@lamorinda.com)  
[www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com)

# TRICK OR TREAT STREET

Friday, October 25, 4:00-8:30PM  
**BOOtiful Downtown Lafayette**



- Trick or Treat Street 4:00-6:00pm
- Costume Contest and Refreshments at Plaza Park 6:00pm
- Movie in the Plaza 6:30pm  
GHOSTBUSTERS

For a fun, safe Halloween event, children and their parents are invited to Trick – or -Treat at participating merchants along Mt. Diablo Blvd., from Oak Hill Rd. to Dewing Ave. in La Fiesta Square and the Shops at Plaza Center. All participating businesses will display a Trick-or-Treat Poster” and balloons. Please come in costume to receive a special treat. Don’t forget to bring a Trick-or-Treat bag. Then head over to the Plaza for a costume contest and a special showing of Ghostbusters.



**FREE FOR EVERYONE**



[www.lafayettechamber.org](http://www.lafayettechamber.org)

# LAMORINDA SPORTS

## Mats Defeat Dons

### Miramonte splits rivalry series

By Michael Sakoda

The Lamorinda rivalry series concluded with a big win for Miramonte on Oct. 11. The Mats (4-2, 1-1) defeated visiting Acalanes (4-2, 0-2) 41-28.

Both teams were looking to get back on track after suffering losses the previous week (Miramonte at Campolindo 10-38; Acalanes at Las Lomas 26-33) while the Cougars of Campolindo (6-0, 2-0 DFAL) overtook Marin Catholic as the top team in the Northern Division III rankings.

Before the game, Miramonte head coach Jack Schram emphasized the need to shut down the Don's running game. "Acalanes runs the football very well. We want to... take them out of the ground game and put them into a passing game."

Schram's pregame strategy was based on the success of Las Lomas, who forced Acalanes quarterback Casey Harrington to throw the ball 46 times after senior running back Peter Mitchell went out early in the game.

"Casey had a breakout game last week, but this is what we're dealing with," said Acalanes head coach Mike Ivankovich, before the match-up with Miramonte. "When you lose your top weapons it's tough." Luckily for Ivankovich, Mitchell was ready for the Miramonte match-up. He had a 61-yard rushing touchdown on his way to recording 169 yards on the night.

The game began with early scoring drives from the Mats. "Our offensive line did a good job creating holes which allowed us to run right up the field for the opening touchdown," said Schram. And his team kept the pressure on, building a 28-7 lead into the waning minutes of the first half.

In the third quarter, it was the Dons who came out hard, scoring a touchdown, and getting a pick six from its defense to cut Miramonte's lead to seven, 28-21.

But it was too little, too late. In the fourth quarter, Miramonte senior running back Ray Clark, scored a 78-yard rushing touchdown to put the game out of reach.

"It was a pretty deep hole," said Ivankovich after the game. "We kept playing, gave ourselves a chance...just wasn't enough."

An ecstatic Schram credited his team. "It was a good effort, and it was good for us to come back after last week and pick up the tempo offensively."

Acalanes beat Dougherty Valley 42-28, while Campolindo defeated Las Lomas 35-20 to stay perfect on Oct. 18.



Casey Harrington (3)

Photos Clint Federas



Clayton Stehr (32) interception

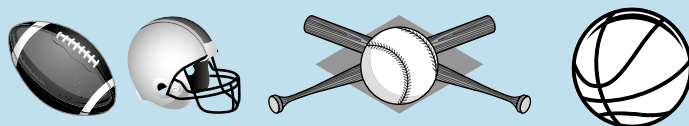


Robbie Stern (17) reaches for the pass while Clayton Stehr (32) looks to tackle.



Senior running back Ray Clark rushed for a 78-yard touchdown to seal the win for Miramonte.

## Youth Sports Registration



### Lamorinda Rugby Football Club

Registration is now open for the 2014 rugby season! Season runs January through March for youth, and through April for HS. All ages welcome. Girls welcome through age 11. No prior rugby experience necessary. Practices are located at the Wilder Fields in Orinda. Youth parent informational meeting is scheduled for Nov. 20 at 7pm in the Miramonte HS Cafeteria. High School player/parent info meeting is Sunday, Nov. 17 at 5pm in Miramonte HS Cafeteria. Find out more about our team and how to register online at [www.lamorugby.com](http://www.lamorugby.com). Contact head youth coach Doug Pearson for more info: [dpearson@lee-associates.com](mailto:dpearson@lee-associates.com). For High School, contact Recruiting Director Tim Mascheroni at [tim@mascheroniconstruction.com](mailto:tim@mascheroniconstruction.com).

## GET THE BEST FOR LESS!!

### Up to \$2,150 in Savings!

ENDS November 15, 2013 - CALL FOR DETAILS



Receive cash rebates & qualify for an energy tax credit when you install a "Carrier" ultra quiet, high efficiency heating & cooling system.

### \$45\* Furnace Maintenance

\*After Union Local 104 \$50 mail-in rebate. Ends Nov 29, 2013 Call for Details.

## ACS Air Conditioning Systems

5151-C Port Chicago Highway ~ Concord, CA 94520

[www.ACSystemsInc.com](http://www.ACSystemsInc.com) • [info@ACSystemsInc.com](mailto:info@ACSystemsInc.com)

License # 632329

Serving the Bay Area Since 1969

### 925.676.2103

## Providing Insurance and Financial Services

It's no accident more people trust State Farm.



Mike Rosa, Agent  
Insurance Lic. #: OF45583  
1042 Country Club Drive, Moraga  
925-376-2244

LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR STATE FARM IS THERE.®

P040036 02/04 State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company (Not in NJ), Bloomington, IL

## Submit stories to

[sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

(we prefer to receive your original photo file, minimum size: 200 dpi and 1200 pixels wide)



Follow us on  
[Twitter@LamorindaSports](https://twitter.com/LamorindaSports)



## SPORTS MEDICINE CENTER FOR YOUNG ATHLETES

WALNUT CREEK 925-979-3430  
OAKLAND 510-428-3558

- SPORT-SPECIFIC PHYSICAL THERAPY FOR THE DEVELOPING YOUNG ATHLETE
- LONG-TERM SPORTS PERFORMANCE ENHANCEMENT
- INJURY REDUCTION TECHNIQUES



# Campolindo Volleyball Still Perfect

By Brad Kvedaris



Senior Kelley Wirth had 14 kills, including four aces, in the win.

Campolindo may be the team to beat in DFAL girls' volleyball this year, but anything can happen in a rivalry match with Miramonte. The Matadors didn't disappoint, giving the defending league champs a serious test before falling 3-1, 23-25, 25-14, 25-23, 25-20 in Orinda on Oct. 16.

"I'm very happy with how we played. To go four games with Campo is amazing for my girls, to kind of step out and have that realistic goal, that we can keep up with the Campo team and that style of team," Mats' coach Dave Masdeo said.

Miramonte surprised the

Cougars (11-5, 5-0 DFAL) by taking the first set, to delight of the raucous home crowd. The Matadors (8-9, 3-3 DFAL) used scrappy defense and deceptive soft hits to jump out to a five-point lead over the bigger Campo side, then withstood a late Cougars rally to hold on. Team captain Maddie Goodreault scored three of the final six points in the set for the Mats, while fellow senior Kacey Sorenson had the set-winner.

But the lead didn't hold up long, as Campolindo used two timeouts and the break between sets to make adjustments.

"After that (first set), we realized

they do a lot of tipping, and we changed our defensive scheme a little bit. We picked up the tip," Cougars' coach John Vuong said.

The Matadors again got out to an early lead in the second set, but this time a methodical Campo squad wore them down. Kelley Wirth (14 kills, 4 aces) and Kirsten Sibley (17 kills, 4 digs) controlled the front line as the Cougars took 17 of the last 23 points to claim the set easily. After squeaking out a tight third game in which the teams were rarely separated by more than two or three points, Campo grabbed control of the fourth set early on and cruised to the win.



Sophomore Kirsten Sibley led the Cougars with 17 kills and four digs.

While the Cougars are used to seeing Wirth turn in impressive performances, this time they also got big contributions from a pair of sophomore front-line players in Sibley and Emma Johnson (9 kills). The two underclassmen - who Johnson says are also best friends off the court - weren't in for every play, but when they were on the floor together, they gave the Matadors fits with their size (Johnson stands 5-10, Sibley 6-2).

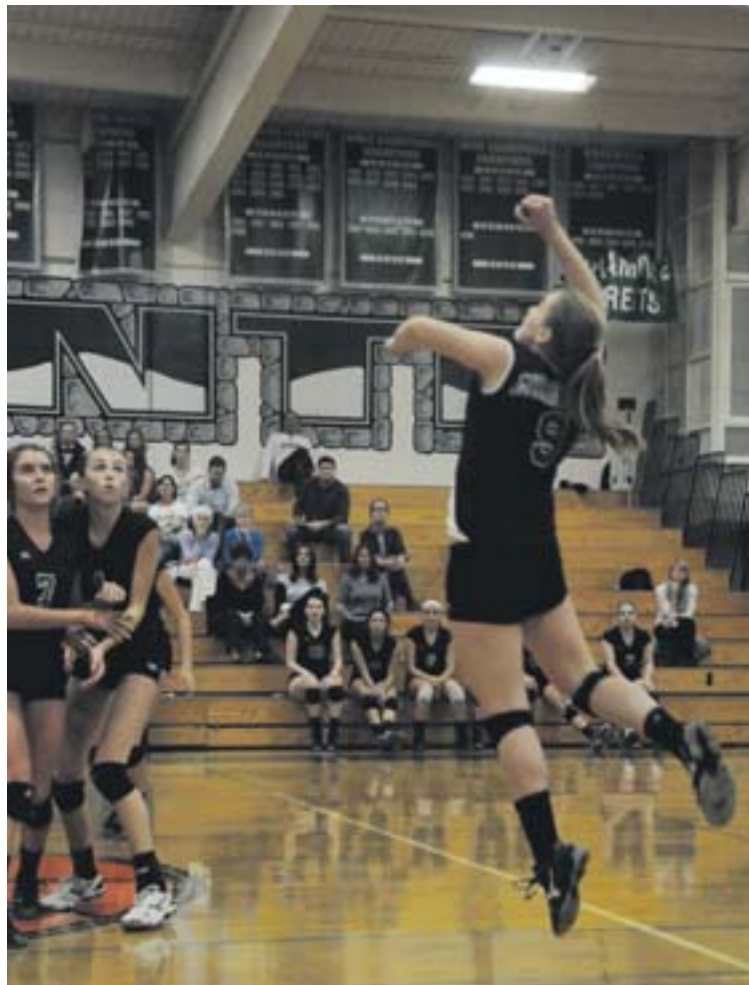
"I think (our friendship) helps on the court - we can be really comfortable with each other, help each other out, tell each other where to hit," Johnson said. "(Sibley) helps me a

lot with the blocks, tells me when to go up. We've definitely gotten closer through volleyball because we've been through more things together... and that's made us even better on the court together, and it benefits the team."

Miramonte and Campo were coming off vastly different stretches in the week leading up to the match, which featured a school holiday on Monday. The Cougars hadn't played in a long time, with a bye the previous week and several players out of town visiting colleges over the long weekend. The Matadors had played eight matches in five days, including two league contests that went the full five sets, and a five-game weekend tournament. While Masdeo acknowledged that his team was "on the tired side, kind of drained emotionally and physically" by the end of Tuesday night, he was pleased with the progress they'd made.

On Oct. 17, Campolindo defeated Las Lomas in four sets Thursday to stay perfect in league play, 25-15, 25-23, 27-29, 25-20. Kenzie Brown recorded 33 assists to go along with the 52 she had against Miramonte, and Natalie Menitkas had 22 digs. Wirth and Sibley led the Cougars with 19 and 13 kills, respectively.

Acalanes fought through injuries to starters Molly Dalziel and Ying Stroebe to split a pair of league matches against Dougherty Valley (L, 3-2) and Alhambra (W, 3-0). The Dons improved to 10-9 overall and 5-2 in league play to claim sole possession of second place in the DFAL. They also took fifth place in the Dougherty Valley Varsity Tournament the previous weekend, losing to Carondelet, once in the group stage and again in the knockout rounds.



Senior Kacey Sorenson had the set-winner for the Mats.



Senior captain Maddie Goodreault scored three of the final six points in the first set to give the Mats the win.

## Lamorinda Weekly

is an independent publication, produced by and for the residents of Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda, CA

### Contact us:

Letters to the editor (max 350 words):  
letters@lamorindaweekly.com  
Sport events/stories/pictures:  
sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com  
Art, theater, community events:  
calendar@lamorindaweekly.com  
Business news or business press releases:  
business@lamorindaweekly.com  
School stories/events:  
schooldesk@lamorindaweekly.com  
General interest stories/Community Service:  
storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com

**Publishers/Owners:** Andy and Wendy Schreck;  
andy@lamorindaweekly.com,  
wendy@lamorindaweekly.com

**Editor:** Lee Borrowman;  
lee@lamorindaweekly.com  
**Associate Editor:** Jennifer Wake;  
jennifer@lamorindaweekly.com

**Advertising:** 925-377-0977, Wendy Schreck;  
wendy@lamorindaweekly.com  
**Circulation:** 26,600 printed copies; delivered to  
homes & businesses in Lamorinda.

### Staff Writers:

Sophie Braccini; sophie@lamorindaweekly.com  
Cathy Tyson; cathy@lamorindaweekly.com  
Laurie Snyder; laurie@lamorindaweekly.com  
Cathy Dausman, cathy.d@lamorindaweekly.com  
Sports Editor: Caitlin Graveson  
sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com  
Teen Coach: Cynthia Brian;  
cynthia@lamorindaweekly.com  
Food: Susie Iventosch; suziventosch@gmail.com

### Contributing Writers:

Conrad Bassett, Moya Stone, Michael Sakoda,  
Symon Tryzna, Rebecca Eckland, Marissa Harnett,  
Lou Fancher, Nick Marnell, Lian Walden, Clare  
Varellas, Chris Lavin, Amanda Kuehn, Barry Hunau  
(cartoonist)

**Photos:** Tod Fierner, Ohlen Alexander,  
Kevin Nguyen, Gint Federas

**Layout/Graphics:** Andy Schreck, Jaya Griggs.  
Printed in CA.

**Lamorinda Weekly,**  
P.O. Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570-6133  
Phone: 925-377-0977; Fax: 1-800-690-8136;  
email: info@lamorindaweekly.com  
www.lamorindaweekly.com

## www.Lamorindaweekly.com

### Most Frequently Viewed Stories From Our Last Issue:



- Moraga School District Pins its Hopes on Measure B
- Testing the Waters for Possible Townhouse Project at Celia's Site
- LYNN'S TOP FIVE The Grab Bag Column
- Complete Design Change Requested for Terraces Project
- Letters to the Editor
- Transition to High School Rough for Teens, Parents
- Funding the New Common Core Standards
- Bollinger Valley Development at a Standstill
- Tough Decisions Ahead
- Campolindo Stays Perfect against Lamorinda Rivals

If you wish to view any of the stories above go to [www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com) and click the link below the story.

# Girls Tennis Teams Look to NCS

By Marissa Harnett



Melissa Van Pell held on to win a pivotal match for the Dons Photos Gint Federas

Bella von Ebbe got the Dons on track winning the first match.

Silvana Moiceanu battled, but fell to Van Pell.

High school tennis is winding down with just two matches remaining in league play. Acalanes' current record stands at 8-2 in DFAL (10-5 overall), losing only to Miramonte (2-7) and Dougherty Valley (9-0) during first round of action. Their last two pivotal matches of the season will be against those tough teams for a second time.

Campolindo's young team continues to battle hard standing at 4-6 in DFAL.

"Although our team is made up of a good number of inexperienced players, they definitely make up for it with their good effort and positive spirit. As a result, many of the girls have made tremendous strides over the past month," Campo coach Sunun Faulkner explained.

Their hard work was not enough to take the win against Acalanes in their second match on Oct. 15. The Lady Dons came up with the 6-3 victory.

Acalanes' head coach John Vocke took nothing for granted going into the match. "Since the first Campolindo match, we have been working hard to improve our doubles play. We have experimented by having the girls play with different partners to try to find players who have chemistry with each other," Vocke added.

Their first meeting ended with the same 6-3 final score. Acalanes swept all six singles matches and Campo took all three doubles. This time the Lady Dons traded one singles match (line 5) for one of the doubles (line 3).

The competition could have tipped toward the Cougars however. Line four singles proved to be a pivotal match. In the last singles match to finish, Campolindo's Silvana Moiceanu and Acalanes' Melissa Van Pell treated spectators to long rallies and hard fought points.

It started with a 6-1 first set win for Van Pell, but Moiceanu stepped up her game in the second set, scrambling and tracking down more balls.

Moiceanu came back to even the set 5-5, but Van Pell took the next two games to close out the set (and match), 6-1, 7-5.

The Cougars did not accomplish their goal of defeating the Dons in this meeting, but they have much to be proud of. "Although we're not win-

ning as often as the past Campo tennis teams, we feel we are having one of our most successful years," Faulkner said. "Our team philosophy is to focus on the process and not the outcome. For us, that means strive to improve our skills, always be a good "citizen" and be a good teammate."

**Note: Miramonte and Acalanes faced off Oct. 22 after our press deadline.**

Miramonte also stands at 8-2 with both Lamorinda rivals remaining in their schedule.

Heading into the match, Vocke felt optimistic. "The Lady Dons competed hard against Miramonte in our first meeting," he said. "While the overall score was a lopsided 7-2, we believed that we played well and match up well against Miramonte."

Miramonte head coach Michael McCollom expects a competitive second match against their Lafayette rival. "Acalanes team is good top to bottom with one and two among the best around, but...we are just a little deeper," he said. "I think we are playing well enough to continue our success against the Dons."

Miramonte's final match of league play will take place tomorrow, Oct. 24 at Campolindo. "I look forward to ending our DFAL season at [Campo's] place and believe we have the depth and players to finish strong in second place of the DFAL and playing on into the NCS," he said.

**SINGLES**

1. von Ebbe (ACA) d. Ross 6-1, 6-0
2. Karagocev (ACA) d. Leserman 6-1, 6-2
3. Barabi (ACA) d. Brewer 6-1, 6-2
4. Van Pell (ACA) d. Moiceanu 6-1, 7-5
5. Marino (CAM) d. Singer 6-4, 6-4
6. Ladrech (ACA) d. McDonell 6-2, 6-3

**DOUBLES**

1. Kallerud / Finney (CAM) d.Lo / Harrington 6-3, 6-3
2. Zhong / Warner (CAM) d. Kwok / Bakar 6-3, 6-2
3. Yang / Ho (ACA) d. Braun / Wong 6-3, 4-6, 10-5

# Campolindo JV Football Defeats Rivals

Submitted by Nicole Cassidy



Photo provided

The Campolindo junior varsity football team earned back-to-back wins against rivals Acalanes and Miramonte to open its DFAL season.

The Acalanes game was a nail biter through the third quarter as the teams remained tied. Campolindo scored

late in the fourth quarter to put the Cougars up 21-13. A final drive by Acalanes was thwarted with a Cougar interception to end the game.

Campolindo's strong play on both sides of the ball was too much for Miramonte. Campolindo won 42-20.

# Cougars Water Polo takes Third

Submitted by Jeffery Fara



Photo provided

The Campolindo boys' varsity water polo team went 4-1 and took third place in the Villa Park Classic held in Irvine Oct. 3-5. The Cougars beat

Las Lomas 8-7 in the third place game in sudden death overtime.

## Position Available: Sports Reporter

Lamorinda Weekly is looking for a sports reporter to cover a variety of high school, college and club sports. A journalism background and understanding of AP Style is helpful, but not required. Please send your resume and writing sample to wendy@lamorindaweekly.com or call (925) 377-0977; \$50-\$75 per published article.



Follow us on Twitter@LamorindaSports

**Submit stories to sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com**

*(we prefer to receive your original photo file, minimum size: 200 dpi and 1200 pixels wide)*

**www.lamorindaweekly.com**

All of our stories are available on our web site and are archived back to our first issue (March, 2007). You can read the current issue at the Read Online tab, or click Archive to read earlier issues. For your convenience, all stories are available as a single-page for downloading or sending to friends and family.

# Love Lafayette

**FASTFRAME**  
EXPERT PICTURE FRAMING  
1020 BROWN AVENUE  
LAFAYETTE CA 94549  
(925) 283-7620  
OPEN MONDAY 10-5 and TUESDAY-SATURDAY 10-6  
15% OFF WITH THIS AD

Cruises, Tours, Groups,  
Hawaii  
  
**KELLY WORLD TRAVEL**  
Est. 1973 CST 2012855-10  
3530 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette  
Phone: (925) 284-2122  
Email: kellytravel@hotmail.com

**TRICK OR TREAT STREET**  
Friday, October 25, 4:00-8:30PM  
**BOOtiful Downtown Lafayette**  
  
www.lafayettechamber.org

*Lafayette/Rheem Valley Pet Shoppe*  
www.lafayettepet.com  
Carrying everything you need for your pets!  
**At the end of the run, stop by for free dog treats & water!**  
  
Neutered Rabbits available here!  
3517 Mt. Diablo Blvd. • Lafayette • (925) 284-5212

Draperies  
Carpet  
Blinds & Shades  
Bedspreads  
Upholstery  
Shutters  
Wallpapers  
  
Susan Cowell  
Anna M. Webb  
925-283-2252  
3506H Mt. Diablo Blvd  
(Next to McCaulou's in the courtyard behind Peet's Coffee.)  
Hours:  
Mon-Fri 10:00-5:00  
Sat. by Apoinymnt

 **TRANS JEWELER**   
*Expert in all your Fine Jewelry needs*  
*Diamond Setting*  
*Jewelry Repair*  
*Custom Design and Manufacturing*  
(925) 283-2137  
3608 Happy Valley Road • Lafayette  
- Behind Wells Fargo Bank -  
D. Tran


*sewnow!*  
fashion studio  
Adult Workshops & Classes,  
Kids Classes, Camps, Parties  
+ Sewing Machines + Girl Scouts + Birthdays  
NEW 3534 Golden Gate Way 283-7396 www.sewnow.com

**Lafayette Auto Body, Inc.**  
www.lafayetteautobody.com  
  
3291 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette (925) 283-3421

**Piano Studio**  
Keys to success  
Piano Lessons in Lafayette with professional instructor MTAC member. Competition, CM exam Preparation.  
Rita Yegiazaryan  
925-283-7601  
Cell: 925-323-8969  
1060 Sierra Vista Way, Lafayette

  
**Residential**  
- Remodels -  
- Additions -  
- Custom Homes -  
General Contractor  
Lafayette  
(925) 283-3128  
Contact Matt Kunz or Jeff Wendt  
matt@kandwbuilders.com  
jeff@kandwbuilders.com  
CL# 930839

**McCaulou's**  
Save Gas  
Save Money  
Save Time  
Shop your local McCaulou's

**Making Bay Area Homes Beautiful Since 1946**  
  
"Quality and Service Since 1946" Abbey Carpet.  
www.blodgetts.com  
3291 Mt. Diablo Ct., Lafayette 925.284.4807

Diamonds  
Anniversary Bands  
Wedding Rings  
  
FINE JEWELRY  
Value • Quality  
Integrity  
since 1994  
Fine Jewelry and watch repair including Rolex & Omega using genuine parts.  
All work done on premises by European trained watch maker & jeweler.  
Custom Designs • Manufacturing in Gold & Platinum • Jewelry & Watch Repair  
3559 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette • 925-283-1800

  
Cuesta  
**ANTIQUES**  
etc...  
La Fiesta Square  
3540 Wilkinson  
Lane #A  
925-299-1317

  
First Months Rent FREE  
Any Size Unit!  
3399 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette (925) 962-1940  
• Access Hours 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. • State of the Art Video Surveillance  
• Complete Moving & Packing Supplies • All Doors Alarmed  
• Major Credit Cards Accepted • Individualized Elevator Access  
• Please call for details • Deliveries Accepted

**FINE BEDDING & GIFTS**  
  
Japanese style & comfort  
Gifts, Hand Craft Futon, Solid Hardwood Frame, Tatami Platforms & Mats, Custom Comforter Covers, Shoji Screen & Laterns  
Mon-Sat 10-6pm, Sun: 12pm-5pm 925-299-0882  
961-A Moraga Rd. Lafayette • sugi-store.com

  
**LAFAYETTE PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
Orthopedics • Sports Rehab • Geriatrics  
Mention the Lamorinda Weekly for a  
**Complimentary Consultation**  
3468 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Ste B110, Lafayette, CA  
925-284-6150 www.LafayettePT.com

WE CARRY **HunterDouglas** PRODUCTS  
SINCE 1954  
**ARMAND'S**  
DRAPERY, SHUTTERS & UPHOLSTERY  
DRAPERY & UPHOLSTERY WORKROOM ON PREMISES  
Custom Drapes • Roman Shades • Alustra • Mini Blinds • Vertical Blinds  
Vignette® & Silhouette® window shades • Luminette® Privacy Sheers®  
Duette® honeycomb shades • Drapery Hardware • Bedspreads  
Wood & Vinyl Shutters (Indoor & Outdoor) • Outdoor Basswood Blinds  
Insoroll Rolling Shutter  
NO CHARGE FOR IN HOME SELECTION & MEASURE  
BLINDS & DRAPERY CLEANING & REPAIRS  
SHOWCASE PRIORITY DEALER  
**283-8717**  
3391 Mt. Diablo Blvd. • Lafayette • www.armandsdrapery.net

*The Yarn Boutique*  
  
• Lots and lots of fabulous yarn  
• Friendly, personal service  
• Sensible prices  
LaFiesta Square,  
www.yarnboutique.us - 963-C Moraga Rd. - 925-283-7377

Watch for Shop Orinda  
**September 25<sup>th</sup>**  
Call for Advertising  
925.377.0977

**The Art Room**  
Art Instruction for Children & Adults  
Sign up now for Fall classes!!  
• The Young Artist • Cartooning • Watercolor • Acrylics  
• Pastels & Mixed Media • Teen Open Studio • Wild Things  
• Adventures in Art • Create with Clay • Art of Drawing  
(925) 299-1515 • www.theart-room.com  
50 Lafayette Cir., Lafayette

# Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 07 Issue 17 Wednesday, October 23, 2013



*The Home Designer: Fall in Love ...read on page D6*

## Lafayette's New Marquis

By Cathy Dausman



*Construction of the Marquis Lafayette development is nearing completion; pictured is a courtside view.*

*Photo Cathy Dausman*

The Marquis is back in Lafayette – this time in the form of town home style housing. Twenty-three homes; four to six units per building, in five buildings are taking shape on the 1.5 acre parcel which formerly housed the Hungry Hunter restaurant on the southwest corner of Mt. Diablo Boulevard and Pleasant Hill Road.

The Marquis Lafayette townhomes will bear the new street name of Shreve Lane. Coffee shops,

grocery stores, medical offices, the Lafayette Library and BART transportation are just minutes away on foot. Each single family attached home features four bedrooms, 3.5 baths and a 2 car garage; the three available floor plans offer square footage ranging from 1967 to 2074.

Models cost from \$795,000 to \$820,000. Additional “location premium” and upgrade costs apply.

“These are high spec level homes, with 17 by 17 tiles, granite countertops, stainless steel GE appliances and maple cabinets,” said Rebecca Newell, northern California area sales manager for Taylor Morrison.

The house also features CAT 5 cable wiring. Newell said the homes’ GreenPoint rating also makes them environmentally friendly.

... continued on page D4



## VLATKA BATHGATE



IF I HAD A BUYER FOR YOUR HOME WOULD YOU SELL IT?

Call me at 925 597 1573

Vlatka@BestLamorindaHomes.com

BRE#01390784



### FOR SALE 114 Lucille Way, Orinda

**Absolute Luxury close to Downtown!**



The appeal of this spectacular 3972 sqft picturesque home is its serene location. This elegant, grand and spacious home features 3 bdr. and 2.5 ba. and an additional 1 bed/1 bath au pair unit complete with kitchenette, living area, full bath & separate laundry. The home exemplifies stunning architectural detail, an impeccable floor plan and refined qualities throughout.

**Offered at \$1,395,000**

### FOR SALE 130 Charles Ave, Pleasant Hill



Gregory Garden's charming one story home with huge, flat yard close to downtown, park and pool. Ideal for downsizing or investment property.

**Offered at \$499,000**

### FOR RENT 44 Heather Ln, Orinda



Charming Glorietta Home, short term lease available now to July 1st, 2014.

**Rent - \$3950/month**

**EXCELLENT TIME to take advantage of strong demand to get the highest possible price on your home and buy something else while interest rates are still low. They started to go up. If I had a Buyer for your home would you sell it?**

**VLATKA CAN HELP YOU WITH BUYING OR SELLING YOUR HOME.  
WWW.BESTLAMORINDAHOMES.COM**

## Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

City	Last reported:	LOWEST AMOUNT:	HIGHEST AMOUNT:
LAFAYETTE	24	\$480,000	\$1,950,000
MORAGA	9	\$500,000	\$1,480,000
ORINDA	9	\$575,000	\$1,503,000

Home sales are compiled by Cal REsource, an Oakland real estate information company. Sale prices are computed from the county transfer tax information shown on the deeds that record at close of escrow and are published five to eight weeks after such recording. This information is obtained from public county records and is provided to us by California REsource. Neither Cal REsource nor this publication are liable for errors or omissions.

### LAFAYETTE

- 930 Acalanes Road, \$480,000, 5 Bdrms, 2334 SqFt, 1972 YrBl, 9-20-13  
 593 Antonio Court, \$1,190,000, 4 Bdrms, 2070 SqFt, 1956 YrBl, 9-20-13;  
 previous Sale: \$43,000, 12-01-72  
 571 Arrowhead Drive, \$910,000, 6 Bdrms, 2354 SqFt, 1962 YrBl, 9-16-13  
 1077 Brown Avenue, \$929,000, 3 Bdrms, 2712 SqFt, 1979 YrBl, 9-20-13;  
 previous Sale: \$193,000, 08-30-79  
 4105 Canyon Road, \$1,400,000, 4 Bdrms, 3144 SqFt, 1953 YrBl, 9-18-13  
 2459 Cherry Hills Drive, \$753,000, 3 Bdrms, 1740 SqFt, 1963 YrBl, 9-23-13;  
 previous Sale: \$610,000, 09-26-03  
 3959 Cowan Road, \$850,000, 3 Bdrms, 1680 SqFt, 1952 YrBl, 9-19-13;  
 previous Sale: \$585,000, 01-11-11  
 3131 Diablo View Road, \$855,000, 3 Bdrms, 2317 SqFt, 1947 YrBl, 9-24-13  
 3097 Hedaro Court, \$875,000, 4 Bdrms, 1955 SqFt, 1954 YrBl, 9-11-13;  
 previous Sale: \$610,000, 01-31-13  
 3435 Little Lane, \$1,250,000, 3 Bdrms, 1925 SqFt, 1955 YrBl, 9-12-13;  
 previous Sale: \$160,000, 10-01-92  
 3370 McGraw Lane #A, \$1,500,000, 5 Bdrms, 4236 SqFt, 1958 YrBl, 9-20-13;  
 previous Sale: \$155,000, 09-27-76  
 3500 Moraga Boulevard, \$1,075,000, 4 Bdrms, 2178 SqFt, 1950 YrBl, 9-25-13  
 687 Old Jonas Hill Road, \$1,350,000, 4 Bdrms, 2367 SqFt, 1969 YrBl, 9-17-13  
 3555 Old Mountain View Drive, \$1,015,000, 5 Bdrms, 3082 SqFt, 1949 YrBl, 9-12-13;  
 previous Sale: \$899,000, 06-24-10  
 3154 Padre Street, \$825,000, 4 Bdrms, 1722 SqFt, 1962 YrBl, 9-13-13;  
 previous Sale: \$44,500, 05-07-73  
 1342 Reliez Valley Road, \$1,375,000, 4 Bdrms, 2662 SqFt, 1970 YrBl, 9-13-13;  
 previous Sale: \$620,000, 09-13-94  
 3393 Rossi Street, \$1,060,000, 3 Bdrms, 2203 SqFt, 1955 YrBl, 9-20-13  
 3132 Sandalwood Court, \$1,062,000, 4 Bdrms, 1599 SqFt, 1962 YrBl, 9-18-13  
 816 Solana Drive, \$1,370,000, 4 Bdrms, 2243 SqFt, 1949 YrBl, 9-12-13;  
 previous Sale: \$902,000, 03-27-13  
 720 South Pond Court, \$810,000, 4 Bdrms, 2483 SqFt, 1996 YrBl, 9-12-13;  
 previous Sale: \$625,000, 10-12-11  
 964 Stow Lane, \$1,950,000, 4 Bdrms, 2255 SqFt, 1956 YrBl, 9-17-13;  
 previous Sale: \$841,000, 05-11-12  
 3756 Sundale Road, \$870,000, 4 Bdrms, 2192 SqFt, 1953 YrBl, 9-18-13;  
 previous Sale: \$380,000, 08-28-98  
 33 Toledo Drive, \$1,375,000, 3 Bdrms, 3707 SqFt, 1979 YrBl, 9-20-13  
 1098 Via Roble, \$960,000, 4 Bdrms, 2320 SqFt, 1962 YrBl, 9-12-13;  
 previous Sale: \$495,000, 12-06-96



1903 Saint Andrews Drive, Moraga

## Moraga Country Club detached home on double lot!

Open Sunday 10/20, 1-4



[www.1903saintandrews.com](http://www.1903saintandrews.com)

Offered at \$1,245,000



Presented by

**SUE LAYNG**

Cell: 925-963-7189 • Sue@SueLayng.com • www.SueLayng.com

BRE # 000970956



## Classic Marchant Ranch home in Prime Lafayette location!

3158 S. Silver Springs Rd., Lafayette

PENDING



[www.3518SouthSilverSprings.com](http://www.3518SouthSilverSprings.com)

Located in the coveted Silver Springs neighborhood Inner Circle! Walk to trail and top rated schools from this expansive 4BR, 2.5BA home on .48 level acre with beautiful backyard and solar heated pool. Hardwood floors, vaulted ceiling, kitchen with breakfast bar, dining room with brick fireplace and seamless access to the patio and yard...plus large bonus room.

Offered at \$1,795,000



Presented by

**SUE LAYNG**

Cell: 925-963-7189 • Sue@SueLayng.com • www.SueLayng.com

BRE # 000970956



# Lafayette's New Marquis

... continued from page D1

The green extends outside, as well. The buildings face inward to a park space which will hold a tot lot, lawn and picnic area.

"We modeled it after the [downtown] Lafayette park," said sales associate Chrissie Curnutt, although theirs is absent the park's namesake statue and overhead trellis. "We're excited to have an offering which is a little bit different product for Lafayette," Curnutt added.

Newell and Curnutt see the residences as an opportunity for buyers both young and older – those looking to move up or empty nesters wanting to scale back. Both ends of the homeowner spectrum should enjoy living together, although boomers should plan on getting a healthy leg workout. The ground floor entry level does include a fourth bedroom and bath tucked in behind the garage.

The main floor is the living area, one flight up from ground, with kitchen, dining room, living space, laundry and a powder room, and small deck facing the common green space.

The upper floor has three bedrooms and two full baths. Views are good from both the main and upper floors, and it seems the builder made an effort to preserve the tall pine and redwoods encircling the complex. Traffic noise on the busy adjacent streets was surprisingly quiet with the windows closed.

When Lamorinda Weekly first visited the project mid-September the interiors had been painted, but the kitchen cabinetry and backsplash tile installation was unfinished.



Hardwood flooring was still under a protective wrap, and the kitchen appliances had not been installed. Now, according to Curnutt, all appliances have been installed "except in Building B" (the four townhomes which back up to Pleasant Hill Road). It is expected that exteriors and landscaping should be done by December, she added.

Exterior finishes – shingling in fall colors and trellis-like sunshades above windows and garage bays were taking shape along the building façades, especially along the site interior.

According to Newell, the old restaurant was demolished a little over a year ago; paving began last April. The company hopes to have its first building completed this fall; buyers could move in by December or January, she said.

Marquis Lafayette is a Taylor Morrison development. For details, go online to <http://www.taylormorrison.com/new-homes/california/bay-area/lafayette/marquis-community#Floorplans> or call for a viewing appointment: (925) 785-1331.



## THINKING OF SELLING?

### You'll Be Amazed At The Current Value of Your Lamorinda Home

### CALL US TODAY TO FIND OUT

Leslie 925.253.7027 or

Michele 925.253.7028

MANZONETEAM.COM  
**MANZONE**  
REAL ESTATE TEAM

**Michele Manzone**  
Certified Residential Specialist  
(925) 253-7028

CA#BRE: 01028002

**Leslie Dopp-Manzone**  
Certified Residential Specialist  
(925) 253-7027

CA#BRE: 01120753

www.ManzoneTeam.com





## Discover Reliez Valley Highlands, Lafayette



Truly deserving of its Sunrise Ridge name, this beautiful home with 4 bedrooms/3.5 baths, plus office and rec/media room is situated on a cul-de-sac overlooking stunning views of the surrounding Alhambra Valley. Verdant, rolling hills and wooded views greet you along the way to this gorgeous executive-style home, and that's only the beginning...

The backyard beckons you outdoors to a resort-like experience with a beach entry, Pebble Tec finished pool and a tempting spa with cascading waterfalls. Terraced patios and an expansive lawn invite you to entertain outdoors with a magnificent backdrop of towering ancient oaks, dedicated open space, and expansive views to the Carquinez Straits.

Centrally located, this very special home is approximately 10-12 minutes from Highway 24, BART and downtown Lafayette - just about 5 minutes to Highway 680 with quick access to locations north and east.

[www.1030SunriseRidge.com](http://www.1030SunriseRidge.com)

Offered at \$1,398,000



Real estate with a difference. A Member of Real Living

PACIFIC  
UNION

CHRISTIE'S  
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

**Ron and Susan Rothenberg**

**925.286.5530**

BRE# 01309986 | 00857547

[www.TeamRothenberg.com](http://www.TeamRothenberg.com) | [info@TeamRothenberg.com](mailto:info@TeamRothenberg.com)



## The Home Designer Fall in Love

By Brandon Neff

Fall – shorter days, cooler nights, and for many, a time of transition. Lazy summer getaways spent dreaming and relaxing give way to thoughts of cozy spaces, family gatherings and rooms designed for nesting. As the season moves forward, you notice the light shifting and you find yourself reaching for that extra blanket to drape across the bed. For many of my clients, autumn also signals a season for reevaluating the way they live, what they surround themselves with, and for discovering new ways to love their home. Once overlooked or ignored rooms can be transformed into a favorite place to entertain, to lounge or to simply escape. We evolve – why shouldn't our home?

This isn't just about new trends because I don't believe in trends when it comes to good interior design. This is about living at your best, and designing a home that reflects your best life. This speaks to falling in love with your home all over again, and looking beyond the walls and rooms and discovering what connected you to your house or apartment in the first place. Ask yourself, does your home make you smile when you walk in the door? Does your space represent who you are and what you're passionate about? It can.

This week's project really speaks to how thoughtful choices and a passion for reinvention led my clients to re-imagine their home into a very personal expression. Lisa and Richard's home in Lafayette was, at first glance, unremarkable. It was large with spacious rooms centered on an expansive lot – the grounds reflecting more about their passions than the interiors. Much of the furnishings seemed to crowd the rooms, and the layout denied the main room's proper flow. (Did I mention the foosball table in the living room?)

Much of the “eclectic” furniture was a hodgepodge of pieces collected over years in different homes, former lives as parents and durable seating that they couldn't part with because it still did the job. Er ... sort of. People, durability does not a well designed home make. Sure, it's nice when things last, but hanging on to the past can limit your creativity. Rather, think about a functional home that serves your life in the present and build a space that caters to how you live today.

Clearly, my clients were eager to create a home that spoke to their lives now – newly empty-nested and ready for rooms that they could spread out in. The chal-

lenge they presented me was to uncover a fresh perspective on the home they wanted to stay in, while respecting their tastes as a couple, as well as imagining a welcoming home that worked for entertaining. Not a small task!

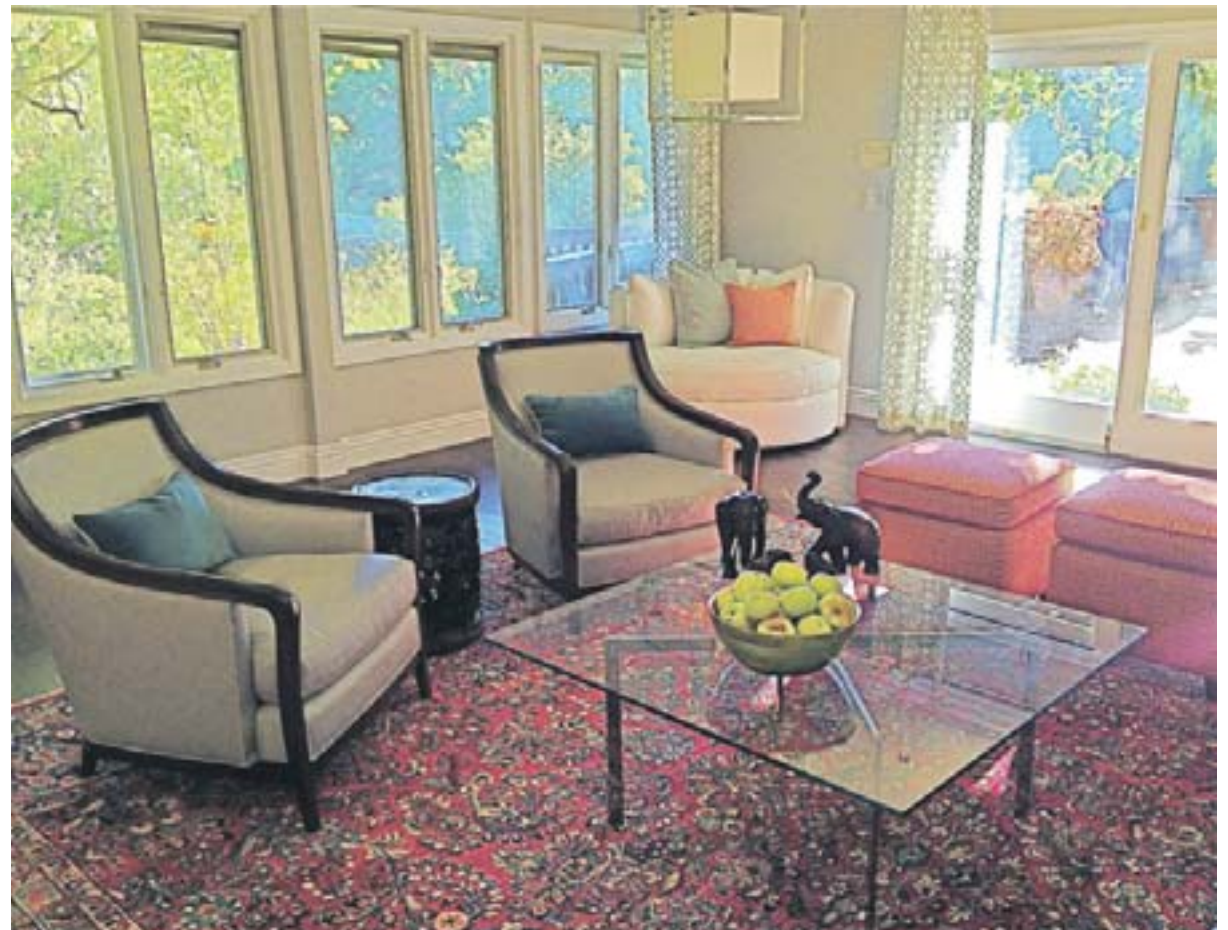
The project was less about a gut job, and more about peeling away old layers to create new vistas. Lisa and Richard loved the views to their tree lined backyard, and wanted a better vantage point to enjoy their combined love of nature. (Did I mention the foosball table in the living room?)

The best part about this project was my clients – this couple has charisma, and not a small amount of knowledge of design. Rarely, do I get the opportunity to discuss the likes of Stark, Miller, Nelson and Wormley with clients who can hold their own.



*Before – low slung beams, dated tile and a choppy floor plan work against the views.*

... continued on page D8



*After – an open plan invites conversation while a separate nook for bird watching and lengths of fabric compliment the park-like views.*

*Photos courtesy Brandon Neff Design*

# Village Associates Real Estate

welcomes

## Erin Martin

as a sales associate

Village Associates is pleased to announce that Erin Martin has joined our firm. Born and raised in Lafayette, Erin is a third generation Lafayette resident. Erin is extremely knowledgeable about all that Lamorinda has to offer and her love for the community is infectious. She feels fortunate to live in such an amazing community and to watch her own children benefit from many of the same activities and traditions she did growing up.

Erin loves where she lives and believes it is essential to personalize buying and selling homes. Where you call home is important!

She received a BA from UC Berkeley, her MSW from NYU and is a licensed Realtor®.



### Erin Martin

Village Associates Real Estate

925.951.3817

erin@erinmartinhomes.com

www.erinmartinhomes.com

bre#01922810



93 Moraga Way #103  
Orinda, CA 94563

## Coming Soon: 138 Ardith Drive, Orinda



Beautiful turn-key Craftsman style 4 bdrm., 2½ bath family home on large lot. Level front and back yards with outdoor kitchen, gorgeous landscaping and views. Gourmet kitchen and updated baths, hardwood floors and cherry built-ins throughout. Walk to 12 years of school.

### Marianne Malenk

Malenk Properties

## 510-522-7780

BRE#00799288



# Soraya Golesorkhi

## Presents:

## Stylish Mid-century Modern in Hidden Valley

First Open House this Sunday, October 27 from 1 to 4pm



79 Silverwood Dr.,  
Lafayette

Must see this light and bright, 4 bedroom, 2 bath, Robert Klemmedson designed home in Lafayette's Hidden Valley! The 2,344 sq. ft. home has been carefully remodeled and updated, from top to bottom, in keeping with the award winning architect's original vision. Open floorplan with new kitchen and bathrooms, large bedrooms -- all with top quality materials and designer touches throughout. Huge walls of glass let you enjoy views of the majestic oaks and give you the feeling of being outdoors while comfortably inside this warm and sophisticated home.

Excellent commute location! Close to freeway entrance, Lafayette Reservoir and downtown Lafayette.

Call me for more information! **Offered at \$1,295,000**



### Soraya Golesorkhi

CNE®, SRES®

BRE#:01771736

Mobile: 925-808-8390

sg@soraya4homes.com

www.soraya4homes.com



©2013 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker® is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office is owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. DRE License # 01908304

## The Home Designer Fall in Love

### ... continued from page D6

From Richard's polished skills as a nature photographer, and their wide tastes in art and decorative accessories to their shared appreciation for 20th century architecture (they once lived in a Frank Lloyd Wright designed home) – they had a strong aesthetic sense of what they were looking to accomplish, and allowed me to help shape it into clearer focus.

The best example of how we accomplished this was in the family room – the largest space, but the most poorly laid out room in the house. It featured obtrusive cabinetry, an overpowering brick fireplace and low slung decorative beams on the ceiling that made the whole space feel claustrophobic. Additionally, the lighting was underwhelming, the furniture too large and out of scale and the windows left unadorned. If I sound harsh, it's only because the room needed some tough love.

After convincing my clients that “everything must go,” we removed the interior island and cabinetry dividing the room, removed a rather large, clunky mantel, clad the entire brick wall behind new drywall to create an installation space for art and photography, stripped away the beams and low slung header, and added much needed recessed lighting to highlight all of the new furnishings. A gorgeous paint color and luxe fabrics were added – all inspired by the lovely heirloom area rug that grounded the space.

With a palette of rich reds, warm tans, teal and cream – along with espresso wood floors and polished chrome accents – the room emerged transformed into an elegant, but comfortable gathering space while keeping the best views of the garden. The lush yard was now highlighted by a new vantage point from which to enjoy it. A mix of custom designed furniture, mid-century pieces and even a couple of re-purposed chairs now work in harmony to bring a fresh, chic and relaxing vibe to a well loved room. Custom paint colors on the walls convey a soothing calm throughout the space, and I even nudged them into a rather upscale wallpaper in the elegant dining room – a nod to Lisa's tug toward a little Park Avenue moment.

Tip: When wallpapering a room don't be shy – paper every wall for full effect. A single accent wall in wallpaper looks as if you ran out of supplies.

I often speak of the transformative power of good design. Color moves us. Art inspires, and can even transport us. Take a moment and look around your space – find what speaks to you and what feels out of place. Perhaps, this too may be your own season of change.

BTW, the foosball table found a new home.



*Before – the brick fire breast and chunky mantel overpowered the room.*



*After – sleek new walls over old brick combined with glossy white crown moulding create a new polish to the room.*

Brandon Neff is a Bay Area based Interior Designer. He can be reached at [BrandonNeffDesign.com](http://BrandonNeffDesign.com) or at [brandonneffdesign@yahoo.com](mailto:brandonneffdesign@yahoo.com).



## Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

...continued from Page D2

### MORAGA

415 Chalda Way, \$500,000, 3 Bdrms, 1322 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 9-11-13; Previous Sale: \$300,000, 10-18-00  
 159 Corliss Drive, \$1,152,500, 4 Bdrms, 2515 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 9-19-13; Previous Sale: \$390,000, 05-03-91  
 1103 Country Club Drive, \$1,480,000, 5 Bdrms, 3051 SqFt, 1977 YrBlt, 9-16-13; Previous Sale: \$527,500, 06-28-91  
 169 Cypress Point Way, \$706,000, 2 Bdrms, 1626 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 9-25-13  
 359 Deerfield Drive, \$1,059,000, 4 Bdrms, 2188 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 9-13-13; Previous Sale: \$750,000, 02-27-04  
 103 Miramonte Drive, \$500,000, 2 Bdrms, 1302 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 9-24-13; Previous Sale: \$387,000, 09-23-03  
 1336 Rimer Drive, \$930,000, 4 Bdrms, 1995 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 9-17-13  
 112 Walford Drive, \$1,081,500, 4 Bdrms, 2410 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 9-25-13; Previous Sale: \$245,000, 02-14-86  
 80 Warfield Drive, \$1,040,000, 3 Bdrms, 2584 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 9-12-13; Previous Sale: \$63,000, 04-13-90

### ORINDA

149 Ardith Drive, \$968,000, 4 Bdrms, 1801 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 9-17-13; Previous Sale: \$928,000, 05-10-13  
 173 Camino Pablo, \$575,000, 3 Bdrms, 1837 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 9-25-13  
 11 Knickerbocker Lane, \$640,000, 3 Bdrms, 1432 SqFt, 1977 YrBlt, 9-18-13; Previous Sale: \$91,500, 12-04-08  
 6 Linda Vista, \$685,000, 1 Bdrms, 1219 SqFt, 1939 YrBlt, 9-20-13; Previous Sale: \$305,000, 09-19-12  
 45 Longridge Road #47, \$715,000, 4 Bdrms, 2349 SqFt, 1938 YrBlt, 9-20-13  
 29 Meadow Park Court, \$958,500, 4 Bdrms, 2407 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 9-20-13; Previous Sale: \$712,000, 12-03-02  
 56 Miner Road, \$810,000, 2 Bdrms, 2165 SqFt, 1938 YrBlt, 9-11-13; Previous Sale: \$385,000, 12-27-89  
 440 Tahos Road, \$1,503,000, 2 Bdrms, 2852 SqFt, 1958 YrBlt, 9-13-13  
 216 the Knoll, \$925,000, 3 Bdrms, 2408 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 9-13-13; Previous Sale: \$515,000, 05-26-00

## KAREN RICHARDSON PRESENTS:

### Beautiful Mediterranean New Construction with Breath Taking Views in Lafayette!

1740 Toyon Rd, Lafayette



The finishing touches are now being completed on this new, truly custom 5 bedroom/3.5 bath Mediterranean home off of Reliez Valley Road. Not a detail was overlooked and the upgrades are endless. The thoughtful floor plan delivers sweeping valley views and includes a grand entryway, large great room, chef's kitchen with large island, breakfast nook, formal dining room, bonus room, extra-large sauna, and wine tasting room. Enjoy the tranquility and privacy on the acre+ lot. Briones Regional Park is only steps away and provides access to miles of hiking and open space. With award winning Lafayette schools, this home is conveniently located just minutes from downtown Lafayette, BART, Hwy 24 and all that Lamorinda has to offer.

Offered at \$2,450,000.



**Karen Richardson**

www.karenrichardsongroup.com  
 BRE#01407557

### New Construction in Lafayette.

Gated Estate Property on over 2 acres. Will Build to Suit! What's your style- Traditional? Mediterranean? Pool? Tennis Court? Stables? Guest House? There is still time to choose, if you act soon.

Call Karen at 925-639-3904 for details on pricing



1700 Reliez Valley Rd, Lafayette



## Ask Cynthia Brian-Pumpkins

### Reader's Request

Hi Cynthia:

We grew pumpkins as project with the kids this year yet we aren't sure about harvesting or what to do with them besides carving them for Halloween? I hate to waste and figured you'd have some ideas.

Thanks,  
Angela

Hi Angela:

Bravo to you for getting your children involved in growing! They will learn so much and the fact that they have grown their own pumpkins will give them pride and boasting rights. You have come to the right person for suggestion, as, like you, I am a waste not person.



Carved pumpkins

Photos Cynthia Brian

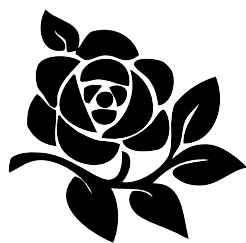
To harvest, thump the melon, it should sound hollow and have a tough skin. Try to put your fingernail in the rind. When pumpkins are ripe, it is difficult to pierce them. Cut the pumpkins from the vine with pruning shears or a sharp knife. Don't twist them off or they'll rot more quickly. Cure in the sun to harden for at least a week. They are now ready for display, carving, and eating.

Besides using them for jack-o-lanterns and pumpkin pie, the noble pumpkin (from the Greek work "pepon," or large melon) are a major health food fruit, packed with large amounts of vitamins A, C, and potassium. A full cup is only about 30 calories. Cut out the flesh and cook like squash, or make soups, cakes, bread, pancakes, or even a pumpkin pizza.

#### After harvesting, here are other ideas to consider:

1. Before carving your pumpkin, scoop out the seeds. Roast them on a cookie sheet with a dash of olive oil and garlic salt for a nutritious, crunchy snack.
2. Or dry the seeds, store them in a brown bag to plant next May in a sunny location. With plenty of water and fertilizer you'll be able to boast your own pumpkin patch in 75-100 days from planting. Now your kids will be really excited.
3. Spray paint the extra pumpkins bronze, gold, silver, or whatever colors you are using for your Thanksgiving or Christmas décor. I add natural foliage such as dried corn stalks and reeds for the November holiday, and evergreens and ornaments for the December season. My porch sparkles. You can even paint them one color for Thanksgiving and another for Christmas. Pumpkins, if kept dry, will last three months or more. Store your extra produce in a cool, dark place to enjoy all winter for projects and recipes.
4. Instead of carving your pumpkin, draw, paint, or use decals to make creative faces. In this way, after Halloween, you can cut up the pumpkin and enjoy the delicious flesh inside.
5. Once you have carved a pumpkin and put it outside as a decoration, don't attempt to salvage it for human consumption. However, pumpkins are great snacks for chickens, ducks, geese, goats, and other barnyard animals. Find friends with critters before you discard. Even the squirrels and birds love them.

... continued on next page



## MORAGA GARDEN CENTER

### Annual Fall Sale Ends Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>

5 Gallon  
**Roses**  
reg. \$30<sup>00</sup>  
now \$15<sup>99</sup>

up to  
**20% Off**  
California  
Natives

up to  
**50% Off**  
General Nursery  
Stock,  
selected items

Free Plants with Purchase

Moraga Garden Center  
located at the Moraga Shopping Center  
925-376-1810

9am-5pm  
7 days a week





Growing pumpkin

6. Compost your carved pumpkins. They will decompose and can be used to fertilize your garden.
7. Bury the entire pumpkin. It may grow next season and if nothing else, it will enrich your soil.

Make sure to take lots of photos to reminisce in later years. The largest pumpkin my kids ever grew weighed in around 400 pounds, but the world record is over 2,000 pounds. The memories are priceless.

Enjoy a happy haunted Halloween as well as pumpkin treats.  
Happy Gardening to You!

Cynthia

©2013

Cynthia Brian  
The Goddess Gardener  
Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com  
www.GoddessGardener.com

I am available as a speaker, designer, and consultant. Cynthia will answer one or more questions every other issue as space allows. Email your comments or questions to Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com

**DESIGN  
INSTALLATION  
IRRIGATION  
DRAINAGE  
STONEWORK  
CONCRETE WORK  
DECKS  
FENCES  
PATIOS  
LAWNS  
PONDS  
CLEANUP &  
HAULING**

**BLUE RIDGE**



**925-258-9233  
CELL: 510-847-6160**

**LANDSCAPE COMPANY INC.  
BLUE JAY FELDMAN  
OWNER/OPERATOR  
WWW.BLUERIDGELC.COM**

**LICENSED  
INSURED  
Lic# 818633**



**McDonnell  Nursery**

**October Sale! 25% off select sizes of  
Perennials, Trees and Shrubs**

**family owned since 1933**

**Trees • Shrubs • Vines • Annuals • Perennials  
Vegetables • Containers • Statuary & Fountains  
Indoor Plants • Decorative Items**



**www.mcdonnellnursery.com**  
**196 Moraga Way • Orinda • (925) 254-3713 • Open Daily**

**Get Out & Stay Out!**  
**In Your New Outdoor Room**



Let Garden Lights Landscape Development give you good reason to "Get Out and Stay Out" this summer.



**BEST  
LANDSCAPE  
2013**

Enlarge your living area with an outdoor kitchen or entertainment space complete with a built in barbecue and the warm glow of a stone or masonry fireplace.  
Garden Lights Landscape Development, Inc. is a full service landscape & pool design build firm.  
We design & install with just one call 925-254-4797 • www.gardenlightslandscape.com

*Celebrating over 20 years of service in Lamorinda. Bonded – Licensed & Insured License# 702845 C27 & C53*

# Lamorinda's Leading Independent Real Estate Firm

## ORINDA



**40 Dos Osos** Incredible Orinda, San Pablo Dam, Mt. Diablo views + abundance of nature surrounds this supersized parcel bordering EBMUD land. Exceptional beauty. Once in a lifetime opportunity raw land sale.

**\$545,000**

## ORINDA



**54 La Campana** Brilliant 1938 south facing lathe & plaster construction in heart of Country Club. 4bd/3ba with approximately 2608 sf. One of largest pools in Orinda, Trader Vics built BBQ poolside, gardens. A bit of TLC needed.

**\$1,000,000**

## ORINDA



**9 Las Piedras** Picturesque private 6bd/3ba home in park like setting w/panoramic views, level lawn & recreational pool. 3745sf classic custom w/vaulted ceils, walls of windows, hdwd flrs, den, workout rm, FR & well-appointed kitchen.

**\$1,349,000**

## ORINDA



**1 Camino del Cielo** Sophisticated and stylish 4900+ sq ft newer construction with 4 bedrooms + office, 3.5 baths, decks and views.

**\$1,699,000**

## ORINDA



*New Price*

**11 Fairway Drive** Rare find. Mid-century modern 4bd/3ba+ 2 half bath home on 4th fairway. Private, large rooms, high ceilings, office, boudoir, great guest setup, updated kitchen. Grand, comfortable, very special property.

**\$1,729,000**

## ORINDA



**10 El Castillo** Spacious 5 bed, 3.5 bath. Built in 1998, home includes: marble entry, private office, huge kitchen/family rm, media rm, large level lot on cul-de-sac, citrus garden, resort-like living.

**\$2,150,000**

## ORINDA



**17 Tappan Lane** Vistas across Orinda come alive from all rooms of this spacious 4,155 sf with 6 bd/4 ba & 2 half ba. High ceilings & light & bright. Perfect for fun in the sun with yards, decks, pool, & vineyard on 1.15 acres.

**\$2,389,000**

## ORINDA



**11 Scenic Drive** Elegant updated 4bd/3.5ba, 4695sf single-story estate property on .64ac. Custom millwork, hand carved biblical stone fples, lrg bdrms, ofc, Chef's eat-in kit/fam.rm; guest house, pool, lrg patio, gorgeous landscaping.

**\$3,350,000**

## ORINDA



**92 Sandhill Road** Absolutely One-of-a-Kind Bay Area Home with captivating, sweeping views from every rm. Perched on foremost knoll of the coveted Sandhill enclave. Ideal for active family as well as large scale entertaining.

**\$5,200,000**

## MORAGA



**651 Moraga Road # 24** Pottery Barn Style! Chic updated end unit in quiet location at rear of Rheem Terraces. Lovely fenced private patio. Dual pane windows, wood floors, stainless steel kitchen. Walk to shops, restaurants, Rheem Theatre!

**\$310,000**

## MORAGA



**1743 Spyglass Lane** Moraga Country Club Forest Hills model, updates throughout include new kitchen appliances, granite counters, updated bath, hardwood floors, new carpet, paint & lighting.

**\$950,000**

## MORAGA



*New Listing*

**1903 Saint Andrews Dr.** Gorgeous MCC detached home on double lot. Beaut. updated, apx. 3,424 sf. Open kitchen & family rm, formal dining & living both w/ seamless deck access. 2nd family rm/4th bdrm plus bonus rm & storage galore.

**\$1,245,000**

## LAFAYETTE



**9 Mountain View Place** Fabulous updated 4bd/2.5ba, 3481 sf custom contemporary on .78 ac in tranquil setting. Spacious LR & DR, new hardwd flrs throughout, new eat-in kitchen/DR open to FR, voltaic solar panels, new redwood deck & more.

**\$1,350,000**

## LAFAYETTE



*Pending*

**3518 S. Silver Springs Rd** Silver Springs inner circle charmer. Traditional Marchant ranch w/vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors, easy indoor/outdoor living. Newly landscaped backyard & new pool. Quick walk to town, schools & Lafayette bike trail.

**\$1,795,000**

## DANVILLE



**1540/1550 Finley Road** Terrific horse property on two level separate parcels total 2.98 acres(pr). Rancher w/country kitchen, pool & hot tub! The Ranch has 12 stall barn, indoor/outdoor riding arenas, covered & stall paddocks, fenced pastures & more.

**\$1,299,000**

## WALNUT CREEK



**3737 Waterford Lane** Don't miss this fabulous Northgate area 4bd/3.5ba home w/close to 3700 sf. Huge kitchen/family rm area overlooking spectacular .70 ac bkdy w/orchard, vineyard & room for pool. Hdwd flrs, ofc, formal dining & living rms.

**\$1,468,000**



## THE VILLAGE ASSOCIATES:

Ashley Battersby  
 Patricia Battersby  
 Joan Cleveland  
 Shannon Conner  
 Joan Eggers  
 Linda Ehrlich  
 Joan Evans  
 Linda S. Friedman  
 Marianne Greene  
 Dexter Honens II  
 Anne Knight  
 Susan Zeh Layng  
 Art Lehman  
 Charles Levine  
 Erin Martin  
 April Matthews  
 Karen Murphy  
 Ben Olsen  
 Sue Olsen  
 Tara Rochlin  
 Jaime Roder  
 Altie Schmitt  
 Judy Schoenrock  
 Ann Sharf  
 Amy Rose Smith  
 Molly Smith  
 Jeff Snell  
 Lynda Snell  
 Clark Thompson  
 Angie Evans Traxinger  
 Ignacio Vega  
 Terri Bates Walker  
 Ann Ward  
 Dan Weil  
 Margaret Zucker



[facebook.com/VillageAssociates](https://www.facebook.com/VillageAssociates)

[twitter.com/villageassoc](https://www.twitter.com/villageassoc)

93 Moraga Way, Suite 103 • Orinda, CA 94563 • Phone: (925) 254-0505

Visit [www.villageassociates.com](http://www.villageassociates.com) Click on

Sunday Open Homes