

## Civic News Lafayette

### Business Person of the Year in Lafayette



Brian Aiello

Photo provided

Family man, business owner, local resident since the tender age of 12, Acalanes and UC Davis graduate Brian Aiello was named the "Business Person of the Year" by the Lafayette Chamber of Com-

merce. He was honored by friends, family and business associates recently at a dinner and roast at the Lafayette Park Hotel.

"It was outstanding," said Aiello, who was humbled by all the adoration, "one of the best nights of my life, lots of fun." His kids and wife reflected on what a great guy he is and Jay Lifson, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce had a wacky presentation of photos from when Aiello served in the Navy on the U.S.S. Towers. "It was a real honor," he added.

Aiello is married to wife and business partner Jennifer, and is the proud dad of Brooke, 18, and Brady, 16. The couple have owned and operated Pinnacle Apparel and Promotions since 2000 in Lafayette; the company sources and produces branded merchandise. He's been an active member of the community, busy as a coach of various sports over the years and has volunteered to be the entertainment chair of the Lafayette Art and Wine Festival for the last decade. *C. Tyson*

### Greenlight on Lafayette School District Parcel Tax

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From left: Lafayette school board members Nancy Wallace, Jean Follmer, David Gerson, Art Kapoor, Teresa Gerringer and Superintendent Rachel Zinn.

Photo Cathy Tyson

"Loss of this funding would be devastating," said Rachel Zinn, school district superintendent, noting that the \$4.6 million, or 15 percent of their budget, that is currently provided through parcel tax revenue is critical.

Discussion among school board members focused on the language of

a cost of living adjustment for the measure. "Inflation happens," said board member David Gerson, explaining that it's hard to estimate if that will be 1 percent or 3 percent or 5 percent per year in the future.

Ultimately there was a consensus to have a cap on the cost of living ad-

justment, but still allow some flexibility that would benefit the public if there's a low rate of inflation; they agreed that the adjustment "shall not exceed 3 percent." If passed by two-thirds of voters, revenue raised will go to the five schools in the district: four elementary schools and Stanley Middle School.

## Civic News Moraga

### Jason Evans Named Business Person of the Year



Jason Evans

Photo provided

The board of the Moraga Chamber of Commerce elected Jason Evans Moraga's 2014 Business Person of the Year.

According to Kathe Nelson, the chamber's executive director, Evans was chosen because of his involvement and commitment to the town of Moraga. "Jason has always had a very positive attitude and outlook on things," she added. The award will be celebrated at a dinner event later this month.

Evans is a Coldwell Banker Residential Broker specializing in residential home sales in Moraga. He says the Moraga schools are the number one draw to Moraga, as well as the rolling hills, wide streets and big yards in which to play.

Evans said he inherited his passion for homes and real estate sales from his father's custom home, multi-family development and construction company. He graduated from Iowa State Uni-

versity with a degree in civil, construction and environmental engineering. The list of Evans' volunteer work in local service groups could fill a page. He is the current president of Moraga Valley Kiwanis, vice president of the Moraga Chamber of Commerce and of the Moraga Movers, and he volunteered on the Design Review Board and Planning Commission, to name just a few. He and his wife, Carol, have lived in Moraga for 15 years.

There will be a celebratory dinner at 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 24 at the Moraga Country Club. The cost per person is \$30 and seating is limited to the first 100. Reservations are required and can be made by phone or email to Nelson: [kathe@moragachamber.org](mailto:kathe@moragachamber.org), (925) 323-6524. *S. Braccini*

## Civic News Orinda

### City to Memorialize Orinda's First Mayor, Richard Heggie

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In addition to his service for the city of Orinda - for which he was named Orinda's Citizen of the Year, he was a Regent of the University of California and president of Cal's Alumni Association, president of the Japan Society of Northern California, vice president of the Oakland Museum, and director emeritus of the East Bay Community Foundation.

"I'm very delighted to have this opportunity, personally, to make this recognition known," said Mayor Sue

Severson. Added Councilmember Victoria Smith, "I think it's a lovely idea, and I want to thank everyone who was involved. It will be a very nice addition."

The City Council approved the memorial 4-0 (Worth recused). Staff will order signage "consistent with lettering throughout the library," and install a plaque citing Heggie's accomplishments. The cost to the Orinda Parks and Recreation Department is expected to be roughly \$750. The date for the unveiling will be announced later.

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