

# Lamorinda OUR HOMES

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*Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian ...read on page E16*

## Lean Back, Open the App, and Manage Your Systems

*Technology enables homeowners to run everything from hot tubs to TV from afar*

By Chris Lavin



*Peter Lineweaver of Moraga starts his evening shopping at Safeway in Moraga by queuing up his Bose stereo system at home so that it will be playing when he arrives.*

*Photo Chris Lavin*

It was only 15 years ago that reporters at the San Francisco Chronicle attended a mandatory training session regarding references they were making to technology in their stories. “Don’t,” the trainer admonished, “write, ‘And they’re talking about it on the Internet.’ That’s a big old ‘duh’ by this point.”

In 1940, reporters were writing the same thing, only they were calling it the telephone.

Now, in this story that will likely be deemed a big “duh” two years from now, people are indeed running their homes – from their security systems to their washing machines – via an application (OK, OK, an “app”) on their phones.

“This is just the beginning,” said Edward Zeidan, of Lafayette. He started his Nerd 4 Rent business back in 1984 and while he’s had ups and downs with the economy, he’s been in demand ever since. “People buy a nifty alarm system but then they need help with getting it synched with the rest of the network. It’s all about the network.”

Homeowners throughout Lamorinda are synching everything. Gone are the days of pulling out the remote for the automatic garage door opener, now so passé.

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