

# LAMORINDA WEEKLY

Independent, locally owned and operated!

925.377.0977

www.lamorindaweekly.com

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

FREE

**Rheem Valley Cleaners**

We are Green  
Earth certified!



**\$10** off your dry cleaning of \$30 or more  
\*(new customers only)

568 Center St., Moraga  
Rheem Valley Shopping Center  
925-247-5499

We Clean Your Clothes Eco-Friendly



Moraga Commons Park becomes a festive outdoor banquet hall as residents celebrate the 40th anniversary of their town's incorporation.

Photo A. Scheck

## Happy Birthday, Moraga!

Opting to save the speech-making for a later event, aside from a brief toast to the town offered by mayor Ken Chew, the town of Moraga threw itself a party to celebrate its 40th birthday. Moragans young and old – well, mostly older-ish – came together at the Moraga Commons Park Sept. 23 for a potluck picnic dinner that was outdoor dining at its very best.

Humorously emceed by Moraga's own DJ RyanO, with entertainment provided by talented musicians from Campolindo High School, highlights of the evening included a chat with the

woman who has possibly lived in town longer than anyone, 70-year resident Susan Sperry, and a table-decorating contest judged by members of the town's Park and Recreation Commission. Fabulous tables created by residents and local organizations included a spectacular pear "tree" complete with birthday candles and Moraga trivia questions, elaborate displays of pears, grapes and flowers, recycled decorations made from several recent issues of Lamorinda Weekly, and some intriguing artifacts of days gone by.

The Moraga Historical Society, in partnership with the Town of Moraga and Saint Mary's College, will host a cele-

bratory dinner on Saturday, Oct. 18 at SMC's Soda Center. Speakers will include former mayors from each of the town's four decades of incorporation. The registration deadline is Oct. 10, so if you haven't made your reservation yet go quickly to [www.moragahistory.org](http://www.moragahistory.org) and click on "Events" or call Sperry, (925) 376-3053.

To read Sophie Braccini's Aug. 27 article about the incorporation of the Town of Moraga, visit our archives: [www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue0813/Moraga-Turns-40.html](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue0813/Moraga-Turns-40.html). – *L. Borrowman*

Advertising

### LAMORINDA WEEKLY

Town News	A2 - A14
Business	A12
Life in Lamorinda	B1 - B10
Not to be Missed	B8-B9
<b>HOW TO CONTACT US</b>	B9
Service Directory	B10
Food	B10
Sports	C1 - C3
Classified	C2
Shop Orinda	C4
Our Homes	D1 -D16

#### This Week Read About:

Protecting Trees	A2
School District Plans	A5
City Council Candidates	A6
Teen Suicide Ideation Rises	A14
Girlpower	B1
Babe in the Bunker	B2
Senior Softball	B3
ShakeOut!	B7
Girls' Waterpolo	C1

### TWO FABULOUS HOMES FOR SALE PRESENTED BY VLATKA BATHGATE

<p><b>Dream Come True</b></p>  <p>21 Williams Dr, Moraga 5bed/3 baths with 1bed/1bath on main level <b>Offered at \$1,528,000</b></p>	<p><b>Romantic Retreat Close to Downtown</b></p>  <p>7 Candlestick Rd, Orinda 4bed/2.5 baths on half an acre park like yard <b>Offered at \$1,300,000</b></p>	<p><b>925 597 1573</b></p> <p>Vlatka@BestLamorindaHomes.com WWW.BESTLAMORINDAHOMES.COM CaIBRE#01390784</p>  
--	---	--

## Orinda Honors the Memory of Its First Mayor

By Laurie Snyder



Bea Heggie and her family, with the portrait of Richard Heggie. Photo Ohlen Alexander

*"The new city of Orinda has a bright future. Our city council members-elect are dedicated both to maintaining all that we love about our community, and to making it an even better place in which to live." – Richard G. Heggie*

Those were the words of Orinda's first mayor, sent to a local newspaper after he was elected to Orinda's first city council. It was a heady time. Richard Heggie had been a key player in helping the community incorporate. On March 14, 1985, 58.7 percent of voters turned Orinda into the county's 18th city with 66.6 percent selecting the city council as the preferred form of governance. As the top vote getter of the 17 Orindans who ran that first time, Heggie was named Orinda's first mayor. Joining him on that council were Joseph M. Harb, William Dabel, Aldo P. Guidotti, and Bobbie Landers.

Landers would go on to become mayor herself and, nearly three decades later, she was there when current officials renamed the second floor area in front of the Orinda Library in honor of the man she called "a distinguished man of letters – my cohort, my fellow councilman, my friend."

The "Richard Heggie Plaza" dedication on Sept. 28 was led by Councilmember Victoria Smith. A former mayor herself, she welcomed residents, Heggie's family and other honored guests, and conveyed the praise of her fellow council members. "We have taken the extraordinary step of recognizing Mayor Dick Heggie with this plaza naming because his gifts of time and talent were extraordinary," wrote vice mayor Steve Glazer. Added three-time mayor and current council member Amy Worth, "Dick set the bar high for the city. He was always gentlemanly, constructive and forward thinking."

... continued on page A11

please...



...thanks

### Life in Lamorinda B1-B10

Take the October PSAT or wait? Eizabeth LaScala outlines options - page B4.



### Sports C1-C3

Lamorinda girls' volleyball programs are off to a hot start - page C2.



### Our Homes D1-D16

Time to ward off the vampires and plant the stinking rose - page D13.





# Lafayette Civic News

## Public Meetings

### City Council

Tuesday, Oct. 14, 7 p.m.  
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,  
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

### Planning Commission

Monday, Oct. 20, 7 p.m.  
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,  
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

### Design Review

Tuesday, Oct. 14, 7 p.m.  
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,  
Arts & Science Discovery Center,  
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

### School Board Meetings

**Acalanes Union High School District**  
Wednesday, Oct. 15, 7:30 p.m.  
AUHSD Board Room  
1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette  
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

### Lafayette School District

Wednesday, Oct. 8, 7 p.m.  
Regular Board Meeting  
Stanley Library  
3477 School St., Lafayette  
www.lafsd.k12.ca.us

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



## Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report, Sept. 14-27

<b>Alarms</b>	62
<b>911 Calls</b>	12
<b>Burglary, Auto</b>	
900 block 2nd St	
1000 block Buchan Dr	
<b>Burglary, Residential</b>	
600 block Old Jonas Hill Rd	
900 block 3rd St	
1100 block Estates Dr	
<b>Disturbance</b>	
900 block 2nd St	
Acalanes High School	
<b>DUI</b>	
Acalanes High School	
<b>Embezzlement</b>	
3100 block Old Tunnel Rd (2)	
<b>Hit &amp; Run</b>	
Springhill Elementary	
Mt Diablo Bl/Moraga Rd	
Ace Hardware	
<b>Health &amp; Safety Violation</b>	
Acalanes High School	
<b>Intoxicated</b>	
Brown Av/Miller Dr	
50 block Lafayette Cr	
<b>Loud Music/Noise</b>	5
<b>Missing Adult</b>	
800 block Mountain View Dr	
<b>Petty Theft</b>	
Diablo Foods	
<b>Public Nuisance</b>	
3300 block Moraga Bl (2)	
3400 block Lana Ln	
900 block Janet Ln	
Foye Dr/Moraga Bl	
Mosswood Dr/Village Center	
<b>Reckless Driving</b>	
Mt Diablo Bl/Moraga Rd	
St Mary's Rd/Cattle Chute Rd	
3500 block Mt Diablo Bl	
<b>Restraining Order Violation</b>	
70 block Lafayette Cr	
<b>Shoplifting</b>	
Safeway (2)	
3500 block Mt Diablo Bl	
<b>Suspicious</b>	
Circumstances	14
Vehicle	29
Subject	17
<b>Traffic Stops</b>	130
<b>Vehicle Theft</b>	Reported to LPD



STILL #1 FOR A REASON



2008 THROUGH 2014

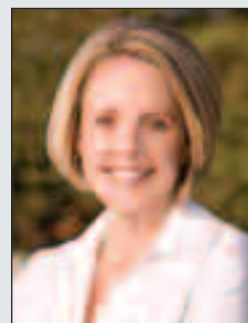
### Baywood, Lafayette

Traditional 5BR/3.5BA, 3766± sq. ft. home in a sought-after gated community. Beautiful .47± acre lot with pool & private gate to Briones Regional Park open space.

Call for Details



Coming Soon!



Dana Green  
License #: 01482454

DanaGreenTeam.com | 925.339.1918

## Zoning in on Tree Protection

By Cathy Tyson



Photo C. Tyson

There's a rule change in the works that would strengthen the protection of local trees from major tree removal projects and increase the penalty when more than 25 trees are removed. Once Ordinance 633 is adopted, which is slated for the Oct. 14 Lafayette City Council meeting, a permit will be required if an entity, individual, or utility company wants to cut down a substantial amount of trees on public or private property.

There are existing tree protection regulations on the books, which were last updated in 2009, but city leaders wanted to make clear in light of recent proposals that the city feels compelled to ensure protection against these large scale projects in the future, explains the staff report for the Sept. 22 council meeting.

While a jurisdiction can update rules about a variety of topics from chicken ownership to parking, the new tree protection rules seem directed at mitigating potentially aggressive tree removal in connection with PG&E's controversial Pipeline Pathways program that seeks the removal of trees and overhead structures near gas transmission lines.

In light of the devastation from the San Bruno explosion, PG&E proposed Pipeline Pathways: \$500 million dollars paid by shareholders to be spent over five years that would enhance the safety of 6,750 miles of underground gas lines statewide. The plan went over like a lead balloon when it was announced earlier this year. Transmission lines run right through the center of Lafayette, directly adjacent to and sometimes under lush greenery. The initial PG&E plan called for cutting down these trees, so that the utility could have better access to pipelines for inspection and maintenance, and to ensure tree roots weren't causing corrosion.

PG&E has hit the pause button for the project, and is now working with cities in Contra Costa County. "PG&E has openly recognized that it made

a big mistake when it failed to consult East Bay cities regarding its pipeline protection plan," explained City Manager Steven Falk. "To correct that mistake, the utility directed one of its top officials, Jose Soto, senior vice president for engineering, construction, and operations, to work cooperatively with cities to develop a program that works for all parties. To this end, Mr. Soto wrote the cities a letter which stated that "... PG&E reiterates our commitment to work collaboratively with each of you; we will not move forward with any (Pipeline Protection project) work in your communities until we reach an agreement on how to proceed."

A group of city managers from jurisdictions within Contra Coast County came together to work with PG&E on this agreement framework that spells out the utility's commitment going forward. The agreement hasn't been presented to Lafayette yet, but Falk is confident that PG&E intends to comply with the agreement – the framework, which includes each city's encroachment permit procedures and requirements, identification of trees protected by the local tree protection ordinances, and mitigation measures for the removal of protected trees.

PG&E spokesperson Shaun Maccoun explained their first concern is public safety and that the utility is "re-evaluating" and working with cities within Contra Costa County on a one on one basis. Currently they are in talks with Pittsburg, and likely won't get to Lafayette until 2015.

## Narrowing Options on Two City-Owned Properties

By Cathy Tyson

Proceeding cautiously, the Lafayette City Council voted unanimously Sept. 22 to narrow down the options on two city-owned properties – the old library and the 949 Moraga Road parcel across the street – seeking the highest, best and most fiscally responsible uses for those properties.

After months of meetings and weighing various options, a 16-member volunteer task force recommended to the council that the old library building be used for a public purpose – either city offices or to meet needs of the Lafayette School District. The school district has a deadline of Jan. 30 to express a willingness to enter into a lease/purchase agreement for the site.

Although there were a number of proposals for the old library, these two options were selected because they were the most fiscally responsible. Because none of the nonprofit proposals offered "market rate" rent to the city, the task force concluded that it wasn't financially prudent for the city to subsidize a nonprofit tenant, especially while paying "market rate" rent for city staff offices.

It was also determined that it wasn't wise to put off a decision; the building has already been vacant for five years, hence the deadline for the school district. If the district doesn't decide to go forward, the city will direct staff to develop a timeline and budget for converting the old library into city offices at a meaningful, long term savings. In the end, owning the building would be less expensive than continuing to pay rent, according to calculations.

The future of the 949 Moraga Road parcel across the street is still a bit murky. There are concerns over a number of factors. The current parking area and aging doctors' office was purchased with \$2.31 million of parking funds collected over the years. Because of this, the task force felt that parking had to be a priority there, reported Tracy Robinson, administrative services director. In addition, the site is designated for affordable housing and counts toward the city's required fair share of affordable housing

spelled out in the Housing Element.

"Public parking and a necessary affordable housing site; it's hard to figure out how to reconcile those two needs," said Council Member Brandt Andersson.

A total of 60 parking spaces are possible on the site, or potentially 100 if a parking structure is erected. The site could also be used for affordable housing – Eden Housing had a proposal to use the property for low income housing, but it would be contingent upon the city donating the land, said Robinson,

which is an issue since it was purchased with parking funds. Council members were intrigued with the potential to accommodate both affordable housing and parking.

A boutique hotel was considered, but did not receive unanimous support from task force members who were looking for a broad public benefit. This option could generate revenue for the city, but would likely cause congestion on the already clogged Moraga Road. A land swap with the Methodist church was also

considered, but the church was not in a position to make a firm decision and further analysis is needed.

For now, the bottom line for the 949 Moraga Road property is to have city staff look at one or more options: parking, affordable housing, or a hotel or other private development.

"I think the task force did a great job," said Council Member Mike Anderson, "it was a very thorough process – 949 (Moraga Road) is kind of an open question; it's going to take some creative thinking."



## Hundreds of Bay Area families choose Home Care Assistance.



Trust our award-winning care to suit your family's needs. We're the best!

**24/7 Live-In Care Specialists.** We offer around-the-clock care for a reasonable price despite recent overtime laws.

**Brain Health Experts.** We are the only home care agency that offers Cognitive Therapeutics, a research-backed activities program that promotes brain health and vitality in our clients.

**Lamorinda's Best Caregivers.** Each has at least 2 years experience and undergoes extensive training and screening, including a DOJ background check, drug test and proprietary psychological exam designed to test for honesty and conscientiousness.

**Meet Jill.** Jill Cabeceiras is the client care manager 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 you and your family!



Call Jill to schedule your free consultation today!  
925-820-8390 • HomeCareAssistance.com  
190-G Alamo Plaza, Alamo, CA 94507



## Lamorinda Spirit Van

**Volunteer Drivers Wanted...CALL (925) 283-3534**

## Parking Change – No Longer Free

By Cathy Tyson

Drivers be warned – it's going to cost a bit more to park at a couple of city-owned properties for the time being. The parking lots at the old library and 949 Moraga Road, just across the street, have offered free parking – until now. Both parcels may eventually be developed, but look for coin-operated meters to sprout at the old library in the near future and a lock box payment system at 949 Moraga Road, which will offer additional spaces after the offices are razed.

City leaders are well aware of the parking crunch. Meters appearing at La Fiesta Square will contribute to demand for employee and customer parking downtown, along with the ongoing need for adequate short-term parking for parents dropping off and picking up kids from Lafayette Elementary School.

"I think we really need to build a parking structure," said Council Member Mike Anderson, acknowledging the parking situation. "It's time for us to do something big," he explained, to find a place to put a substantial amount of parking in a reasonable location.

Signs will soon be installed at both the old library and 949 Moraga Road lots indicating that these spaces are temporarily available for public parking, but the property will eventually be developed for other purposes.

It will cost \$1 per hour, with a four hour maximum, at the old library. Employees at the adjacent Lafayette Elementary School, which has 65 teachers and staff members but only 31 onsite parking spaces, will have to rethink parking, a not-so-subtle nudge to move across the street to the lot at

949 Moraga Road that will allow all-day parking.

To maximize parking at 949 Moraga Road, the council recently approved spending \$50,000 from the parking fund – comprised of meter and ticketing revenue – to raze the building and add more spaces.

As part of a larger transformation to city-owned lots, private leases of public parking lots will be extinguished at Uncle Yu's, the gazebo and at 949 Moraga Road.

Because the former library has been vacant for five years, there was water intrusion and potential for mold, so the city removed all of the interior walls and the carpet. It's in no condition to be used without substantial work, which will take time. In the meantime, parkers should start saving quarters.

The City of Lafayette Parking Ordinance Committee is seeking public input at a series of workshops and will host the first one from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 9 at the Lafayette Methodist Church. The committee is looking for feedback from the community to help the city draft its future parking policies. This first meeting is all about parking in the downtown core. There will be additional workshops focused on the east and west end districts later this year. City staff encourages those interested in this topic to sign up for e-notifications for the fall meetings; visit the city website for more information, [www.lovelafayette.org](http://www.lovelafayette.org).

## Fall Market in Lamorinda!



Open Sunday 1-4



By Appointment

**10 Ariey Lane, Lafayette**  
Best value in Lafayette! Stunning custom home built in 2005.  
5112 sqft 6 Br. 4 Ba, and large bonus room.  
\$1,799,000 [www.10ArieyLn.com](http://www.10ArieyLn.com)

**63 Sanders Ranch Road, Moraga**  
Terrific single level home. 3114 sqft, 4 Br, 3 full Ba, on over 1/3 rd of an acre lot.  
For sale or lease. \$1,395,000 or \$4,500/mo.  
[www.63SandersRanchRd.com](http://www.63SandersRanchRd.com)

Coming Soon!



PHOTOS SOON TOO!

Very Special!



**1431 Sunset Loop, Lafayette**  
This house is situated on a level lot and needs major updating.  
Call for details.  
\$690,000 [www.1431SunsetLoop.com](http://www.1431SunsetLoop.com)

**37 Parkway Court, Orinda**  
Gorgeous gated estate adjoining Lafayette Reservoir. Custom built in 2012 with highest finishes. 2 adjacent lots avail.  
\$3,900,000 [www.37ParkwayCt.com](http://www.37ParkwayCt.com)



**ELENA HOOD**  
REAL ESTATE GROUP  
925 254-3030 [www.Orinda.com](http://www.Orinda.com)  
Lafayette • Moraga • Orinda



Cal BRE 1221247

## Siggy's

**CARPET CLEANING**  
LAMORINDA'S FAVORITE FAMILY OWNED BUSINESS FOR OVER 36 YEARS  
**(925) 283-8744**  
[www.siggyscarpetcleaning.com](http://www.siggyscarpetcleaning.com)  
3408 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette



**FALL SPECIAL 15% OFF**



**Bay Area Greenscapes, Inc.**  
Synthetic Grass - Installation - Landscaping

## WATER SMART LANDSCAPING

Free Estimates

- Synthetic/Artificial Grass
- Design & Consult
- New Landscape Installation
- Re-Landscape & Remodel
- Paver Walkways & Driveways
- Hardscape

**FREE DEMOLITION WITH INSTALL**

A General landscaping Contractor  
Locally Owned & Operated  
Lic. #938445

**925-819-2100**

VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
[WWW.BAYAREAGREENSCAPES.COM](http://WWW.BAYAREAGREENSCAPES.COM)

## THE Beaubelle GROUP



**LAFAYETTE**  
This home has it all... brimming with new finishes, spacious rooms, volume ceilings, hardwood floors, lots of natural light, a flowing floor plan and just minutes from Lafayette's charming downtown and top rated schools.



Glaming dark stained oak hardwood floors flow throughout the more than 5,000 square foot home that has five spacious bedrooms, four full and one half bathroom, wine cellar, office with fireplace and game room.



Manicured level lawns, decorative stone walls, putting green and spectacular outdoor stone fireplace on a patio with built-in BBQ creates an ideal outdoor entertaining space.

Offered at \$2,550,000



**GLENN AND KELLIE BEAUBELLE**  
925.254.1212  
[TheBeaubelleGroup.com](http://TheBeaubelleGroup.com)  
CABRE# 00678426, 01165322




©2014 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. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is an independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage or NRT LLC. CalBRE License #0196204



# Moraga Civic News

## Public Meetings

### Town Council

Wednesday, Oct. 8, 7 p.m.  
 Wednesday, Oct. 22, 7 p.m.  
 Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School,  
 1010 Camino Pablo

### Planning Commission

Monday, Oct. 20, 7 p.m. canceled  
 Special Meeting:  
 Tuesday, Oct. 21, 6 p.m.  
 Hacienda De las Flores, La Sala,  
 2100 Donald Dr.

### Design Review

Tuesday, Oct. 14, 7 p.m.  
 Moraga Library, 1500 St. Mary's Rd.

### School Board Meeting

**Moraga School District**  
 Tuesday, Oct. 14, 7:30 p.m.  
 Joaquin Moraga Intermediate  
 School Auditorium  
 1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga  
 www.moraga.k12.ca.us  
 See also AUHSD meeting page A2

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

## Local Knowledge of Lamorinda & Extraordinary Results



Gary Bernie



Ken Ryerson

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

925.200.2222 Gary gabernie@pacunion.com CalBRE#00686144  
 925.878.9685 Ken ken@ryersonrealty.com CalBRE#01418309



pacificunion.com | A Member of Real Living

## Gary Bernie & Ken Ryerson

## An Enlightening Forum

By Sophie Braccini

The now-traditional Moraga Citizens Network Candidates Night brought the three candidates for town council together at the Holy Trinity Cultural Center on Oct. 1. Ken Chew, Teresa Onoda and David Trotter responded to questions posed by their prospective constituency, offering insight to who they are and what they stand for. Questions on issues such as land use and recreation were expected, and the candidates' answers can be found in their publicity materials; but a few unanticipated questions garnered unscripted responses. As the forum proceeded, commonalities between Trotter and Onoda emerged. With only two seats open on the council, the November election in

Moraga may be shaping up to be a tight race.

It was a bit of an uphill battle for Onoda. A teacher and artist with less than two years of experience on the Moraga Planning Commission, she had difficulty asserting her knowledge of the town's affairs against two veteran council members, Chew and Trotter, who are both running for third terms. Onoda's candidacy is based on her belief that the town is at a tipping point; the Moraga Center Specific Plan allows too many new homes and condominiums and will lead to developments that are out of character with the town. While she did not offer an immediate strategy to revise the plan or negotiate with property owners, she highlighted her desire to study the issues at a deeper level.

As incumbents, Chew and Trotter have played large roles in recent political decisions. They approved the Moraga Center Specific Plan and both feel that the town has mechanisms and rules to control the type of growth that will happen in the downtown. But on many questions, each expressed views that were quite different from the other.

Development, the predominant issue of the evening, includes construction on ridgelines. Onoda and Trotter both believe the town should make it clear that protecting ridgelines means preserving them and not allowing development, and that a minimum height of 800 feet is not necessarily the only criteria for protection. Trotter pointed to his consistent record of advocating this position.

Taking a more cautious approach, Chew indicated that he would wait for the hillside and ridgeline subcommittee, which is currently reviewing the regulations, to present its recommendations.

A question of whether or not property owners should have veto power over the designation of a site as a historic landmark was also contentious. In Chew's view, property owners should be given the final say. Onoda, who supported a veto for property owners as a planning commissioner, said that the Rheem Theatre being for sale changes things, and she would now withhold that power. Trotter also opposes a property owner veto.

A question about the town's relationship with Saint Mary's College resulted in a love fest for SMC as the candidates tried to outdo each other as to who is the bigger fan of the institu-

tion and has the deepest relationship with it, although Trotter noted that the college also has a responsibility toward the town and referenced a dispute that has emerged with neighbors over the lighting of a sports field, which the council will adjudicate.

In the election four years ago, Trotter won 37.46 percent of votes and Chew 33.78 percent. Three other candidates ran that year—the next highest vote count went to Seth Freeman, with 16.4 percent of votes, who was very critical of the incumbents. This year Trotter and Onoda seem to be closely aligned and recently met jointly with residents. This new political dynamic adds a different flavor to the process and could lead to a closer race.

*Lamorinda Weekly* recorded the debate, which can be viewed online at [www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com) and [www.moragacitizensnetwork.org](http://www.moragacitizensnetwork.org).

## Fire District Candidates Open the Show

Before the city council Q&A session, each candidate for the Moraga-Orinda Fire District Division 1 seat delivered a prepared three-minute speech. Nathan Bell, a professional equity manager, stressed that his financial background was his top qualification for taking over the seat. He explained that the main reason he is running is because the district has taken in \$250 million in gross receipts since its inception in 1997, yet it carries a \$90 million deficit.

"MOFD is in peril," he said. "It needs to be financially sound." Incumbent Kathleen Famulener, who has worked in the Alameda County district attorney's office for 37 years, said that she shared the district's financial concerns.

"But we have made progress in my year on the board," she said. "We hired a new fire chief, we've increased seasonal staffing, we negotiated a 4-year contract with the firefighters, and we've reduced the district unfunded health care liability from \$28 million to \$16.9 million."  
 -N. Marnell

## Moraga Planning Commission Says Climate Action Plan Needs More Work

By Sophie Braccini

Last year, 15 Moraga residents with environmental, business and development backgrounds were appointed to the town's Climate Action Task Force and charged with recommending measures that would help Moraga reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. Working with the task force recommendations and a consultant, town staff drafted a preliminary climate action plan.

In addition to the environmental benefits that would result if a city's climate action plan is approved, new developments could have a streamlined environmental review process.

A strange dialogue took place between planning commissioners and the chair of the Climate Action Task Force at the Planning Commission's Sept. 18 meeting. As the commission was reviewing the town's draft climate action plan—for possible sub-

mission to the air quality regulatory agency for review and comment—task force chair Graig Crossley told commissioners that the task force was not expecting the town to accept all of its recommendations. Task force member Barbara Simpson went a step further, asking commissioners to vote against the plan rather than accepting measures of which the financial implications had not been fully analyzed. ... continued on page A13



## Moraga Police Department

Driving while not supposed to, 9/26/14 A 39-year-old male driving near Canyon and Camino Pablo was spotted by police who were familiar with him and knew that he had a suspended drivers license. Prior to the cop getting through traffic to conduct an official stop, the fellow abandoned the car and fled on foot. Not exactly a clean getaway; the cop couldn't find him, but did look through the car to find 34 ounces of marijuana and an open bottle of alcohol. The case was referred to the district attorney for review.

Danger to self, 9/24/14 Moraga police responded to a disturbance in the middle of the afternoon. Turns out it was an elderly gentleman, suffering from an undisclosed medical condition, who was arguing with his wife. The fire department transported the fellow to a local hospital for treatment.

Pot possession, 9/25/14 An associate principal at Campolindo reported that five students were discovered to have eaten a pot brownie. This was discovered after one of the kids became sick and shared the cause with school administrators. None of the brownie was available for collection to be tested. The matter was handled in-house with suspensions for the hungry students, and the dreaded parent-notification.

Danger to self, 9/26/14 A Saint Mary's College student was depressed, severely intoxicated and threatening to hurt herself. Officers determined she was a danger to herself, so she was

taken to the hospital by the fire department.

Credit card fraud, 9/29/14 An unknown person used a Rheem Boulevard resident's personal information to apply for two credit cards. The victim didn't authorize anyone to use her identity. No suspects or leads at this time, but the case remains under investigation.

Grand theft, 9/17/14 A Country Club Drive resident reported that sometime during a six-day time span, two gold earrings and a gold necklace disappeared from her residence. Value is approximately \$2,500. Police are investigating.

In addition, the following crimes were reported in Moraga Sept. 23-30:

### False Alarm

Sanders Ranch Rd  
 Hetfield Pl  
 Millfield Pl  
 Merrill Cr So  
 Calle La Montana

### Traffic Incident

Moraga Rd  
 Rheem Bl  
 Camino Peral

### Speeding

Rheem Bl

### Found Property

Camino Pablo

### Residential Burglary

Devin Dr

### Danger to Self

Moraga Rd

### Lost Property

Country Club Dr

### Local Bench Warrant

Camino Peral

### Petty Theft

St Mary's Rd



Gint Federas  
 Your Lamorinda Agent  
 26 year resident  
 License Number: 0159742

www.4FARMERSINSURANCE.com  
 (925) 4-FARMERS

- Home
- Auto
- Life
- Business

<p>54 Heather Ln, Orinda</p> <p><b>Sold</b></p> <p><b>\$1,100,000</b></p>	<p>87 Loma Vista Dr., Orinda</p> <p><b>Pending</b></p> <p><b>\$1049,000</b></p>	<p><b>Alex Gailas</b></p> <p>Realtor/Broker                  15 years local Certified Residential specialist</p> <p>925-254-7600 office                  925-788-0229 cell</p> <p>Alex@AGRealty1.com                  www.AlexGailas.com                  43 Moraga Way, Orinda</p>
<p>13 Virginia Dr., Orinda</p> <p><b>Active</b></p> <p><b>\$3,999,000</b></p>	<p>4680 Green Valley, Fairfield</p> <p><b>Sold</b></p> <p><b>\$1,245,000</b> Represented buyer</p>	
<p>12858 Manna Ln, Loma Rica</p> <p><b>Pending</b></p> <p><b>\$695,000</b></p>	<p>39 Village Square, PH</p> <p><b>Sold</b></p> <p><b>\$589,000</b></p>	



**EXPERIENCE MATTERS**

**Linda Di Sano Ehrich, Realtor**  
 93 Moraga Way • Orinda, CA 94563  
 925.698.1452  
 Linda@LindaEhrich.com  
 www.LindaEhrich.com  
 DRE# 01330296



**OKTOBERFEST SUNDAY, 10/26 HACIENDA, 2:00 – 6:00 PM**



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

# Moraga School District Plans for the Future

By Sophie Braccini

There are 1,861 students enrolled in the Moraga School District this year, spread across three elementary schools and a middle school. Over the years enrollment figures have fluctuated wildly, with a high of 2,718 in 1973 and a low of 1,418 in 1984. What the future holds for Moraga schools is hard to predict—these ample fluctuations were not the result of housing development but rather of other demographic factors. For school district superintendent Bruce Burns, this is a serious concern that needs addressing; the number of students and their location helps plan construction, districting boundaries, and the number of classrooms and teachers. So the district

hired a consultant and, before the end of the year, will have the results of a demographic study that will narrow the range of possibilities for enrollment. These figures will feed the district's ongoing strategic plan.

Planning is tantamount to any leadership position and in education, changes can be deep and come in rapid succession. "Last year we had the most change ever," says Burns, referring to his 29 years in the school system. He lists the implementation of the Common Core standards, the transition from STAR testing to an online testing system, and the implementation of the Local Control Funding Formula, the state's new mechanism to fund schools in Cali-

fornia. With LCFF came the requirement for a new reporting system, the Local Control Accountability Plan. "We finished our three-year strategic plan," says Burns. "About 80 percent of the information required in the Local Control Accountability Plan is contained in our strategic plan."

Developing a strategic plan was one of Burns' top goals when he took the job in 2010; he wanted the process to include the widest and most inclusive outreach. Now the plan is formalized and it measures the progression of each goal as time passes. "We have materialized our plan on the wall of the auditorium at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate," says Burns. ... continued on page A13

**Your one-call plumber!**

**LeapFrog Plumbing**

**GAS WATER & SEWER**



Head Frog Mo Williams

**Does your plumbing give you a FRIGHT?**

**ZOT! Zap Out Trouble—before trouble zaps you.**

**50% OFF CRAWL UNDER** (It can be scary to go 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 eeeek!

**50% OFF Inspection crawl space plumbing Inspection\* \$189 Value**

\*visible and accessible plumbing; Homeowners only; most houses Thru 11/15/2014

Family-owned & serving Lamorinda since 1993

**green solutions!**

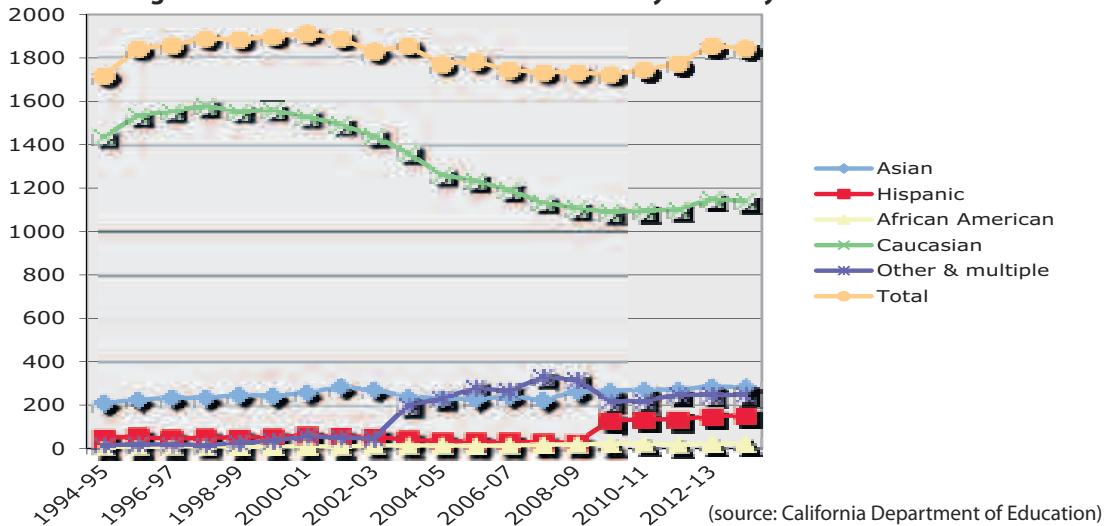
**We Hop To It!**

**(925) 377-6600**

www.LeapFrogPlumbing.com

CA Lic 929641

Moraga School District enrollment fluctuation by ethnicity



Alain Pinel Realtors

# WELCOME HOME



ORINDA \$4,999,000

12 El Sueno | 5+bd/5+ba  
Joanna Truelson | 925.258.1111



MORAGA \$3,400,000

16 Quail Xing | 5bd/5ba  
Lisa Brydon & Kristi Ives | 925.258.1111



ORINDA \$2,695,000

176 Crestview Drive | 4bd/5.5ba  
Alan Marks | 925.258.1111



LAFAYETTE \$1,480,000

3495 Black Hawk Road | 4bd/3ba  
Karen Richardson | 925.258.1111



LAFAYETTE \$1,349,000

1117 Rahara Drive | 4bd/2.5ba  
Karen Richardson | 925.258.1111



ORINDA \$1,275,000

49 Camino Lenada | 3bd/3ba  
Kata Kish | 925.258.1111

See it all at APR.COM

f /alainpinelrealtors  
@alainpinelrealtors

Orinda Office 925.258.1111





# Orinda

## Civic News

### Public Meetings

#### City Council

Tuesday, Oct. 21, 7 p.m.  
Auditorium, Orinda Library,  
26 Orinda Way

#### Planning Commission

Tuesday, Oct. 14, 7 p.m.  
Auditorium, Orinda Library,  
26 Orinda Way

#### Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission

Wednesday, Oct. 8, 6:30 p.m.  
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,  
22 Orinda Way

#### School Board Meeting

**Orinda Union School District**  
Monday, Oct. 13, 6 p.m.  
OUSD Office, Vintage Building  
25 Orinda Way, Suite 200  
www.orindaschools.org  
See also AUHSD meeting page A2

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



## MARKET ACTION REPORT September 2014 City: Orinda

Price Range: \$0 to \$999,999,000 | Properties: Single Family Home

Market Profile & Trends Overview	Month	LM	L3M	PYM	LY	YTD	PriorYTD	PriorYear
Median List Price of all Current Listings	\$1,380,500	↓		↑				
Average List Price of all Current Listings	\$1,935,328	↓		↑				
September Median Sales Price	\$1,300,000	↔	↔	↑	↑	\$1,235,000	↑	↑
September Average Sales Price	\$1,293,862	↓	↓	↑	↑	\$1,373,259	↑	↑
Total Properties Currently for Sale (Inventory)	50	↓		↓				
September Number of Properties Sold	17	↓		↑		208	↑	
September Average Days on Market (Solds)	47		↑	↑	↑	28	↔	↓
Asking Price per Square Foot (based on New Listings)	\$565	↑	↑	↑	↑	\$521	↑	↑
September Sold Price per Square Foot	\$525	↑	↑	↑	↑	\$518	↑	↑
September Month's Supply of Inventory	2.9	↓	↓	↓	↓	2.4	↑	↑
September Sale Price vs List Price Ratio	100.2%	↓	↓	↓	↔	101.7%	↑	↑

925.360.9588 925.708.9515 www.TheHattersleys.com

## Six Candidates Compete for Three Orinda City Council Seats

By Laurie Snyder

Three seats are opening on the Orinda City Council. Six accomplished candidates are running. All six sat down for rigorous interviews, sharing their thoughts on a variety of subjects.

"Location, beauty, charm. Orinda is an idyllic, beautiful, safe place to live. It's woodsy with great schools. The people make it a really wonderful place to live," said Carlos Baltodano. The 22-year Orinda resident directed Contra Costa County's building inspection department for 11 years before serving as an interim human resources director. He was appointed to Orinda's Planning Commission in 2008, and later chaired that commission. "I started out as a planner – being an advocate for communities, and my whole life opened up. I realized it was so important to work with people, to make their dreams come true. Public agencies provide valuable services to citizens. I have always looked for ways to make things simpler – for people to get permits, find information on the web. We need people in public service who are engaged, professional and able to work with others," said Baltodano.

"Orinda's citizens are so dedicated and so brilliant, and bring so much to the table. We have tremendous resources because we have people who are experts in key areas. We need to tap their talents to come up with creative solutions to the problems we face," said Linda Delehunt.

"I have a long history of being an advocate and creating policy. As a principal I tried to make sure our programs had all of the money they needed." The 34-year Orinda resident was also a teacher before joining the California Department of Education. "It was very difficult to effect policy change at the district level so I spent 10 years in state government where I could advocate for the integrity of children's programs. I consider public service a life mission for me. It has given me the opportunity to really effect change," said Delehunt.


"We are so fortunate to have a volunteer community that repeatedly steps up and works hard for the greater good – schools, swim clubs, civic organizations. The number of applications we get each year in our recruitment process for committees – the fact that we turn people away is amazing. We're filling the slots with some of the best people in their respective fields," said Dean Orr. The 14-year Orinda resident has been a principal with a medium-sized architectural firm in San Francisco since 1999. One of two incumbents running, Orr is seeking re-election to his second term. He began his civic service as a member of Orinda's Planning Commission. "People step up over and over again. It happens in ways I didn't know it could – a couple of phone calls, and you've got a house full of people drafting work plans," said Orr.

"Orinda is a special place – an oasis from the broader, busier Bay Area – a place where families come and stay. Even with very real problems like the roads, we've created a community. The people who live here care about this town," said Eve Phillips. The two-year resident of Orinda grew up in Moraga, and comes from a family of accountants. After graduating from MIT, she returned home to be near her parents, residents of Moraga for 45 years. After working in operational roles with technology firms, and performing business development functions for Amadeus Capital Partners, Vector Capital and Greylock Partners, Phillips co-founded the healthcare software company, Empower Interactive. Now the chief executive officer, she describes those early days as encompassing. "A lot of my job was and is listening – trying to reach out to other groups which have differing opinions," said Phillips.

"We're a remarkable community – unparalleled in Contra Costa County. It's because of the people who live here," said Bob Thompson. "If you look at the statistics, 76.9 percent of Orinda residents have a bachelor's degree or higher. The next closest is Moraga with 73.8. Lafayette is in the 70s. Everyone else is in the 60s." A 22-year resident who has served on boards of several nonprofit organizations, Thompson has been a member of Orinda's Finance Advi-

sory Committee since its inception in 2008. "I have advised the city about investment policy and portfolio construction. It's been a natural extension of what I did professionally." He's running for council now because he has the time since retiring from his portfolio management position with a private investment firm. "Before this I would not have entertained this. Serving on the city council takes so much time to do it properly," he explained.


"The connection people feel to Orinda, the sheer number of people who volunteer for parents' clubs, city commissions, service clubs? We wouldn't have the community we have without the individuals who have taken long-term commitments to the issues they work on," said Amy Worth. "Just look at the Friends of the Orinda Library. They have provided continuity, serving year after year to raise millions of dollars to create the library's permanent home, build its collections, and add new technology." A 32-year Orinda resident, Worth is a three-time mayor. "Council members put in a lot of time; we divide up our expertise." In addition to city meetings, they represent the interests of Orinda residents on everything from the library's regional board to the county's solid waste authority. "I've always felt really grateful to be in Orinda. For me, it's about giving back," said Worth.

 <p><b>Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report, Sept. 14-27</b></p>	<b>Alarms</b> 65	<b>DUI</b> 10 block Chelton Ct	<b>Petty Theft</b> Safeway	Miramonte High School (2)	<b>Traffic Stops</b> 151
	<b>Animal Control</b> Hall Dr/Moraga Wy	<b>Grand Theft</b> 100 block Ivy Dr	Wagner Ranch Elementary	Santa Maria Wy/Camino Pablo	<b>Trespass</b> 10 block Lost Valley Dr
	<b>Animal Cruelty</b> 10 block Camino Pablo	100 block Estates Dr	10 block Altarinda Rd (2)	San Pablo Dam Rd/Wildcat Canyon	<b>Vandalism</b> Glorietta Elementary
	<b>911 Calls</b> 9	<b>Hit &amp; Run</b> 50 block Scenic Dr	500 block Miner Rd	Bear Creek Rd/San Pablo Dam Rd	600 block Miner Rd
	<b>Battery</b> 80 block Tarry Ln	<b>Loud Party/Music</b> 12	<b>Prowler</b> 10 block Via Las Cruces	San Pablo Dam Rd/Camino Pablo	<b>Vehicle Theft</b> 30 block Orinda Wy
	<b>Burglary, Commercial</b> 20 block Orinda Wy		<b>Reckless Driving</b> Miner Rd/Camino Sobrante	<b>Suspicious</b> Person 20	
			Moraga Wy/Stein Wy	Circumstances 12	
				Vehicle 26	

RE-ELECT

# Dean Orr 2014

for Orinda City Council



"It has been an honor to serve the Orinda Community as a member of the City Council for the past four years. Working with my colleagues on the council and the citizens of Orinda has been a truly rewarding experience. I am excited by the opportunity to continue in this role and ask for your support."

<p>"Dean is an exceptional Council member and serves with intelligence, integrity, and insight. He is committed to preserving Orinda's wonderful quality of life. I strongly urge his re-election to the City Council." <b>Steve Glazer</b> Orinda City Council Vice-Mayor</p>	<p>"Dean has consistently stepped up for the good of Orinda schools and has been a great supporter of our district. Please join me in supporting him for re-election to the Orinda City Council." <b>Matt Moran</b> Orinda Union School District Board of Trustees</p>	<p><b>Selected Endorsements Include:</b></p> <p><b>Elected Officials</b>  <b>Candace Andersen</b> Supervisor District 2 Contra Costa County  <b>Steve Glazer</b> Orinda City Councilmember  <b>Sue Severson</b> Orinda City Councilmember  <b>Victoria Smith</b> Orinda City Councilmember  <b>Amy Worth</b> Orinda City Councilmember  <b>Susie Epstein</b> Acalanes Union High School District Board  <b>Matt Moran</b> Orinda Union School District Board  <b>Julie Rossiter</b> Orinda Union School District Board  <b>Chris Severson</b> Orinda Union School District Board</p> <p><b>Community Members</b>                  Larry &amp; Julie Abramson                  Louise Adamson                  Patt &amp; Jim Aitchison                  Greg &amp; Shaun Ansel                  Richard &amp; Julie Atkinson                  Steve &amp; Marcella Austenfeld</p>	<p>Jack Babcock                  Rich Bartlett                  Brent Bates                  Steve &amp; Betsy Baus                  Todd &amp; Amy Berryhill                  Kurt &amp; Joy Marlow Braitberg                  Kevin &amp; Shauna Brennan                  Shane &amp; Monica Brun                  Bruce &amp; Barbara Burkhalter                  Bruce Burrows                  Robert Burt                  Chris &amp; Annette Butner                  Ed Casey                  Omer &amp; Megan Cohen                  Kim &amp; Kevin Coleman                  Darren &amp; Julie Cooke                  Mike &amp; Sara Curran                  Cathy Cutler                  Rebecca Dahlberg                  Joffa &amp; Ellen Dale                  Ruth &amp; Dan Dashiell                  Mary &amp; Larry Del Santo                  Bill &amp; Andrea DeWitt                  Joe Digirolo                  Chuck &amp; Kirsten Engs                  Mike &amp; Janine Evans                  Marc &amp; Karen Evans                  Joe &amp; Hilary Fabian                  Finola Fellner                  Gus &amp; Sugar Filice                  Grant &amp; Joyce Fine                  Bob &amp; Patty Frazer                  Steve &amp; Lynn Freeman                  Mark &amp; Lauren French</p>	<p>Shannon Fuller                  Jon &amp; Michele Gasparini                  Dennis &amp; Darlene Gee                  Kevin &amp; Tracy Gong                  Dr. Eugene Gottfried                  John Hall                  Joyce Hawkins                  Former Mayor of Orinda and Citizen of the Year                  John &amp; Katharine Hawkins                  Mike &amp; Mary Henderson                  Jeanie Hocking                  Elle Hoffnagel                  Paul Hollerbach                  Monique Jasper                  James Jenkins                  Bill Judge                  Former Mayor of Orinda and Citizen of the Year                  Tom &amp; Aileen Kelly                  Dr. Michael &amp; Sara Kim                  Caroline LaVoie                  Brad &amp; Leslie Lagomarsino                  Bobbie Landers                  Former Mayor of Orinda and Citizen of the Year                  Kenn &amp; Gretchen Lewis                  Dane &amp; Robyn Lewis                  David Libby                  Alissa Lillie                  Jason &amp; Jen Lurie                  Tom &amp; Cinda Mackinnon                  Brook &amp; Alison Mancinelli                  Mark &amp; Mary Maxon                  Deven &amp; Kimberly Mays</p>	<p>Barbara &amp; Chris McClain                  Brock &amp; Clare McDonald                  Tracey &amp; John Millham                  Jeff &amp; Staci Mills                  Kyle &amp; Lisa Mueller                  Terry Murphy                  Melba Muscarolas                  Eartha Newsong                  Brandi &amp; John Pearce                  Nancy Rothman                  Pat Rudebusch                  Sean Sabrese                  Mark &amp; Teresa Sanchez                  Mark &amp; Shauna Simmonds                  Dan Siri                  Valerie &amp; Larry Sloven                  Troy &amp; Julie Smith                  Wick Smith                  Riki &amp; Andy Sorenson                  Sam Swan                  Jack Sweitzer                  D.J. &amp; Tina Tierney                  Ash &amp; Christy Blackie-Taylor                  Mike &amp; Jennifer Vigo                  Hillary Weiner                  Doug &amp; Julie Whitsitt                  Brandt &amp; Amy Williams                  Peter &amp; Amelia Wilson                  Tom &amp; Carole Wolfman                  Tom &amp; Katie Wood                  Rick Woodward                  Tricia &amp; Bret Young                  Rachel Zenner</p>
--	--	---	---	---	---



**HANDLING IS WHAT WE DO BEST.**  
 BMW Concord  
 11677 Marine Dr. Concord, CA 94521 949-707-3000  
 www.bmw.com

**The Woodward Jones Team - Two Masters of Real Estate Joined to Provide World Class Service!**

**Strong Fall Market for Home Sellers**

Thinking of selling this year? It's not too late!  
 We have many well qualified buyers still trying to purchase a home.  
 With the right marketing, many homes are getting multiple offers.  
 Now more than ever, you need our expert representation to sell your home for more money.  
**We will make it happen for you!**

Call Frank and Tina today for a free marketing consultation!

Frank Woodward Tina Jones  
 925.330.2620  
 Team@WoodwardJonesTeam.com

WoodwardJonesTeam.com  
 Luxury Property Specialists

CalBRE# 01335916/0885925 ©2014 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. CalBRE License # 01908304

# Orinda Council Candidates Discuss Fiscal Management

By Laurie Snyder

The candidates for the Orinda City Council shared their views recently on one of the most important aspects of governing a small city – fiscal management. Here are their thoughts.

“We have high expectations for our government, but limited resources,” said Amy Worth. “Roughly 10 percent of our budget depends on sales taxes; 50 percent comes from property taxes. Fiscal prudence is important. Fortunately, we’re one of a small number of cities without pension liability. It all begins with strategic planning – why we’re here, where we want to go. We must ensure not only that we’re able to deliver the services we need today, but that we’re able to sustain these services. Our budget is a living document. A few years ago, we engaged in very conservative budgeting when the economy dipped, even looking at Comcast franchise fees to give us a real handle on revenues. Moving forward, we must be responsive when the state imposes additional unfunded mandates. We must fight those vigorously,”

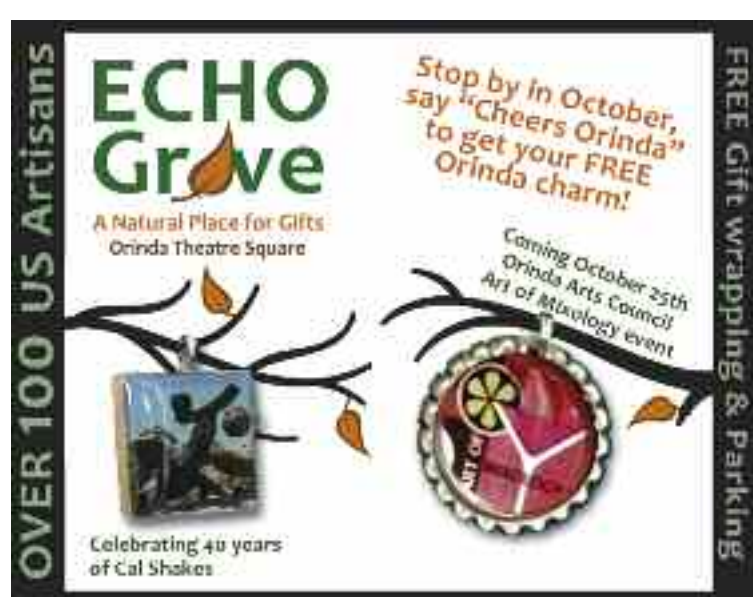
Worth stressed. “If you don’t get your finances right, you can forget everything else,” said Bob Thompson. “One thing the people who formed the city did brilliantly was to implement a retirement contribution rather than a defined benefit plan for staff. We pay as we go with no future obligations.” Thompson said there will be three things future councils need to watch: the potential for employee health insurance to escalate into a “platinum plan,” growing public safety costs, and inadequate budget reserves. “We have a \$5 million emergency fund for disasters but over the last three years, we’ve spent \$4 million in reserves.” The biggest “gorilla,” though, is the Contra Costa County Sheriff’s Department contract. “We can’t really negotiate, and are paying for past pension promises made at the county level. It’s starting to squeeze out services and our ability to replenish reserves,” said Thompson. “The budget is reasonably balanced, which is great. It’s one of the things residents find most positive,”

said Eve Philipps. “But we’ve chronically underfunded our roads, and that’s why we’re in the situation we are. My business has had to be fiscally responsible. We’re not taking in outside capital – so we’ve had to budget carefully. I’ve done a fair amount of financial analysis and budget projection. In Orinda, we need to figure out how to handle maintenance. We should be spending roughly \$3 million a year, but it’s been closer to \$2 million.” Police and fire may offer savings, she said, but she wants more analysis. “Our rainy day fund is probably about right, but I want to ensure that we’re within the range of what is fiscally responsible compared to comparable cities,” Philipps added. “There’s no extra fluff in Orinda’s budget – our extremely clean audits each year point to that, but neither budget cycle was easy my first term,” said Dean Orr. “The assessor was reducing property tax values across the county; homes were selling for less. We also had staff contract negotiations, and then Tarabrook happened. Councilmember Smith got us going

on a storm drain master plan, and we made great strides reshaping Parks and Rec positions – a sustainable model. But we also had to make lay-off choices. When you work in a city as small as Orinda, you don’t look at

staff as a budget element. It’s incredibly difficult, but it’s up to council and staff to make ends meet. When you look at all Orinda has done with its small budget, it’s phenomenal,” stated Orr. ... continued on page A14

**More Orinda Civic News on Page A11 and A14**



**ECHO Grove**  
 A Natural Place for Gifts  
 Orinda Theatre Square

Stop by in October, say "Cheers Orinda" to get your FREE Orinda charm!

Coming October 25th  
 Orinda Arts Council  
 Art of Botany event

OVER 100 US ARTISANS

FREE Gift Wrapping & Parking

Celebrating 40 years of Cal Shakes

## COLDWELL BANKER Orinda

The Lamorinda Real Estate Firm people trust

 <p><b>MORAGA \$1,225,000</b>                  5/3. Campolindo Traditional! Two story Campolindo traditional w/great floorplan, sunny kitchen, and spacious backyard. O'Brien/Fellner CalBRE# 01482496/01428834</p>	 <p><b>MORAGA \$1,075,000</b>                  5/2.5. Close to K-8 top rated Moraga schools. Great floor plan. Lovely backyard w/ patio &amp; gardens. Elena Hood CalBRE#01221247</p>	 <p><b>MORAGA \$1,125,000</b>                  4/2.5. Gorgeous contemporary. Spacious rooms. Back yard oasis with pool. Valley view. Rick &amp; Nancy Booth CalBRE#01388020/01341390</p>	 <p><b>ORINDA \$3,550,000</b>                  4/3. By Appt. Only. Serene contemporary villa built in 1990 on 1.3 ac with amazing gardens, vistas &amp; privacy. The Hattersley's CalBRE# 01181995/00445794</p>	 <p><b>MORAGA \$1,049,000</b>                  3/2. Lovely Ranch Campo, Cul-De-Sac, Hardwood, Upgraded Bath, in Laundry, Grass Lawn, Pavers. Jason Evans CalBRE#01887768</p>
 <p><b>LAFAYETTE \$1,799,000</b>                  6/4. Spacious Custom Home! 5112 sqft on .31 acre lot on a cul-de-sac, large bonus room, gourmet kitchen. Elena Hood CalBRE#01221247</p>	 <p><b>ORINDA \$1,195,000</b>                  4/2.5. Nestled among the oaks in OCC. Vaulted ceilings, hdw floors, walls of windows. Views! Bo Sullivan CalBRE#00954395</p>	 <p><b>LAFAYETTE \$1,775,000</b>                  5/3.1. Spectacular in Lafayette! Beautiful custom built home located in the coveted Greenhill's neighborhood. Van Drent/McKay CalBRE# 01051129/01902466</p>	 <p><b>ORINDA \$3,900,000</b>                  4/4.2. Rare opportunity to buy newer estate plus two adjacent lots. Gated, wine cellar, gorgeous grounds w/pool &amp; more! Elena Hood CalBRE#01221247</p>	 <p><b>LAFAYETTE \$1,399,000</b>                  4/2.5. Updated, Mt. D vu's, pvt/gated, ofc &amp; bonus rm, lrg mstr suite, 3-car gar, light, xtra pkg. Tom Stack CalBRE#01501769</p>
 <p><b>ORINDA \$2,550,000</b>                  5/4.5. High end custom home w/wine cellar, gourmet kitchen, outdoor patio w/built in BBQ, putting green &amp; more! The Beaubelle Group CalBRE#00678426</p>	 <p><b>MORAGA \$1,528,000</b>                  5/3. Beautifully appointed home in popular Moraga Place. Updates and attn to detail throughout. Vlatka Bathgate CalBRE#01390784</p>	 <p><b>MORAGA \$875,000</b>                  3/2.5. 3+ Master Retreat, 2.5 BA, Family Room w/fireplace, Fantastic Views, Appx 2486 sqft. Hank Hagman CalBRE#00771832</p>	 <p><b>ORINDA \$2,595,900</b>                  5/5.1. New Construction! Stunning custom home on 3.5 acre premium lot w/gourmet kit w/island. Visit OrindaOaks.com. The Beaubelle Group CalBRE#00678426</p>	 <p><b>ORINDA \$1,300,000</b>                  4/2.5. Fabulous half acre property is ideally located near downtown. Numerous upgrades throughout &amp; open floor plan. Vlatka Bathgate CalBRE#01390784</p>
 <p><b>ORINDA \$1,950,000</b>                  4/4. New Construction, Lot 7! Visit OrindaOaks.com. Buyer may select finishes. Front landscaping and fencing included. The Beaubelle Group CalBRE#00678426</p>	 <p><b>LAFAYETTE \$989,000</b>                  3/2. Inspiring Views. Remodeled rancher with large flat yard and big open spaces perfect for entertaining. Woodward Jones Team CalBRE# 01335916/00885925</p>	 <p><b>ORINDA \$995,000</b>                  3/3. Pristine 1 Level Mid-Century Custom w/ a cool Art Deco vibe in the heart of Glorietta. Patti Camras CalBRE#01156248</p>	 <p><b>LAFAYETTE \$899,000</b>                  3/2. Situated on a quiet culdesac, this quintessential Lafayette rancher is convenient to BART and downtown. Bev Arnold CalBRE#01154860</p>	 <p><b>ORINDA \$850,000</b>                  3/2. Charming home amongst the trees. Large family room, enclosed yard. Newly painted. Must see. David Pierce CalBRE# 00964185</p>
 <p><b>PENDING</b>  <b>ORINDA \$1,500,000</b>                  4/4. Fabulous remodel, steps from downtown Orinda &amp; blocks from BART &amp; freeway. Huge, fun yard! Soraya Golesorkhi CalBRE#01771736</p>	 <p><b>PENDING</b>  <b>LAFAYETTE \$989,000</b>                  3/2. Inspiring Views. Remodeled rancher with large flat yard and big open spaces perfect for entertaining. Woodward Jones Team CalBRE# 01335916/00885925</p>	 <p><b>PENDING</b>  <b>ORINDA \$995,000</b>                  3/3. Pristine 1 Level Mid-Century Custom w/ a cool Art Deco vibe in the heart of Glorietta. Patti Camras CalBRE#01156248</p>	 <p><b>PENDING</b>  <b>LAFAYETTE \$899,000</b>                  3/2. Situated on a quiet culdesac, this quintessential Lafayette rancher is convenient to BART and downtown. Bev Arnold CalBRE#01154860</p>	 <p><b>PENDING</b>  <b>ORINDA \$850,000</b>                  3/2. Charming home amongst the trees. Large family room, enclosed yard. Newly painted. Must see. David Pierce CalBRE# 00964185</p>

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

COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

californiamoves.com

©2014 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. CalBRE License # 01908304



**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](http://5Aspace.com)

**5A RENT-A-SPACE**  
455 Moraga Rd. Suite F  
(925) 631-7000  
[www.5Aspace.com](http://www.5Aspace.com)



### Live The Retirement That You Deserve With A Reverse Mortgage!

- For homeowners age 62 and older
- You retain the title
- No monthly mortgage payments
- No income or credit score requirements
- No limitations on how you spend the proceeds



David Chang  
Reverse Mortgage Advisor  
NMLS #913224

Reverse Mortgage Solutions, Inc. dba Security One Lending  
NMLS ID 107636, 2727 Spring Creek Drive, Spring, TX 77373.  
Licensed by the Dept of Business Oversight under the CA Residential Mortgage Lending Act #133104. Homeowner remains responsible for paying property taxes, required insurance and home maintenance. This ad is for a 1st mortgage loan.

Phone: 925-984-1190



## 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:

I am writing about the City Ventures (CV) development planned for scenic Moraga Way.

Even though CV violates the semi-rural nature of the town, the Moraga General Plan (MGP) and the Moraga Specific Plan (MOSP), the town keeps defending the development by referring to the MOSP. The MOSP violates and contradicts the MGP. According to real estate attorneys, the specific plan should never violate or contradict the General Plan. The General Plan has precedence over the Specific Plan. CV violates numerous clauses in both the General and Specific plans, especially the scenic corridor. Even a design review board member expressed this.

The MGPlan's Guiding Principle 2 is: "Protect and enhance the character and quality of residential neighborhoods, maintaining a predominantly single family, character in a semi-rural setting."

In one of the first proposals CV stated: "Even though this does not adhere to the semi-rural nature of the town..."

Both Plans continually state: "Protect existing residential neighborhoods." CV claims it is building in the likeness of Moraga Country Club (MCC). This is not true. There are no 3 story houses, the houses' setback are at least 35 -56', and vegetation is extensive at MCC and Moraga. CV's density is at least 3 times MCC. CV tries to deceive us by claiming their 3 story multiplex units are 2 stories with a loft (they used to say 3 stories until residents complained (it violates MGP LU1.3)). CV will block all of our views. CV front doors are located 8 -9' from the sidewalk on Country Club Drive (CCD). Children and pets love to run out of front doors... (onto CCD!). The lot's oak trees will be cut down.

There has been a continual disregard for the present residents of CCD and Moraga. Initially the town wanted all traffic to shunt onto St. Andrews Drive and CCD with no entrance or exit from Moraga Way! One of CV's plans included taking away the present cut away on CCD to match it's own entrance. The present residents would have to take 5-6 turns to get to Moraga Way and the shocking fact that a couple of houses suddenly have a cut away appear at the front of their house!

When you drive down Moraga Way and Road, do you see anything like this? No, because this violates the scenic corridor. When Moraga set the MOSP, Lafayette and Orinda threatened to sue Moraga. Moraga then claimed the developments would be for elderly or student residents. This and other plans are not intended for such residents. Orinda and Lafayette may want to pay attention. The traffic density will increase exponentially.

Moraga residents believe in smart development that will enhance Moraga. CV does not fit in Moraga. Please do not let this project be "fast tracked" like Shauna Brekke Read, planning director, admitted in a Design Review meeting. It is refreshing to observe planning commissioner, Theresa Onoda's concern that CV is not in line with the neighborhood and recognized that residents are very unhappy with this proposed development.

Margaret Gee  
Moraga

Editor:

Not many years back the current owners of the Rheem & Orinda Theaters stated that the theaters would be showing indie films. Some thought this meant films like those shown at the "Dome" & a few movie theaters in Berkeley. Sad to say that did not happen.

When the "Dome" closed it appeared to be the opportunity to show those indie films. Sad to say that did not happen.

Based on the number of people who attended movies at the "Dome" one has to think that many Contra Costa residents would prefer to attend a theater in Moraga rather than travel to Berkeley.

An opportunity overlooked?

J.P. Duffy  
Moraga

### Elections

Editor:

I am asking you to vote for Christine Deane for the Contra Costa Board of Education, on the November ballot. Christine is just the sort of person you would like working for the local schools and our children. She was appointed as a trustee of the Contra Costa Board of Education after a rigorous application process, and was chosen over many other candidates. She has been deeply involved with the Contra Costa County public schools for the past 30 years as an educator, parent, and currently as a County Board of Education Trustee.

I have known Christine for 18 years and have taught with her in the San Ramon School District. She is very bright and articulate, an incredibly hard worker, and a problem solver. Christine has high morals, is a very kind and thoughtful person and is always willing to help out others.

You can find out more about Christine's background on her website [www.cdeane.com](http://www.cdeane.com).

Sallie Nelson  
Orinda

Editor:

I encourage Lamorinda and Walnut Creek voters to return Susie Epstein and Nancy Kendzierski to the Acalanes Union High School District Governing Board. I serve with them and enthusiastically support them for re-election.

Susie brings strong financial leadership, and experience as a distinguished parent volunteer at Miramonte High School. Susie always asks the hard questions to ensure we make good decisions on behalf of the 5,000 students we serve each year.

Nancy is running as a candidate after her appointment to a vacant seat. She has led the PTA's regional legislative activity, and is an expert on the state's support of its schools. Nancy's experience helped create our first "Local Control Accountability Plan."

Our district has weathered financial storms and maintained its programs at the high level of quality and impact that our students expect. We have maintained salary and benefits for all employees. Continuity matters for our district's leadership. I hope you will join me in voting for Susie Epstein and Nancy Kendzierski for the Acalanes school board.

Sincerely,  
Richard Whitmore  
Lafayette

Editor:

As a current Orinda School Board member, elected in November, 2012, I know how important a job it is that we have. Some of our roles and responsibilities include: 1. Setting direction, 2. Establishing an effective and efficient structure, 3. Providing support, 4. Ensuring accountability, and 5. Providing community leadership.

I am writing to ask you to vote for Carol Brown in the Orinda School Board election, since Carol will be "the breath of fresh air" that is so greatly needed on our board. She is an independent thinker, fiscally responsible, and listens to all sides.

Carol is a highly responsible child advocate who works for CASA, (Court Appointed Special Advocates). She is the mother of 5 children, has been an active parent volunteer in our Orinda Schools, and has lived in Orinda for 22 years.

Carol Brown will fight for much needed increased transparency, accountability, and community receptivity to students, parents, teachers, and community members. We can trust Carol Brown to be strong enough to be sure the dog wags the tail.

I encourage you to join me in voting for Carol Brown for Orinda School Board, on November 4th!

Sarah Butler  
Orinda

Editor:

Ballots are being mailed for the upcoming election and soon Orinda voters will determine who will fill the three open seats on the School Board. To many families and educators, this is an extremely important election — a chance to change the caustic atmosphere in the District. Parent groups have been prevented from spending funds they have raised on programs to expand educational opportunities and improve facilities. Programs have been cut despite an approximate 24% budget surplus. Our Teachers' pay has now fallen under the median for Contra Costa County. Parents of children at Wagner Ranch were repeatedly dismissed even though serious complaints over discipline and other issues were raised. Over and over, parents and educators have complained that our District's Superintendent has created an environment of dysfunction instead of one that honors collaboration and excellence. This election is our opportunity to do what we do best as voters — elect new leaders for a new direction.

As you may know, there is a 3-2 split on the Board, in which the majority of Members have consistently sanctioned the actions of the Superintendent instead of exercising independent judgment on a range of important issues. The majority vote includes the incumbent candidate Julie Rossiter. In order for families and educators to have a voice in the District, we need to upend this voting block. Both Carol Brown and Jason Kaune are not only concerned about the current Board dynamic, but are committed to creating an open, respectful and transparent environment should they be elected. Further, both candidates strike me as people with an independent spirit, and their contributions to the Board should prevent the problems we see with the current Board majority. I'm hoping you'll join me and many other concerned parents, and the Orinda Teachers Association, in electing Carol Brown and Jason Kaune to the School Board this fall.

Cimon Starr  
Orinda

Editor:

My husband Neil and I moved our family to Orinda 14 years ago "for the schools". Since then, we have learned a great deal more about the teachers, the administrators, the superintendent and the way in which the OUSD school board operates.

On the plus side – Orinda has great parent participation and community funding, dedicated school site administrators and teachers, who provide high quality education in safe school sites.

This November, there are three school board seats in play. Two incumbents chose not to run – I believe in part due to the frustration concerning the way in which the district has been governed.

After almost a decade of attending OUSD Board meetings, I would strongly encourage voters to support all newcomers – Brown, Kaune and Weiner rather than the incumbent Rossiter.

Rossiter was given four years to demonstrate what she would do – during which time she also served as OUSD Board President. Rossiter was an ineffectual Board President, had a habit of not allowing public comment when warranted and most concerning, her dismissive demeanor toward anyone who came to the OUSD Board seeking solace after harsh treatment from a teacher, administrator or other was truly alarming.

Ms Brown brings a child-center focus, Mr Kaune is an ethics attorney and Ms Weiner, a relative newcomer to the community, who appears to have actively involved herself in the schools, strike me as the best team to move the district forward during challenging times.

Please consider voting for Brown, Kanue and Weiner – the candidates most likely to bringing the needed breath of fresh air to the OUSD Board.

Thank you,  
Bekki Van Voorhis-Gilbert  
Orinda

... Letters continued on next page





# Letters to the Editor

... continued



Editor:

Please join us in supporting Julie Rossiter for Orinda School Board. Julie is the only incumbent running and her breadth of knowledge and experience make her the ideal candidate for this important role.

Julie has three children currently in the Orinda schools, and has spent years as an active volunteer in our community. In addition to her role on the School Board, she currently serves on the board of the Friends of the Orinda Library and the Miramonte Parents Club.

In Julie's four years on the School Board, including serving as President in 2013, all five of the OUSD schools were honored as California Distinguished Schools.

Julie is a dedicated and collaborative leader who demonstrates high integrity and transparency in all of her actions. She welcomes the opportunity to discuss the issues currently facing the District and regularly updates her blog and social media platforms on issues ranging from Common Core to Zero Tolerance to Fiscal Stability.

Julie sees issues from all sides given her experience as a parent, volunteer, and business litigator. Her ability to solve problems, negotiate with others in a positive and collaborative manner, and advocate for change when necessary, allows her to build consensus and obtain results.

Julie is also a wonderful person - she is a kind, thoughtful, active and engaged mother, wife, friend, and member of our community - the type of person we want representing our community and our children.

People who know Julie, and have had the opportunity to work with her, agree. Julie has been endorsed by numerous current and former School Board Trustees, City Council Members, former Mayors, Citizens' of the Year, and countless Parent Club Presidents' and community volunteers.

We support Julie Rossiter for Orinda School Board and urge you to do the same. The Orinda Union School District, our children, and the community as a whole, will benefit from her experience, dedication, and leadership.

Sincerely,  
Seanna and Jeff Allen  
Orinda

Editor:

Bob Thompson is the best candidate for the Orinda City Council. He has substantial financial expertise that no other candidate comes even close to matching. (Let's not forget recent examples of other Cities in California neglecting their finances and going broke.) But Bob is more than just a financial expert. He's ethical. He's genuine, and he cares about his community and his family. He doesn't just talk. He listens and he collaborates. He gets things done. Join me and many others in Orinda and vote for Bob Thompson.

Paula Goodwin  
Orinda

Editor:

Ken Chew, our current Town of Moraga Mayor, who has served for almost eight years on the Moraga Town Council, is running for re-election to the Moraga Town Council for a third term. Ken has demonstrated that he is an effective leader as the mayor in 2010 and 2014. Under his watch, the Town Council meetings have been civil, transparent and efficient.

The reason why I will be endorsing and voting for Ken--and encouraging you to join me--is because of his leadership priorities. His voting record has stood consistently for what is fair and best for the entire community, and I have been impressed by his courage to stand up to pressure from those who are solely special interest advocates.

Ken has also been a staunch supporter for creating the town's Climate Change Committee, which is now recommending steps to curb the pollutants that blight our society's healthy future. We need Ken's leadership to preserve and enhance the blessed quality of life we enjoy in Moraga.

Sincerely,  
Jeremy Fish  
Moraga

Editor:

Four years ago I wrote this paper to encourage Moraga voters to support Dave Trotter for re-election to the Moraga Town Council. At that time he had demonstrated an integrity and commitment to the positions he had run on in his initial campaign in 2006. His re-election validated the trust the voters placed in him. His leadership on these issues since 2010 further validates the importance of re-electing Dave to the Town Council.

Dave has been a consistent supporter of the preservation of open space in the Town. He was the only council member who voted to oppose ridgeline homes in the Rancho Laguna II project in 2011, upholding the policies of our General Plan. He will continue to vote to protect the Towns' remaining open ridgelines. His current work as a member of the Town's Ridgeline and Hillside Steering Committee is needed to strengthen the Town's open space ordinances and policies.

While serving as our mayor and as the Chair of the Planning Commission Dave has demonstrated the ability to encourage full and open discussion of controversial issues, respecting the views of all speakers. He is an independent thinker and a problem solver. We need these qualities on the Town Council.

Please vote to re-elect Dave Trotter to the Moraga Town Council on November 4.

Sincerely,  
Malcolm J. Sproul  
Moraga

Editor:

Dave Trotter is our choice for the Moraga Town Council. He has ably served the Town as a councilmember for the past eight years. During that time he has consistently demonstrated his leadership abilities and commitment to the community values that Moraga residents cherish.

As mayor, Dave served on the 2009 Revenue Enhancement Committee. Out of that effort came Measure K, a realistic strategy for funding much-needed repairs to Moraga's neighborhood streets and other critical infrastructure. Dave campaigned for the successful passage of Measure K in 2012, and last year as mayor oversaw successful implementation of the first year of the street repair program. Dave has consistently shown fiscal discipline in approving only balanced budgets. And Dave has been an advocate for our community's young people, spearheading new efforts to work cooperatively with our local schools to jointly plan for and build improved recreational facilities and sports fields.

The Town Council needs proven leadership as it deals with the opportunities and issues that face Moraga. Dave Trotter's understanding of these issues, sensible decision-making, and commitment to strong fiscal discipline make him the best candidate for election to the Council. Check out his web site at www.davetrotter.com for more information.

Carolyn and Tom Westhoff  
Moraga

... Letters continued on next page



## Orinda Union School District Seeking Applicants to Serve on Measure B Parcel Tax Oversight Committee

The Orinda Union School District seeks applicants to serve on its Measure B Parcel Tax Oversight Committee. Members must be able to serve a four-year term. The committee meets twice annually during normal business hours. The primary objective and purpose of the Committee is to ensure that the parcel tax proceeds are spent for their authorized purpose and to report annually to the Board of Trustees and the public regarding the expenditure of such funds.

If you are interested in serving on the committee, please submit an application to the Superintendent's Office, Orinda Union School District, 8 Altarinda Road, Orinda, CA 94563, via email to [kfrenklach@orinda.k12.ca.us](mailto:kfrenklach@orinda.k12.ca.us), or by fax to (925) 254-5261.

Applications are available on the district website: [www.orindaschools.org](http://www.orindaschools.org) or by email from [kfrenklach@orinda.k12.ca.us](mailto:kfrenklach@orinda.k12.ca.us)

**Application Deadline:**  
**Tuesday, October 14, 2014, by Noon**

## CAROL BROWN FOR ORINDA SCHOOL BOARD

I WILL LISTEN TO **YOU!**



Our public schools belong to the people they serve. As a Trustee, I will:

- Listen to all stakeholders
- Be a responsible policy maker and problem solver
- Be transparent with how your money is spent

**Vote for Carol Brown November 4th.**

[www.CarolBrown4SchoolBoard.org](http://www.CarolBrown4SchoolBoard.org)  
[Carol4SchoolBoard@gmail.com](mailto:Carol4SchoolBoard@gmail.com)  
925.351.9144

Paid for by Carol Brown for OUSD School Board 2014 FPPC #1368834

# Elect KATHY Famulener

### Your Current MOFD Fire Director



- ✓ Member of the Lamorinda Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- ✓ Experienced public safety professional and community leader
- ✓ Alameda County Deputy District Attorney for 37 years
- ✓ Thirty-year Contra Costa County resident, raised two children who are proud third-generation graduates of UC Berkeley
- ✓ Endorsed by former MOFD Directors Gordon Nathan, Dick Olsen and Frank Sperling
- ✓ Endorsed by every current member of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board of Directors
- ✓ Endorsed by Moraga Town Council Members Phil Arth, Michael Metcalf, Dave Trotter, Roger Wykle
- ✓ Endorsed by our local Moraga-Orinda Firefighters
- ✓ Endorsed by a broad coalition of leaders and public safety professionals and organizations at the national, state, county and local levels

## Top Objectives

- ✓ Fiscally responsible and sustainable budgets
- ✓ Optimal response times to emergency calls
- ✓ Disaster preparedness
- ✓ Protecting Moraga with the best qualified, best trained and best equipped emergency response personnel



## Join these community leaders who support KATHY FAMULENER for MOFD FIRE DIRECTOR

- Rep. Eric Swalwell, United States Congress
- Sen. Mark DeSaulnier, California State Senate
- Rep. Susan Bonilla, California State Assembly
- Rep. Joan Buchanan, California State Assembly
- Supervisor Candace Andersen, Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
- United Professional Firefighters of Contra Costa, Local 1230
- Contra Costa County Central Labor Council
- Democratic Party of Contra Costa County
- Director John Wyro, President, MOFD Board of Directors
- Director Stephen Andersen, MOFD Board of Directors
- Director Alex Evans, MOFD Board of Directors
- Director Fred Weil, MOFD Board of Directors
- Richard Olsen, Former Director, MOFD; 2013 Moraga Citizen of the Year
- Gordon Nathan, Former Director, MOFD; 2011 Moraga Citizen of the Year
- Frank Sperling, Former Director, MOFD; former Moraga Town Council member
- Mike Metcalf, former Moraga Mayor, current Moraga Town Council member
- Dave Trotter, former Moraga Mayor, current Moraga Town Council member
- Roger Wykle, Moraga Town Council member
- Phil Arth, Moraga Town Council member
- Teresa Onoda, Moraga Planning Commissioner
- Bill Carman, Vice-Chair, Moraga Parks and Recreation Commission
- Brad Kearns, former Moraga Police Chief; retired Chief of Inspectors, Alameda County District Attorney
- Darrell Lee, retired MOFD Division Chief
- Victoria Smith, former Orinda Mayor, current City Council member
- Amy Worth, former Orinda Mayor, current City Council member
- Laura Abrams, former Orinda Mayor
- Julie Pierce, Clayton Mayor
- Tim Sbranti, Dublin Mayor
- Nancy O'Malley, District Attorney, Alameda County
- Robert Chenault, Chief of Inspectors, Alameda County District Attorney
- Alameda County District Attorney's Investigators Association
- Oakland Police Officer's Association
- Berkeley Police Association
- University of California Berkeley Police Officers Association
- Suzanne Jones
- Joan Eidson
- Frank McEnaney
- Brian Sullivan
- Mike Nieto
- Joffa and Ellen Dale
- Dave and Theresa Ortega
- Dick Callahan
- Dave Esquer
- Tom Worth
- Wick Smith
- Bob and Shelley Hubner
- Glenn and Ricki Oleon
- Kitty Guptill
- Matt and Kathleen Haley
- Bob and Bobbie Hartman
- Marian Shanahan (partial list)

Contact Kathy: [famulener@gmail.com](mailto:famulener@gmail.com)

Paid for by Friends of Kathy Famulener MOFD 2014, PO Box 6373, Moraga, CA 94570 • FPPC # 1371428



# Letters to the Editor



... continued

Editor:

I intend to vote for Dave Trotter's re-election to the Moraga Town Council and hope that your readers will join me in doing so.

40 years ago the Town of Moraga was formed in response to unbridled County-fostered growth pressures that threatened Moraga's semi-rural environment. The main thoroughfares into and out of Moraga were severely congested during commute hours and high-density townhouse developments were being proposed that would have unalterably changed Moraga's character. Today, that same, severe commute-hour traffic problem still persists. And we are once again being threatened by high-density, urban townhouse development proposals that, I believe, would permanently disfigure our Town and damage our semi-rural environment. (One needs only to look at the story poles on Moraga Way next to the firehouse to see the reality of that threat.)

Based upon his record on the Moraga Town Council over the past eight years, Dave Trotter has shown that he is well qualified to deal head-on with these issues and I believe he can be counted upon to energetically protect our Town's environment and semi-rural character.

Dick Olsen  
Moraga

Editor:

Forty years ago Moraga residents chose to become a "town" instead of a "city", recognizing the open, semi-rural character they cherished. Today, maintaining Moraga's unique balance needs energy and commitment from citizens, town staff, and elected officials.

Moraga needs Teresa Onoda.

The combined pressures of development and budget are real and unrelenting. There is not one development issue, but many. The cumulative impact of multiple projects on schools, roads, utilities, Town budgets, and Moraga's distinctive ridgelines could drastically alter the community we love if not carefully managed.

Our quality of life depends on people like Teresa who have lived here, studied the issues, done their homework, attended the meetings, given their time, and placed the long-run interests of the Town first in their priorities. She represented the Town's interests well on the Planning Commission, and will do so again on the Town Council. Her commitment to the Town's future is clear, and will endure long past Election Day. Please vote for Teresa Onoda on November 4.

Dan Smith  
Moraga

Editor:

Please join me in voting for Teresa Onoda and Dave Trotter, by far the best two candidates in this year's Moraga Town Council election. I do not know them as friends, and thus my opinions are based solely on first-hand observation of their actions on the Planning Commission and Town Council.

All the candidates claim they will protect our scenic corridors and ridgelines as the law requires, and that they will listen to all points of view, but in reality not all the current candidates have stood by their word once elected.

At the September 10th Town Council meeting Mayor Chew voted to approve the Via Moraga project, a dense development of 3,000 square foot single family houses on tiny 4,000 square foot lots. These new houses will be on a busy scenic corridor in the middle of a commercial district, will block views of Rheem Ridge, and will pose some serious challenges for pedestrian and vehicular traffic and safety. Chew's "arguments" included:

"Why delay the developer?" and "I'm not sure the view is a concern."

At the October 1st Candidates' Forum, when asked his opinion on Moraga's existing open space regulations, he said only that he looks forward to the recommendations from the Open Space Committee currently studying the issue. After 8 years on the Council applying these regulations, shouldn't he have his own opinion on these regulations' adequacy to protect the ridgelines he lists as his first priority in his campaign literature?

In response to concerns raised by the public, and in keeping with their stated goals to protect views from scenic corridors, Dave Trotter voted against the Via Moraga project, as did Teresa Onoda on the Planning Commission.

Please support Onoda and Trotter in this year's critical Town Council election. They have the sensitivity and dependability to represent us.

Ferenc Kovac  
Moraga

Editor:

Please join me in voting for Teresa Onoda for Moraga Town Council on November 4.

I live adjacent to the Moraga Center Specific Plan area, which is slated for hundreds of new housing units in the coming years. (You likely have already noticed story poles on Moraga Way and Moraga Road that give an idea of what we can look forward to.) Our property borders the recently approved Camino Ricardo residential development and I have testified at numerous Town meetings over the last 1 1/2 years, describing my concerns about the impacts of this project.

Teresa Onoda, who currently serves on the Towns Planning Commission, was a breath of fresh air during the Public Process. She listened intently to concerns voiced by the community about traffic, grading, wildlife, visual impacts and safety and she pushed hard for changes to the project to address these issues. In large part thanks to her, most of our neighborhood's concerns were addressed in the final plans.

In light of the many proposed/future developments within the Moraga Specific Plan area, we need Town Council members with Teresa's boundless energy and dedication to hold fast to what Moragans care about most: Our semirural environment, our schools, traffic issues, safety and protecting our ridgelines, trails and parks. I have watched Teresa take stands even when she is in the minority. I have no doubt she will use her voice to represent our concerns about the quality of life we are so thankful for in Moraga.

Brita Harris  
Moraga

Editor:

What will Moraga look like in 10 years? Once-graceful ridges bulldozed for building pads? Rolling hills carved up for houses? Traffic jammed from Campolindo to downtown Lafayette? Some of this is already baked in the cake thanks to recent development approvals, but the ultimate answer depends on next month's Moraga Council election.

Three critical issues to be decided by the next Council are ridgeline preservation, revised MOSO guidelines and a General Plan update. Big yawn, right? Wrong! 28 years ago I helped create the Moraga Open Space Ordinance (MOSO). We knew it had limitations, but nowadays many in Moraga think MOSO, the General Plan, and the approval process will protect the Town from destructive development. That's a myth. I've been disheartened by the gradual watering down of MOSO by Council-approved weakening of MOSO Guidelines.

And the ridgeline protection elements of the General Plan have proven to be nothing more than words that can be twisted by whomever has the votes. Developers are drooling over our remaining unbuilt ridges and hills. A series of 3-to-2 votes shows that a majority of our current Council is unwilling to reign in the pace, scope and nature of development.

Of the three candidates running for two Council seats, Dave Trotter and Teresa Onoda have strong track records on ridgeline preservation and stricter development controls; Ken Chew does not. During his two terms, Trotter has been an outspoken advocate of tighter controls and has articulated a comprehensive vision of sensible development and preservation of the qualities that have brought most of us to Moraga. Likewise, planning commissioner Onoda has been a strong and enthusiastic champion of maintaining Moraga's look and feel. In contrast, incumbent Ken Chew has drifted away from supporting these issues. For example, he's become ambivalent on ridgeline preservation--this after eight years on the Council and countless discussions. This is not good enough.

Change is inevitable, but it needn't be destructive. We need strong advocates on the Council who will confront tough issues and do the right thing. We need Trotter and Onoda.

Richard Immel  
Moraga

Editor:

Sometimes one has difficulty distinguishing between positions of opposing candidates. This problem does not exist for the Tim Sbranti vs. Catharine Baker race--the candidates have important policy differences.

Catharine Baker, for instance, believes that BART unions should not be able to strike thus halting an essential public service. The no-strike policy exists in New York City where subway workers are not permitted to strike and in San Francisco where Muni workers cannot stop buses and trains. Sbranti, on the other hand, supported the past BART strike and opposes a ban on future BART strikes.

Everyone wants the educational system to improve. Catharine Baker, for instance, supports a recent Los Angeles court decision concerning California public education. This ruling concluded that union-supported rules for dismissal of failing teachers together with layoff rules discriminate against poor and minority students. Sbranti sees no need for change.

Opposing views on BART strikes, teacher work rules, and other issues led both the San Francisco Chronicle and the Contra Costa Times to endorse Baker. Thoughtful voters--conservative, middle-of-the-road, or liberal--should consider supporting Catharine Baker.

David Kruegel  
Moraga

Editor:

I don't know if you endorse candidates, but hope you will join our community leaders in supporting Kathy Famulener for MOFD Fire Director. She is the one person who understands how to manage in multiple jurisdictions and has experience in multi-agency responses which our lives will depend on in the event of a major fire. Fire doesn't recognize geographic boundaries! Please vote for the candidate who is qualified and doing a great job!

Tom Hammond  
Moraga

Opening  
Fall 2014!

## PROUDLY INTRODUCING Merrill Gardens at Lafayette

We will offer 89 senior living apartments – choose from studios, one and two bedroom apartments with full kitchens and most with washer/dryers.

Merrill Gardens at Lafayette will be centrally located within walking distance to local shops, restaurants and art galleries. The Lafayette Library and Learning Center and BART Station are also nearby.

**Call and schedule a visit to learn more!**



**MERRILL GARDENS**  
AT LAFAYETTE

*A one of a kind retirement community*

**(925) 272-0074**

1010 Second Street  
Lafayette, CA 94549

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



License Pending

Retirement Living • Assisted Living • Memory Care

# Orinda's Fifth Cycle Housing Element Takes Shape

By Laurie Snyder

The Orinda City Council held its seventh public meeting on Sept. 30 regarding the state-mandated process for updating the Housing Element of its General Plan. During the prior cycle, Orinda was legally required to address reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities, emergency housing and transitional and supportive housing. For the fifth cycle, the state is requiring that cities address fourth cycle flaws, assess current and projected housing needs and create new Environmental Impact Reports.

Orinda's fifth cycle draft contains six chapters: a user guide with introduction describing the element's purpose, relationship to the city's General Plan and drafting process; an evaluation of the prior Housing Element's efficacy with recommendations for fixing deficiencies; an analysis of Orinda's current and future housing needs covering demographics, energy conservation, and housing stock characteristics, affordability and special housing needs; a description of sites which could support new housing in 2015-2023 (to be finalized after EIR completion); identification of potential housing development constraints (real estate costs, environmental hazards, high interest rates); and Orinda's official housing policies.

According to recent staff reports to the Orinda City Council and Orinda Planning Commission, cities must demonstrate their availability of land to meet Regional Housing Needs Allocations, or RHNA's, assigned to them by the state. Accommodation of market-rate housing RHNA's "is accomplished through the existing supply of vacant land zoned and available

for single-family development." When proving to the state they are meeting their legally-mandated RHNA's for below-market-rate housing, cities may cite recent housing production illustrating that "affordable units have been created and are financially feasible," show affordable housing subsidies exist and are effective, or "zone land for multi-family development and take advantage of a 'safe harbor' in the law that deems certain densities as appropriate to accommodate housing for lower income households."

To date, Orinda's below-market-rate RHNA accommodation has been achieved via: zoning and government subsidies facilitating development of the Monteverde Senior Apartments, zoning allowing second units in single-family neighborhoods, policies requiring Orinda Grove developers to include eight below-market-rate homes, and "default density" zoning of 20 units per acre on sites still to be determined – which allows, but does not require, property owners to build. The "safe harbor" will address 50 units not accommodated by other methods. The draft EIR is currently undergoing revision, based on suggestions from members of the Orinda Planning Commission following input from residents at a Sept. 9 meeting.

Orinda's leaders are pushing to meet the state's Jan. 31 deadline for fifth cycle Housing Element submission in order to head off a state penalty that would force noncompliant cities to update their housing elements every four years rather than every eight. Council members have


explained during several meetings that an eight-year cycle would not only reduce element-related costs (staffing, the production of public

meeting materials, consultants), it would free up city leaders, staff and residents to discuss other pressing issues, including road and drain repairs

and the improvements Orindans want to see made to their downtown. To learn more, visit the city's website – [www.cityoforinda.org](http://www.cityoforinda.org).

## Civic News Orinda

**HILLARY WEINER**

Community Leadership  Strong Schools

**For Orinda School Board**

**HillaryWeiner.com**

Paid for by Hillary Weiner for Orinda School Board 2014. FPPC Committee #1368663

## From Front Page

### Orinda Honors the Memory of Its First Mayor

... continued from page A1

Heggie, who passed away in 2012, was respected by world leaders and neighbors alike, earning Orinda's Citizen of the Year Award and the Government of Belgium's Order of Leopold. (See sidebar for further accomplishments.)

He was "dignified, fair, respectful, honest, intelligent," said Landers. "You could not find a finer representative to start a city out on the right foot." After their council terms ended, the pair partnered to establish Orinda's Sister City program with the Czech Republic. "This August, we welcomed our 15th student from Tábor to study at Miramonte."

Former mayor Laura Abrams recalled first meeting him while working to save Orinda's art deco theater. It was "his prestige ... his personality ... his manner of being. It was his relationship with the community which enabled him to act on our behalf," said Abrams. Both he and his wife, Bea, gave so much, "and did it in a way that was gracious and inclusive and gentle and kind."

"I really got to know him well in

1984 when the whole incorporation effort started," said former mayor Joyce Hawkins. "We were the new guys on the block. It was very important for the community to have a standing, to establish itself. He was such a respectful person and was so respected himself." It was Heggie's expertise in diplomacy, she noted, which helped Orinda become a player in the county.

But marvelous as these speeches were, it was 120 seconds unseen by many which captured the day's true essence. Two preschoolers, making a beeline for the library in hopes of finding the *best book ever*, were momentarily diverted from their mom-chaperoned mission by the sight of – cupcakes! As they buzzed around Heggie Plaza under the dazzling blue sky – heedless of the high wattage VIPs around them, they knew only that it was a great day to be alive in their hometown.

And it was such flashes of clarity that were what Mayor Richard Heggie wanted for all of us.

### Accomplishments of Richard Heggie, Orinda's First Mayor (abridged list)

Richard Heggie graduated from UC Berkeley while serving at sea as a World War II naval officer. He met his wife, Bea, at Cal and also earned a master's degree in international relations there. His 19 years with the Asia Foundation took him to Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Japan, and the Philippines. Through the 1970s and early 1980s, he led the World Affairs Council of Northern California. He was also:

- President and Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient, Japan Society of Northern California
- President, National Council of Community World Affairs Organizations
- Regent and Wheeler Oak Award Recipient, University of California
- President, University of California Alumni Association
- President, Society for Asian Art
- President, League of California Cities – East Bay Division
- Vice President, Oakland Museum Board of Directors
- Trustee, UC Berkeley Foundation
- Chair, San Francisco Committee on Foreign Relations
- Vice Chair, Chinese Culture Foundation
- Director Emeritus, East Bay Community Foundation
- Board Member: American Red Cross Bay Area, California Shakespeare Theatre, Institute of International Education – West Coast Chapter, International House – UC Berkeley, Kennedy King Scholarship Fund, Osaka Sister City Association

elect **JASON KAUNE** FOR ORINDA SCHOOL BOARD

Jason is a product and parent of our Orinda schools, running as an **experienced consensus builder** who will bring independent thinking and fiscal prudence to the school board.

He has been **endorsed by city leaders, parents, teachers and others.** See more at [JasonKaune.com!](http://JasonKaune.com)

**A mortgage that makes homeowners happy.**

**UP TO \$3,000<sup>2</sup> TOWARD CLOSING COSTS**

Thanks to SAFE Credit Union, a smaller down payment doesn't have to come between you and your dream home. With our 80-10-10 Home Loan option, you can become a homeowner for as little as 10% down<sup>1</sup> – and you won't even need to pay private mortgage insurance. We'll even give you up to \$3,000 in lender credits toward your closing costs. For home buyers on a budget, that's big news. Find out today's low rates and speak to your local SAFE Mortgage Officer, call **(800) SEE-SAFE, ext. 2772** or visit [safecu.org/homeloans](http://safecu.org/homeloans).

**SAFE MORTGAGE LENDING**

<sup>1</sup> Loan-to-value is based on the lesser of purchase price or appraised value. SAFE first and second mortgages must close concurrently. <sup>2</sup> Credits for closing costs cannot be applied to discount points or loan-level price adjustments. New purchase, owner-occupied properties only. Not available for refinancing of existing SAFE loan. Subject to credit approval and membership eligibility. Offer only available to members who live or work in Contra Costa County. Complete application must be submitted by 12/31/2014. Other restrictions may apply. See SAFE for details.

## From Ear to Toe

Two new Lafayette businesses will participate in this month's Health Fair

By Sophie Braccini



The EBSC Physical Therapy team, from left: Craig Klass, Ted Glatke, Carrie Haraburda, David Hatae, Cassie Kays.

Photos Sophie Braccini

Two new health-related businesses recently opened in Lafayette: Dr. Erik Breitling's Lamorinda Audiology, and East Bay Shoulder Clinic Physical Therapy (EBSC) that moved from Oakland to Lafayette. These two new health services emphasize prevention and they will both be at the Lafayette Health Fair on Oct. 26, ready to answer questions.

Breitling is a doctor of audiology, who tests hearing and diagnoses hearing loss in adults. "I also fit hearing aids and assistive listening devices, as well as make custom hearing protection, swim plugs and custom fit in-ear monitors," he adds. Breitling is the first audiologist to open an office in Lamorinda. He is a young doctor, but has years of internship experience under his belt, as well as practice garnered in a Walnut Creek audiology office.

His space is inviting and meticulously organized. Of particular interest to patients is the soundproof booth where testing is conducted. "The advantage in starting a new practice is that one gathers the most advanced testing equipment and technology," says Breitling. He explains that for his diagnosis he tests the eardrum, the integrity of the auditory pathway, the auditory nerve, the different types of hair cells in the cochlea, and conducts

a hearing test.

"Then within 24 hours we can get a hearing aid that matches the personal situation of each individual," states Breitling. He adds that patients need to own their hearing loss. "Hearing aids are not perfect; they do not restore hearing completely. You have to be mindful of realistic expectations," he warns. And that is why he believes it is so important to prevent damage. "The harm done to the auditory system is cumulative and it is irreversible," he cautions.

Breitling is particularly concerned about musicians who are exposed to high levels of sound for long periods of time and he proposes custom-fit protection or, as he recommended for the DJ who performed at his wedding, an earpiece that will allow the musician to get the quality sound he needs, but at a much lower noise level.

One group of people who could benefit from prevention advice from both the audiologist and the physical therapists are surfers. Breitling recommends a type of ear protection against the cold, while the physical therapists at EBSC Physical Therapy want to make sure that surfers develop a muscular balance and posture alignment to prevent injury.

"We live in a community where people of all ages are very active," says physical therapist and Moraga

mom Carrie Haraburda. "Our role is to either help them regain their mobility if an incident happens, or educate to prevent accidents." She says that one of the classic shoulder accidents is the reaching-for-the-purse-in-the-backseat action. "The movement puts your rotator cuff at a disadvantage, and little by little it starts fraying away that tendon." She also sees people who train very hard and try to push through the pain. "That's not such a good idea," says Haraburda. "Listen to your body; stay away from sharp pain and joint pain."

EBSC Physical Therapy was born, more than 10 years ago, of the East Bay Shoulder and Sports Clinic and is still part of the clinic. Since then, EBSC Physical Therapy has developed a life of its own, catering to patients suffering from all kinds of conditions. The group has expanded its services to include personal training, so clients can transition back to a regular sports routine, and massage therapy. "We also do screenings for kids in competitive sports and are always happy to answer questions if people wonder about their sport practice and its impact on their body," adds Haraburda.

EBSC will be sharing a booth with the Absolute Center at the Lafayette Health Fair, part of the Reservoir Run festivities that will take place from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Oct. 26. Find the Health Fair near the starting line, on Mt. Diablo Boulevard between First Street and Moraga Road.

**Lamorinda Audiology**  
3744 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 100, Lafayette  
(925) 262-4242, www.LamorindaAudiology.com

**East Bay Shoulder Clinic Physical Therapy**  
3717 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 100, Lafayette  
(925) 900-4545

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



Dr. Breitling in the sound booth.

## Celebrating an Anniversary?

If your business is celebrating a significant anniversary (5, 10, 20 years or more ...) send us a photo of your business, the owner(s) or the staff with specific information about your business and what you're celebrating, and we'll include it in an upcoming issue.



"Nothing makes me happier than to see you smile!"

- Comfortable, Convenient Family and Cosmetic Dentistry
- Certified in Full Mouth Reconstruction

**Family & Cosmetic Dentistry**

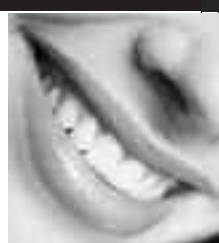
Providing Personalized Care through Quality Dentistry

**Scott D. Lothamer, DDS**  
Moraga  
925-376-4602  
1030 Country Club Drive

**\$40 off**

mention this ad to receive \$40 off any dental treatment

Member:  
ADA • CDA • CCDS • AACD



## business briefs

### New Counselor in Moraga and Lafayette

**Joanna Hill**

P.O. Box 6354, Moraga, (202) 441-4960, joannahill@stanfordalumni.org, www.jhillcounseling.com

Bay Area Psychotherapy Training Institute  
3468 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite B201, Lafayette  
The Career Wisdom Center

1036 Country Club Drive, #100, Moraga

Joanna Hill, MSW, recently opened a private counseling practice in Moraga, co-located with the Career Wisdom Institute. She also practices

at the Bay Area Psychotherapy Institute in Lafayette. Her first specialty was support and crisis intervention. "I worked with people who had been diagnosed with a psychiatric illness to reach their inner ability to be healthy," says the Moraga mother.

In her new practice she works with people who have too much stress in their lives, feel strain at work/school or in their relationships. "I work with young adults to older adults. I offer them support so they get immediate relief. As they relax and feel better, they start getting insights about their lives." Hill specializes in stress, anxiety, life transitions, family relationships, parenting, and having loved ones with diagnoses and/or addictions. A Moraga resident for eight years, Hill has two school-age children. She earned her Master in Social Work from Columbia University. Hill offers a free initial 30-minute consultation.



Joanna Hill

Photo Sophie Braccini

### Anniversary and Open House in Lafayette

**Tara Natural Medicine**

3186 Old Tunnel Road, Lafayette, (925) 949-8604

www.taranaturalmedicine.com

Tara Natural Medicine, a naturopathic family practice in Lafayette, will hold an open house in celebration of the practice's 15 years in business from 4 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 9. The event occurs during National Naturopathic Medicine Week, and is free and open to the public. The open house event offers the community an opportunity to learn about the benefits, principles, and practices of natural medicine, and how it can be an option to, or work with, conventional medicine. Demonstrations of therapies offered, as well as talks on specific health topics, will be featured at the event. Lecture topics will include: Bio-identical Hormone Therapy for Women and Men, Secrets to Looking 10 Years Younger in 10 Days, and Healing from Allergies. Guests will have the opportunity to meet and talk with Tara Natural Medicine's practitioners.

### New Auto Shop in Lafayette

**Top Shop Auto**

3340-D Mt. Diablo Blvd. (in the Lemos Center), Lafayette

(925) 900-8160, www.myshopontop.com

A group of like-minded auto technicians and managers, with many years of experience in Bay Area dealerships and independent repair shops, decided to team up and open their own shop to service the Lamorinda community. "We use the latest diagnostic technology to provide high quality service and repair, with a one day turnaround in most cases," says Rick McCarty. "Our factory trained technicians are skilled in their trade and have years of combined experience. Top Shop Auto is family-owned and has a friendly, neighborhood atmosphere. We believe in providing old-fashioned automobile service that you can trust ... every time." Top Shop Auto is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.



From left: Tim Martin, Rick McCarty, Daniel Moorhead Photo provided

### Moraga Employee of the Month

Lindsay Pirkle, the general manager of the Rheem and Orinda theaters and the membership director of the California Independent Film Festival, has been named the Moraga Employee of the Month for September.



From left: Kevin Reneau, Lindsay Pirkle, Derek Zemrak and Frank May Photo provided

Pirkle has been an integral part of the growth of both theaters in her tenure over the last four years and oversees the day-to-day operations of both theaters. She also has played a major role in the hugely successful California Independent Film Festival. In winning the award, Pirkle will receive gift cards to Safeway and Lamorinda Pizza in Moraga. Pirkle will be presented with her award and gifts at the Moraga Rotary meeting on Oct. 14.

### Business Anniversary

**The Writing Studio Celebrates Second Anniversary**

884 Broadmoor Ct, Lafayette

(925) 385-0211, lafayettewritingstudio@comcast.net.

Shoshana Mark's The Writing Studio, Lamorinda's first writing school for children in grades k-12, celebrates its second anniversary in October. The Writing Studio offers a 10-week hybrid program comprised of classes and one-on-one sessions.

### News from the Chambers of Commerce

**Lafayette**

Chamber Mixer, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 8 at Lafayette Art Gallery, 3420 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite A.

Ribbon cutting ceremony for East Bay Shoulder Clinic & Sports Rehabilitation at 5 p.m. on Thursday Oct. 9, 3717 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 100.

22nd Annual Reservoir Run and 3rd Lafayette Health Fair will be held from 7 to 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 26 (read a related article on this page).

**Moraga**

Chamber Mixer, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 14 at Canyon Construction in The Barn, 925 Country Club Drive. The historic building is for sale; it is an opportunity to take a look at a Leed platinum structure. The mixer is free but an rsvp is required, (925) 323-6524.

**Orinda**

Union Bank Open House, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 9 at 140 Brookwood Road.

Ribbon cutting ceremony for Orinda's new shoe store from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 22 at Orinda Shoe Service, 27 Avenida de Orinda. Get 50 percent off women's and men's shoes to celebrate the newest addition to Orinda retail.

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

## Civic News Moraga

# Moraga Planning Commission Says Climate Action Plan Needs More Work

... continued from page A4

"We didn't expect the whole package to be passed in mass because there is no cost associated with it," said Crossley.

Commissioners were split as they considered the draft plan. "(Moraga) could be a model," said Teresa Onoda, who added that the plan should be discussed by the whole town and that stronger requirements could be made for new developments to include renewable energy sources. Tom Marnane said he thought that the plan was a hodgepodge and some proposals were laudable while others were silly. "This is not ready to come to us, not ready to be sent to the town council;

we should stop right now," he said. All of the planning commissioners agreed that it was premature to send the draft to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District for review before a cost-benefits analysis had been done.

The commission decided to forward the plan to the Town Council, but not to the BAAQMD; it recommended that the plan not be adopted without a better understanding of the costs and benefits associated with each element, along with a prioritization of the strategies. The commission also asked that the council consider additional community discussion, including scientific input.

### Moraga's draft climate action plan includes these recommendations, among others:

#### Land Use and Transportation

- Increase bike ridership by 5 percent
- Improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Achieve a 10 percent, or more, reduction in car trips to schools
- Support Lamorinda's Connectivity Shuttle Program
- Work with the CCTA to implement a carpool/rideshare program
- Support the transition to hybrids and alternative fuel vehicles
- Increase employer participation in Transportation Demand Management programs
- Encourage and allow individuals to raise food at home and in community gardens

#### Residential Energy Use

- Adopt a green building ordinance impacting all new construction
- Support upgrades of major home appliances to high efficiency models
- Partner with energy service providers to host energy efficiency fairs, workshops, and demonstrations
- Support development of best practices that streamline the solar permitting process
- Support the installation of solar thermal (domestic hot water) on existing buildings

#### Commercial Energy Use

- Target small and medium businesses with retrofit and rebate opportunities
- Conduct targeted outreach to large commercial and industrial utility customers to encourage greater adoption of energy efficiency

#### Solid Waste

- Increase landfill diversion rate to 75 percent by the year 2020
- Adopt a mandatory recycling ordinance for multifamily and commercial properties

#### Water and Wastewater

- Develop a local efficient landscape ordinance that exceeds the state's Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance
- Encourage water audits on remodels
- Encourage schools and town to use bay-friendly landscaping

#### Municipal Operations

- Purchase alternative fuel or fuel efficient vehicles
- Install renewable generation systems on town facilities
- Adopt an Energy Efficient Procurement Policy for major building system equipment

# Moraga School District Plans for the Future

... continued from page A5

"Each category is presented as a tree, and each time we reach a goal, we add a fruit in the tree." The four trees are named Student Achievement, Community Inclusiveness, Fiscal Stability, and Curriculum and Instruction.

On the community tree, the "collaboration with Saint Mary's College pear" now hangs; on the fiscal tree, the "apple of successful parcel tax" has been attached; and on the curriculum tree, the "peach of implementation of the math and English Common Core standards" hangs proudly, among many others.

"Our plan is set for three years and not five because our environment changes rapidly," says Burns, "and now we will transition to the Local Control Accountability Plan that we have to submit every year." In the area of change, one of the big "ifs" is funding. "The LCFF is set to bring us back in 2020 to the level of funding we had in 2007-08, depending on positive economic growth," says Burns. He adds that MEF funding and the parcel tax have given the district some stability.

Enrollment is also a big if. "We have three to five years of solid projections for the district; after that all we have are generalized estimates,"

says Burns. "The number of developments that are proposed in the town is such that we need to make sure we will have the capacity for the new residents."

The superintendent was not aware that in 2008, when the Moraga Center Specific Plan was approved, the environmental impact study prepared by the town's consultant found that the school district had enough capacity for the number of new homes proposed. "We have hired a demographer who will look at birthrates, enrollment trends, proposed development, and will estimate a 'student generation rate.'" Burns says that the heart of the district's concern is the facilities that haven't had significant attention since the mid '90s. "We need to look at renovation, seismic retrofit, and if we need to increase capacity we will have to build new classrooms." The alternative would be to increase class size— Burns notes that in the '70s, when the district was teaching almost 1,000 more students than it is today, the average class size was more than 30 students, rather than the 20-something of today.

The Moraga School District's strategic plan can be found online at [www.moraga.k12.ca.us](http://www.moraga.k12.ca.us).

## Bragging Rights

What's the highest height in Lamorinda? The largest home? The longest road, fastest runner, most expensive meal? *Lamorinda Weekly* is seeking your suggestions for a New Year's Eve newspaper edition. Send your thoughts to [cathy.d@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:cathy.d@lamorindaweekly.com) by Nov. 30.

# Why Buy A New Car?

2015



\$52,950 +

- Higher Insurance Costs \$
- Higher Financing Fees \$\$
- Higher DMV Fees \$\$\$

Does your current car still fit your needs?

Studies indicate it is more economical to repair vs replace.



2008

PAID FOR

Do you need a free honest consultation about weather or not your vehicle is worth keeping?

Our services cost less than you may think!

# Orinda Motors

Your Affordable One-Stop Solution for Service You Can Trust!

63 Orinda Way, Orinda, Ca. 94563 (925) 254-2012

## 5A'S FALL SPECIAL

# 20% OFF FOR 2 MONTHS!\*



FROM OUR SELECTED UNITS IN STOCK\*

4 X 6 REG. \$91 NOW ONLY...\$72.<sup>80</sup>

8 X 7 REG. \$166 NOW ONLY...\$132.<sup>80</sup>

RENT A UNIT & MOVE IN WITH OUR VAN FREE!



CHECK OUR UPCOMING EVENTS ON OUR 5A SOCIAL MEDIA

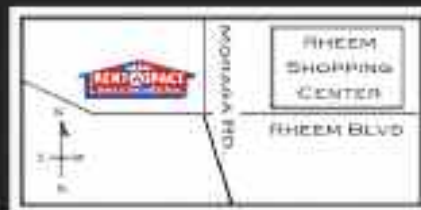
\* SELECT UNITS LIMITED; 1ST COME, 1ST SERVED. OFFERS EXP. 10/31/14

Blogger



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

ASK FOR YOUR 2014 NEIGHBORHOOD COUPONS WHEN YOU COME VISIT US!





**925.631.1055** www.MVCRemodeling.com

**Specializing in kitchens & bathrooms. All forms residential remodel/repair.**



*"A little bit of myself goes into every job."*

Lic# 681593  
Michael VerBrugge,  
President,  
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

Office: 925-254-8585  
Cell: 925-998-7898  
www.clarkthompson.com  
ct@clarkthompson.com



Giving Dreams an Address



**TC HARDWOOD FLOORS**  
Moraga California  
DESIGN • REFINISHING • INSTALLATION  
**925-376-1118**  
Lic # 974651

Since 1993!  
Tom Gieryng, owner and operator

CALL TOM FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

**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

**FLOORING**  
CARPET, VINYL, LAMINATE, TILE, HARDWOOD

CALL FOR A FREE IN-HOME ESTIMATE  
**510-895-5400**

Quality Work & Service for over 12 years.



**Flamingo's Flooring**

SHOP AT HOME We will Bring the Samples to You!

Showroom: 14086 Washington Ave, San Leandro, CA 94578

**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

**Got Closets? Get Organized!**



**Lamorinda Closets**  
Organized for Life



Call Kevin today  
**925.451.6436**  
and ask for a free consultation

Lamorinda Closets can help you update and reorganize the closets in your home

**Kevin Healey, Owner**

3330 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 307 • Lafayette  
Kevin@LamorindaClosets.com  
LamorindaClosets.com

**Civic News Lamorinda**

**Teen Suicide Ideation Rises Again**

By Nick Marnell

The number of 11th graders in the Acalanes Union High School District who have seriously considered attempting suicide is on a steady increase, according to statistics released in the 2013 California Healthy Kids Survey. The statistics not only trend upward, they exceed the CHKS 2011 state average.

"It's the stress. There is too much pressure to succeed here," said Campolindo High School psychologist Bonnie Willax, who has seen her case load double over the past five years. "Cut back on the three hours of homework," she said. "More homework does not create a smarter kid." Willax said she recently counseled a young girl who had written a suicide note.

The CHKS 2011 state average for suicide ideation is 17 percent among 11th graders. The rate among AUHSD 11th graders has steadily grown from 14 percent in 2005 to 18 percent in 2013.

"We are not sure to what to attribute the slight increase," said John Nickerson, AUHSD superintendent. "That said, we have begun a process to evaluate and potentially redesign our mental health services as well as examine other aspects to the school environment and general support structures."

WestEd, a San Francisco-based education research firm, developed the CHKS for the California Department of Education and has administered the survey at all four AUHSD high schools every other year since 1999. The survey measures key student behavior areas including resilience,

alcohol and drug use, violence and suicide-related behaviors and school safety. Students are tested anonymously. In general, the 2013 reported averages for the risky behavior for AUHSD students fell well below 2011 state averages for 9th graders and closer to 2011 state averages for 11th graders.

The survey reported declining use of marijuana, ecstasy and painkillers over the past four years. Corroborating evidence on the behavior of teens, age 14-18 years old, was mixed. Dr. Joseph Barger, medical director of Contra Costa County Emergency Medical Services, noted that ambulance transports of patients from Lamorinda with suspected drug or alcohol issues increased from eight in 2011 to 12 in 2013. Mark Nagel, Orinda's police chief, saw a 50 percent drop in pot and drug arrests over the same period, and Moraga police chief Robert Priebe reported a 30 percent drop. Yet Lawrence Seliga, youth services officer of the Lafayette Police Department, offered this formidable observation on local high school drug usage: "You could get anything you want, or meet the person to get what you want, right on campus."

While the kids reported that painkiller medication usage dropped to below 10 percent, the three Lamorinda police chiefs offered harsher evidence. "Prescription drugs are the biggest problem in our community," said Lafayette chief Eric Christensen. "The drugs are easily accessible, and the stigma of using is not as bad as with heroin." Priebe re-

ported two prescription drug fatalities over the past four years. And Nagel's comments matched Christensen's nearly word for word, naming oxycontin usage as the community's biggest drug problem.

The kids said that overall drinking and binge drinking have declined. "Drinking may be down slightly," said Jaime Rich, Lamorinda Alcohol Policy Coordinator for the Center for Human Development. "But it's still a big problem. Alcohol and drugs supply the coping mechanisms for dealing with the stress of needing to achieve in high school." Though the trend may be down, 34 percent of AUHSD 11th graders reported drinking in the past 30 days, and more than 20 percent of the 11th graders said they had either driven, or had been in a car driven by a friend, after drinking. "If any kid gets suspended for alcohol, that's one too many," said Nickerson. "If you hear about a party with drug and alcohol use, that's one party too many."

No one high school stood out in the CHKS averages, with no glaring differences among the schools in any one category, confirmed the superintendent, who said that his principals did not disagree with the survey data.

"When you are looking at the same questions every two years I think there is a great deal of validity, at least when you are looking at trends," said Nickerson, speaking to the value of anonymous testing of teenagers. "The trend is in the right direction, but there are still too many kids participating in risky behaviors."

**Bragging Rights**

What's the highest height in Lamorinda? The largest home? The longest road, fastest runner, most expensive meal? *Lamorinda Weekly* is seeking your suggestions for a New Year's Eve newspaper edition. Send your thoughts to cathy.d@lamorindaweekly.com by Nov. 30.

**Civic News Orinda**

**Orinda Council Candidates Discuss Fiscal Management**

... continued from page A7

Linda Delehunt said she believes balancing Orinda's budget is one of the few things that current officials have done well, but she remains concerned about the details. "I think council is proud of the budget they put out, but it's very simplistic and doesn't represent all of the issues. The city has, for the most part, bypassed the roads problem. The hidden costs that affect citizens don't appear anywhere on the budget. It's missing a whole element regarding infrastructure. How we address this issue is incredibly complicated. Measure J is tiny, but the potential for the tax burden is onerous. We have to think about what our young people are facing when we use bonds. I'd like Orinda to explore becoming a charter city to bring in more revenue, but it's a discussion we need to have with our entire city," said Delehunt.

"Right now the budget is managed well; it's in the black," observed Carlos Baltodano. The issue, he said, is whether the city should have used the money differently. "Some of the money that could have gone for road improvement years ago was used to build the city hall. I'm not against city hall, and using the funds for roads would not have cured the problem - it's a \$60 or a

\$100 million matter - but it's worth discussing as we look at ways to increase our funding level. I was on the initial committee for the half cent tax, which passed. And now we passed the bond. One of the next things we can do is to work with the community to develop an acceptable housing element that is approvable because if we don't, we jeopardize our road funds," said Baltodano.

**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

# Orinda Community Church Aunties Up

Initiative encourages Lamorinda girls to shine – sensibly

By Laurie Snyder



Girlpower participants with The Aunties (Orinda Community Church mentors). Back row, from left: Jackie Popper, Sue Boudreau, Elisabeth Kersten, and Betty Karplus; front row: Georgia Carpenter, Harper Bergquist, Michaela Thomas, and Leslie Darwin O'Brien  
Photo courtesy Jim Brommers Bergquist

Seventeen tweens and teens recently took part in an innovative, five-week initiative. Open to young women of all faiths across Lamorinda, Girlpower strengthened their sense of community and self, and was so well received that Orinda Community Church organizers are already planning future events.

Girlpower began with "Dinner with The Aunties" – women aged 35 to 90 who helped the girls explore the differences between being good, kind and nice, when it's okay to be competitive and not, and "the idea that when one person succeeds, we all succeed," says Leslie Darwin O'Brien, OCC's director of community life. "We do a great job in the Bay Area with academics and sports, but we stink at helping kids and adults soothe themselves. I'm especially concerned about the mean girl scene, unhealthy competition and a lack of self-esteem, and hope to build a buffer community for young women."

According to Kappa Delta Sorority's Confidence Coalition, weakened self-worth lessens lifetime earnings, hampers leadership ability and impairs health. While more than half of Americans are female, women hold just 16 seats in Congress. Seventy-five percent of girls with low self-esteem "engage in disordered eating, bullying, smoking or drinking." Women 16 to 24 suffer the most intimate partner violence – triple the national average – but only 33 percent tell anyone they're being hurt.

"We're doing preventive medicine. If you're feeling good about yourself, you're likely to be kinder to others," explains O'Brien.

"One of the greatest assets about Girlpower," says Auntie Elisabeth Kersten, "is the ability to talk about the meaning of life and other deep things – or issues one simply can't talk about in school. And the girls participate because they want to."

"It was enlightening – what was on their minds, what they thought they were doing well and not – peer pressure, bullying – same gender and the need to not let boys push them into bad situations," says Auntie Jackie Popper. "We heard about girls they know who face things they aren't facing. As they reflected on 'What would I do if this happened to me or a friend?' we helped them see they aren't alone. We all need support – whether building confidence around science projects or not putting others into positions of victimization."

Popper and her fellow Aunties want girls or even adults who might be reading this to know, "If ever you're in a bad situation or dark place, there are people you can call. You don't have to worry about getting into trouble or being judged; we'll always pick up the phone."

The girls created a "sister code" for how to treat others every day. "I so value my friendships with women of different ages, which offer perspective," says O'Brien. "We are blessed

in Lamorinda to be surrounded by wisdom." The importance of recognizing the sacred in everyone and everything was stressed as were the values of confidence, self-worth, respect, creativity, and intuition.

Elizabeth Perlman and Maureen Brown of the Intuitive Writing Project prompted girls to explore why they're glad they're "not Barbie," and Our Whole Lives Human Sexuality Leader, Ann Sherpick, helped participants understand that nonexistent bodies in heavily retouched photos create unattainable fantasy.

"Hearing the girls' writing was an epiphany," says Kersten. "The emotions that came up were powerful, poignant, revealing. It showed how much is going on – fear, joy, hope. What I find very authentic about this program is that it isn't all about self-love; it's about showing kindness, caring about the community and about others. Those values are also part of beauty."

... continued on page B3



## THE BMW 4 SERIES.

UN4GETTABLE:  
DESIGNED TO CATCH YOUR EYE.

Michael Heller, BMW Concord, mlheller78@hotmail.com



BMW Concord



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

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

## home/made kitchen café & bakery

proudly featuring four barrel coffee

new extended hours:

T-Fri 6am-7pm

coffee bar open with assortment of:

~baked goods

~take away dinners, soup, salads

Saturday and Sunday brunch 8-2



337 Rheem Blvd, Moraga, CA 94556

925-388-0841

www.homemadekitchen.com

## Time for a Village Uprising – The Outlook for Girls and Women:

- Suicide is the third leading cause of death among adolescents and teenagers. Teen girls are more likely to attempt suicide.
- 1 girl is bullied every 7 minutes nationwide in schoolyards, playgrounds, stairwells, classrooms, or bathrooms.
- 57 percent of rock music videos portray women as a sex object, a victim, as unintelligent, or in an otherwise condescending or misogynistic way.
- 1 in 3 American adolescents have been abused physically, sexually, emotionally or verbally by dating partners – a rate far higher than other types of youth violence.
- Approximately 70 percent of college students say they have been sexually coerced.
- Only 2 percent of women think they are beautiful.

Sources: Kappa Delta Sorority's Confidence Coalition (<http://confidencecoalition.org/statistics-women>) and Love Is Respect ([www.loveisrespect.org/](http://www.loveisrespect.org/)).

## No Girl Left Behind – The Sister Code

- Think first before speaking.
- Be kind. Be supportive. Be positive. Be a friend. Don't let your buddies belittle themselves. Give compliments even if not needed.
- Don't badger anyone for her secrets, but be a friend if she needs one by listening and keeping her confidence if she does choose to share.
- Deal directly. Don't say anything you wouldn't say to your friend's face.
- Don't be racist. Don't call other girls names. Don't body shame or comment on what anyone else eats. Don't wear high brand clothes just because everyone else does. Don't pick sides. Don't pressure people to be different.
- Be who you are. You're smart and beautiful just the way you are.

If someone you know is hurting herself in some way, talk with an adult you trust. If she's being hurt by domestic or dating violence, call STAND! for confidential advice: 1-888-215-5555. Nationwide, call: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233).

## 22<sup>nd</sup> Lafayette Reservoir Run

**Downtown  
Trick or Treat STREET  
KIDS & FAMILIES WELCOME**  
Friday, October 24th  
Beginning at 4:00pm  
Come in Costume

Sunday  
October 26, 2014



**8:00AM DOWNTOWN LAFAYETTE  
PARKING AVAILABLE AT BART**

**2 MILE FUN RUN 8:00AM  
5K RUN 8:30AM  
10K RUN 8:45AM  
FAMILY BICYCLE RIDE 9:30AM**

**KID ZONE • LIVE MUSIC • BIKE RODEO • HEALTHY LIFESTYLES FAIR**

**SUPPORTING LOCAL EDUCATION**

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



## In-Depth Psychotherapy

Work at deeper levels to create lasting change



**Eric Anders, Ph.D., Psy.D.**

Experienced and Licensed Psychoanalyst

110 Lafayette Circle, Suite 200, Lafayette  
www.DrEricAnders.com  
925-297-5177

## Old Firehouse School

CONTACT US FOR AVAILABILITY



www.oldfirehouseschool.com

**Lafayette Campus**  
Serving Ages 1-4

984 Moraga Road  
Lafayette, CA 94549  
925-284-4321

**Walnut Creek Campus**  
Serving Ages 2-4

55 Eckley Lane  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
925-934-1507

**STAT+MED**  
URGENT CARE

immediate care,  
immediate answers.



now in downtown lafayette!

970 dewing ave  
925.297.6396 | statmed.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



# The Babe in the Bunker

Musings of Bay Area media star Barbara Simpson

By Nick Marnell



Photo Andy Scheck

Barbara Simpson never looked away from her interviewer. For one hour the Lamorinda resident and Bay Area media personality reflected, she preached, she laughed, she almost cried, she philosophized, her gaze straight ahead as she discussed her life and her career.

"We weren't rich, and I learned the value of hard work," said Simpson, who was born in New York and raised in northern New Jersey. Through her school years she sold cameras at her father's shop, she waited tables, she picked strawberries, and she saved enough money to attend Georgian Court College in Lakewood, N.J., where she experienced her first life-changing event.

"My hardest class was logic," she said. "But I loved it. The nun taught us how to think. She taught the power of deductive reasoning. It was the most valuable lesson I learned in my life."

Simpson earned a master's degree in merchandising at Michigan State. "I always loved fashion," said Simpson, who modeled and won a National Dress Revue in New Jersey. "But I always wanted to get a job at a radio station. So I took radio/TV advertising as a minor."

She landed a job at a small Los Angeles advertising agency, with her goal to work in television. But the media career track does not allow for jumping from a minor ad agency to a major market television station.

"Wanna bet?" said Simpson, who, with the encouragement of a

neighbor in the television industry, was hired by the NBC affiliate in Los Angeles. She anchored the evening news and started an investigative news team, along with pulling shifts on KFI Radio. "I was in the right place, at the right time, with the right skills," she said.

Simpson moved to KNXT as a reporter. "Reporting is very hard. You're at the mercy of producers who are usually pretty stupid. It's not as stimulating as I'd like." Neither was anchoring, as she discovered when she moved to the Bay Area and co-anchored the KTVU Ten O'Clock News with Dennis Richmond. "Anchoring is not glamorous and it's generally boring, because you don't have to think."

Her chance to think arrived when she was hired as a talk show host for KSFO Radio. "It took me a while to realize that I could now say the things that I really wanted to," she said. A message from a listener jolted her. "He told me, 'You're a really nice lady, but your show is boring!' That did it. I taped that message on the wall. I wasn't being honest. Being a nice lady is not what the listeners wanted."

In San Francisco she used the nickname Babe in the Bunker, referring to her conservative position in the liberal city. Simpson insists that her conservative political viewpoint is neither contrived nor an act for radio. She noted that she was raised by Democrats. "My mother was a driving force in getting voting machines in

our town. The smoke filled room? That was our dining room."

As Simpson worked in the media her thinking changed. "I noticed what we were airing. At the end of my newscasts, I saw that we covered this, we covered that, but look at what we left out. I came to realize how insufficient our newscasts are."

Known as a terrific interviewer, Simpson nearly cried as she discussed an interview that never happened. "Orianna Fallaci," she said, naming the Italian journalist who wrote critically of Islamic extremists. "One day, she called me. I about fainted. She was pre-interviewing me. She was deciding if she wanted to be on my show. And she was going to do it." Simpson never got to interview her because Fallaci died before the scheduled air date. "If I could only be as good in my work as she was in hers," said Simpson.

Simpson has won a staggering number of awards, including Emmy awards at KTVU, and recently the Eagle Forum of California named her Talk Show Host of the Decade. But Simpson never thought in terms of awards. She instead focused on how she has been shunned because of her politics. "I've never been invited to a woman's event in Contra Costa County. I offered to speak at Saint Mary's College, and they wouldn't even respond. Yes, it bothers me, a little bit. But really? It disappoints me, that they could be so petty. And they are teaching our kids."

KSFO cancelled The Barbara Simpson Program in May. But in September the station changed to a conservative talk format, with Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity and Glenn Beck returning. "I miss it," she said. "Would I go back? I might. I never say no until I know all the details."

Simpson writes a weekly column for the conservative website WorldNetDaily and contributes to The Talk Pod, an online community of professional broadcasters.

"I want you to think for yourself," she said. "I want you to use your brain. If television news is your only source for what's going on in the world, you're in a lot of trouble."

## The No Guilt Book Club Celebrates 10 Years Together

By A. K. Carroll



No Guilt Book Club Members, back row, from left: Sandra Smith, Pat Partridge, Carol Pitman, Bettyann Pepper, Mary D'amante, and Sara Lazarus; front row: JoAnn Webber, Polly Olson, Diane Wilt and Char Powers. Photo A. K. Carroll

When this reporter recently walked into the home of Lafayette resident Diane Wilt, a kettle was boiling and a tray of goodies was set out near a circle of five lively women who bantered back and forth, sharing stories about their families and their personal lives, discussing topics that ranged from recycling to living alone to technology to disabilities. Their established purpose was a literary discussion, but it was clear from the onset that after 10 years together, the women in this group form more than just a book club.

The No Guilt Book Club, supported by Lafayette Senior Services, began with a seed of hope planted by

Wilt back in 2004. "I was in another book group that I'd been in for 35 years when we decided that we needed something at the senior center," said Wilt, who currently serves as the moderator of the group. "Two people joined right away and in the beginning it was a little rocky. I wasn't sure it was going to go."

In time the group grew, and today what started as a monthly book discussion has transformed into a loving community.

"It's really a women's group," said member Carol Pitman. "Everybody enjoys everybody," added member Pat Partridge.

Wilt noted that there are a num-

ber of women in the book club who have never been in a group of any kind, much less one where they are invited to share their opinions and talk about their feelings. In the years that they have been meeting the women have celebrated major birthdays, children's marriages and the birth of grandchildren, and have been there for one another through the death of loved ones, memory loss, moving and illness.

"It's very supportive," Wilt added, recounting the story of a group member who can no longer make meetings after taking a fall and moving into assisted living.

... continued on page B5



# All About the Game

Former Orinda resident helps jumpstart Lamorinda senior men's slow pitch softball team

By A.K. Carroll



Alan Cupples (right) smiles with a fellow team member, Tom Thompson, at the ball field. Photo Stu Selland

For a man in his 70s, Alan Cupples is impressively active. "I get kidded by people who ask me 'What are you doing at your age playing ball?' And I say, 'What do you mean, I'm one of the young ones.'"

For a Missouri-native like Cupples, sports have always been a part of life. From track to football to diving to tennis, there aren't many things the man hasn't tried. "I did everything," Cupples said of his early experience in athletics. "As a kid, especially in the Midwest, that's just what we were a part of."

The man's love for the field of sports came through in his professional career as well. "I had a business that dealt with everyone," explained Cupples, who spent decades working in the tuxedo industry and ran special promotions for major sports teams. "I did it because it was good for business and it was just fun."

A longtime resident of Orinda, Cupples is now retired from the tuxedo industry and living in nearby Pleasant Hill where he has rekindled his love for America's favorite past time. "My background is not dramatically different than a lot of the guys," he said. "The guys that play are probably better than average athletes, but we have some that are not."

The one area where Cupples differs from his teammates is that he's fairly new. "I'm one of the few on the Pleasant Hill team who hasn't been around for 20 years or more," he said. Cupples is also considered young. "We just had a catcher retire at 89," he stated. "Eight of the players on our team are in their 80s."

This is pretty standard for members of the Tri-Valley League, which currently includes slow pitch teams from Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Concord and most recently Lamorinda. Cupples has been "a guerilla marketer" for the league and after holding an informational meeting on Sept. 16, it looks like the Lamorinda team is ready to play. Twenty-one members have already paid their fees and another

six or seven have given verbal commitments.

"It is so gratifying to see and hear their excitement and joy to be out there playing a game they grew up with and never thought they would get the opportunity to play at this age," Cupples remarked.

Both the league and the team are all inclusive and open to anyone who might be interested. "We're hoping for varying degrees of talent," said Cupples. "We don't want superstars or it's not fun." He emphasized that the premise behind the league is camaraderie, not competition. "No one gets taken off the field unless they want to be." And no experience is necessary. "The youngest guy on [the Pleasant Hill] team had never played competitive ball before, but he's improved tremendously," Cupples noted.

This is not to say that the men who play aren't serious about their performance. "We can still hit pretty far," said Cupples, who painstakingly keeps track of his own batting average, even though the league doesn't keep official stats on its players.

But the league is for everyone. "A lot of them have had hip operations and knee replacements," Cupples acknowledged. He himself has recently made it through major foot surgery and a dislocated elbow. "I'm a wrecking ball, but I'm still out there playing ball because I enjoy it," he said with a smile.

Weather permitting there are 43 games each season, starting at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday mornings. Practices are Mondays from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Teams break over the summer to accommodate for youth practices. There's an expectation members will commit to being an active part of the team and will attend as many games as possible. First-year start-up fees are estimated at \$50-55 per player, with fees in subsequent years being lower. Anyone interested in getting more information should contact Cupples at (925) 876-9974 or alkanije@aol.com (Include "Softball" in the subject line).

## Orinda Community Church Aunties Up

... continued from page B1

At each session's end, participants reflected on these words of Marianne Williamson: "We ask ourselves, 'Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?' Actually, who are you not to be? ... Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking

so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine. ... As we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same."

For more information, contact the Orinda Community Church: (925) 254-4906; www.orindachurch.org.

## A New Year's Eve Twist

What is the most unusual way you or someone you know has ushered in the New Year minus champagne, party hats and noisemakers? Contact cathy.d@lamorindaweekly.com by Nov. 30.

### 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

## Divorce and Family Law

**The Law Offices of Jonathan D. Larose APC.**

*A Family Law Firm*

Jonathan D. Larose Esq. MBA,  
Chelsea Jagar, Esq. Julia Bressman, Esq.

confidential consultations - learn more at [jdlaroselaw.com](http://jdlaroselaw.com)

1660 Olympic Boulevard  
Suite 215  
Walnut Creek, CA. 94596  
Tel: 866-585-6314  
Fax: 510-659-8600

39199 Paseo Padre Parkway  
(Main Office), Suite E  
Fremont, CA. 94538  
Tel: 510-742-6100  
Fax: 510-742-9600

**Responsive, attentive and professional care in the environment our seniors desire most—AT HOME!**

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

- Bathing, dressing, grooming & toileting
- Light housekeeping & meal preparation
- Transportation, shopping & errands
- Medication reminders & physical activities
- Companionship.& more

61 Moraga Way, Suite 9  
Orinda, CA 94563  
(925) 317-3080  
[www.CareIndeed.com](http://www.CareIndeed.com)

*"I am here to give personal attention and professional insight every step of the way."*

Vanessa Valerio, RN  
COO and VP, Patient Care

**\$1000 off First Month of Live-in Home Care Service (6 months minimum). Offer expires 10/31/14; for new clients only.**

## 2014 BARRON'S "TOP 100 INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISORS"

**MICHAEL YOSHIKAMI WAS IDENTIFIED AS ONE OF AMERICA'S "TOP 100 INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISORS" AND THE ONLY EAST BAY ADVISOR TO MAKE BARRON'S' EXCLUSIVE LIST**

Michael Yoshikami, Ph.D., CFP® is CEO, Founder and Chairman of Destination Wealth Management's Portfolio Strategy Committee at DWM

QUALIFIED INVESTORS\* ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A COMPLIMENTARY REVIEW OF THEIR INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL PLANNING STRATEGY. CALL DWM TO SCHEDULE A MEETING IN YOUR AREA.

CALL NOW!  
1.855.396.7526 OR [INFO@DESTINATIONWM.COM](mailto:INFO@DESTINATIONWM.COM)

WWW.DESTINATIONWM.COM  
INFO@DESTINATIONWM.COM | PHONE: 855.DWM.PLAN | FAX: 925.935.1808  
1255 TREAT BLVD., SUITE 900 | WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597

\*Barron's "Top 100 Independent Advisors" is based on the volume of assets under management, revenues the advisor generate for their firm and the quality of their practices. The scoring system assigns a top score of 100 and rates the rest by comparing them to the winner. The Barron's award is not indicative of Destination Wealth Management future performance.

\*For qualified investors with investable assets of at least \$500,000.

## Ware Designs *Fine Jewelry since 1977*

### Expanding our Services with

Three Goldsmiths & a Graduate Gemologist

- Custom Designs
- Appraisals
- Expert Repairs

All your jewelry is insured with Jeweler's Block Insurance.



**50% off Watch Battery**  
Now \$5, Reg \$10  
1 watch battery per person. Exp. 11/15/14. Usually installed while you wait. W/coupon. Restrictions apply.

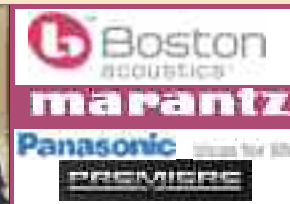
3645 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette between Trader Joes & the Post Office  
283-2988 www.ware designs.com Tuesday-Saturday 10-6

## 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

**MARY H. SMITH, D.D.S. • CECELIA THOMAS, D.D.S.**  
A Professional Corporation  
96 Davis Road, #5 - Orinda, CA 94563  
**925.254.0824**



Taking care of all your dental needs for you and your family. Emphasizing cosmetic dentistry with implants, and Invisalign. Nitrous oxide is available. Consultations are complementary. Dentistry with Excellence.

By Elizabeth LaScala, PhD

In March, the College Board, the organization that administers the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), announced plans to redesign the exam. The first full length practice tests will be released in spring 2015 and the new SAT will be available to our students in March 2016. According to College Board officials presenting at the Sept. 23 College Board Counselor Conference, the new SAT emphasizes vocabulary deemed more relevant to college level coursework, focuses on an increased breadth of math fundamentals, including precalculus, and includes an optional 50 minute analytical writing section that requires direct evidence and argument. I imagine that more selective colleges may prefer to see the writing section in order to more fully evaluate applicants.

The Khan Academy in collaboration with College Board is creating in-depth practice problems and instructional videos (see <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>). These will be available at no charge in spring 2015 – a year before the launch of the redesigned exam. Each student will be able to practice at her own pace using Khan's personalized training which advances the student from one level to the next as she progresses toward her score goal.

Should current sophomores take the current version of the PSAT in October even though the SAT is going to change? This is the question many families are asking as we approach the October test date. My objective in this article is to offer families an understanding of the alternatives available so they can make more informed decisions. The Class of 2017 will have three options:

**Option 1:** Sophomores still have four chances to take the current SAT in October, November and December of 2015, as well as January 2016. Option 1 gives the student the opportunity to avoid the stress of taking a newly designed test the first season it is administered, achieving their score goal early in junior year and moving on. Taking this option, I suggest current sophomores ignore the PSAT; the results of the PSAT are not available until mid-December and a lot of learning takes place in the first months of the year; we all know that quick feedback on any exam is most useful to learning. Sophomores should aim to do as well as they can in 10th grade coursework and take a full length (current version) SAT practice exam in June 2015. Exams that have been administered are easy to access (see <http://sat.collegeboard.org/practice/official-sat-study-guide>).

At the end of sophomore year, students will be more prepared to take the exam and thus can place greater confidence in the results. If they feel good about the test and their scores, they can prep for and take the current SAT on one or more of three test dates in the fall of 2015, or even in January 2016. These students may well be done with testing just as the second semester of the busy junior year unfolds. Students who have not achieved their score goal by January 2016 will have to decide if it is best to accept these scores, or prepare for and take the new SAT. If they decide to take the new SAT, they will have the summer following their junior year and fall of their senior year to prepare. Many students do that now successfully and it is not unusual. In addition, they will be able to access the free Khan Academy materials to help achieve their goals. Certainly there will also be ample opportunities to participate in the numerous fee-based SAT prep seminars and private tutoring that are offered in abundance in our region.

**Option 2:** Ignore the PSAT this October, take the redesigned PSAT in October 2015 as a practice test for the new SAT and prepare for and take the exam, which will be administered for the first time in March 2016. The pros of this option are that students are older, more mature and have more coursework completed, including any summer academic enrichment they may have pursued. The cons are that colleges have never seen, much less used, the new scores in admission decisions and we don't know how they will view them to evaluate applicants. Another downside is the reliance on the test prep industry to competently develop new prep materials and train their tutors to guide our students. I am not certain I would want my student to be the 'guinea pig' during a test transition cycle.

**Option 3:** Take the ACT. The ACT is the other standardized test that colleges accept when students apply. Either the ACT or the SAT meets the admission requirement and last cycle, for the first time in history, more students chose to take the ACT. The ACT is not expected to change significantly from its present form. Students who can read quickly and remember the details of what they read tend to do better on the exam. The easy way to tell if this is the right test for your student is to have her take practice reading and science sections of the ACT to see if she can finish on time without making careless errors.

(You can diagnose a careless error by having her retry the missed questions, untimed, and then have her indicate which ones she feels she "should have gotten right.") Practice tests can be found in The Real ACT Prep Guide (see <http://www.amazon.com/The-Real-Edi-tion-Prep-Guide/dp/0768934400>).

Given these three options, sophomores can safely ignore the PSAT this October as well as any other testing being offered. For a stronger read on testing, sophomores should take a full length SAT practice exam in summer 2015. To discern if the ACT is right for them, they should follow the guidelines for the ACT suggested above right around the same time. Armed with both test results, they can make a more informed decision.

**A final note:** Is there a reliable way for sophomores to know if the redesigned SAT or the ACT is better for them? My position is that it is too soon to discern significant differences – too early because there is insufficient information about the new SAT to formulate valid sets of questions, too early for our students to have mastered the necessary academic material, and definitely too early to put our students into a competitive standardized testing mindset. Our children, especially younger, more vulnerable 10th graders, are already under too much stress and this approach creates more. The best preparation for any standardized test (current SAT, new SAT or the ACT) is to develop a solid academic foundation in high school. Good students tend to perform well on any exam. Reading a good book or sleeping in on a Saturday morning beats taking another standardized test any day!



Elizabeth LaScala, PhD, is an independent college advisor who draws upon 25 years of higher education experience to help guide and support the college admissions process for students and their families. Dr. LaScala is a member of NACAC, WACAC and HECA. She can be contacted at (925) 891-4491 or [elizabeth@doingcollege.com](mailto:elizabeth@doingcollege.com). Visit [www.doingcollege.com](http://www.doingcollege.com) for more information about her services.

## 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**

## National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists Announced

Submitted by Matthew Budreau

Officials of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation recently announced the names of approximately 16,000 semifinalists in the 60th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,600 National Merit Scholarships worth about \$33 million that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the finalist level of the competition. About 90 percent of the semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing, according to NMSC, and more than half of the finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar title. The semifinalists named at the three Lamorinda high schools were as follows:

### Acalanes High School

Lauren C. Kim, Christopher M. Mickas, Conor Sasner, and Eric W. Sirott

### Campolindo High School

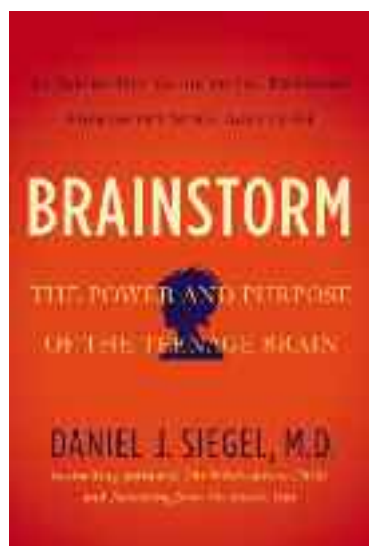
Nadia Aquil, Kourosh Arasteh, Katherine M. Coates, Stephen W. DaRodda, Yifan Hong, Brigid F. Leach, Sarah K. Sweeney, Andrew Z. Wang, Douglas M. Zhang, and Bradley J. Zhu

### Miramonte High School

Emmanuelle L. Calinescu, Elliott R. Fong, Max Han, Brian W. Hauffer, Alexander M. Jang, Taoran E. Liu, Sarah J. Rocco, Stephanie M. Sloves, and Benjamin H. Warren

# Book Outlines Benefits of Understanding the Teen Brain

By Lou Fancher



There are approximately 5,000 reasons for Lamorinda parents to read Daniel J. Siegel's "Brainstorm: The Power and Purpose of the Teenage Brain."

Adding enrollment numbers at area middle and high schools and estimating a few stragglers slipping under the radar, an admittedly unscientific survey shows just over 5,000 teens live in the community. And with the UCLA professor and neuropsychiatrist stretching his research and parenting expertise to include adolescents ages 12-24, the Los Angeles-based author's newest book extends to a population associated with a modern day trend: next-gens returning to the nest due to a still-tight job market.

Siegel's previous parenting books, "Parenting from the Inside Out" and "The Whole-Brain Child," unfold the mysteries of why relationship patterns travel through generations, how communication impacts a child's developing brain, and outline the best methods for navigating the unruly, unpredictable sulking, tantrums and sudden emotional outbursts (let's admit it: we're talking both young children and parents here).

Most notable about these and other books Siegel has written about brain function is the calm, scholarly voice used to describe far-from calm experiences. It might be just lingo, but when "crazy making" becomes "impaired integration" or "not losing your cool" turns into "mindsight,"

the parenting paradigm shifts. Backed by solid science and informed by years of clinical practice treating children, adolescents, adults, couples, and families, Siegel's neurobiology know-how transforms into easy to understand advice on compassion, empathy and integrative lifestyles.

Like his other books, "Brainstorm" destroys myths by drawing on new brain research. Siegel defuses the volatility between parents and their teenage children and suggests that instead of simply surviving the teen years, kids can thrive and parents can emerge with few war wounds.

Orinda native Christine Carter, director of Greater Good Parents at the Greater Good Science Center at the University of California, Berkeley, writes in a forward for the book that "Brainstorm" is "a much-needed guide to the perils – and promise! – of adolescence." Daniel Goleman, author of Emotional Intelligence, writes, "Daniel Siegel shows how the supposed downsides of the teen years all have upsides."

Siegel divides his subject into four categories: adolescence's essence; stages of brain change; relationship-identity formation patterns; and ways to honor, accept and retain attachment to teens as they move into adulthood. Chapters include true stories as examples – with details changed to protect privacy – and four Mindsight Tools sections describe practice exercises for readers (again, both children and parents) who learn best by doing. The four sections can be read in order of interest: if you desperately need to understand your child's thinking, go for Part II. If you're just struggling to get along, jump to Part III.

In addition to cracking the "terrible teens" code with scientific truths about hormones: they aren't causing your kid to "go mad," it's normal brain development; independence: push away happens due to biology, but sticking with your kid will benefit both of you; and impulsivity: super-charged reward drives are actually overly-positive "hyper-

rationality," meaning adolescent brains underestimate the negative outcomes of a given act, Siegel says a teen's "brainstorm" is also a time of courage and creativity. These qualities, he argues, "can help our larger world, offering new insights and innovations that naturally emerge from the push back against the status quo and from the energy of the teen years."

If the cartoon stick drawings and overly cute nick names he creates for his ideas are begging for something on par with the book's otherwise sophisticated information, or the emphasis on breathing and meditation in the tools sections turns some people off, there's still much to be learned and admired. Especially in a final chapter, in which Siegel espouses on parenting's larger purpose – launching teens into a world where their emerging intellect might think beyond the thoughts of their parents – "Brainstorm" gains traction.

Finding solutions to global problems, Siegel suggests a teen might follow Maya Angelou's paraphrase of an old Chinese proverb and not be like a bird that sings because it has an answer, but "sings because it has a song." Imaginative, energetic – and yes, sometimes annoying and testing our patience – teens viewed through Siegel's aperture have the potential to enrich our lives.



## CollegePrep

A private high school for grades 9-12

Our approach to learning requires collaboration, patience, and creativity—all within a kind and joyful community.

- Average academic class size of 14
- More than \$2 million given annually in need-based financial aid
- 84% of faculty with advanced degrees

Be inspired. Refine your thinking. Express yourself.

6100 Broadway Oakland CA 94618 510.652.4364 college-prep.org

## Need A Tutor?

Club Z! 1-On-1 Tutoring In Your Home

- All Subjects • PreK-Adult
- Reading • Writing • Math
- LD/ADD/ADHD • SAT/ACT Prep
- Study Skills Program • Affordable Rates
- Degreed Professionals • Flexible Schedules

ONE WEEK FREE!

Club Z!  
In-Home Tutoring Services

510-244-3637  
925-478-4469  
www.clubztutoring.com

## The No Guilt Book Club Celebrates 10 Years Together

... continued from page B2

Other members of the group still make an effort to keep in touch and to visit.

The club has a policy on mandatory reading, which isn't mandatory at all. "I would like people to be able to say, even if they haven't read [the book], something about it," remarked Wilt.

"You don't have to tell your age and you don't have to read the book if you don't want to," said Pitman. "It's the 'no guilt' book club. It's a very accepting group. If you have an opinion you can share it."

Most of the group members are in their 70s and 80s, making them, "the 'oldest' book club in Lafayette," according to Partridge. All of the members have different life experiences to share – from raising children in the Midwest to teaching elementary school in Oakland to modeling in San Francisco. Yet even after 10 years of meeting together, the women are still learning about one another.

"We've had so many years that all of us have lived and these wonderful rich lives," said Wilt. "It all comes out [in our discussions]."

The group meets the second Monday of the month at the Lafayette Community Center, and many of the women show up early or stay late in order to chat with one another and catch up on the past month. The conversations often veer in unexpected directions, but always begin with

whichever book the group has chosen for the month.

"Our book choices are very eclectic," said Wilt. "Biographies, fictions, classics, 'The Scarlet Letter,' a mystery, Steinbeck." Sometimes the women will read several books on the same topic (such as World War II) before taking a completely different direction.

Wilt doesn't have a record of titles, but in 10 years of meeting the group has read close to 120 books.

"We did *not* do 'Fifty Shades of Grey,'" assured Powers.

### Interested in Joining a Book Club?

In an effort to both offer enough space and to establish the sort of intimacy that these women have come to value, the "No Guilt Book Club" was capped at 16 members and is currently closed. But if the idea of joining a book club piques your interest, there are plenty to choose from in the Lamorinda area, including Lafayette Senior Service's "As the Page Turns" Book Club held from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Lafayette Community Center. There are also clubs for youth, teen and adult readers throughout the area. Check out your local library for details.

### GET AHEAD IN MATH THIS FALL



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

## Bollinger Nail Salon

Elegant and Relaxing Environment  
Personalized Professional Nail Care



960 Moraga Road, Lafayette

(925) 284-7700

www.bollingernailsalon.com

Voted #1 Nail Salon  
in East Bay by **Diablo Magazine.**

## 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.

### Historic Lafayette Boy Scout Cabin Undergoes Renovations

Submitted by Stephanie Reilly



Troop 204 Scouts John Shepherd, Jackson Reilly, Jared Steuber, Matt Shepherd, Isaac Evans, Arlo Evans, Quinn Elle and Scoutmaster Tom Steuber recently visited the cabin to view the renovation work in progress. Photo provided

After Troop 204 Scoutmaster Tom Steuber and Dads' Club President Scott Newman realized several years ago that the log cabin at the corner of School Street and First Street in Lafayette – home to the Lafayette Boy Scout Troop 204 for over 66 years – was sinking due to age, the soil and the type of foundation, the Troop decided it was important to “Save the Cabin” for future generations of Scouts.

The rustic cabin has been a symbol and integral part of Troop life: in 1948, funds were donated in memory of Morris Hunt Slater by his sister to the Troop to build a cabin as a place for the Troop to meet, plan and grow.

The work will be completed by Ned Clyde Construction and Leap Frog Plumbing. Both companies were very enthusiastic about the project since they had either Scouts that had been in the troop or were Scouts themselves. Before the construction company could start work, teams of Scouts and their parent volunteers worked to empty the cabin, preserve the Troop's memorabilia, and store equipment.

The Troop plans to return to their cabin at the first of the year to a much more solid and preserved structure for at least another 66 years. To learn more, visit [www.204cabin.org](http://www.204cabin.org).

### 'Hike for Shelter' on Oct. 19

Submitted by Chris Flitter



Participants get a high vantage point on Mount Diablo at last year's Hike for Shelter event. Photo provided

Last year, more than 70 Lamorinda residents were among the 225 participants of the Hike for Shelter event at Mount Diablo State Park, and longtime Lafayette resident Bill Armstrong hopes even more turn out Oct. 19 at the fifth annual event to raise funds and awareness of homelessness in Contra Costa County.

“After I retired, I learned of a growing problem in our community, which is increasing homelessness for low-income families,” said Armstrong, who serves on the board of directors as treasurer at Shelter Inc. He and his wife, Marilyne, their three daughters, three sons-in-law and nine grandchildren, participated in last year's event. “The biggest misconception is the face of homelessness. Many of our homeless clients have been homeless for years, couch hopping, sleeping in cars or in an unsafe environment for a family to live. These people are rarely seen by the public. The recent fact is that California accounts for one-fifth of all homeless school children in the country!”

The family-friendly event is open to all ages and abilities, from walkers to seasoned hikers, offering three trails, from a 2.4-mile family hike, a 5.2-mile moderate hike and a 6.7-mile Summit hike. A post-hike celebration includes a catered lunch, local celebrity speakers including Frank

Somerville of KTVU as host, and fundraising prizes.

“Our daughter Claire feels Hiking for Shelter is a great opportunity for our family to do some community service as a unit,” Armstrong said. “The children love the hike but also see that not every child has a home and how tough that can be. It scares them a little but more importantly it drives home the importance of community service.”

Contra Costa County estimates there are approximately 8,250 homeless at any one time, including over 2,000 children. According to Armstrong, Shelter Inc. served 5,000 people last year who were homeless or at risk of homelessness, with 95 percent of those who were at risk of homelessness were able to stay in their homes, and 76 percent of those who were homeless were moved back into a permanent home due to the community's support.

Lafayette resident, Stefanie Cannizzo is planning to attend the event again. “I love participating in Hike for Shelter every year because it's a great way for me and my friends to take some time away from our everyday lives and focus on the people who benefit from the work Shelter Inc. does,” she said.

For information, visit <http://shelterincfcc.org/events/hike/index.html>.

## TEEN SCENE

### A Teen's Independence

By Youngjoo Ahn

Turning 18 is a monumental landmark in the life of a teen. Adulthood marks the ability to vote as well as a newfound independence outside of school and a parent's supervision. This independence comes in many forms, whether it is the joy of ordering anything from the Internet without parental consent, the annoyance of having to do your own laundry, or the challenges of traveling alone.

I recently visited Boston for a college trip and realized the true weight of independence. It was liberating to travel alone for the first time, however, I soon was overwhelmed with the difficulties. On my outbound leg, my connecting flight was significantly delayed and I had to completely alter my trip plans, taking a train from Newark, N.J., to Springfield, Mass. My first night in Boston was spent without any of my luggage. My return flight left at 4 a.m. and without my parent's guidance, I had to finagle the flight delays and the unscheduled stops in Texas on my own. Although I used my problem solving skills to stay as calm as possible, to say that I

was a bit stressed is an understatement. While independence looks glamorous and adventurous in teen movies, in real life, it presents unexpected and frightening responsibilities for the uninitiated.

While traveling alone marks a step towards adulthood, independence is also about the little things. “I'm excited to hang out with friends whenever I want,” graduated senior Roland Zhu said. “The possibilities to snack at night are also exciting.” Senior Julia Meckes commented, “Receiving my driver's license has given me a great sense of freedom because now my activities are on my own terms. It is so much easier to do things by myself.” Graduated senior Michelle Wu discovered her independence in “braving an East Coast winter and being able to freely explore the city on my own terms.”

Senior Sarah Rockwood has a different perspective about independence. “You reach a point where no one views you as a child anymore, but rather a young adult, mature enough to make your own decisions. Freedom comes at the price of more responsibility.” Rock-

wood elaborated. “By having a job, I'm financially independent and am able to go out more than my younger sister because my parents trust me more. However, I have to make more sacrifices to maintain this liberty and I have to be accountable for everything I do.”

When we are young, all we want to be is “older” so we can be on our own and make our own decisions. Now that I have arrived, independence is both scary and exhilarating.



A 2014 Miramonte graduate, Youngjoo Ahn is the host of Express Yourself™ Teen Radio, and an officer in Club Be the Star You Are!®. She traveled to Korea independently this summer.

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

## Community Service

### Raised Up to Give Back

SMC student one of 32 tutors helping less privileged

Submitted by Julie Schmit



Saint Mary's College freshman Samantha Coale tutors fourth grade student, Emily Tula. Photo Daniel Scherer

Samantha Coale, a freshman at Saint Mary's College, has wanted to be a teacher since she was in the third grade. Now, the 18-year-old from Moraga is putting that desire to the test. She's a volunteer tutor at the Monument Crisis Center in Concord, tutoring elementary grade students.

“It feels good to volunteer, and I get to work with all grade levels,” Coale says. She also gets leadership class credit at her school.

The Monument Crisis Center's After School Café Program has expanded to more than 75 students and

is looking for more volunteer tutors.

The center, which provides food and other safety-net services at no cost to thousands of low-income households in Contra Costa County, has 32 volunteer tutors. It wants more so that each student can develop a relationship with a particular tutor.

“A one-to-one relationship is especially important,” says Alice Rector, 69, a retired speech and language pathologist who volunteers to mentor the tutors. Numerous studies have shown the value of one-to-one tutoring. (Read more

about this study at <http://nichcy.org/research/summaries/abstract3>). Teachers are constantly challenged to find time to work with students individually.

Most of the center's tutors are in high school or college and tutor elementary school children. Some of the center's current tutors were once tutored in the After School Café Program. Others simply want to help or give back. The center expanded its tutoring program to three afternoons a week and has launched a tutoring program for middle school students, too. Included within the tutoring programs are homework assistance, special subject tutoring, computer time in the Rotary Learning Lab, art projects, educational games, and healthy snacks.

“It is very rewarding,” says Sandra Scherer, the center's executive director. “Our families tell me how important this program is to them. Their children gain self-confidence, a sense of pride and enthusiasm for learning. This program improves not only the individual but creates positive impact and dynamic change in the greater community.”

For more information, or to volunteer, contact Scherer at (925) 825-7751.

## Lamorinda Members Celebrate National 4-H Week

Submitted by Mary Halpin



Lamorinda 4-H members and their animals at a recent event.

Photo Michelle Chan

The members of Lamorinda 4-H will be supporting National 4-H Week Oct. 5-11 by wearing their T-shirts to school, hanging banners at the Orinda BART station and Acalanes High School, and presenting a poster outlining the history of Lamorinda 4-H at the

Lafayette Library and Community Center. They also plan to spread the word about the organization by distributing bookmarks at all of the county libraries and local book stores.

**MOVIE REVIEW**

# 'The Boxtrolls'

By Derek Zemrak



Eleven-year-old Eggs (voiced by Isaac Hempstead Wright) swings into trouble when he tries to rescue a Boxtroll friend in Laika and Focus Features' family event movie "The Boxtrolls." Image provided

"The Boxtrolls" comes from the small yet very impressive animation studio, Laika Entertainment based in Hillsboro, Ore. Laika is not a household name like Pixar or Disney but they have produced some of the most imaginative, original, creative and inventive animated films in recent years, including the two Oscar-nominated films "Coraline" in 2009 and "ParaNorman" in 2012. "Coraline" was beaten by "UP" and "ParaNorman" lost to "Brave," which was a disappointment.

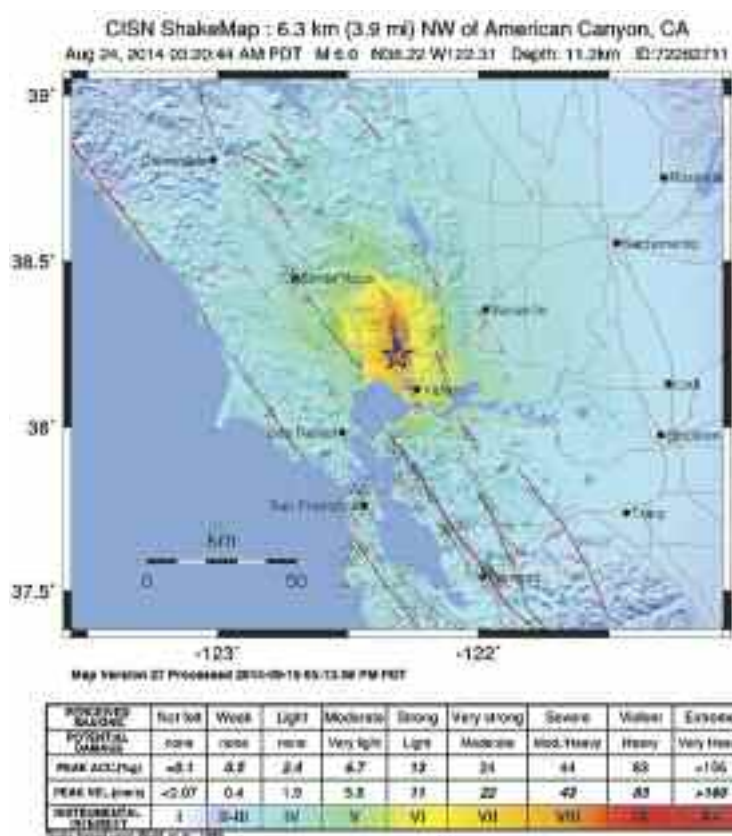
Now comes "The Boxtrolls," a less dark film than Laika's previous movies. The story is about an orphan boy, Eggs, who is raised underground in the town of Cheesebridge by a group of trash collecting cave dwellers – the Boxtrolls. Isaac Hempstead Wright, Eggs voice, is the talented young 15-year-old from "Game

of Thrones," and he must save his family, the Boxtrolls from the evil exterminator Archibald Snatcher (Sir Ben Kingsley "Schindler's List"). Eggs is assisted by the local wealthy girl Winnie (Elle Fanning, "Maleficent").

"The Boxtrolls" is based on the 544-page illustrated novel, "Here Be Monsters!" by author Alan Snow. It is not as solid a film as "Coraline," but I do see another Oscar nomination this year. Who knows – the third time may be a charm. As with Laika's previous films, it is the stunning visuals that makes "The Boxtrolls" stand out from other animated movies and the leader of stop-motion animation. Kudos to the small studio in Oregon! "The Boxtrolls" is rated PG and has a total running time (TRT) of 97 minutes, which may drag at times for the little ones but it is well worth the price of admission.

## Napa Quake Lessons Inform ShakeOut

By Cathy Dausman



ShakeMap Courtesy of Northern California Seismic System, UC Berkeley and USGS Menlo Park

A 6.0 magnitude earthquake disrupted much of Napa and American Canyon Aug. 24 when it released its shockwaves along the previously unknown West Napa Fault. The early morning earthquake, the largest to strike northern California since the 6.9 Loma Prieta earthquake 25 years ago, barely registered to the mostly sleeping Lamorinda population. Yet as residents saw the images of broken glass, fallen brick, ruptured gas and water lines, homes toppled from foundations or on fire, and school closures due to damaged structures, was there a rush to prepare for the next one? What, if anything, did anyone in Lamorinda learn from that near-miss?

Moraga-Orinda Fire District Chief Stephen Healy warned that emergency services may be overwhelmed after a large quake and unable to respond quickly to all the demands. He suggested residents store food, water, flashlights and batteries, and insure their home is properly bolted to its foundation and any masonry is structurally reinforced. Healy suggests joining Lamorinda's Community Emergency Response Team and consider purchasing an earthquake insurance policy.

"The extensive shaking and cracking can demolish entire buildings, destroy homes and possessions, crush cars, close businesses, and interrupt water and power supplies. Unfortunately, none of this damage is covered by a standard homeowners policy," said Farmers Insurance agent and Lamorinda

Weekly photographer Gint Fedaras.

Supplemental earthquake insurance is offered through the California Earthquake Authority (www.earthquakeauthority.com). The CEA website explains it does not restrict buying or selling their insurance products after an earthquake, but CEA participating insurers may restrict writing of their residential property insurance policies.

The Napa quake was "a good opportunity to talk about what we will be doing when the big one hits," said Lafayette Police Chief Eric Christensen. When the shaking stopped, Christensen sent his officers into neighborhoods to perform "windshield survey" damage assessments. Because his police force has "limited first responder resources," he said he would have tapped neighborhood volunteers for help.

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Dennis Rein, who experienced the Loma Prieta earthquake from inside Orinda Safeway, explained how things would have been different if the earthquake was centered in Lamorinda and struck at 9 a.m. instead. "Kids would have been at school and separated from their parents, the commute would have been in full swing, passengers stranded on BART would be seeking help, people at work and shopping in stores could have added dramatically to the injured."

Residents can learn about earthquake preparedness by participating in this year's Great California Shake-

Out (<http://www.shakeout.org/california/>) at 10:16 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 16. The ShakeOut drills, which began in 2008, are a way for people in homes, schools and organizations to practice what to do during an earthquake.

Rein said they'll have a chance to exercise the Emergency Operations Centers – a central coordination and control facility – during the ShakeOut, hopefully using lessons learned from Napa to build their capabilities. Duncan Seibert, program director for Lamorinda CERT plans to use Napa post-quake photos to illustrate and promote an upcoming emergency preparedness class in January. "Anyone who has seen the aftermath of an earthquake," said Healy, "understands the devastation one can cause."

For information about the Great California ShakeOut, visit <http://www.shakeout.org/california/>. For information about Lamorinda CERT, visit [www.lamorindacert.org](http://www.lamorindacert.org).

### LIVING TRUST

**\$695**  
COMPLETE

Valid until Nov. 15, 2014

**Plan Includes:**

- Trust Agreement
- Pour Over Will
- Guardianship of Minor Children
- Power of Attorney for Finance
- Transfer of Real Property into Trust
- Advanced Medical Directive

**Notary Services Included!**

Located in the Treat Towers  
1255 Treat Blvd., Ste. 300  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597  
(925) 257-4277  
[www.smykowskilaw.com](http://www.smykowskilaw.com)  
[laurensmy@gmail.com](mailto:laurensmy@gmail.com)

**FREE** INITIAL CONSULTATION

Law Offices of **Lauren Smykowski**

### TAXI BLEU All Airports Served 24/7

Dispatch:  
**925-849-2222**  
Direct:  
**925-286-0064**  
[www.mytaxibleu.com](http://www.mytaxibleu.com)  
[mytaxibleu@gmail.com](mailto:mytaxibleu@gmail.com)



WHERE QUALITY COUNTS  
Established in 1972

Mike Rose proudly announces  
the opening of our  
Lafayette Location...!!!

**Mike's Auto Body**  
3430 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
(former Butler-Conti Dodge location)  
Lafayette CA 94549  
(925) 283-5600  
[Lafayette@mautobody.com](mailto:Lafayette@mautobody.com)

Approved by most major insurance companies...

2012 Marks 40 Years in Business

Visit our website for our other 7 locations  
[www.mikesautobody.com](http://www.mikesautobody.com)

For more information about earthquake preparedness, read these stories in the Lamorinda Weekly archives:  
<http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue0517/Not-Shaken-During-Quake-Drill.html>  
<http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue0602/Seismic-Retrofitting-Lamorinda-Homes.html>

## Lamorinda's Religious Services



### Worship the Lord!

Sundays, 9 & 10:30am

**MORAGA VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
10 Moraga Valley Lane, Moraga CA  
www.mvpctoday.org • 925-376-4800

### Willow Spring Community Church Loving God Loving People

Try Something New With Your Whole Family This Week

**Sundays:** 9:00am Adult Sunday School Classes  
10:00am Pre-Service Fellowship (Free Coffee & Bagels)  
10:45am Contemporary Worship Service  
11:15am Childrens' Church

**Wednesdays:** 10:00am Community Bible Study  
1689 School Street, Moraga (925)376-3550  
www.willowspringchurch.net

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



8:30 a.m. Traditions Worship Service  
9:50 a.m. Education for all ages  
10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service  
Coffee Fellowship at 9:30 and 11:45 a.m.  
Childcare available for ages 5 and younger

### SAINT GILES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

9am Sunday School & Communion Service in the SMC Chapel



stgiles-moraga.org  
(925) 376-5770  
traditional liturgy + inclusive theology

### The Orinda Community Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ  
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.  
Sunday School 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

### Lafayette United Methodist Church

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

**Worship** Sunday 10 am  
**Children & Teen Faith Formation** Sunday 10 am  
**Teen Fellowship** Sunday 6 pm  
**Study Groups, Service Opportunities** Various  
**Free Community Luncheon** 4th Sunday of Month 11:30 am

► SUNDAY Worship, 9:00 & 11:00 AM, with programs for 3-mos.-12th grade.

► SEEDLINGS Preschool, M-F.

► LOPC: Where everyone is welcome, nobody is perfect & anything is possible with God.

LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
LOPC.org



### St Stephen's Episcopal Church

66 St. Stephen's Drive, Orinda  
254-3770. www.ststephensorinda.org  
Sunday 8am, 10am & 5:30p.m. Casual Eucharist

### ORINDA CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH

24 Orinda Way (next to the Library) - 254-4212

Sunday Service and Sunday School 10 - 11 am  
Informal Wednesday Meeting 7:30 - 8:30 pm  
Reading Room/Bookstore M - F 11 - 4; Sat 11 - 2

www.christianscienceorinda.org

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

### ART

Jennifer Perlmutter Gallery presents a new show, "Heart of Modernism - Young Sun Bai." The show runs through Oct. 25, at 3620 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette. For info, visit www.jenniferperlmuttergellery.com.

The Lafayette Art Gallery celebrates the first anniversary in its new and expanded space starting Oct. 7 with an exhibit featuring the ceramic works of Kurt Fehlberg, art and jewelry by Margaret Lucas-Hill, and oil paintings by Gerry Severson, 3420 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite A, Lafayette. Also, the next in the "Second Fridays" reception series will be Friday, Oct. 10. Meet the artists at monthly receptions between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. For info, call (925) 284-2788, or visit www.lafayetteartgallery.com.

Now showing in the Town Hall Theatre Art Gallery, "It Takes Two," features the work of two local artists, Bill Klaproth and JoAnn Lieberman through Oct. 10 at Town Hall Theatre, 3535 School St., Lafayette. Klaproth's photography clearly demonstrates his on-going passion for the parts of our world that are most fragile, threatened and worthy of preservation. Lieberman's mixed media acrylic paintings reflect her fascination with texture and color. For info, call (925) 283-1557.

The Moraga Art Gallery's new show entitled "ALEGRIA - Happiness and Art" highlights the bright, colorful figurative paintings by Angelica Samame, and the bold line and form featured in ceramics by Cuong Ta. The show runs through Oct. 25 at 522 Center Street, Rheem Shopping Center, Moraga. It is open Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. For more info, visit www.moragaartgallery.com or call (925) 376-5407.

Valley Art Gallery's 65th anniversary show from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11 features many of the accomplished artists who have been a part of Valley Art throughout the years. A silent auction of numerous works by some of those notable regional painters will offer exceptional values for all art lovers. To learn more, visit valleyartgallery.org.

Lamorinda Arts Alliance hosts its annual self-guided driving tour to artists' studios in Lafayette, Moraga, Orinda and surrounding communities Oct. 16-19. The event begins with a reception Thursday, Oct. 16, at Lafayette Art Gallery, where visitors can meet the artists and preview their photographs, paintings, sculptures and other works. Pick up a map of the Open Studios tour at the reception or print your own from LAA's website. Free. Light refreshments will be available at some studios, and artists will have their work for sale.

Four new exhibitions are opening Oct. 12 at Saint Mary's College Museum of Art. "Pueblo to Pueblo: The Legacy of Southwest Indian Pottery" will feature a remarkable variety of pottery from mid-19th to the mid-20th century, with an opening day lecture at 2 p.m., "The Development of Historic Pueblo Pottery" given by Curator Bill Mercer at LeFevre Theatre. Other Museum of Art exhibits opening Oct. 12 include "The Native American Collection of Roger Epperson," "Grace Hudson: Painter of the Pomo People;" and "William Keith and the Native American." Museum hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission: Adults \$5; members and K-12 graders free (parking free). For info, call (925) 631-4379 or visit smarys-ca.edu/museum.

### MUSIC

Solo piano recital by Michael Carroll featuring the music of Chopin, Mozart, Debussy, and Schumann at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 12 at Saint Mary's College of California. Free.

A new revue celebrating four of Broadway's most celebrated, awarded, and honored leading ladies opens at Lafayette's Town Hall Theatre for a limited run beginning Saturday, Oct. 18. This Cabaret Tribute to Angela Lansbury, Bernadette Peters, Ethel Merman, and Mary Martin fea-

tures songs from many of their classic shows including "Mame," "Annie Get Your Gun," "South Pacific," "Gypsy," "Sweeney Todd," "The Sound of Music," "Anything Goes," "Peter Pan," and more.

Gold Coast Chamber Players present "Brahms to Brazil" featuring Babette Haag, marimba. Concert goes will be delighted by Brahms' dramatic Second String Sextet and Rosauero's Concerto for Marimba, which includes Brazilian and jazz motifs. The latter half of the program showcases music for solo marimba. This concert is a rare opportunity to hear percussion highlighted in chamber music, and promises to be an unforgettable event. A pre-concert talk will start the evening at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25 in the Lafayette Library Community Hall.

### THEATER

Town Hall Theatre is excited to kick-off its 2014-15 Main Stage season with Stephen Sondheim's classic musical "Company." Winner of seven Tony awards and seven Drama Desk awards, "Company" focuses on Robert, a confirmed bachelor celebrating his 35th birthday, surrounded by friends showing him the pros (and cons) of married life. Rated PG-13 for mild drug use and language. "Company" runs through Oct. 11. For tickets, prices and showtimes, contact Town Hall Theatre Box Office at (925) 283-1557, or online at www.TownHallTheatre.com.

### LECTURE & LITERATURE

First annual Book Club Book Swap from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 9 in the Lafayette Library courtyard. Grab your book buddies and copies of your favorite book club book for a swap. It's a great way to meet other book club members in the community, get book ideas or just share a glass of wine and say hello. Cost: \$10 per person. Please RSVP online at tinyurl.com/friendsbookswap, although walk-ins welcome.

Kristen Southworth and Kathleen Day-Seiter of Southworth Chavez & Day-Seiter will be presenting a free seminar from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 20 at the Orinda Public Library, Gallery Room on How to Navigate a Loved One's Long-Term Care. This informative discussion will benefit not only seniors, but also adult children and anyone who has a loved one in need of long-term care.

Heyday Books founder Malcolm Margolin, in conversation with his biographer Kim Bancroft at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 23 at The Lafayette Library and Learning Center. Hear first-hand about Heyday's roots in the do-it-yourself/change-the-world clime of 1970s Berkeley to its present-day status as the cultural linchpin for the state (Northern California Book Book-sellers Association). Tickets: \$20/person; \$40 includes pre-event reception and reserved seating. Reserve: tinyurl.com/HeydayofMargolin.

### HALLOWEEN & HARVEST FUN

Glorietta Elementary will be hosting its annual fall carnival - the Fun-Fest - from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18 at Glorietta Elementary School, 15 Martha Road, Orinda. Kids of all ages will enjoy the games and activities: famous cakewalk, rock climbing wall, pumpkin decorating, dunk booth, Go-Karting and many more. Delicious food and crafts will be available all day.

Open House and Harvest Celebration from 11 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 19 at the Lafayette Community Garden & Outdoor Learning Center located at 3932 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Garden members will be providing delicious snacks and drinks. Come build a scarecrow, make fragrant sachets and cooking herb packets, listen to local musicians, visit with Doc Hale and see his amazing mountain lion photos. For more information go to lafayettecommunitygarden.org.

Trick or Treat Street in downtown Lafayette. For a fun, safe Halloween event, children and their parents are in-

vited to Trick-or-Treat on Mt. Diablo Blvd. from Oak Hill Road to Dewing Ave. and in La Fiesta Square from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24. All participating businesses will display a "Trick-or-Treat Poster" and balloons. Come in costume to receive a special treat. Don't forget to bring a Trick-or-Treat bag.

Octoberfest from 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 26 at the Hacienda de las Flores 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga. Live Oompah Band, authentic German food and beverages, pumpkin painting, games for kids. Free parking and shuttle to Hacienda from Rheem School. Admission: \$5 per person, under 21 free.

Trick or Treat at Rheem Valley Center from 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 31 at the corner of Moraga Road and Rheem Boulevard in Moraga. Costumed children are invited to Trick or Treat the businesses of Rheem Valley on Halloween. Free Halloween Candy from participating businesses while supplies last. Children must be accompanied by an adult. For info, visit www.rheemvalley.net.

### KIDS, PARENTS & TEENS

The Lafayette Library and Learning Center will be hosting its 2nd Annual Teen Battle of the Bands Saturday, Oct. 11 where teen bands will battle it out on stage in front of their friends and peers alike for cash and other prizes. The doors open at 2:45 p.m. and the show will begin at 3 p.m. Hosted by Radio station Live 105. The library's own Bookmark Café will sell food and beverages. Raffle prizes will be randomly awarded to audience members between each set. For more info, visit TinyURL.com/LafayetteBotB or call (925)385-2280.

In celebration of Teen Read Week, Contra Costa County Library invites teens to "Read Your Fines Away." Teens in grades 6-12 have the opportunity to clear late charges from their library card accounts the week of Oct. 13-19 - a free program for teens to return books, CDs, movies and anything else they may have checked out. As an added feature, teens can have overdue fines removed from their library account by reading in the library for one hour. Each teen must bring his or her library card or valid ID to participate. Visit the library's website at ccclib.org or contact your local Contra Costa County Library for specific dates and details.

ACT or SAT? New two-hour assessment test, combining question types from the ACT and the redesigned SAT will be held from 7:45 to 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 25 at Miramonte High School, 750 Moraga Way, Orinda. Students will receive a report that will highlight strengths and areas of focus for each test and include explanations for every question. Cost: \$25. Registration at http://oml-ca.aauw.net/sat-act/.

### OTHER

Saint Mary's College of California presents the SMC One Planet Film Festival 2014 through Nov. 18 - a free film series focusing on sustainability sponsored by the college's Department of Environmental and Earth Science. Schedule: "Addicted to Plastic" at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 21; "Bogota: Building a Sustainable City" and "Vision of the Future: Sustainable Eco-cities" at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 28.

Burton Valley Elementary PTA-sponsored Red Cross Blood Drive from 8:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10 in the multi-purpose room. Walk-ins are welcome; appointments are recommended to minimize wait-time. To make an appointment visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: BURTON or contact Becky Bearce at rebeccabearce@gmail.com.

Third Annual "Hand Crafters Boutique" from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11 at the Concord Family Moose Lodge, 1805 Broadway, Concord. Over 35 vendors, great hand-made gifts. Free.

... continued on next page

◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆

**OTHER ... continued**

**“The Change Maker Who Lives Next Door” - a gathering** to connect people of faith in the East Bay and catalyze positive change locally and globally will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11 at the Orinda Community Center, 28 Orinda Way. The event will be a lively day of discussion and interaction with Bay Area change makers. To learn more about the gathering, please visit [changemaker-snextdo.wix.com/changemaker2014](http://changemaker-snextdo.wix.com/changemaker2014).

**The Dailey Method East Bay studios (Benicia, Berkeley, Lamorinda and Piedmont)** are joining forces to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer treatment and awareness at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 11. Owner Kerry Corcoran will teach a 60-minute class on the platform at the Lafayette reservoir, followed by a reservoir walk/hike and refreshments. Minimum donation requested: \$30. For info and reservations, visit [www.thedaileymethod.com/berkeley.html/](http://www.thedaileymethod.com/berkeley.html/) or email [Kerry@thedaileymethod.com](mailto:Kerry@thedaileymethod.com) for assistance or information.

**Lafayette Hiking Group - Meet at the Lafayette city parking lot** at 941-9 Moraga Road at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14 to carpool to Joaquin Miller hiking area, Redwood Park, Oakland. Bring snacks, water, layered clothing, good walking shoes, sun protection and \$3 to contribute toward gas, and parking. Moderate hike with hills, about 5 miles. Leader: Joe Azalde. For info, email [LafayetteHiking@comcast.net](mailto:LafayetteHiking@comcast.net).

**Sustainable Contra Costa and special guest John Sasaki of KTVU News** will present the Contra Costa Leadership in Sustainability and Green Building Awards at the 6th annual Awards Gala from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 15. Enjoy food and wine, live music and a silent auction followed by the presentation of awards. Reserve your tickets at [www.SCoCoAwards2014.eventbrite.com](http://www.SCoCoAwards2014.eventbrite.com).

**Lamorinda Republican Women Federated will feature** a lecture by Dr. Stephen Steinlight, senior policy analyst at the Center for Immigration Studies and one of the most insightful voices on immigration Thursday, Oct. 16 at the Orinda Country Club. Social is 11:15 a.m. with lunch following at noon. Cost is \$25 per person. For reservations and info, call Elsie Euing at (925) 254-8617 or email [reservations@lamorindarepublicanwomen.org](mailto:reservations@lamorindarepublicanwomen.org).

**The Alzheimer’s Association’s Walk to End Alzheimer’s** Saturday, Oct. 18 at Heather Farm Park in Walnut Creek is a united movement to reclaim the future for millions. Nearly 1,400 people from Contra Costa and Alameda County are expected at this year’s event to raise awareness and funds to fight Alzheimer’s disease.

**The Lafayette Community Garden and Outdoor Learning Center** invites the entire community to an open house and harvest festival from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 19. There will be tours, games, crafts, an unveiling

of a new garden mural, food, music, displays, a presentation about chickens at 11 a.m. and a talk about the natural history of the Lafayette Creek area at 1:30 p.m. at 3932 Mt. Diablo Blvd., across from the reservoir.

**The Moraga Women’s Society will feature author Larry Swindell**, who will discuss “A 30 Minute Crash Course on Movies” at 9:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 20 at the Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga. Visitors are welcome. For info, call president Susan Sperry, (925) 376-3053.

**Daughters of the Goddess Womyn’s Temple welcomes women and girls of all ages** for its Annual Spiral Dance Friday, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 24 at the Orinda Masonic Temple, 9 Altarinda Road, Orinda, featuring a marketplace filled with crafts and services from women all over the Bay Area, and the ritual at 7:30 p.m., led by Daughters of the Goddess Kahuna and High Priestess Leilani. Cost: \$23, by Oct. 20; \$29 at the door.

**The annual Lafayette Reservoir Run begins at 8 a.m.** Sunday, Oct. 26 in downtown Lafayette. A fun event with for all ages with various race options and staggered start times: a 2-mile fun run (dogs can join), a family bicycle ride, and 5K and 10K runs. Check exact start times for each run and register online at [www.lafayettechamber.org](http://www.lafayettechamber.org).

**Contra Costa County AARP Tax-Aide is looking for volunteers** to become members of a team providing free tax preparation for individuals of all ages. Tax-Aide volunteer positions include tax counselors who are trained by Tax-Aide and certified by IRS and client facilitators who schedule appointments and assist clients at tax sites. Orientation is in November and classes for tax counselors start January, 2015. If interested, call LaVerne Gordon at (925) 726-3199 for info and to apply.

**POLITICAL GATHERINGS**

**Meet one on one with Sen. Mark Desaulnier from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Saturday, Oct. 11 at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center to share an idea, or ask for help with a problem involving a state agency, or give your opinion on legislation that affects your community. For more info, call the senator’s district office at (925) 942-6082.

**The Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette branch of American Association of University Women (AAUW)** are hosting a meeting with the League of Women Voters who will present the pros and cons of the propositions that are on the ballot, and provide materials with more specific information about each issue so you can make an informed choice at the polls from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 21 at Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church, 1700 School Street, Moraga. Free coffee and tea. For info, contact Diane

Bell-Rettger at [dbellrettger@gmail.com](mailto:dbellrettger@gmail.com). For info about the AAUW-OML Branch, go to <http://oml-ca.aauw.net/>.

**SENIORS**

**The Sons In Retirement - Las Trampas Branch 116 - luncheon** meeting at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 15 at Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive, will feature guest speaker Barbara Casados, a tri-valley native, mother of three young boys and the founder of Capes4Heroes which has distributed superhero capes to over 4,000 brave children with special needs at hospitals, camps, Ronald McDonald Houses and similar organizations in the Bay Area and beyond. Guests are welcome. Lunch: \$15. Reservations can be made by calling (925) 322-1160. For info about SIR activities for retired men, visit [www.Branch116.org](http://www.Branch116.org).

**GARDEN**

**The Walnut Creek Garden Club will hold its monthly meeting** at 9:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 13 at the Gardens at Heather Farm, 1540 Marchbanks Road, Walnut Creek. Business Meeting at 9:30 a.m.; 10:30 Social Time; 11 a.m. program featuring Alexander Lindsay Museum staff member who will talk about the importance of bats in our neighborhoods and what we can do to sustain the bat community. You do not need to be a gardener to join the WCGC. For info, email [mslitle44@gmail.com](mailto:mslitle44@gmail.com).

**The Moraga Garden Club will meet at 10 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 16** at the Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School Street, Moraga, featuring Kate Frey, sustainable garden designer who will discuss "Adventures in Ecological Gardening: from California to London and Saudi Arabia." Guests are welcome.

**Native Plant Sale Extravaganza, Sunday, Oct. 19: the Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour's Fall Native Plant Sale Extravaganza** will take place at seven native plant nurseries. Shop to your heart’s content, as a portion of the proceeds from this sale go to support the Tour. Free! No registration is necessary.

**OKTOBERFEST**  
**SUNDAY**  
**OCTOBER 26**  
**2-6 PM**

**Hacienda de las Flores**  
**2100 Donald Drive**  
**Moraga**

~Live Oompah Band~  
 ~Authentic German Food and Beverages~  
 ~Pumpkin Painting, Games for kids~

Admission: \$5 per person  
 Under 21 free

Free parking & shuttle to Hacienda from Rheem School

A Fund-raiser for the Hacienda Foundation of Moraga  
 All proceeds directed to improvements at the Hacienda de las Flores

**Rosewood House** .com

FINE FURNITURE & ASIAN ANTIQUES SINCE 1969

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

**Service Clubs Announcements**

**Rotary**

Explore Lamorinda Rotary clubs The heart of Rotary is our clubs- dedicated people who share a passion for both community service and friendship. Learn about Lamorinda’s Rotary clubs.

Please join us at our new location **THE LAFAYETTE PARK HOTEL** on Friday mornings at 7am. For more info, please email us at [lamorindasunrise@gmail.com](mailto:lamorindasunrise@gmail.com)

<b>October 10:</b> Meredith Meade, President of Lafayette Partners in Education, will talk about LPIE’s ever expanding role in our schools and community.	<b>October 17:</b> Adventurer and 3 times ESPN X Games Champion Hans Florine will speak about “Climbing the Nose of El Capitan”
--	--

**Please join us for a great speaker and breakfast!!**

**Saint Mary’s College Museum of Art**

**Four New Exhibitions**  
 Opening October 12

Accredited by the American Association of Museums and Galleries

<p><b>October 12 – December 14</b></p> <p><b>Pueblo to Pueblo: The Legacy of Southwest Indian Pottery</b></p> <p>Approximately 70 pottery vessels from a variety of Pueblos including Hopi, Zuni, San Ildefonso and Acoma will be on view. Dating from the mid-19th to the mid-20th century, the works illustrate the remarkable variety of pottery created during a very dynamic time of transformation.</p> <p>From the Collections of the Kansas City Museum and the Union Station, Kansas City</p> <p><b>Opening day lecture: Sunday, October 12th at 2:00pm, "The Development of Historic Pueblo Pottery" given by Curator Bill Mercer, LeFevre Theatre</b></p>	<p><b>October 12 – December 7</b></p> <p><b>The Native American Collection of Roger Epperson</b></p> <p>Over 30 works including photographs, etchings, drawings and paintings by esteemed artists Edward S. Curtis, Maynard Dixon, Roi Partridge and more.</p> <p>Edward S. Curtis, <i>Bear Bull - Blackfoot</i>, 1926, photograph on Japanese vellum, 15 x 11 inches, Collection of Roger Epperson</p>
<p><b>October 12 – December 7</b></p> <p><b>Grace Hudson: Painter of the Pomo People</b></p> <p>Grace Hudson (Ukiah, CA, 1865-1937) had a great familiarity with the local Pomo People which led to her lifelong commitment to study and document their way of life. She chose the children and women of the Pomo as her primary subjects.</p> <p>From the Collection of the Grace Hudson Museum, City of Ukiah</p>	<p><b>October 12 – March 15</b></p> <p><b>William Keith and the Native American</b></p> <p>Collection of the Saint Mary’s College Museum of Art</p>

Public Hours: Wed – Sun, 11 am-4:30 pm. Museum Admission: Adults \$5; Members and K-12 graders Free; Parking Free  
 Phone: 925-631-4379 Website: [stmarys-ca.edu/museum](http://stmarys-ca.edu/museum)

**Lamorinda Weekly**  
 is an independent publication, produced by and for the residents of Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda, CA  
 26,600 printed copies; delivered to homes & businesses in Lamorinda.

**Contact us:**  
 Letters to the editor (max 350 words): [letters@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:letters@lamorindaweekly.com)  
 Sport events/stories/pictures: [sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com)  
 Art, theater, community events: [calendar@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:calendar@lamorindaweekly.com)  
 Business news or business press releases: [sophie@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sophie@lamorindaweekly.com)  
 School stories/events: [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com)  
 General interest stories/Community Service: [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Publishers/Owners:**  
 Andy and Wendy Scheck; [andy@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:andy@lamorindaweekly.com), [wendy@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:wendy@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Civic Editor:** Lee Borrowman; [lee@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:lee@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Life and Our Homes Editor:** Jennifer Wake; [jennifer@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:jennifer@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Sports Editor:** Caitlin Mitchell; [sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Advertising:** 925-377-0977, Wendy Scheck; [wendy@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:wendy@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Staff Writers:**  
 Sophie Braccini; [sophie@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:sophie@lamorindaweekly.com), Cathy Tyson; [cathy@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:cathy@lamorindaweekly.com)  
 Laurie Snyder; [laurie@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:laurie@lamorindaweekly.com), Cathy Dausman, [cathy.d@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:cathy.d@lamorindaweekly.com)  
 Nick Marnell; [nick@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:nick@lamorindaweekly.com),  
 Teen Coach: Cynthia Brian; [cynthia@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:cynthia@lamorindaweekly.com)  
 Food: Susie Iventosch; [suziventosch@gmail.com](mailto:suziventosch@gmail.com)

**Contributing Writers:** Conrad Bassett, Moya Stone, Michael Sakoda, Marissa Harnett, Lou Fancher, Barry Varellas, Chris Lavin, Amanda Kuehn Carroll, Diane Clayton, Scott Wu, Lauren Kim, Uma Unni, Barry Hunau (cartoonist), Derek Zemrak (Film Critic)

**Photos:** Tod Fierner, Ohlen Alexander, Gint Federas

**Layout/Graphics:** Andy Scheck, Jaya Griggs. Printed in CA.

**Mailing address: Lamorinda Weekly, P.O. Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570-6133**  
 Phone: 925-377-0977; Fax: 1-800-690-8136  
 email: [info@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:info@lamorindaweekly.com), [www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com)

# Get Your 'Olive' On!

By Susie Iventosch



Quinoa pasta with cracked green olives, Kalamata olives, arugula, tomatoes and Parmesan  
Photo Susie Iventosch

The Friends of the Wagner Ranch Nature Center's Olive Festival and Olive Recipe Contest is just around the corner. This is the fifth year of the event, but it will be the inaugural recipe contest, so I want to encourage all of you wonderful cooks to get your recipes ready for the event. The Olive Festival will take place on Sunday, Oct. 12, from 1 to 4 p.m. and the dishes are due to the judging panel by 1 p.m. Judging will be conducted and winners announced at 2:30 p.m. during the festival, and prizes will be awarded! Be sure to bring copies of your recipes to hand out at the event.

In anticipation of the Olive Festival, I wanted to create a new olive recipe, especially since we love olives in almost anything! This is a quick and easy pasta dish, made with cracked green olives and Kalamata olives, along with arugula and cherry tomatoes. I used quinoa pasta, because we have a lot of readers out there who are interested in gluten-free, but any rotelli or fusilli pasta you like would be wonderful with it.

Enjoy and good luck with the recipe contest! I look forward to trying the winning recipes for a future column.

For more information, please visit <http://www.fwrna.org>.

## Olive-Arugula Pasta

(Serves two as a main dish, or four as a side dish)

### INGREDIENTS

Quinoa rotelli (by Ancient Harvest) 8 oz. package  
1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil  
1 clove garlic  
1/3 cup minced parsley  
2 cups fresh arugula leaves  
16 cherry tomatoes, halved or quartered  
16 cracked green olives, pitted and halved or quartered  
16 Kalamata olives, pitted and halved or quartered  
1/2 fresh lemon  
1/2 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese  
Salt and pepper to taste

### DIRECTIONS

Prepare olives, tomatoes, parsley and Parmesan ahead of time. When you're ready to eat, cook pasta according to directions. We like it slightly al dente. Toss cooked, drained pasta with olive oil and pressed garlic. Then toss in remaining vegetables (arugula, parsley, tomatoes and both kinds of olives), and squeeze lemon juice over all. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Garnish with Parmesan and serve with crusty French or Italian bread. Simple and delicious!



Susie Iventosch is the author of Tax Bites and Tasty Morsels, which can be found at Across the Way in Moraga, [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), and [www.taxbites.net](http://www.taxbites.net).

Susie can be reached at [suziventosch@gmail.com](mailto:suziventosch@gmail.com).

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

[www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://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.

You can find most of the recipes published in the *Lamorinda Weekly* on our website. Click Food tab.

- ◆ HARDWOODS
- ◆ CARPETS
- ◆ RUGS
- ◆ LINOLEUM
- ◆ LVT
- ◆ LAMINATE

FAMILY -OWNED  
30 YEARS !

3344 Mt Diablo Blvd  
in Lafayette  
925-284-4440  
[lamorindafloors.com](http://lamorindafloors.com)



## Out and About

Some fun, fall events just outside Lamorinda's borders

By Lou Fancher



Cal Performances' Swan Lake

Round up the wagon because it's time for the Ruth Bancroft Garden's fall plant sale on Saturday, Oct. 11. The annual event offers a members only pre-sale from 9 to 11 a.m. and memberships can be purchased at the door. For the mass public, the doors open at 11 a.m. Admission to the garden is free all day until 4 p.m. With the drought spanning three years and showing no sign of abating, a yard filled with drought-tolerant succulents is a no-brainer: it's either that, or asphalt. Plus, it's a great way support Ruth, who celebrated her 106th birthday in September and continues to live on the family property adjacent to the 3.5-acre public garden. Volun-

teers at the garden dispense advice and help visitors select plants for any budget. The sale ends at 3 p.m.

For complete information and directions, visit [http://www.ruthbancroftgarden.org/rbgarden/pages/other\\_events.html](http://www.ruthbancroftgarden.org/rbgarden/pages/other_events.html).

It would be fair to say, after 20-some years as a professional in the field, I've a slight slant for dance. Having fully disclosed the bias, two shows at Cal Performances' Zellerbach Hall provide a two-punch knockout: Australian swans and Sasha Waltz. First up on Oct. 16-19 is "Swan Lake" with the Australian Ballet and the Berkeley Symphony (that's live music!). Company artistic

director Graeme Murphy's rendition shakes up Tchaikovsky, slays the black swan before the curtain goes up, and pits the action as a psycho drama. Who says ballet is boring?

"Sasha Waltz and Guests" Oct. 24-25 brings on more live music, serenading the audience with Schubert's sublime piano *Impromptus* and lieder. Climb out of your box, join the innovative choreographer's investigations and the intimate new work from the company named the European Union's Cultural Ambassador in 2013. Information and tickets at <http://calperformances.org>.

Finally, if you're seeking Big-Name show-stoppers, head to Oakland's Paramount Theater for Jerry Seinfeld Oct. 17; Bob Dylan Oct. 28-30 (<http://www.paramounttheatre.com/tickets.html>). And for "miracles in miniature," head to the East Bay Mini Maker Faire at Park Day School, 360 42nd Street in Oakland, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 19 (<http://ebmakerfaire.wordpress.com/about/>). I've been to this family-friendly event and there's nothing small about the young imaginations behind the mind-boggling display of robots, rockets, urban farming initiatives, sustainable energy sources, bicycles, hand-made crafts, 3-D fabrication and more.

## As Seen In Lamorinda: Former Orinda Chamber President Sue Breedlove and Husband In Tandem



Photo Sophie Braccini

For more than 15 years Sue and Jim Breedlove have spent time riding a tandem bicycle together and were recently spotted practicing on the Lafayette-Moraga Trail in preparation for a 75-mile-long trip from Half Moon Bay to San Luis Obispo with a group of 13 friends. "Jim rides in front, and sometimes I find it a little hard to be the stoker (back rider) because I have no control of the bike, and I can't see passed him," says Sue Breedlove. "If you can drive a tandem together, it speaks for your marriage!" At the end of her trip on Sept. 19, she said, "We had a great time, we are all but one in our early 60s and we had a lot of fun!" Next stop was the Edna Valley Winery for a well-deserved chill. S. Braccini

## John and 3Mules.com



Photo Cathy Dausman

Over the last few weeks many residents spotted a man who has become an urban legend in the western United States: John and his three (now two) mules. For 31 years John has been a nomad, traveling with his mules, living off the land and sleeping in the arms of Mother Nature. John believes that he is a pioneer and that more people will embrace his free lifestyle and seek a more authentic relationship with nature as technology gains ground in running their lives. John is not completely averse to technology though; his facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/3Mules> has more than 28,000 likes, and he posts pictures and comments about his travels. After Lamorinda, he caught a ride to cross the bridge into San Francisco and bring his good vibes there. S. Braccini

# Business Directory

### Advertise

Reach 60,000+  
in Lamorinda

Advertise in  
Lamorinda Weekly  
Call 925-377-0977  
today

### Heating

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

Present this coupon for  
**\$35 off any service.**  
\*May not be combined with any other offer. Expires 11/15/2014.

**925-944-1122**  
[www.atlasheating.com](http://www.atlasheating.com) Since 1908

### Underpinning

**Bay Area UNDERPINNING**  
GENERAL CONTRACTOR LIC. #81728

BUILDING FOUNDATIONS • LIFTING  
LEVELING • STABILIZING

**707 310-0602**  
[www.bayareaunderpinning.org](http://www.bayareaunderpinning.org)

### Gardening

**J. Limon Gardening**

Maintenance/Clean-up  
Monthly Service  
Sprinkler  
System Repair

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

25 yrs. experience  
in Lamorinda



# LAMORINDA SPORTS

## Cougars Look Dominant in Early-Season Match

By Spencer Silva



Photos Gint Federas

There was no stopping Campolindo's girls' water polo team in the Cougars' first rivalry match of the season. Campo (8-2) traveled to take on Acalanes (7-5) on Oct. 1 and the Cougars came away with a definitive 13-5 win.

Echoes of cheers and chants filled the air to begin the match, and, within seconds, the Cougars jumped out to an early lead. Senior Rachael Lewin scored the first goal off of a penalty throw. She ended the game with four goals on the night.

The score was close at the end of the first quarter. The Cougars were up 6-3. To start the second quarter, they scored five unanswered goals, giving them an 11-4 lead at the half, a lead that proved insurmountable for the Dons.

Early in the third quarter, in what was one of the match's more exciting moments, Campolindo's senior goalie Madison Tagg nearly sunk a cross-pool shot on cage—it deflected just off the post. Both teams scored a combined three goals in the second half.

After the game, Acalanes head coach Misha Buchel pointed to the lack of defense as the team's weakness. "Our defense was poor all game. We pride ourselves on being tough to break down," she explained. "We gave up six goals in the first quarter, after all. But we scored a few that kept us in the game."

The Cougars, in turn, attributed their second quarter outburst to a change in approach. Coach Kim Everist described the transition, "At the quarter break we had to re-focus. ... We made a couple of adjustments defensively that helped our counter-attack and gave us the momentum." The shift proved successful; they stymied the Dons' offense for the rest of the match.

Both teams have important match-ups soon. Acalanes will face another DFAL rival in Las Lomas (7-6) today. Buchel expects the team to improve as its members gain more experience in the pool. "We are very young and inexperienced. As a result, we see improvements each and every game," she added. "We're hoping that by playoffs we'll be tougher to break down defensively and have enough offense to challenge the top teams."

The Cougars, on the other hand, have two rival matches on the docket. The first of which will be Oct. 8 when they take on cross-town rivals Miramonte in what will be the Matadors' first conference match of the young season. Campolindo has looked dominant in the early going, outscoring their opponents 111-45. Their only two losses have come at the hands of

the EBAL's San Ramon Valley, who they play at home the following Tuesday.

"We've played [SRV] twice, in [tournament] championship games this year. We have our sights set on the NorCal championships and also play them at home Oct. 14," said Everist.

As for the Lady Mats, head coach Megan Calderazzo says her team is hitting its stride. The Mats were re-

cently given a confidence boost when they defeated a higher seeded Sacred Heart squad in a tournament two weekends ago. Calderazzo said her squad has been conditioning extra hard for the Oct. 8 rivalry match against the Cougars. "This cross town rivalry is a big deal," she said. "We have been fine-tuning certain aspects of our game plan to better match up against the strong players (they) have."

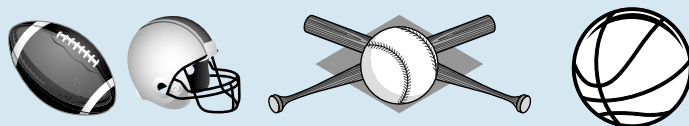


Rachael Lewin scores first for the Cougars.



Madison Tagg makes a very close cross-pool shot on goal during the game.

## Youth Sports Registration



### Lamorinda Rugby Football Club



On-line Registration opens Oct 1st for the 2015 rugby season! Season runs December 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.

Find out more about our team and how to register online at [www.lamorugby.com](http://www.lamorugby.com). For middle and elementary school ages, contact head youth coach Doug Pearson for more info: [dpearson@lee-associates.com](mailto:dpearson@lee-associates.com). For High School, contact Recruiting Director Steve Peterson at [stevepetersonhome@yahoo.com](mailto:stevepetersonhome@yahoo.com).

### Lamorinda Lacrosse



Registration for the Lamorinda Lacrosse Club's U9 girls and boys Spring 2015 season is open. Join the fastest growing game on two feet. Please go to [www.lamorindalacrosse.com](http://www.lamorindalacrosse.com) for more information and to register. Contact Jin Peavey at [lamorindalaxops@gmail.com](mailto:lamorindalaxops@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

**SUFFER FROM FOOT or ANKLE PAIN?**  
GET BACK ON YOUR FEET WITH THE "NEW" LASER TREATMENT USED by PRO SPORTS TEAMS!

Good for All Age Groups



Heel Pain  
Arch Pain  
Tendinitis  
Sprains  
Shin splints

"It exceeded my expectations-wonderful! I would do it again in a nanosecond. I highly recommend it!" Sandra, Danville



Dr. Mark Wolpa, Director and Author of "The Sports Medicine Guide"

WALNUT CREEK | 925.937.2222

106 La Casa Via #270 across from John Muir Hospital

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



**Kyle Davis**

Mortgage Consultant/Owner/Partner  
Lamorinda Resident Since 1995  
BRE License #01111347/NMLS #274107

Direct: 925-314-5299  
[Kyle@Stonecastle-LHF.com](mailto:Kyle@Stonecastle-LHF.com)

319 Diablo Rd., Ste 103 • Danville • CA BRE Lic. # 01327738, NMLS#280803

**RATES ARE NEAR ALL TIME LOWS!**  
**30 YEAR FIXED RATE TO \$2,500,000!**  
**4.250% / 4.250% APR**  
**GREAT CONFORMING RATES!**

	Fixed Rates to \$417,000		Fixed Rates to \$625,500	
	RATE	APR	RATE	APR
30 Year Fixed	3.875%	3.975%	4.250%	4.250%
15 Year Fixed	2.875%	3.030%	3.500%	3.500%

"PROVIDING PREMIER LOAN PRODUCTS AND SERVICE FROM THE MOST EXPERIENCED AND SOLUTION-ORIENTED PROFESSIONALS IN YOUR COMMUNITY."

Call 925-314-5299 for Today's Quote!

This is not a loan commitment, nor is it a guarantee of any kind. This comparison is based solely on estimated figures and information available at the time of production. Interest rate is subject to borrower and property qualifying. Stonecastle Land and Home Financial, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Lender.



**Submit stories to**  
**sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com**

(we prefer to receive your original photo file, minimum size: 200 dpi and 1200 pixels wide)



**UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital**  
Oakland

# SPORTS MEDICINE CENTER FOR YOUNG ATHLETES



**WALNUT CREEK**  
**925-979-3430**

**OAKLAND**  
**510-428-3558**

**WE'LL  
GET YOU  
BACK IN  
THE GAME**

## Lamorinda Volleyball Teams Spike Competition

By Scott Wu



Kelly Wirth

Photos Gint Federas

The 2014 girls' volleyball season is underway, with Campolindo (4-0), Acalanes (2-0), and Miramonte (3-1) getting off to very strong starts. The three teams' winning league records come after a solid preseason. Campolindo is 12-4 overall. Acalanes is 8-4, and Miramonte is 14-5. The Lamorinda teams are at the very top of the DFAL standings, respectively, and are the only three teams in DFAL league play to own winning records.

The Cougars have been a force to be reckoned with this season. They have not lost a set in league play.

"Our biggest strength this season is our outside hitters Kelley Wirth and Kirsten Sibley," head coach John Vuong stated. The Cougars, who have made it to the NCS Division III finals three of the past four years, are not new to the spotlight.

"We should do well in the postseason. Our goal is to make it back to the NCS final," said Vuong. With a strong upperclassmen



Kirsten Sibley has been a leader for the Cougars.

presence and a drive to win, the Cougars are yet again an obvious threat to take the NCS title.

"The team just needs to work hard and push each other in order for us to maximize our potential this season," said Vuong.

Miramonte, who shocked a powerful NorCal team in Amador Valley this preseason, could be this year's DFAL dark horse.

The Matadors are led by senior co-captains Lauren Foster and Vanessa Tang, who are two of the just three seniors on this year's team. They have effectively guided star underclassmen such as power hitting sophomores Layne Estes and Caroline Schafer.

"Despite the fact that the team is young, we have a lot of



Sophomore Layne Estes has been a key piece for the Mats.

depth and experience, which gave us a lot of momentum going into league play," head coach Lisa Bachtold said.

Their lone loss came to Campolindo on Oct. 2. Both teams were undefeated, winning in straight sets, heading into the game. Although the Matadors got off to a strong start, even notching 20 points in the second set, they could not overcome the Cougars' offense. Campolindo kept its streak alive and again won in straight sets.

"The atmosphere of this team is dynamic, as there is a very competitive energy on this team. We need to take advantage of every opportunity on the court to challenge ourselves to get better," says Bachtold.

The Acalanes Dons, who sit in second place in the league standings, are a team on the rise. With a new head coach in former-UCSB volleyball standout Todd Travis and five returning starters, Acalanes is poised to threaten Campolindo's bid for another league title.

"Our two biggest strengths are our depth and our experience. Additionally, we have a great team chemistry this year," Travis said. The Dons have stayed perfect at home, but they face a pair of tough opponents when they travel to both Campolindo and Miramonte for two of their next matches.

"We have a chance to finish atop the league this year, and we're ready to work hard in order to do this," said Travis.

**Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified • Classified**

**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  
robbiednrb@gmail.com

**Garage Sale**

**Campolindo Girls Water Polo Team Garage Sale** - Multi Family  
Saturday 10/11/14, 8:30 - 3:00  
881 Camino Ricardo, Moraga

**House Cleaning**

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

**Plumbing**



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

**Tree Service**

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

**Piano Lessons**

**Suzuki piano lessons**  
for ages 3 & up offered by European teacher. More information at:  
suzukipianolessons.com,  
suzukiprof@gmail.com or  
925/876 0266.

**Found Dog**



**FOUND DOG**  
on St. Mary's Road in Moraga, CA  
Found on Friday 9/26/14  
between 3-4pm  
Chihuahua Male, 13lbs.  
White / Tan Coat 925-878-1310

**House Cleaning & Organizing**



**Masterpiece Household Services**  
Complete cleaning weekly, biweekly & monthly Including construction cleaning, moving in & moving out. Home organizing. Very detail oriented with 20 years of experience, Excellent references, (510)506-2667  
www.mphousehold.com

**Rain gutter**

**Vickers Rain Gutter**  
Installation, repair, roof & gutter cleaning  
Serving Lamorinda since 1984. Many styles of gutters with soldered downspouts....Senior discount....free est....lic 677426. I do the work myself & take pride in it.....Ken 925-687-8831

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

**Windows & Gutters**

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

**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 Liability, W Comp, Homes, Auto, Life. Call  
**Henry at (925) 247-4356** OE90108

**Computer Help**

- Troubleshoot any PC problem. (no Macs please)
- Help in plain English, not tech talk.
- Virus and spyware removal, system clean-up.
- Master e-mail, web searches, filing, attachments.
- Learn the software on your computer.
- Personal training in your home.

**Call Alison 925-377-7711**

**Fencing**

**Ken's Quality Fencing**  
Custom redwood fences & retaining walls installed. Free estimates  
licensed, bonded & insured. CA#667491  
925-938-9836 www.kensrototilling.com

**Landscape Maintenance**

**Balaam Landscape Services**  
Natural Pruning and Thinning  
Detailing - Weeding  
Irrigation Timers Adjusted  
Reasonable Rates  
925-586-0558

**Construction**

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

**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**

**Handyman**

**Rusty Nails Handyman Service**  
Repair • Restore • Revamp  
Call Rusty- (925) 890-1581

**Painting Contractor**

**Lafayette Painting-all work**  
supervised by owner/contractor. No substitute for EXPERIENCE-over 25 years in Lamorinda. Full insured, Lic # 342005. Call **283-8621**

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

reach 60,000+ with your ad

# Goals Galore

Submitted by Chris Palma



Photo provided

Back row, from left: Coach Javier, Natalie Means, Danielle DeFrancisci, Kailey Kimball, Anna Soloman, Samantha K., Lindsey Lucas, Lily Boyden; front row: Katherine Montoya, Caitlyn McCulloch, Sydney Tuggle, Kelsey Viadro, Brooke Palma, Emma Bonardi, Isabella G.

The Lamorinda U11 Navy girls' placed second in the Dublin Fall Classic Sept. 27-28, scoring a combined 20 goals while giving up only four in four games over the weekend. Although they came up short in overtime in the championship against a premier WC Barcelona team game, they played well and showed great sportsmanship.

# Swinging for the Nationals

Submitted by Andrew Lee



Amber Lee (left) celebrates her win.

Photo provided

Amber Marie Lee, a sixth grader at Orinda Intermediate School, is aiming to compete at national tennis tournaments early next year. She is currently rated the No. 8 tennis player in the Northern California Section in the Girls' 12U category. The top eight players are eligible to compete at some national tournaments.

The weekend of Sept. 27-28, Lee competed at the Nor Cal Sectional Championships at the University of Pacific. The event is the highest tier tournament in the section. Lee was seeded No. 2 overall out of 64 competitors and she reached the finals, where she lost in three sets to the No. 1 seed.

# Cougars Donate Equipment

Submitted by Ermina Santaguida



Photo provided

While the Campolindo football team (6-0) maintains a competitive edge over opponents on the field, the Cougars are neighborly off of the field. On Sept. 23, the Campolindo football program donated five sleds and 50 sets of shoulder pads to the Coach Fardella Fund and the Skyline High School (Oakland) football team.

The Coach Fardella Fund was established by Tania

Fardella in honor of her father, Tony, the varsity head coach from 1969-1986. The program supplies equipment and financial support to Skyline. During his tenure, Fardella coached Campolindo's head coach Kevin Macy, line coach Bill Levey, and defensive coach Matt Macy. Mark Macy, of Macy Movers, another one of Fardella's former players, transported the gear.

## 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](mailto:wendy@lamorindaweekly.com) or call (925) 377-0977; \$50-\$75 per published article.



# SMC Hosts Battle in the Bay

Submitted by Tony Samaniego



Photos provided

The Saint Mary's rugby team is set to hold its annual Battle in the Bay College 7's tournament this month. The Gaels will look to repeat as champions. Last year, the team

beat Central Washington for the title. This year, SMC will play host to 16 teams from as far away as Utah. The teams will fight for the title on Treasure Island on Oct. 25-26.



SMC's 7's team won the tournament last year.

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)

# SHOP ORINDA

**McCaulou's**  
 Save Gas  
 Save Money  
 Save Time  
 Shop your local McCaulou's

**Orinda Village Antiques**  
 Taking Tea  
 in the  
 English Manner  
 by Susan Tisch  
 Mon. - Sat. 11 to 6 or by appointment  
 107 Orinda Way • Orinda • 925.254.2206

**ECHO Grove**  
 A Natural Place for Gifts  
 Orinda Theatre Square  
 100% Handmade - 100% Unique - 100% Cool

**Bay Area home companions**  
 In-home care services  
 Affordable, Competent,  
 Warm & Compassionate  
 Adult Care  
 925-330-3999  
 www.bayareahomecompanions.com

CALL NOW (925) 377-8733  
**TREE REMOVAL SPECIALIST**  
 Licensed • Insured • Bonded  
**COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL**  
 Removal of Hazardous Trees/Branches  
 Complete Tree Removal | View Restoration  
 Fine Pruning | Hazardous Tree Removal (Limited Access Specialist)  
 Stump Removal | Stump Grinding (Limited Access, Unrooted Stumps, No Problem)  
 Specializing in Redwood Removal On-Site Milling Service  
 \*100% Recycled - Nothing Goes To Landfill\*  
**EAST BAY TREE SERVICE**  
 FREE ESTIMATES • SAME DAY SERVICE  
 www.EastBayTreeService.com  
 925-377-TREE (8733)  
 Over a Decade of Dedication to Lamorinda  
 DANVILLE • TREE SERVICE • ORINDA • TREE SERVICE • LAFAYETTE • MORAGA • TREE SERVICE • DANVILLE • TREE SERVICE • ORINDA

**Breedlove**  
 Medicare, Covered CA, Life, Long-term Care  
 Businesses, Families, Individuals  
 925-254-6262 • www.breedloveinsurance.com  
**Insurance Services**

**ORINDA TAXI**  
 24/7 AIRPORTS & LOCAL  
 (925) 482-7112  
 (925) 253-TAXI (8294)  
 orindataxi@gmail.com www.orindataxi.com

**SHOP ORINDA**  
 2 THEATRE SQ, 151  
 ORINDA, CA 94563  
 925.254.3900  
 REPUBLICOFCAKE.COM

**The Medicine Shoppe PHARMACY**  
 Caring beyond prescriptions.  
 Alan Wong, R.Ph.  
 282 Village Square, Orinda (925) 254-1211  
 The Pharmacy That's All About Your Health<sup>SM</sup>

We're more than a dependable health professional. We're also your personal health advisor.

**KATTENBURG ARCHITECTS**  
 www.KATTENBURGARCHITECTS.com  
 Lafayette Wine Cellar

**Park Place WEALTH ADVISORS, INC.**  
 Retirement & Income Planning • Estate Planning  
 Charitable Planning • Educational Funding  
 401K Rollover Specialists  
 18 Orinda Way, Orinda • 925-254-7766 • www.thegannetts.com  
 Registered Principals with and Securities offered through Foothill Securities Investing in your future since 1962, Member FINRA, SIPC

To advertise on  
**Shop Orinda** call  
 925.377.0977

**ORINDA BOOKS**  
**The Bookstore in village square!**  
 276 Village Square, Orinda, CA 94563  
 925-254-7606  
 www.orindabooks.com  
 YOUR COMPLETE COMMUNITY BOOKSTORE

**Orinda Arts Council's**  
**2014 ART of MIXOLOGY**  
 Orinda Theatre Square  
**Craft Cocktail Competition & Tasting**  
**October 25, 4:30-7pm**  
 Sample 20 Cocktails | Food & Music | Audience Voting  
 TICKETS AT [OrindaArts.org/Mixology](http://OrindaArts.org/Mixology)

BARBACOA  
 BevMo!  
 diablo  
 ECHO Grove  
 LAMORINDA

# Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 08 Issue 16 Wednesday, October 8, 2014



*Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian ...read on page D13*

## The Art of Wine and Beer Making ... In the Garage

By Diane Claytor



*No room for a car in Bill Rose's Lafayette garage, filled with winemaking supplies.  
Photo Diane Claytor*

For most of us, the garage is where we store our car, old furniture and last year's holiday decorations. But a growing number of Lamorindans have found a much more pleasurable use for their garages: producing adult libations. There's even a word for this fun activity: "garagista."

Vehicles belonging to longtime Lafayette resident Bill Rose haven't seen the inside of his garage for many years. That space is taken up by his wine-making equipment. Several miles away, Lafayette residents Troy Feddersen and Milt Bruzzone use their garages to house everything they need for brewing beer. And in both cases, friends and neighbors reap the benefits.

Rose became interested in wine while living in France following his college graduation. Once he moved to Lafayette, he learned that his dentist was a home winemaker and looking for a helper. Rose quickly volunteered to become a "cellar rat" and learned about making wine. "It was pretty rudimentary. We used a six foot diameter redwood hot tub," Rose said. "When it leaked, we used dental wax to stop the leaks. We actually made some pretty decent wine." After several years, Rose and his wife, Beverly, decided they wanted to start making wine on their own. But they also realized they had much more to learn. They took classes in chemistry and winemaking techniques; they learned about grapes, where to get them and how to grow them. And then the fun began.

Rose, a retired sales executive, makes both white and red wines and describes himself as a "laissez-faire" winemaker. "I try not to get in the way of the normal process." He's made some excellent wines and admits to having some that weren't very good. "When wine isn't good, it's part of the mystery of winemaking. As someone once advised me, calm down and let the wine do its thing. Have a glass and relax," Rose stated.

He makes 75 to 100 cases of wine a year and does this for his own personal pleasure. "It's a great hobby," Rose proclaimed. "When I was younger, I had a Walter Mitty-type dream of being the next Robert Mondavi. I even looked to see if I could find five acres in Sonoma for a small vineyard. And then I studied the economics of it and realized that it just didn't make sense for me. So I decided not to ruin my hobby by putting dollar signs in front of it.

*... continued on page D4*

# THE *Beaubelle*

---

## GROUP



### ORINDA ~ MT. DIABLO VIEWS

New construction, stunning 2.3 acre lot, 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, 4,139 sq. ft. of living space and a court location. \$2,695,000



### ORINDA ~ END OF COURT LOCATION

New construction, spectacular 3.5 acre lot, 5 bedrooms, 5.5 baths, 4,139 sq. ft. of living space, ideal location. \$2,595,000



### ORINDA ~ PREIUM 1 ACRE LOT

New construction, 4 bedrooms, bonus room, 4 baths, 3,842 sq. ft. of living space, options: den and 5th bedroom. \$2,285,900



**GLENN AND KELLIE BEAUBELLE**

925.254.1212

TheBeaubelleGroup.com

CABRE# 00678426, 01165322



## Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

City	Last reported:	LOWEST AMOUNT:	HIGHEST AMOUNT:
LAFAYETTE	12	\$529,000	\$2,587,000
MORAGA	7	\$290,000	\$1,264,000
ORINDA	9	\$385,000	\$1,850,000

Home sales are compiled by CalREsource, 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

- 3232 Elvia Street, \$830,000, 3 Bdrms, 2270 SqFt, 1961 YrBlt, 9-5-14
- 3838 Happy Valley Road, \$2,587,000, 4 Bdrms, 3065 SqFt, 1998 YrBlt, 9-10-14;  
Previous Sale: \$250,000, 11-14-96
- 3316 Las Huertas Road, \$1,749,000, 4 Bdrms, 3566 SqFt, 1977 YrBlt, 9-9-14;  
Previous Sale: \$1,052,000, 12-04-02
- 3166 Linda Vista Lane, \$801,000, 3 Bdrms, 2474 SqFt, 1978 YrBlt, 9-5-14;  
Previous Sale: \$65,500, 04-15-03
- 3963 Los Arabis Drive, \$1,650,000, 3 Bdrms, 2185 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 8-29-14;  
Previous Sale: \$83,000, 09-11-72
- 771 Los Palos Drive, \$2,250,000, 4 Bdrms, 3146 SqFt, 2013 YrBlt, 9-8-14
- 3482 Moraga Boulevard, \$889,000, 2 Bdrms, 1258 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 8-29-14;  
Previous Sale: \$335,000, 10-09-98
- 529 Morecroft Road, \$1,415,000, 5 Bdrms, 3769 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 8-29-14
- 3 Oliveira Lane, \$2,200,000, 5 Bdrms, 3130 SqFt, 1978 YrBlt, 8-29-14
- 3354 Reliez Highland Road, \$529,000, 3 Bdrms, 2607 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 9-15-14;  
Previous Sale: \$990,000, 07-13-07
- 3330 Ridge Road, \$675,000, 3 Bdrms, 1188 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 9-12-14;  
Previous Sale: \$275,000, 11-09-99
- 3040 Rohrer Drive, \$1,150,000, 4 Bdrms, 1728 SqFt, 1960 YrBlt, 9-11-14;  
Previous Sale: \$827,500, 04-03-12

### MORAGA

- 103 Ascot Court #A, \$290,000, 2 Bdrms, 1106 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 8-29-14
- 18 Fieldbrook Place, \$850,000, 4 Bdrms, 2262 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 8-29-14;  
Previous Sale: \$670,000, 06-13-14
- 1125 Larch Avenue, \$1,255,000, 4 Bdrms, 2367 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 9-11-14;  
Previous Sale: \$435,000, 09-15-99
- 1295 Larch Avenue, \$1,075,000, 4 Bdrms, 2438 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 8-29-14

... continued on page D8





KURT PIPER GROUP

## Our Lamorinda and Walnut Creek Sales

	PENDING	PENDING	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	
	624 Augusta Dr.	3023 Rohrer Dr.	750 Los Palos Dr.	1082 Juanita Dr.	326 Lowell Lane East	3380 Reliez Highland Rd.	
SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD
3742 Sundale Rd.	46 Ardilla Rd.	467 Florence Dr.	52 Miner Rd.	63 Bates Blvd.	7808 Stoneleaf Rd.	959 4th St.	3390 Orchard Valley Lane
SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD
3838 Happy Valley Rd.	592 Michael Lane	15 Blackberry Ct.	529 Morecroft Dr.	39 Greentree Ct.*	3911 Leroy Way*	7239 Valley Trails*	304 Castle Glen Rd.*
SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD
3539 Wilkinson Lane*	3606 Mosswood Dr.*	1011 Winton Dr.*	523 Miner Rd.*	3230 Burton Ct.*	2905 Hillsdale Dr.*	1106 Upper Happy Valley*	3374 Moraga Blvd.*
	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	SOLD	
614 Lancaster Dr.*	616 Lancaster Dr.*	100 Underhill Rd.*	990 Stow Lane*	2400 Pine Knoll Dr.*	52 Lancaster Ct.*		

Kurt Piper



925.818.8000

Christine Gallegos



415.606.2047

Leslie Piper



415.990.4929

Amy Price



925.997.6808

Scott Sans



925.216.7583

### Realtors Recommended for a Reason

KurtPiperGroup.com



\* Represented the Buyer



# The Art of Wine and Beer Making ... In the Garage

... continued from page D1



*Bill Rose (left) and his wine making helper getting ready to bottle his homemade wine. Photo Diane Claytor*

My Super Bowl is when I give my friends a bottle and they tell me it's one of the best wines they've ever had," he noted.

Rose is a member of the Contra Costa Wine Group, a 35-year-old organization of "home winemakers dedicated to making and drinking good wine." The group conducts a very professional and popular wine competition every year – last year there were 110 entries – and judges include sommeliers, winery owners, wine retailers and restaurateurs. Rose has won four blue ribbons over the last eight years, an accomplishment of which he's very proud.

Although Lafayette's Feddersen grew up in Napa, worked in wineries, took winemaking classes and enjoys a good glass of wine, he finds it much more satisfying to make beer. "It's amazing how many people around here make their own beer,"

Feddersen said. "I've learned that several neighbors and even one of the Lafayette City Council members are home brewers." Bruzzone had long been interested in learning how to make beer. When he met Feddersen at a Lafayette Rotary gathering and tasted Feddersen's home brew, Bruzzone knew he had found his teacher. The two have been brewing together for just over a year. Bruzzone says Feddersen, who has been making beer since his college days, is an excellent teacher.

Unlike wine, which, depending on the grape and style, can take anywhere from six months to three years before you have a drinkable product, it can take as little as three weeks from start to finish to get an excellent bottle of beer, Feddersen explained.

... continued on page D6



*Rose, and his wife, Beverly, getting ready to crush grapes.*

*Photo provided*



# The RE/MAX Collection

925.283.9200



**Alamo ~ REDUCED:** Great opportunity to live at Round Hill North. Custom built 5bdrm, 6bath + office. Tranquil views of the hills & beyond. Large gourmet kitchen all open to family rm. Hardwood floors. All bedrooms have their own bathroom suite.

**\$1,798,000**

**Gretchen Bryce** 925.683.2477  
gretchenbryce@msn.com



**Alamo ~ 4 bedrooms, 3 baths,** with complete in-law on lush, manicured grounds. Private, pleasing, Alamo Schools. See this elegant and tasteful estate—It will be worth it!

**Michael Hatfield** 925.984.1339  
Michael@alamoluxuryhomes.com



**Lafayette ~ Sold \$100,000 over asking** with multiple offers. I have more buyers looking for a similar home. Please call if you are interested in selling your home.

**Paddy Kehoe** 925.878.5869  
Paddyrealtor@gmail.com



**Lafayette ~ Coming Soon!** 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,997 sq. ft., great home on quiet Street. New floors, new paint, open floor plan and updated kitchen and bathroom. Call for details.

**Paddy Kehoe** 925.878.5869  
Paddyrealtor@gmail.com



**Lafayette ~ Location, location, location.** Super convenient location on beautiful tree lined Street. This 3 bed, 1 bath home with guest cottage has charm galore. Great use of space with updated kitchen and living room. **\$895,000**

**Paddy Kehoe** 925.878.5869  
Paddyrealtor@gmail.com



**Walnut Creek ~ 3 bedroom, 2 bath** includes in law quarters. Level third acre orchard! Fruit trees & well to water. Acalanes School District!  
**\$689,000**

**Jay Weymouth** 925.915.1100  
Jayweymouth@yahoo.com



## RE/MAX<sup>®</sup> ACCORD

With over 400 Associates in 10 offices throughout the East Bay, RE/MAX Accord is your first choice for home buying and selling.

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

## PROSPECT

MORTGAGE<sup>®</sup>

Ready to get your home loan?

888-502-7548

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

Loan inquiries and applications will be referred to a Loan Officer who is licensed in the property's state. Equal Housing Lender. Prospect Mortgage is located at 15301 Verdana Blvd., Suite 0300, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403. Prospect Mortgage, LLC (NMLS Identifier #3296, [www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org](http://www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org)) is a Delaware limited liability company, licensed by the Department of Business Oversight under the California Residential Mortgage Lending Act. This is not an offer for extension of credit or a commitment to lend.

CAL BRE #01491373

# The Art of Wine and Beer Making ... In the Garage

... continued from page D4



"It's also easier to get beer to taste right, and there's a wider range of what's acceptable," he noted. "Beers have their own definite styles and you can tweak them so you can get exactly what you like." People have been known to add ginger or chocolate to their home-brewed beers. "Milt likes honey beer so we've added honey to every batch we've made," Feddersen said.

Both Rose and Feddersen say that temperature control is probably one of the most significant factors in making excellent alcoholic beverages at home. And both admit to being somewhat creative with managing this. Red wine is typically made in the fall "when the evenings can get quite cool," Rose said. So he wraps electric blankets around the vats of wine and regulates the temperature by turning the blanket temperature up or down. With white wine, he runs cold water through stainless steel coils, which he places directly into the wine. Feddersen's temperature control process is very similar; if it's too warm, he puts a towel with ice over the carboy (the container in which the beer ferments) and if it's too cool, he'll wrap the carboy in an electric blanket. "There are heating and cooling solutions you can buy," Feddersen said, "but my methods seem to work just fine."

Making wine and beer at home is done for the pure enjoyment of both the activity and the results. Feddersen and Rose say that while their hobbies may be somewhat cost-effective, by the time you consider all the equipment and supplies needed, they're not really saving money. "Home brewers are typically making a quality beer," Feddersen noted, "so the price is basically equivalent to what you'd pay in a store."

Bruzzone, Feddersen and Rose all have a real passion for their beer-brewing and wine-making hobbies and love being able to share the resulting bottles with their friends. No doubt, these friends happily accept.

*Troy Feddersen (left) and Milt Bruzzone purchasing the supplies they need for brewing their next batch of beer.*

*Photo provided*

Open Sat. & Sun. Oct. 11th & 12th, 1-4 PM



## 653 Sky Ranch Ct. Lafayette

653 Sky Ranch Ct. is located in a private, gated community of 29 homes. With updates throughout, STUNNING views of Mt. Diablo, spacious living areas, a 3 car garage, an office and a bonus room. 4BR/2.5BA, 2,914 sq. ft.

**Offered at  
\$1,399,000**

©2014 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



**Tom Stack**

Mobile: (925) 878-9964

tom.stack@camoves.com

www.TomStack.com

BRE#01501769



**81 MOSSBRIDGE LN**  
*new price*  
**\$2,495,000**

**THERE IS NOTHING LESS ABOUT THIS  
HOUSE EXCEPT THE PRICE**



**A FABULOUS HOUSE FOR THIS NEW PRICE: \$2,495,000**

Approx 4700 Sq. Ft.  
6+ Bedrooms, 5.5 Baths, .5 acre  
Approved for Pool  
[www.81Mossbridge.com](http://www.81Mossbridge.com)  
Open Sunday 2:00pm - 4:00pm



**AMYROSESMITH**

Amy Rose Smith  
Village Associates  
93 Moraga Way  
Suite 103  
Orinda, CA 94563

Phone: 925.212.3897  
Email: [amy@amyrosesmith.com](mailto:amy@amyrosesmith.com)  
Web: [www.amyrosesmith.com](http://www.amyrosesmith.com)  
Web: [www.iloveorinda.com](http://www.iloveorinda.com)  
BRE: #01855959



**Patti  
Camras**

*I* believe in the art of living well.

Whether helping first-time home buyers & move-up buyers or downsizing empty nesters & seniors, I want my clients to live well at every stage of their lives. I'll do whatever it takes to help them enjoy a seamless transition from one of life's passages to the next. This is my promise.

THE  
**ART**  
REAL ESTATE



**PATTI CAMRAS**  
REALTOR®

CalBRE# 01156248

**925-899-9282**

[patti.camras@camoves.com](mailto:patti.camras@camoves.com)  
5 Moraga Way, Orinda

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





Knowledgeable - Professional - Reliable - Local  
Committed to exceeding your expectations!



### Paul & Virginia Ratto

925.998.9501  
vvarni@pacunion.com  
www.RattoandRatto.com  
License #: 00900621 | 01361537



## Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

...continued from Page D2

### MORAGA ... continued

- 112 Merion Terrace, \$1,150,000, 3 Bdrms, 3424 SqFt, 1988 YrBlt, 9-12-14;  
Previous Sale: \$885,000, 09-12-01  
53 Rick Court, \$1,264,000, 4 Bdrms, 2369 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 9-12-14;  
Previous Sale: \$872,000, 06-30-03  
288 Sandringham Drive #N, \$1,134,000, 3 Bdrms, 2071 SqFt, 1988 YrBlt, 9-11-14; Previous Sale: \$323,500, 10-15-87  
817 Villa Lane #4, \$336,000, 2 Bdrms, 882 SqFt, 1968 YrBlt, 9-12-14;  
Previous Sale: \$276,000, 09-27-02

### ORINDA

- 155 Amber Valley Drive, \$1,330,000, 3 Bdrms, 2506 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 9-9-14; Previous Sale: \$985,000, 05-20-09  
9 Broadview Terrace, \$1,850,000, 4 Bdrms, 2382 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 9-12-14;  
Previous Sale: \$1,120,000, 01-29-08  
43 Citron Knoll, \$385,000, 9-8-14  
54 Citron Knoll, \$1,431,500, 9-16-14  
623 Cross Ridge Terrace, \$1,175,000, 4 Bdrms, 2866 SqFt, 1979 YrBlt, 8-29-14  
39 Hacienda Circle, \$845,000, 2 Bdrms, 1769 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 9-12-14  
616 Miner Road, \$1,210,000, 2 Bdrms, 2115 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 9-9-14;  
Previous Sale: \$648,000, 12-27-10  
75 Muth Drive, \$915,000, 4 Bdrms, 2087 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 8-29-14  
68 Persimmon Walk, \$1,262,000, 9-9-14



**\$1,600,000** - Exclusive Moraga Horse Property, 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3,000+ sq ft, upgraded throughout, 5+ acres, large in-ground pool with cabana, 4 stall horse barn with 50+ sq ft round pen and 3 pastures. **Must see!**

www.160ValleyHill.com  
**Richard Hoag**  
Premier Realty Associates  
925-876-1460  
rich@richardhoag.com

## Lamorinda Weekly

is an independent publication, produced by and for the residents of Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda, CA

Lamorinda Weekly, P.O. Box 6133,  
Moraga, CA 94570-6133

Phone: 925-377-0977 | Fax: 1-800-690-8136  
email: info@lamorindaweekly.com

**It's all Online: www.lamorindaweekly.com**

Reach 60,000+ in Lamorinda  
Advertise in Lamorinda Weekly

Call 925-377-0977 today

We print and deliver 26,000 copies every other week.



## Quinn Berg

**Broker Associate**  
Direct: 925.765.2996  
quinn.berg@camoves.com  
www.quinnberg.com  
CalBRE #01872891



©2014 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. CalBRE License # 01908304

## Just Listed! Rare, New Construction in Lafayette!



Newly on-market — rare, new, single-level construction in Lafayette within an enclave of homes at the edge of the Reliez Valley -- centrally located with superb commute access, as well as within walking distance to Springhill Elementary and Acalanes High School.

The first home is an expansive 3500± sq. ft., single-level floor plan with 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, plus an office. Designed from the ground up for the contemporary living needs of today's families and those who entertain. It features dramatic, spacious central living areas with seamless integration of the kitchen and family room. A large, level backyard complements the home, framed by beautiful oaks and rolling hills. Extraordinarily efficient use of space allows for a sumptuous master suite, and well-proportioned secondary bedrooms.

Built by Lafayette's TT Construction and Engineering, the home exhibits an exceptional level of craftsmanship that is rarely seen in today's marketplace.

Offered at \$1,998,000



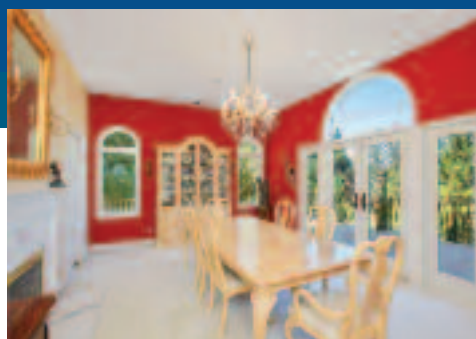
Ron Rothenberg, MBA Marketing & Finance

Susan Rothenberg

925.286.5530

License #: 01309986 | 00857547

TeamRothenberg.com | info@TeamRothenberg.com



## LUXURIOUS HILLSIDE RETREAT

260 VALLEY HILL DRIVE | MORAGA, CA. 94556

I am proud to present this palatial home and expansive horse property with quick access to downtown Moraga, Orinda and Lafayette. You will love the private setting in the Moraga hills. The home has towering ceilings, smooth flow, and an ideal layout for congregating with loved ones or spreading out for peaceful sanctuary. Three large suite-sized bedrooms are situated upstairs with the huge master suite with valley views. The middle level has the foyer, living, dining, office, family and kitchen rooms. The lower level includes a work out area, media room, bonus game room, tons of storage, and access to the three-car garage. Outside, one may enjoy the solar and gas heated pool with waterfalls and spa while entertaining on the spacious rear patio against a wooded hillside backdrop. In the front there is room for a corral next to the cabernet and chardonnay vineyard. Nearly every room enjoys views of this home's tranquil natural setting. This property—with its location, floor plan, top-notch schools and access to the greater Bay Area—offers an amazing opportunity for your dream lifestyle.

[www.260ValleyHill.com](http://www.260ValleyHill.com)

Overview: 4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, 5,200+ sq. feet, and 3-car garage on 5+ acre lot (per owner)



OFFERED AT \$1,899,000



**GUY BLUME**  
"THE REALTOR® GUY!"

REALTOR®

510.846.4687

guyblume@gmail.com

GuyBlume.com

CalBRE#01766434



# Dining Room Feng Shui

By Michele Duffy



*Autumn Mums, which symbolize health and gratitude, adorn this Lafayette home entranceway.*

*Photos Michele Duffy*

For many of us autumn signals the time of year when we gather together, enjoy the fruits of our labor, and spend time sharing longer meals and celebrations.

As holidays approach, it's time to dust off the dining room table, or dare I say, clear the clutter away from the place that can all too often become the dumping ground for the family, more so than any other area of the home. Proper feng shui in general includes fantastic design and good old common sense, but there are some specific ways to incorporate dining room feng shui into your seasonal adaptations and holiday preparations.

For generations we have connected with the harvest and the natural world, so bringing the crisp fall energy into our homes lifts our mood, and can grace our dining room tables with celebratory energy. The first tenant of good dining room feng shui is to remember the intimacy that dining rooms suggest. I may be channeling my inner Jamie Oliver but I am determined to encourage strongly that people actually use their dining rooms more than twice a year! Try to avoid sitting with your family in front of a TV while you take a meal and encourage the family to sit together each night so that everyone eats consciously, get face time with all family

members, and most importantly reconnects with one another. No matter how intense our lives are when we come together in the evening we are practicing good feng shui.

Dining rooms are reserved for our most intimate gatherings with family and friends, and you can reflect the importance of that feng shui principle by including different levels of lighting to create an inviting atmos-

phere and festive ambiance. Different levels of lighting can include low lights, like candles on the table or sideboards, and a dimmer for the ceiling lighting over the dining room table. Dimmers are very inexpensive to install and allow so much flexibility for various dining experiences, whether for everyday family dining or a romantic dinner for two.

... continued on page D12



*Fall dining room flora decorations at this Moraga Country Club home.*

Sold // Lafayette  
1208 Vacation Drive

Sold // Moraga  
122 Shuey Drive

Sold // Lafayette  
420 Read Drive

Sold // Walnut Creek  
3400 Valley Vista

Sold // Lafayette  
3473 Hamlin Road

Sold // Walnut Creek  
576 Hauth Lane

Sold // Lafayette  
3204 Glenside Drive

Sold // Moraga  
2133 Donald Drive

**LL** LamorindaLiving.com

Rochelle Williams // 415.989.5420  
Erin McCain // 415.370.8874

@LamorindaLiving  
Facebook.com/LamorindaLiving

**ALAIN PINEL**  
REALTOR



Reach 60,000+ in Lamorinda  
Advertise in Lamorinda Weekly  
Call 925-377-0977 today

We print and deliver 26,000 copies every other week.

### Insert your flyer or other printed material

Would you like to INSERT your brochure or flyer into the paper?  
Only .05 each to have your printed material delivered with the paper.

Choose total saturation or per delivery area.  
Total saturation: 26,000  
Lafayette homes: 10,000 or \$500  
Orinda homes: 7,000 or \$350  
Moraga homes: 6,000 or \$300  
(plus \$50 set-up charge)



**LAMORINDA**  
**WEEKLY**

Local newspaper delivered to Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda

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



# Dining Room Feng Shui

... continued from page D10



Autumnal dining room table décor.

The dining room walls can be painted in a wide variety of lively colors to enhance the celebratory energy we create in our dining rooms, but use color to “activate” the Five Elements (Water, Wood, Fire, Earth and Metal) of the area of the home where the dining room is located. For example, if the dining room is in the Wealth & Abundance/Prosperity area, which is governed by Wood, a soft green on the walls would simultaneously activate that area of the Bagua (see diagram).

Good feng shui also includes the enhanced symbolism from the visuals surrounding us. Dining room art might include personal photos that make good conversation pieces, or our favorite whimsical artists’ work, or a large mirror to magnify the happy energy we feel blessed with.

For the table, many festive fall decorative options include pumpkins in all their shapes, colors and sizes, apples, gourds and yellow Mums, which symbolize health and gratitude. Apples are symbolic of relationship luck and harmonious family en-

ergy. Remember, good feng shui includes removing and changing out seasonal decorations immediately when that holiday or season is over, so let the present moment guide your choices.

Arrange the dining room décor to reflect the harvest and remind you of all of the bounty in your life. Use feng shui this autumn to make your home a sanctuary that reflects your highest hopes and dreams. Fall is the perfect time to turn our attention to making the home cozy in preparation for winter. When we consciously align ourselves and are homes with the cycles of nature we find more balance and harmony in our lives.



A well lit, appropriate dining room feng shui furniture placement in Lafayette.

Michele Duffy, BTB M.F.S. is an Orinda resident who, since 1999, enjoys creating “Space as Medicine” Feng Shui one space at a time, as well as hiking in nature, cooking, spending time with her family; Canyon Ranch Feng Shui Master, International Feng Shui Guild (IFSG) Red Ribbon Professional. For more info, visit [www.mandalafengshui.com](http://www.mandalafengshui.com), email [spaceharmony@gmail.com](mailto:spaceharmony@gmail.com), or call (520) 647-4887.





## Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian Gourds, Ghouls, and Glorious Garlic

By Cynthia Brian

"Garlick maketh a man wynke, drynke, and stynke." –  
Thomas Nash, 16th Century Poet



Peppercorns, sage, shallots, and garlic make a zesty, spicy herbal broth.

Photo Cynthia Brian

Allium sativum, also known as garlic has been revered in medicine, myth, and magic throughout time. Sanskrit records registered the medicinal properties of garlic 5,000 years ago. The Greeks and Babylonians used it for healing purposes, and the Chinese have prescribed garlic treatments for over 3,000 years. The Egyptians reverently buried their Pharaohs with consecrated cloves ensuring sweet dreams, and fed the slaves garlic to increase strength and endurance while building the pyramids. Roman soldiers believed that garlic bestowed bravery and courage. Hippocrates recommended garlic as a medical remedy for infections, digestive disorders, wounds, and even leprosy. In 1858, Louis Pasteur noted garlic's antibacterial qualities. Considered an aphrodisiac, it may be one reason that Tibetan monks weren't allowed to consume garlic before entering a monastery!

Legend has it that garlic repels vampires and wards off the evil eye. Popularized by Bram Stoker's "Dracula," garlic not only is effective against the blood-sucking princes of the night, but also fends off the undead, including witches, warlocks, and werewolves. The Salerno Regimen of Health of the 12th century stated, "Garlic hath powers to save from death, though it makes unsavory breath." Ah yes, we all know the aroma of garlic breath, most certainly not a temptress of amour!

As All Hallowed Eve approaches, we may not be inclined to rub down our chimneys, keyholes, and clothing, or wear allium necklaces as protective gear, but since this month is the perfect time to plant the vigorous vampire repellent, let's dig in.

... continued on page D14

### ADVANCE TREE SERVICE & Landscaping

Family owned in Moraga since 1987



Your friendly neighborhood  
ISA arborists Darren and Lew Edwards

### KEEPING TREES HEALTHY

Generally speaking, trees don't need us to grow. But they need our help to stay healthy and safe. Having your trees checked by an ISA arborist on a regular basis is a wise choice. As a professional we may be able to see the dangers that lurk ahead and can solve them before they can become a bigger problem or even dangerous.

So don't wait until it's too late, have a complete inspection by your local ISA Certified Arborist at Advance Tree Service and Landscaping for all your tree care needs.

Advance Tree Service

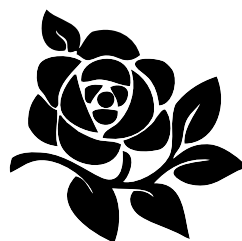
Your Authority on Trees and Landscape.



**925-376-6528**

**advancetree@sbcglobal.net www.advancetree.com**

Follow us on Twitter (advancetree) and like us on Face Book  
(ADVANCETREESERVICEANDLANDSCAPINGINC.)



## MORAGA GARDEN CENTER

### Annual Fall Sale Ends Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>

5 Gallon  
**Roses**  
reg. \$30<sup>00</sup>  
now \$15<sup>00</sup>

up to  
**20% Off**  
California  
Natives

up to  
**50% Off**  
General Nursery  
Stock,  
selected items

Subject to stock on hand. Free Plants with Purchase

Moraga Garden Center  
located at the Moraga Shopping Center  
**925-376-1810**

9am-5pm  
7 days a week

# Gourds, Ghouls, and Glorious Garlic

... continued from page D13

## How to Plant and Harvest Vampire Repellent Garlic

A relative of onions, chives, and shallots, garlic is easy to grow. Garlic is best planted when the soil is still warm, nights are cool, and frost is six to eight weeks away. Garlic needs a head start on sprouting before winter arrives. Buy seed garlic at your garden center or order from nursery catalogues or online. Recommended suppliers include Rene's Garden, Burpee, Territorial Seed, Dominion Seed House, Harris Seeds, or Botanical Interests. Gardener's Supply offers unique garlic grow bags. When in a pinch, I have even planted cloves from the grocery store and they thrive.

1. Choose a sunny spot.
2. Prepare the soil. Garlic prefers well-drained soil mixed with rich, organic matter.
3. Separate the garlic bulb into cloves.
4. Plant each clove about 1 ½ inches deep, 6 inches apart with the root pointing down (that's the round part) and the tip reaching for the sun.
5. Cover with soil. Add a thick layer of straw for warmth and protection.
6. Maintain a level of 3 inches of mulch covering throughout the winter.
7. Harvesting begins in late spring when the leaves dry and flop over.
8. Gently tug until the bulb comes out. Garlic is ready if it is round and plump.
9. After you've shaken the dirt off your bulbs, place the plants on a flat or lay on top of the soil in the garden to dry for at least a week.
10. Once the bulbs are dry and the skins are papery, you can weave garlands to hang to dry. Or cut off the tops, trim the roots, and single layer the bulbs on a sheet to dry for several more weeks. To reduce the potential for rot, make sure there is plenty of air circulation.
11. Store in a cool, dry place. "Garlic Keepers" which are bags or pots (ceramic, terra cotta, or metal) with holes for circulation work well. When stored properly, garlic bulbs will remain fresh and pungent for seven months.

With my Italian heritage, I can't imagine a meal without garlic. In our household, it turns ordinary dishes into culinary masterpieces. We also use it for a plethora of medicinal purposes from putting cloves in our pets' food to deter ticks and worms, to using it with warm olive oil to soothe an earache or calm a cough. Mosquitoes and insects avoid me when I devour cloves of raw garlic. (Of course, humans and unseen devils keep their distance as well!)

Herbalists recommend garlic to combat illnesses including high cholesterol, colds, flu, coughs, bronchitis, fever, ringworm, and digestive issues. There is mounting scientific evidence that garlic could prevent heart disease, lower cholesterol, and protect against some cancers. I agree with Louis Diat's words about this curative bulb, "Without garlic I simply would not care to live."

Plant enough cloves and you'll have plenty of the stinking rose for eating, healing, and keeping ghouls, ghosts, and gremlins at bay!

Happy Halloween, Happy Gardening, Happy Growing, Happy Garlic Breath! Booooo!



Hang garlic garlands to dry as well as ward off the warlocks, witches, vampires, and evil eye. Garlic chives in bloom.



A basket of pumpkins, gourds, and squash decorates a front porch.

### Cynthia Brian's Mid-Month Reminders



*Pick the last of your bell peppers before the rains begin.*

1. Boost your levels of vitamin C before flu and cold season begins by brewing a homegrown rose hip, sage, and peppercorn tea. Pick ripe red rose hips from your rose bushes and red peppercorns from your pepper tree. Smash or grind and add to tea pot with shaved ginger, lemon rind, lemon juice, sage leaves, and honey. Peppery and delicious, hot or iced. Substitute garlic for the honey for a zesty herbal broth yummy with steamed vegetables.
2. Pick your remaining peppers, tomatoes, tomatillos, and eggplant before the rains start.
3. Enjoy the fiery red foliage of pistache trees in a container or cut a few branches for indoor displays.
4. Fertilize and aerate lawns this month.
5. Refrigerate tulips, hyacinths, and crocus for four weeks before planting.
6. Thanks to all the fans of the Lamorinda Weekly who stopped by the *Be the Star You Are!*® booth at the Pear and Wine Festival to pick up seeds, potpourri, and participate in our community writing story. If you are interested in knowing how the story evolved, here's the link: [http://www.btsya.com/uploads/2014\\_Once\\_upon\\_a\\_time\\_REVISED.pdf](http://www.btsya.com/uploads/2014_Once_upon_a_time_REVISED.pdf)

Cynthia Brian

©2014, Cynthia Brian  
The Goddess Gardener  
Starstyle® Productions, llc  
Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com  
www.GoddessGardener.com  
925-377-STAR

I am available as a speaker, designer, and consultant.



## 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.



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](http://www.gardenlightslandscape.com)

Celebrating over 20 years of service in Lamorinda. Bonded – Licensed & Insured License# 702845 C27 & C53

# McDonnell Nursery

**October Sale! All perennials trees and shrubs are 25% off.**

family owned since 1933

Trees • Shrubs • Vines • Annuals • Perennials  
Vegetables • Containers • Statuary & Fountains  
Indoor Plants • Decorative Items



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

196 Moraga Way • Orinda • (925) 254-3713 • Open Daily

DESIGN  
INSTALLATION  
IRRIGATION  
DRAINAGE  
STONEMWORK  
CONCRETE WORK  
DECKS  
FENCES  
PATIOS  
LAWNS  
PONDS  
CLEANUP &  
HAULING

## BLUE RIDGE



LANDSCAPE COMPANY INC.

BLUE JAY FELDMAN  
OWNER/OPERATOR

[WWW.BLUERIDGE.LC.COM](http://WWW.BLUERIDGE.LC.COM)

925-258-9233  
CELL: 510-847-6160



LICENSED  
INSURED  
Lic# 818633

# Lamorinda's Leading Independent Real Estate Firm

## ORINDA



**19 Mira Loma Road A** delightful 3bd/2ba of apx. 1715sf built in 1940's represents traditional properties built on the knolls overlooking the Club. Naturally light & bright. Walk to town, Lake Cascade or the Club. **\$875,000**

## ORINDA



**345 Camino Sobrante** All New Decks! Updated 4bd/3ba, 3301sf contemp. on .55ac in primo country club loc. Spacious great rm, updated kit.; hwd flrs; lower lvl guest apt w/priv. entr; close to BART & Top Schools. **\$1,295,000**

## ORINDA



**5 Estates Drive** Classic Orinda 4bd/3ba, 2630sf home with spacious master & walk-in closet. Warm hardwoods & crown molding throughout living, dining, & family rooms. Charming courtyard. **\$1,295,000**

## ORINDA



**62 Van Tassel** Charm abounds in this 4bd/3.5ba, 3422sf traditional on .68ac in Sleepy Hollow. Formal LR & DR; eat-in kitchen/ family combo; master retreat with large separate office; and den/study room. **\$1,295,000**

## ORINDA



**81 Mossbridge Lane** Beautiful Orinda Downs home. 6+ bedrooms, 5 & a half baths on a tranquil & peaceful .5ac lot with level lawns & approved plans for a pool. This is a wonderful place to call home! Come see!! **\$2,495,000**

## ORINDA



**51 Rheem Blvd.** Classic true New England 6bd/5ba 4000 sq. ft. traditional. Formal living & dining rooms. All rooms shine with style, grace & sophistication. Private, tranquil, beautiful. **\$2,798,000**

## MORAGA



**61 Miramonte Drive** Highly desirable Miramonte Gardens opportunity. Wonderful 3bd/2ba townhome w/lots of natural light, dual paned windows & more. Excellent commute location & close to schools. **\$519,000**

## MORAGA



**267 Paseo Bernal** Spacious & sophisticated 3bd/2.5ba end-unit near shopping & restaurants. Bright & airy with vaulted ceilings & windows on three sides. Lovely private patio & lots of storage. **\$725,000**

## MORAGA



**15 Idlewood Court** HUGE \$110,000 price reduction on great one story 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2250 sq ft home with hardwoods, duals, separate exterior structure. Walk to Miramonte High, close to shopping. **\$1,065,000**

## MORAGA



**863 Camino Ricardo** Corliss area home, hardwood floors throughout, new kitchen, updated baths, newer furnace and A/C, private backyard and patio. Move-in ready. **\$1,250,000**

## MORAGA



**1891 Saint Andrews Drive** Beautifully remodeled 4bd+den, 3.5ba 3400+sf detached home in sought after MCC. Gourmet's delight granite & stainless kit. adjoins spacious fam rm, private master retreat, hardwood floors. **\$1,298,000**

## LAFAYETTE



**3921 Happy Valley Road** Stunning 4600+sf custom 4bd/3.5ba gated estate on 1 acre in heart of H.V. Pool, pano views. Hwd flrs, cherry kit. w/island open to FR, library, elevator. Close to top rated schools, commute. **\$2,795,000**

## LAFAYETTE



**1142 Glen Road** Stunning NEW single level 5bd/4.5ba 4510 sq. ft. traditional on flat .79 acre lot in popular Happy Valley Glen. Exquisite millwork, chef's kitchen. Walk to downtown Lafayette & BART. Top schools. **\$3,495,000**

## LAFAYETTE



**23 Sessions Road** Gated English Manor 12.18 acre 5bd/6ba Estate. Grand foyer, living, family rooms + "Club" room, deluxe kitchen, dramatic solarium + executive office. Gorgeous grounds w/lap pool/lawns, views. **\$3,895,000**

## OAKLAND



**130 Echo Avenue** Built in 1948, 1519 sq ft, 3bd/2ba traditional on .08 acre lot in wonderful Piedmont area; charming kitchen, large backyard, 2 car garage; walk to all the finest restaurants! **\$749,000**

## WALNUT CREEK



**1315 Alma Avenue #136** Fabulous 2bd/2ba in sought after Montecito. Upgraded w/wood floors, crown moldings, custom paint & window treatments. Inside laundry, 2 parking spaces. Walk to shops, restaurants. **\$489,000**



## THE VILLAGE ASSOCIATES:

Ashley Battersby  
 Patricia Battersby  
 Joan Cleveland  
 Shannon Conner  
 Joan Eggers  
 Linda Ehrich  
 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://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