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Miramonte High School students pet Therapy dog Tova, a golden retriever. A group of therapy dogs were made available to the school for stress-relief during finals week. Photo Cathy Dausman

Paws a Bit to Relieve Finals Stress

By Cathy Dausman

Miramonte High School quite literally went to the dogs June 7 and 9 thanks to a student suggestion and the follow through of administrative assistant Betsy Canty.

Therapy dogs — golden retrievers, a shepherd, a terrier and shih tzu mix — were swarmed by student admirers taking a break from finals and lapping up the proffered four-footed love.

Junior Zach Cohn was one of the first to greet Angus, a dark coated shepherd. Fresh off his AP US History exam, Cohn enjoyed his Angus encounter, saying he has a dog and cat at home.

Angus, Champ, George, and Tova were members of the Animal Rescue Foundation therapy animal team Pet Hug Pack; Benny, who arrived sporting a Golden State Warriors tee shirt, is registered with American Therapy Dogs Inc.

"It really was a hit," said Canty, who contacted providers only the previous week. Luckily, it all worked out. Just ask the study-stressed students who crowded the quad and cooed over dogs large and small. It undoubtedly relieved a lot of the finals, pre-graduation stress.

Speaking of graduation, see our list of senior award winners page A12, and photos of local graduations. Congratulations to the class of 2016!

Advertising

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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6:00pm-8:30pm

SMC Basketball's Randy Bennett: 'The Longer I Stay, the More I Want to Stay'

By Nick Marnell



Head basketball coach Randy Bennett has built a winning attitude at Saint Mary's College. Photo Tod Fierner

When Saint Mary's College head basketball coach Randy Bennett arrived at the school in 2001, he figured he had four years to prove he could do the job. Fifteen years later, after 333 victories, 10 post-season appearances, three West Coast Conference Coach of the Year awards and two players delivered to the National Basketball

Association, he has not only proven he can do the job, he stands atop the school record books.

With so many coaches parlaying success at mid-major schools like Saint Mary's into multi-million dollar coaching positions at large universities, why does Bennett eschew such opportunities? What keeps him in the bucolic town of Moraga, a place as unchanging as the recent run of 20-win seasons for the Gaels?

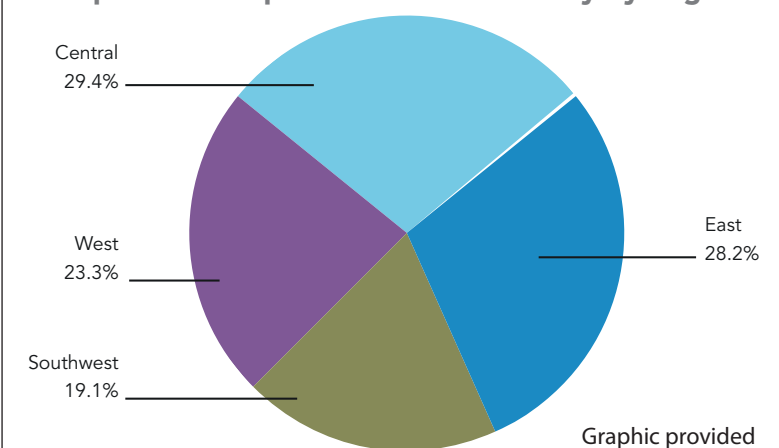
As a kid, Bennett wanted to be a pro athlete. That dream disappeared in high school. He had seen how happy his dad was coaching, and in college, Bennett realized that was the route for him. "My dad was having a positive influence on his kids," Bennett said.

... continued on page A11

Orinda Leads the Way Backing County Transportation Tax

By Sora O'Doherty

Transportation Expenditure Plan Summary by Region



Orinda City Council became the first Contra Costa County municipality to give the county's half-cent sales tax proposal the thumbs up. In order to make it onto the November election ballot, the measure must secure the approval of a majority of the municipalities representing a majority of the population of the county.

... continued on page A6

Civic News A1-A14 Orindans say "yes" to better roads. — page A6	Life in Lamorinda B1-B8 Dancing and dogs star at Paws de Tutu event at the Lafayette Reservoir. — page B1.	Sports C1-C3 Acalanes baseball caps stellar season, wins NCS crown. — page C1.	Our Homes D1-D16 Let your garden get in the summer spirit. — page D1.
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Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, June 27, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

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

Design Review

Monday, June 27, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Acalanes Union High School District
Tuesday, June 28, 6:30 p.m.
AUHSD Board Room
1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

Tuesday, June 21, 7 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting
District Office Board Room
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 May 15-28

Alarms	61
911 Calls (incl. hang-ups)	8
Noise complaints	6
Traffic stops	91
Suspicious Circumstances	8
Suspicious Subjects	21
Suspicious Vehicles	20
Abandoned Vehicle	
3300 block Mildred Ln.	
Brook/Oak Streets	
Acalanes/Marianne Dr.	
Springhill/Pleasant Hill Rds.	
3200 Sweet Dr.	
10 block Topper Ct.	
Armed robbery	
800 block Paradise Ct.	
Arson	
Carol Ln./Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Barking dog	
3300 block Springhill Rd.	
3300 block St Mary's Rd.	
Battery	
Hamlin Rd./Solana Dr.	
3600 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Burglary, Auto	
4000 block Mt Diablo Blvd. (2)	
3200 block Camino Diablo	
1200 block Pleasant Hill Rd.	
10 block Moss Ln.	
3500 block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
700 block Grondine Rd.	
10 block Green Place	
1000 block Carol Ln.	
Burglary, Commercial	
Shell Station	
Burglary, Residential	
1800 block Reliez Valley Rd.	
1200 block Quandt Rd.	
Civil Problem	
1000 block Carol Ln.	
700 block Glenside Cir.	
Disturbing the Peace	
Michael Lane/Lucas Dr.	
DUI	
Pleasant Hill/Condit Rd.	
Second St./Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Elder abuse	
3300 block Kincheloe Ct.	
Harassment	
4000 block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)	
900 block Diablo Dr.	
1000 block Lindsey Ct.	
1200 block Pleasant Hill Rd.	
Hit & Run	
1800 block Reliez Valley Rd.	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Second St.	
1000 block Upper Happy Valley Rd.	
2nd St/Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Intoxicated Subject	
3500 block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
Juvenile disturbance	
Moraga Blvd./Carol Ln.	
4000 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Loitering	
3600 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Missing adult	
3200 block Ameno Dr.	
Panhandling	
3600 block Mt Diablo Blvd. (2)	
3500 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Police/Fire/EMS response	

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Voters Embrace Local Schools By Passing Measure C

By Cathy Tyson



Future Springhill Elementary student Brooks Roder encourages voting yes on Measure C on election day. Photo provided

A small but zealous team of parents representing each of the neighborhood schools in the Lafayette School District, coupled with the efforts of Superintendent Rachel Zinn, enabled the overwhelming endorsement of Measure C in the June 7 election. In unofficial vote tallies, over 72 percent of Lafayette voters approved the \$70 million bond measure that needed 55 percent to pass.

Volunteers spent thousands of hours educating voters about the amount of infrastructure needs on aging school campuses and urging support of the measure. "It captured the spirit of the community" said campaign chair Julie Hurd about residents valuing safe modern classrooms for current and future students, even older residents whose kids have already graduated.

"I am deeply grateful to the Lafayette community for their support of Measure C," said Zinn. "The \$70 million that we will receive as a result of the passage of this bond measure will allow us to begin addressing critical facility needs

throughout our district." She believes that up-to-date school facilities are essential to protecting the outstanding quality of education.

Funds raised will pay for renovation and repair of campuses throughout the district, along with the district offices. The most senior school is Lafayette Elementary, which first opened its doors to students in 1943, making it 73 years old. Projects include: repair or replace leaky roofs, and old deteriorated plumbing, along with heating, ventilation, windows, lighting and electrical systems; improve school safety; and accommodate projected enrollment growth.

The bond measure will cost property owners approximately \$29.50 per year for every \$100,000 of assessed value, not the market rate of the property. A typical homeowner in the Lafayette School District will pay about \$185 per year. Commercial properties are also subject to the assessment.

Athayde Wins Community Award Honoring Denny

By Cathy Tyson

It was one of the best kept secrets ever. The longtime music legend who has guided Stanley Middle School students for years, Director of Bands Bob Athayde, was completely surprised when he received the inaugural Ann Denny Memorial Community Award at the Spring Concert program. He was surrounded in the sweltering gym by his students in the Concert Bronze, Silver and Symphonic Bands, along with countless proud parents in the bleachers, and Lafayette Chamber

of Commerce members. Established in honor of former Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Ann Denny, who was president of the organization for a dozen years, the Ann Denny Award honors her commitment to the community. She retired from the position in 2005 after years of service and passed away in 2015.

The chamber set out to recognize an exceptional individual that models excellence, helps others and has inspirational leadership skills. With kind words about Denny's dignity, grace and wonderful sense of humor, Chamber President Dennis Garrison presented the very first Ann Denny Award to Athayde, who received a standing ovation.

Garrison was followed by a number of dignitaries who recognized Athayde for his incredible contributions and hard work, including Lafayette vice mayor Mike



Mike Anderson (right) congratulates Bob Athayde. Photo C. Tyson

Anderson, who presented a city proclamation; council member and euphonium player in the Symphonic Band, Don Tatzin; and Teresa Gerringer, the current Lafayette School Board Member who also represented California State Senator Steve Glazer. Gerringer thanked the band director for his "Huge

impact on students and the school district."

A representative from Congressman Mark DeSaulnier's 11th congressional district gave an official congressional recognition, and Lauri Byers, representing County Supervisor Candace Andersen, also presented a proclamation.



Bob Athayde, recipient of the inaugural Ann Denny Award, is surrounded by dignitaries at the Stanly Middle School Spring Concert. Photo Kerwin Lee

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The Lafayette School District would like to extend its deepest appreciation to the community for your support of Measure C.

Make Beautiful Music Together on June 21

Who doesn't want to participate in a worldwide music festival, especially without having to travel to Coachella or Cairo? The international Fete de la Musique, also known as Make Music, will entertain people from Germany to Australia to Japan and beyond — including Lamorinda — on one very special day.

Lafayette will join 700 cities across 120 countries throwing city-wide music celebrations with music and live band karaoke rocking the Lafayette Plaza from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 21.

Make Music is about celebrating music in all its forms, encouraging people to band together and play in free public concerts. For the

first time ever, Lafayette is participating with popular band The Big Jangle and an open invitation for 18 lucky residents to embrace their inner karaoke rock star. Also, there will be singing, ukulele playing and crafts at Plaza Park.

A limited number of slots are available for lead singers and instrument accompaniments. Go to the Chamber of Commerce website for all the details. All Lafayette restaurants and businesses are encouraged to participate, and musicians and singers are currently being booked — call the Chamber at (925) 284-7404 or go to www.lafayettechamber.org. The event is co-sponsored by Lamorinda Music. —C. Tyson

Deer Hill Adversaries Will Get Day in Court

By Cathy Tyson



Site for the controversial Deer Hill development.

Photo C. Tyson

A pair of opponents with deeply opposing views on the controversial 44-unit Homes at Deer Hill development will finally have their respective days in court at the end of June. One group wants less housing, the other wants more.

Since the original application from O'Brien Land Company for 315 moderate-income apartments was made in 2011, there has been a substantial amount of unrest about development on the 22-acre hillside near Acalanes High School.

Public hearings brought forth a tsunami of angry residents in 2013, very unhappy about the proposed project that would have brought hundreds of apartments in 14 multi-story clustered buildings to a prominent bucolic hillside.

Responding to fuming residents, the Lafayette City Council asked staff to talk with the developer to see if they could come up with something more amenable for the community, the city, as well as the developer. The discussions resulted in the alternative project,

now called the Homes at Deer Hill which features 44-single family homes, along with a number of public amenities: a sports field, kids' playground, dog park and parking lot.

Not everyone loved the new revised project. The city is being sued by two entities that could not see the alternative project more differently.

Save Lafayette is a grassroots effort lead by local resident Michael Griffiths who sees the city's roads, schools and transportation strained by development. Scores of signatures on a petition were gathered for a referendum that would give voters the opportunity to vote on whether the development's benefits outweighed the impacts.

The petition sought to change the zoning from the current Administrative/Professional Office to Single Family Homes Residential-20, a move that would significantly reduce the amount of housing that could be built on the site.

... continued on page A9

Rheem Boulevard to be Shut Down



Rheem Boulevard between St. Mary's Road and Moraga Road will be closed to through traffic starting on June 15 until the end of October. Residents using the road to reach Campolindo High school or the Rheem shopping center will have to use alternate routes until the repairs of the compromised arterial are completed. For questions, contact Paul Medeiros, (408) 529-6020, pmedeiros@shhomes.com, or Moraga Public Works, (925) 888-7026, publicworks@moraga.ca.us. — S. Braccini

Correction:

A story in our June 1 issue contained an error on the Contra Costa Fire Protection Service fire station staffing. When Fire Station 16 was closed for safety and health related concerns in 2012 the staff was temporarily moved to Fire Station 15 in Lafayette. That staffing was then eliminated in 2013 as a result of budget cuts and the closure of fire stations throughout the fire district.

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Moraga

Public Meetings

City Council

Wednesday, June 22, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, June 20, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, June 27, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Moraga School District
Tuesday, August 16, 7 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

Moraga Police Report



Fraud 5/31/16: A Cypress Point Way resident received a suspicious piece of mail that appeared to be a cashier's check in the amount of \$2,970. The check was from a subject allegedly buying furniture for the reporting person with instructions that she was to deposit the check and forward a portion of the amount to a shipping company. The resident correctly identified the offer as a scam. A call to investigate the credit union that the check was drawn on, confirmed it was fake. The Postal Inspectors Office is investigating the matter.

Loud wedding 5/29/16: An anonymous caller reported loud music coming from the Hacienda de las Flores. Upon arrival, officers observed a wedding reception and a DJ playing amplified music in the courtyard. Police determined the music did not seem excessively loud, but contacted the groom to give him a heads up about the noise complaint. The party was over at 10 p.m. and there were no further complaints.

Loud party on Larch 5/28/16: When cops arrived, the noise of approximately 25 people in the backyard could be heard from the street. The resident was in violation of Chapter 9.08 of the Moraga Municipal Code, and was issued a warning notice.

Booze in backpack 5/27/16: Store management at Moraga's only large grocery store determined that a white male suspect in his 20s allegedly placed seven bottles of \$90 wine into a black backpack and left the store without paying. Cops checked the area with negative results. Closed circuit video provided by the store was booked in to evidence. A criminal oenophile who clearly appreciates the good stuff.

Golf cart key swiped 5/27/16: It was 11 p.m. when a victim reported to police that the key to his golf cart, which was left in the ignition, was taken. No information on suspects at this time. Rumor has it, there have been a number of golf cart incidents – so golfers hang on to your keys as you head to happy hour.

Moraga Center Homes Plan Grilled by Commission

By Sophie Braccini

Nothing is simple and quick with the Moraga Center Homes development project.

A year and a half ago the Conceptual Development Plan for the contentious construction program was approved, then challenged by a referendum that was canceled on legal ground. Now the planning commissioners are asking for more time to study the documents related to the General Development Plan, as many of the commissioners are new and are asking critical questions.

Commissioner Kymberleigh Korpus was the first to barrage staff with pointed questions regarding the rules that should have been applied to the development. The project is set in an area of the Mor-

aga Center Specific Plan that was defined as residential-commercial. Korpus made the point that since the town council rezoned the lot as residential, it should be the rules applicable to residential areas and not mixed-use that should be applied to the Moraga Center Homes.

Korpus challenged the assumption that what was approved up until now was untouchable, and said that in fact, the commission had the right to decide whether this project should go forward.

"We can have additional restriction regarding whatever was decided earlier," she said.

Other fundamental questions were raised about surrendering, at no cost to the property owner, of

the town's 84-foot wide right-of-way extending across a portion of the site. This right-of-way is a remnant of a county's right-of-way to build a freeway through Moraga, a project that was abandoned in the 1970s. As a counterpart to the surrendering, the developer has included in the project a 10,000 square foot pocket park that remains owned by the HOA but is opened to the public.

Residents in attendance also asked for the commission to give more time to residents to study the documents attached to the application.

After two hours of presentations and discussions, the planning commissioners decided unani-

mously on June 6 to continue the discussion regarding the Moraga Center Homes to June 20. They asked that the town attorney be present at the meeting to answer some of their questions.

City Ventures started the study process for developing the site located near Station 41 at 1284 Moraga Way and facing the Moraga Country Club across Country Club Drive four years ago. Thirty-six units are proposed for the vacant three-acre lot. The project consists of attached townhomes along Moraga Way, and duplexes along Country Club Drive. The townhomes are two- and three-stories high. The site is part of the Moraga Center Specific Plan adopted six years ago.

Town Faces Tough Budget Picture Thanks to Sinkhole

By Sophie Braccini

It is all about the sinkhole. The pavement collapse that swallowed a light post

and opened a large breach on Rheem Boulevard now undermines the town's finances. The 2016-17 fiscal year budget as presented by staff was already tight, with an operating budget on the verge of a deficit and

no wiggle room to allocate money for capital improvement.

Now the \$2.8 million the town needs to repair the sinkhole will have to come from the reserves, basically depleting half of those funds. Because federal support was not granted to the town, all other capital

improvement projects — including the surveillance camera system — is on hold, at least until the beginning of 2017.

The mood of the 2016-17 budget presentation was somber at the June 8 council meeting as Administrative Director Amy Cunningham presented her

figures. She explained that the first version of the operating budget came with a deficit of over \$200,000 and that all departments had to scrape expenses to make it fit the tight frame. The final data presented showed revenues in the amount of \$8,152,286, expenses of \$8,118,545, and a modest

surplus of \$33,741.

There is no room for capital improvement in the new budget. In fact that fund has been used over the past eight years and no replenishing has been dropped in that bucket since 2008.

... continued on page A14

JM to Move to Later Start Time This Coming Fall

By Sophie Braccini

Starting on August 22, students at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School will stop being the earliest risers in the area.

Thanks to the efforts of Principal Joan Danilson, supported by her staff and Superintendent Bruce Burns, the school start time will be moved to 8:30 a.m. from 7:50 a.m. The tweens and teens will get the

extra minutes of sleep that research shows are needed during this time in their lives.

The bus system was also modified to accommodate the change and staff does not anticipate conflicts with after school activities. The end time will remain the same.

At a parent information session earlier this year, JM school

psychologist Kathleen Day, Ph.D., said that not following the natural sleep pattern, or sleep phase delay, is linked to poorer academic performance, poor long-term memory and decision making, increased risk in traffic accidents, as well as depression. Research has shown that by age 11 young people start naturally falling asleep later and

getting up later. In spite of this the Moraga middle school was starting at 7:50 a.m., earlier than the elementary schools, and almost all other California middle schools. Danilson has been steadily building a consensus among parents, students and teachers to agree to a change.

... continued on page A8

Roger Wykle Will Seek Reelection to Town Council

By Sophie Braccini



Roger Wykle Photo A. Scheck

Until now, Roger Wykle had postponed his decision to seek a second term on the Moraga Town Council. But that changed when he recently announced his bid for reelection. He said he decided that it was important to have some continuity on the council as two members, Mike Metcalf and Phil Arth, have announced they would not run again.

Wykle said he hesitated because the volunteer commitment as a council member is more time consuming than people realize, especially during the year he was the mayor. But he said that he wanted

to see some work completed, such as the amendment of the town's hillside and ridgeline regulations.

Wykle is also interested in possibly taking another look at the

traffic impact of all the proposed developments in town. He would also like to see the Moraga Center specific plan zoning updated, and a funding solution found for the

town's storm drain backlog.

Wykle added that his wife and teen children support his decision and appreciate the work he does for the town.

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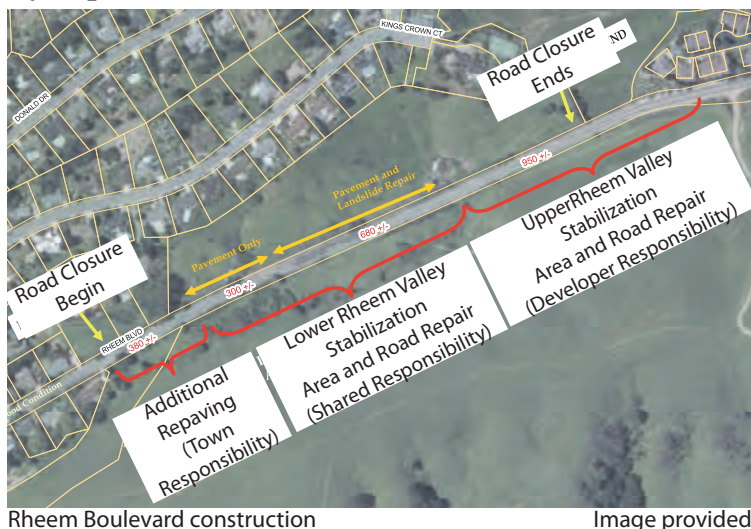
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Rheem Boulevard Shuts Down, Affecting Traffic and Neighbors

By Sophie Braccini



Residents of Moraga and Lafayette who use the Rheem Boulevard between Saint Mary's Road and Moraga Road will have to find alternate routes until the middle of the fall.

The arterial in serious disrepair will be closed until at least the middle of October to be reconstructed and underlying terrain slides made safe. The drivers most impacted will be Saint Mary's students going to or coming from the Rheem Center, Burton Valley and Bluffs residents driving to school and Rheem Boulevard residents and neighbors.

The much anticipated repairs of Rheem Boulevard by SummerHill Homes — which is developing the adjacent Bellavista site — and the town of Moraga should begin by June 15. The boulevard is to be closed between Fay Hill Road and 591 Rheem Boulevard.

Kevin Ebrahimi, vice president of development at SummerHill, said that the road will be only accessible to residents living on Rheem, and that through traffic will not be permitted for at least four-and-a-half months. In March, when SummerHill presented a new

plan to renovate Rheem, the schedule was three months. Now Ebrahimi warned that end of October is the target, as long as new difficulties do not emerge during the excavation and repair of Rheem.

The boulevard is a favorite route to school for Bluffs residents, as well as families living in Burton Valley with children going to Campolindo High School. Ebrahimi confirmed that notices had been sent to the Bluffs residents and additionally to the mandated homes within 300 feet of the site.

... continued on page A11

Last Repavement On Some Moraga Roads Projects Get Green Light

By Sophie Braccini

This summer, local drivers will have smoother sailing on some streets.

Three Moraga street segments will get a full makeover as part of the Measure K pavement project. This is the last group of streets to benefit from the \$7 million that was leveraged from the 1 percent sales tax passed by the voters at the end of 2012. The damaged sections that will be completely rebuilt this summer are parts of Bollinger Canyon, Corliss and Larch.

In the roadways improvement campaign designed by Public

Work Director Edric Kwan the least damaged streets received a resurfacing treatment in 2013, more impacted roads were repaired in 2014 and some of the worst streets were rebuilt in 2015. The treatment of the three segments that will be reconstructed this summer was delayed because of utility agencies work on these streets that had to be finished first.

Kwan said at the June 8 council meeting that these agencies would be done by the end of the month, in time for the teams from Bay Cities Paving & Grading, Inc. to start the work. This company was the low-

est bidder at \$2,008,540.

The exact portions of road addressed are: Bollinger Canyon Road from St. Mary's Road to Joseph Drive, Corliss Drive from Wakefield Drive to Camino Ricardo, and Larch Avenue from 1160 Larch Avenue to Camino Pablo. The project will also consist of repairing and replacing metal storm drain with High Density Polyethylene pipes, and improving gutters and curb ramps.

The technique used for the restoration will include removing the existing pavement, reconstructing it and overlaying two levels of

rubberized Hot Mix Asphalt. The reconstruction itself will be done by pulverizing the existing asphalt pavement and a portion of the underlying materials and blending it with cement or lime to provide a stronger, homogeneous material. Kwan said that the use of this technique, plus the rubberized hot mix, creates an excellent savings over traditional methods.

The contractor will conduct a town wide outreach campaign to inform Moraga residents about the exact construction dates and circulation restrictions. The streets

will not be completely closed, since some of them are the unique outlets to an entire neighborhood, such as Bollinger Canyon for the Bluffs residents.

Two Town Hall public outreach meetings are proposed for June 29. The project is scheduled to begin July 11, for 55 working days and Kwan is confident that most of it will be completed by the end of September. Along Bollinger Canyon, at the level of Joseph Drive, a roadway embankment and storm drain outfall stabilization project will be conducted in 2017.

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CalBRE#01913739


RECENT LAMORINDA HOUSING STATISTICS

1/1/16 – 4/30/16

	2016	2015
NEW LISTINGS (SFR ONLY)		
LAFAYETTE	138	152
MORAGA	50	59
ORINDA	107	114
SOLDS		
LAFAYETTE	65	83
MORAGA	34	43
ORINDA	45	77
AVERAGE SALES PRICE		
LAFAYETTE	\$1,586,903	\$1,419,886
MORAGA	\$1,281,815	\$1,253,193
ORINDA	\$1,635,741	\$1,482,990

** Data taken from MLS Housing Statistics

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Julie Georgiou 925.200.8246 CalBRE#01043977

Kress Hauri/Larry Jacobs 925.899.5739/925.788.1362 CalBRE#01465617/#01495118

Jim Colhoun 925.200.2795 CalBRE#01029160

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Orinda

Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, June 21, 7 p.m.
Library Auditorium, Orinda Library
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Planning Commission

Tuesday, June 28, 7 p.m.
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,
Orinda Library

Historical Landmarks Committee

Tuesday, June 21, 2016, 3:00pm
Orinda Community Center, Room 7
28 Orinda Way, Orinda

School Board Meetings

Orinda Unified School District
Monday, June 27, 6 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting
8 Altarinda Rd., Orinda
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

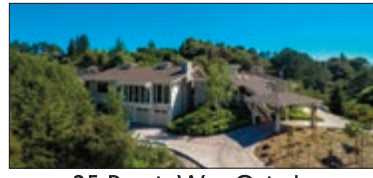


Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report May 15-28

Alarms	59
Noise complaints	4
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	3
Traffic stops	49
Suspicious Circumstances	9
Suspicious Subjects	12
Suspicious Vehicles	21
Barking Dog	
60 block Sleep Hollow Lane	
Burglary, Auto	
Kite Hill Rd./La Cuesta Rd,	
Burglary, Residential	
100 block Crane Terr,	
Civil problem	
30 block Hazel Tree Rd	
Reported to police	
Death, non-criminal	
90 block Hillcrest Dr.	
40 block Orinda View Rd.	
Disturbance, verbal	
Orinda/Santa Maria Way	
100 block Orchard Rd.	
Wilder Sports	
Disturbance, juvenile	
Orinda Country Club	
Donald/Hall Drives	
DUI	
BevMo	
Miner Rd./Camino Pablo	
Harassment	
100 block Canon Dr. (phone)	
Hit & Run	
100 block Village Sq.	
Starbucks	
Camino Encinas/Moraga Way	
ID Theft	
20 Oakwood Rd	
Post Office	
Illegal entry	
10 dos Posos	
Loitering	
500 block Orindawoods	
Ordinance violation	
10 block Honey Hill Rd.	
20 block Bel Air Dr.	
Orinda Country Club	
Stanton/Claremont Aves.	
Panhandling	
Safeway (2)	
Police/Fire/ EMS	
500 block Hawkridge Terr.	
Rite Aid	
Promiscuous Shooting	
40 block Ardilla Rd.	
Public Nuisance	
20 block Orinda Way	
Reckless Driving	
Donald Dr./Hall Blvd	
Hwy 24/Orinda Way	
San Pablo Dam /Bear Creek Rds.	
20 block Camino Don Miguel	
Moraga Way/Glorietta Blvd.	
Theft, Petty	
20 block Estabuena	
Hwy 24/Camino Pablo	
Safeway	
20 block Glorietta Ct.	
Theft, Grand	
Miramonte High School	
70 block Davis Rd.	
Theft, Vehicle	
20 block Estates Dr.	
Threats	
20 Orinda Way	
Trespassing	
Orinda Country Club	

Listings By Laura

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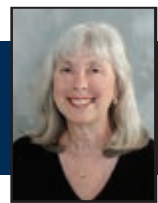
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Thorny Ballot Counting Shows Measure L Winning

By Sora O'Doherty

Early vote counts showed Measure L, the half-cent sales tax proposed for the funding of Orinda road repairs, passing by 68.6 percent of the votes cast. As a revenue raising measure, it must be passed by a two-thirds majority, and it would not take too many votes to tip the scales to under 66 percent. So Orinda is waiting with bated breath for the official count, which is due June 24, but won't be official until the June 28, following a complete audit.

A count released on Friday, June 10, included all the ballots cast at polling places and all those received by elections through Thursday, June 9. At

that time out of a total of 7,066 votes the measure was passing, receiving 4,844 yes votes (68.6 percent) and 2,222 no votes (31.4 percent.)

According to Scott O. Konopasek, Contra Costa Assistant Registrar, a new law that has just gone into effect allows three days for vote-by-mail ballots to reach the Department of Elections. To be valid, ballots must have been postmarked by midnight on Election Day, but they could be received by DOE through Friday, June 10. All of the ballots that were mailed or dropped into the ballot boxes around the county must be counted before any provisional ballots can be counted.

A large number of no-party-preference voters requested party preference ballots so that they could cast a vote for a presidential candidate. In this situation, there may be two ballots in the hands of the voter, and elections has to check very carefully to make sure than only one ballot was used to cast a single vote for each voter.

Provisional ballots are a fail-safe. Such ballots are held to make sure no one voted twice. Some people think that provisional ballots are only counted if the vote without them is not clear, but that is not the case. All ballots are counted, including ballots that cannot be machine-read ow-

ing to some damage. These ballots are remade by hand by teams of two election workers so that the ballots can then be machine-counted. The process of counting the votes is very methodical. Only a very small percentage of ballots are spoiled and cannot be counted. Contra Costa has hired on more help for this election than they have had for years.

In the meantime, Orinda is proceeding with its previously funded road repair program. A contract for road paving will soon be finalized and construction is anticipated to begin in the first part of July.

Orinda Leads the Way Backing County Transportation Tax

... continued from page A1

Moraga also approved the tax and Lafayette will weigh in this week.

At a special meeting of the Orinda City Council on May 31, the council unanimously adopted a resolution supporting the county wide imposition of an additional half-cent sales tax to fund transportation improvements.

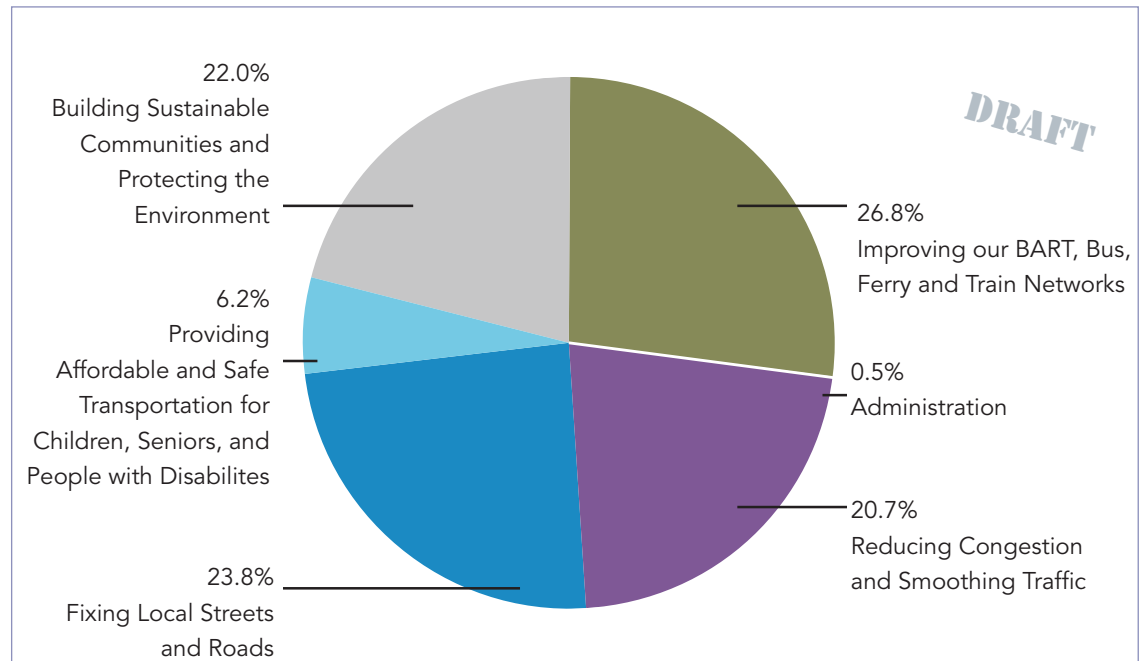
The council heard from Bruce London, who urged the council to reject the measure, arguing that Orinda should pay for its own roads. This plea was soundly rejected by council member Amy Worth, former chair of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, who pointed out that Orinda's residents commute on BART to San Francisco or on Interstate 680 to Silicon Valley, or on Highway 24 through the Caldecott Tunnel and they will benefit from the county transportation plan.

She praised the plan as enabling the Lamorinda School Bus Program to add routes, and to focus on the area's growing senior population by looking towards the latest technology for "the last mile." She explained the importance of not only having public transportation like BART, but of getting riders the last mile home.

Among the improvements planned are a new train control system to enable BART to run longer, more frequent trains. In addition, a minimum of \$100 million will be set aside for BART station improvements in Contra Costa county, including parking.

The new half-cent sales tax would run for the next 30 years and would overlap with the previous half-cent sales tax transportation measure, Measure J, which runs through 2034. Twenty million dollars in revenue is attributable to Measure J, with \$10 million having been spent to date. The next tax, if approved, is anticipated to generate \$2.8 billion. Over 23 percent of the revenue is intended to maintain and improve local streets. Other funding categories include pedestrian and bicycle facilities, bus transit and ferry services, transportation for seniors and people with disabilities and safe transportation for children to get to school.

Transportation Expenditure Plan Summary by Category



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PUPPET SHOW

JULY 7
MAD SCIENCE
FUN & DEMOS

JULY 21
LIZARD LADY'S
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Appeal Fails to Halt New Home on Oak Flat Road

By Sora O'Doherty

A new single family home at 7 Oak Flat Road survived an appeal by neighbors, who contested the planning commission approval.

While expressing sensitivity to the neighbors' concerns about their privacy, the Orinda City Council on May 31 found that the proposed home was particularly well designed to accommodate a very difficult site. The house, designed by Talon Design Group, comprises three segments that conform to the curve of the cul-de-sac. The lot is steeply sloped and heavily wooded.

The appellant, Trenor Askew, lives in the neighboring property. Other neighbors who live on Oak Flat Road, as well as the occupants of 18 Charles Hill Road, the property that is down the hill from the proposed new home, spoke in opposition to the approval. The main complaint was that the new construction would intrude on their privacy, and that the proposal violated the city's applicable goals, policies and re-

quirements. But city council staff found that the proposal for the most part complied with the requirements and policies, subject to the council's discretion and review.

The Askews complained that the new house interfered with their peaceful enjoyment of their home, particularly as to their kitchen and main outside living area. But the council felt that there was sufficient distance at 50 feet between the two homes, that the new home had only small bathroom windows on the side facing the Askews and that the house would be well screened by plantings. The main living areas and decks of the new house face away from the neighbors in a different direction. The neighbor who resides down the hill on Charles Hill Road complained that the occupants of the new home would be able to look into their bathroom windows, but the council felt that since the houses will be 105 feet apart and the intervening hill is heavily wooded,

this would not be a problem.

Council member Dean Orr praised the design, which he said reduces the home's footprint, allowing it to follow the contours around the cul-de-sac. The pods all step down in plane, creating a true split level with lots of articulation, and decks further enhance the design. The home retains as much of the hillside in its natural form as possible and preserves the heavy oak canopy. In fact, Orr noted that it was remarkable that the building could be accomplished with the removal of only five trees. Orr also liked the pallet of rich materials for the red cedar shingled craftsman style building. He noted that at 4,170 adjusted square feet, the home could be smaller, but could also be larger and concluded that the design supports the size.

Council member Darlene Gee pointed out that the site was clearly extremely difficult and that the home is very well designed for all the conditions. She could find nothing that did not

comply with requirements and found the design very thoughtfully put together and would not have major impacts on neighbors.

Mayor Victoria Smith said she was impressed by its narrow footprint. The decks minimize the impact of the home on

the privacy of the neighbors and the design maintains the existing tree canopy. She did support the request of the appellants that any air conditioning unit not be situated on the side facing them, and the council agreed to amend the approval to include that condition.

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7/4.5 Historic Country Club Estate designed by Walter Ratcliff Magical Orinda setting.
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Shellie Kirby CalBRE #01251227



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Scott Winburne CalBRE #00466182



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ORINDA \$1,795,000
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Elena Hood CalBRE #01221247



ORINDA \$1,185,000
4/2 Charming Cape Cod Orinda Classic complete w/dormers. Lovely mature yard w/large lawn area
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Fire Districts

Public Meetings

Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board of Directors
 Wednesday, June 15, 7 p.m.
 Hacienda Mosaic Room at 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga, CA 94556
 For meeting times and agendas, visit www.mofd.org

ConFire Board of Directors
 Tuesday, July 19, 1:30 p.m.
 Board Chamber room 107, Administration Building, 651 Pine St., Martinez
 For meeting times and agendas, visit <http://alturl.com/5p9pu>.

Emergency response information and training:
 Lamorinda Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
www.lamorindacert.org.

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Dispatchers: The Unheralded Heroes of the Fire Departments

By Nick Marnell



Chuck Barker of the ConFire Communications Center dispatches a medical emergency call May 12. Photo Nick Marnell

Public safety dispatchers, like many doctors and lawyers, deal with people at often the worst moment of their lives — and on top of that, have to help the callers sort through it all.

“People just do not realize the amount of stress the dispatchers work under,” said Capt. Vince Matulich of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District.

The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District operates the Contra Costa Regional Fire Communications Center in Pleasant Hill, and is responsible for dispatching fire, medical, public service and rescue operations for most of the county. MOFD pays ConFire \$170,000 a year as a client of its dispatch service.

The center operates 24 hours a day, every day of the year, and maintains a staff of 18 fire dis-

patchers, with five dispatchers every 24-hour shift. Dispatchers must be CPR-certified and complete emergency medical dispatcher training, offered by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch in Utah. The dispatchers work 24 hours on, 24 off, over five days, then take four days off. With the merger of ConFire with American Medical Response in January, the center also maintains a staff of at least three ambulance dispatchers per shift, but those dispatchers handle only tasks like ambulance deployment. They do not answer 911 emergency calls.

The dispatchers must follow a protocol, asking questions in a proper sequence. Occasionally, there is room for human intercession. “A caller told me that the patient had just vomited,” said Steve Limrite, a ConFire dispatcher for

11 years. “I told the caller to turn the patient on their side. That is out of order, but in this case, it helped.”

In 2015, ConFire responded to more than 5,600 calls in Lamorinda, according to Kiel Lamar, communications center manager. All Lamorinda 911 calls are routed through the Contra Costa County Sheriff Department and if they are fire or medical related, the calls are transferred to the ConFire communications center. Lamar recommends that Lamorindans program 925-933-1313 into their cell phones as their medical and fire emergency number and dial that number instead of 911; the call will go directly to ConFire. “But if law enforcement should still be involved, 911 is the best number,” he said. Lamar also explained that calls from cell phones are transmitted to the nearest cell tower, which

may not be close to your location, so the dispatchers may have to ask a series of questions to locate your address.

Calls handled by ConFire dispatcher can become life-changing in unforeseen ways. Matulich was dispatched on a call and over the radio he sounded to the dispatcher as if he was having a bad day. The dispatcher called the fire station and she asked why that firefighter was so cranky. When Matulich returned to the station, the rest of the crew came down on him and teased him relentlessly.

“I called her up,” Matulich said. “So you’re the one making problems for me? One thing led to another, and we started to date.” Matulich married the dispatcher, now Kelly Matulich, who is still with the communications center after more than 15 years.

Limrite was able to meet a patient whom he helped through a cardiac arrest emergency, one of the only times he has had a chance to put a face to a name. He said that the cooperation of the patient’s son, who engaged Limrite throughout the phone call and patiently answered all of the questions, was key to the positive outcome.

That is the message he stresses to the public. “Know your location,” Limrite said. “And let us be the one to terminate the call. Don’t get frustrated by the list of questions we ask you. We do that for a reason.

We are here to help you.”

Dramatic Helicopter Rescue in the Lafayette Hills

By Nick Marnell

The Contra Costa County Sheriff’s Office air patrol assisted the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District in saving the life of a hiker who collapsed on the Lafayette Ridge Trail in Briones Regional Park last month, the result of a joint effort recently undertaken by the two public safety agencies.

It was also the first helicopter rescue for ConFire Captain-Paramedic Matt dePolo.

“The hiker was with a group on a long walk on a very hot day, one of the first hot days of the season, said dePolo, who was on duty with the helicopter crew that day. “He got sick, and dizzy, and collapsed. One of the hikers called 911.”

The dispatchers requested the STARR 3 helicopter, which is parked at Buchanan Field in Concord: A hiker was down, at an unknown location in Lafayette.

Dispatch sent the exact GPS coordinates as the helicopter took off.

“We flew directly there,” dePolo said. “I’m in the back with a search and rescue technician, the pilot and the tactical flight officer in the front. We flew along the trail, 40 to 50 people on the ground pointing us in the right direction. The guy was down, under a bush, about three miles up the trail.”

DePolo and the rescue tech dropped from the copter to the patient, who was unconscious, with no pulse, and determined to be in critical condition. DePolo administered advanced life support and the patient was delivered by air to the ConFire crew at the trailhead in 11 minutes.

“A land rescue would have taken 45 minutes to an hour, and the patient may not have made it,” dePolo said. ConFire transported the



A Rescue tech descends from STARR 3 to an injured hiker in Briones Regional Park. Photo courtesy of the Contra Costa County Sheriff Office

patient to Kaiser Medical Center Walnut Creek, and he survived.

“You train for this, and when you’re called, you don’t really think about it. It’s time to get to

work,” said dePolo, C-Shift captain at Lafayette station 17.

“Firefighters don’t get to do this every day, but we love doing it.”

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JM to Change Start Time

The school polled the parents, students and teachers and a wide majority supported the change, in spite of concerns. The JM Principal says that teachers and staff were very clear in their desire to do what is best for the kids, but that they had concerns about pushing the school day later overall, as they actually experience a dip in the students’ energy and focus later in the afternoon (a fact that is also supported by research).

“Also, a number of the teachers

and staff are also parents, so they cited concerns with drop-off and pick-up logistics if the schools all started and ended at the same time,” she said. A solution was found by working out a bell schedule where students will have two periods after lunch, which is the same as the current schedule.

One concern was whether the new schedule could have an impact on after-school sports activity and would lead students to drop the optional Z period that will now end at

... continued from page A4

3:45 p.m. But Danilson confirmed that after sending out a second survey on Z period participation, the number of students opting for a Z period slightly increased.

The last piece of the puzzle was the bus system. Until now the same buses drove students to JM, then to the elementary schools half an hour later. Superintendent Burns says that the reception he received from the Lamorinda Bus Transportation Agency about a later start at JM exceeded his expectations. There were no negotiations. He reports that director Juliet Hansen and her coordinator, Sue Graves, were very open minded and willing to consider multiple alternatives and had a “let’s see how we make this work” approach.

Danilson met with LBTA a few times to gather current year transportation ridership information and staff met with the LBTA and collectively developed preliminary routes. LBTA brought on a fifth bus that was needed for Campolindo High School that will be used after the Campo drop-off to transport Moraga students to the elementary schools and JM.

Danilson does not anticipate any problem when school starts, but the staff will reach out to parents, students and teachers in the fall, and after everyone has had ample time to experience the change, to ask for input and feedback.

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Letters to the Editor

Need More Positive Stories on Islam and Muslims

Dear Editor,
I just finished reading the story on Shiva Jafarzadeh and was moved by her experience. I was appalled at the way she was treated in Iran and glad that she has found a happy life here in Moraga.

As a Moraga resident myself for over 12 years, and also a devout Muslim, I had mixed feelings about some of the comments about Islam, as they only reinforce the negative stereotypes that are so prevalent, especially in the political arena. We have seen these stereotypes only further Islamophobic senti-

ments and even lead to hate crimes. I cringe to think that something like that could happen in our peaceful town of Moraga, where I feel very fortunate to live.

I would hope to see some more positive stories about Islam and Muslims in the Lamorinda Weekly in the future.

Sarah Alves-Hyde
Moraga

Article on Jafarzadeh Misleading

Dear Editor,
The story on Shiva Jafarzadeh was a compelling personal piece. However, I think it should have been made

clear that this was her experience at that time and in that place.

For instance, the statement about the supposed 40 wives of Muhammad, which appeared early in the story, made it seem as if all Muslims believe that. They certainly do not! At this time many wrong ideas about Islam are circulating & it is harmful to those who practice the religion.

I am an adult convert to Islam; I was raised as a Lutheran. I am living in beautiful Moraga now and I belong to three Interfaith Groups. I have met many wonderful Christian and Jewish men and women from

the Lamorinda area. We enjoy each other's company and have many meaningful conversations about our faiths. One of the major reasons for groups like this to exist is to help dispel the myths and stereotypes about religion.

I would appreciate the local newspaper helping us in our endeavors to promote understanding among people. We would like to offer some articles on interfaith activities in our local community.

Kathryn Santana
Moraga

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. Visit www.lamorindaweekly.com for submission guidelines. **email: letters@lamorindaweekly.com**; Regular mail: Lamorinda Weekly, P.O.Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570

Don't Bee Afraid: Concord Bees Not Africanized

Submitted by Janet Kaidantzis



mento, CA.

Both testing facilities used mitotyping analysis to determine the maternal origin of the colony. They found that the mitotype of the bee specimens tested showed European Honey Bee descent and made an overall assessment that the bees were European Honey Bees.

"The overly defensive behavior of the Concord bees was an isolated incident," says MDBA president Judy Weatherly. "We are relieved that no evidence of the Africanized Honey Bee was found in the lab tests. We want people in the Bay Area to know that honeybees are not a threat to public safety. Rather, they continue to need our protection."

The swarm season, a natural phenomenon when masses of honeybees leave their old hives in search of a new home, is drawing to a close. Right now, honeybees are out during the day foraging for nectar and pollen, a normal activity that continues until wintertime.

For information about the MDBA, go to www.diablobees.org

For information about honeybees, go to www.beeinformed.org.

Test results requested by the Mt. Diablo Beekeepers Association (MDBA) to determine the type of bees involved in the May 13 Concord bee incident showed no evidence of Africanized Honey Bee ancestry. The bees were identified as European Honey Bees.

Volunteers with the Mt. Diablo Beekeepers Association collected specimens of the dead bees on Hitchcock Road in Concord and sent them to two separate testing facilities:

North Carolina State University, Queen and Disease Clinic, in Raleigh, NC; and

The California Department of Food and Agriculture in Sacra-

Lafayette

Deer Hill

According to City Attorney Mala Subramanian, "The city refused to place Save Lafayette's referendum on the basis that the referendum, if successful, would result in an illegal inconsistency between the city's restored zoning scheme (Administrative/Professional Office zoning) and the city's General Plan designation for the Homes at Deer Hill Project parcel (Low Density Single Family Residential)."

"We hope to prevail," said Griffiths, optimistic that the judge will rescind the city's decision, mitigate the project or put it to a vote for residents to decide. He sees numerous conflicts of interest and calls the process rife with "smoke and mirrors."

The matter will be heard by Judge George Spanos at 9 a.m. in Contra Costa Superior Court in Martinez on June 24 and is open to the public.

The opposite is true of activist Sonja Trauss, head of San Francisco Bay Area Renters Federation, more commonly known as SF BARF. Her group would like to see more housing throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. SF BARF's motto: YIMBY – Yes in My Backyard, in order to have an increase in the Bay Area's housing supply.

"This is a microcosm of the housing problem" said Trauss of the Lafayette legal action. "I'm looking forward to it, I'd love for people to come (to the hearing)." She's hoping to organize an event in the future called "Why are we suing you?" to focus on the importance of adequate housing along with questions and answers.

They are suing the wrong suburb, said City Manager Ste-

... continued from page A3

ven Falk in an essay that was published in the online Weekly Roundup and picked up by a number of newspapers. He argued that when it comes to delivering downtown housing, Lafayette is among the most progressive suburbs in the Bay Area with a General Plan that encourages multi-family residential units downtown, and requires developers of large projects to make 15 to 20 percent of their units affordable to people with low and moderate incomes. What's more, the city spent \$5 million over the last ten years on subsidized and affordable housing — one example being Eden Housing's Belle Terre project on Mt. Diablo Blvd., which has 45 units for low income senior citizens.

"SF BARF claims that the city violated the California Housing Accountability Act by choosing to develop the Homes at Deer Hill Project in lieu of the Terraces of Lafayette Apartment Project, a 315-unit apartment complex at the Deer Hill Road site," said Subramanian.

She explains that the "city maintains that the act does not apply because the city never formally disapproved the Terraces of Lafayette Apartment Project nor approved the Deer Hill Project on the condition of lower density, either of which is necessary to constitute a violation of the act."

Lawyers representing the developer, O'Brien Homes and land owner Anna Maria Detmer, along with attorneys representing the city of Lafayette, have filed a joint motion to dismiss this action. Residents can attend this hearing at 9 a.m. on June 29 before Judge Judith Craddick in Contra Costa Superior Court, Martinez.

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Lombaa2@sutterhealth.org

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Find Your Friends and Food at Sideboard Neighborhood Kitchen

By A.K. Carroll



Lafayette's Sideboard offers breakfast, lunch and dinner. Photos A.K. Carroll

It's 11 a.m. on a Friday morning when I walk into Sideboard Neighborhood Kitchen and Coffee Bar, located next to A Runner's Mind, just across from Lafayette's Plaza Park. I take my place in the bustling line of customers and admire the eclectic décor — an antique scooter, mounted deer heads, an array of vintage glass — as I wait to order a cup of light-roast coffee from the woman at the register.

"Would you like anything else?" she asks, as co-owner and chef Erin Andrews, clad in a bright pink chef's jacket, pops out of the kitchen to check on her customers.

"What do you suggest?" I ask.

Andrews opens a case of house made pastries and reaches for a maple scone, then on second thought selects an English muffin. I'm skeptical of her choice, but game to try it. The muffin arrives hot from the toaster and crisp on both sides. Served with homemade preserves, it is thick, dense and flakey, more like a crumpet or British scone.

"No matter how many I make, we always sell out," says Andrews. I can see why.

Sideboard opened its doors and its heart to the people of Lafayette on May 15. The second location for owners Erin and Ford

Andrews (their first is in Danville) this homey New American hot spot offers a friendly local meeting space that serves quality coffee and three square meals a day in a building that dates back to the 1860s and carries a history as old as the city itself.

Customers order at the counter and take a number, or rather a staple — butter, fudge, pastries, and artichokes are just a few of the ingredients listed on table tags. Orders are delivered fresh from the kitchen and water, silverware and condiments are all self-serve from one of two side stations (sideboards).

"When I was a kid my grandma used to put everything on a sideboard," said Andrews. "I'd say, 'Grandma why'd you do that?' And she'd say, '[Because] it makes everyone talk to each other.'"

You'll find that same sort of sensibility here, in a neighborhood sort of place that is anything but pretentious. An odd assortment of large communal tables, which range from vintage 1960s to hand-painted wood, are great for larger parties or for meeting new friends. One back-corner high-top is particularly special. The first community table from Sideboard's Danville location (which moved in 2014), the table came to Lafayette as a sort of good omen.

"More people have met and become friends at that table [than anywhere else in the restaurant]," said Andrews. She has customers that trek all the way out from Danville just to sit at the table with the people they met years back.

Sideboard may not offer table service, but there's still plenty of attention to detail, from the twine-wrapped utensils at the take away station to the quilted picnic blan-

kets on the front porch, where mosaic patio tables and bright turquoise umbrellas accommodate for morning sunshine and pet-strolling customers. Strung lights and heat lamps convert the space into a romantic evening spot.

Sideboard's coffee bar offers a selection of local small-batch coffees (Sightglass, Temple and Four Barrel) and hand-crafted espresso drinks. The fare, which is described as "handcrafted rustic comfort food," features ingredients that are natural, local, organic, seasonal and sustainable.

"We make everything from scratch down to the ketchup, aioli and potato chips," said Andrews.

Breakfast fare ranges from pastries and house-made granola with fruit and yogurt to veggie and bacon scrambles. An extended weekend menu includes made-to-order chilaquiles, French toast, huevos rancheros and shirred eggs, a gluten-free alternative to eggs benedict.

The lunch menu, which features seasonal specials and changes regularly, is heavy on fresh creations, like the shrimp ceviche salad made with hand-squeezed limes and loaded with mango salsa, plump tomatoes, crunchy tortilla strips and fresh guacamole. An array of gourmet sandwiches are served on ACME bread and accompanied by house made potato chips. Try the soft-shell crab sandwich, slow-roasted pork or a Prather Ranch cheddar burger. Sideboard also serves up a hearty mac'n cheese, a variety of savory sides and the best meatloaf Andrews has ever had. Dinner is much the same, with a few additional pastas and entrées.

Most dishes can be served family style and all are eligible for picnic service in the park, which is a

great option for diners who have children, pets or an inkling for the outdoors. Fried chicken, which is served by the bucket, is ideal for such a situation.

There is a small selection of beers and variety of local wines, two of which are served on tap. They also do wine margaritas, sake-based Vampiros and house-made refreshers and shrub sodas, which come in flavors like watermelon mint and sparkling orange mango. Other kid-friendly beverage options include hot chocolate and root beer floats.

Eating indoors, under the original wood ceiling and among the mismatched furniture is a little like eating in an antique store—albeit a casual, clean and spacious one.

"It's a neighborhood place," said Andrews. "That's why we don't have a sign. If you hear about [us] and it sounds good to you, it's going to be your kind of place."

Though you're sure to be taken care of, don't expect to be waited on hand and foot. Anything you need, you're likely to find on the sideboard.

3535 Plaza Way, Lafayette, CA 94549, (925) 310-4773, Open Monday-Sunday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.



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

Business Bites

From Steaks to Fitness to Style, Lots of Openings in Lamorinda

By Vic Ryerson

Relax and Recharge

Studio E, the workout spot next to SiSi Café in Moraga, now offers a meditation class on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m.. Led by Orinda resident Susie Romak, the class is not restricted to Studio E members, but is open to the public.

Meditation is a peaceful, relaxing, rejuvenate practice that is an antidote to Lamorindans' busy lifestyle, according to Romak. She has many years of experience in meditative and spiritual practice, including study in India.

Further information about the class is available at susieromak@gmail.com, or (925) 250-1332.

Redefine Your Image

Amy Humann, former store manager and stylist at Specialtees Boutique in Lafayette, has started **Wardrobe EditHer**, a new business to help clients change their style and redefine their personal image.

Humann goes to her clients' homes by appointment to edit and organize their wardrobes. She also assists with donation or consignment of unwanted apparel and accessories, and offers styling and personal shopping services.

"I started my business in January because of the growing demand for assistance from my customers," says Humann. "People just started asking me if I could come to their homes to help them with their closets because they were so pleased with the experiences they'd had

with me in a store environment... [M]any people are reluctant to invite someone into their homes to rummage through their clothing. I understand that your wardrobe is a very personal thing, which makes trust the key to my business."

Find out more at www.wardrobe-edither.wordpress.com, or contact Humann at amyhumann82@gmail.com or at (925) 878-1275.

From Flatbread to Philly Steaks

Reem's Steaks, which offers a full line of beef and chicken Philly cheese steak sandwiches as well as burgers and other fare, has opened under new ownership in the former Turquoise space on Moraga Way in downtown Orinda. Now owned by Alex Masaraweh, who also owns **Petra**, the Greek restaurant next to the Orinda Theater, the little restaurant features a bright new interior, as well as a totally new menu.

Reem's Steaks is open for dine-in or carryout items Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday. Call ahead at (925) 253-2004

Run, Rock, and Soak Up the Vibe

A Runner's Mind, a locally owned company that opened its newest store May 17 on the Plaza in Lafayette, is reaching out to the community with free running, walking, and other events as part of its ongoing effort to become "the running, walking and fitness hub for the Lamorinda area," says owner Monte Keleher. A Runner's

Mind also has stores in Burlingame and San Francisco.

The attractive new store, which features athletic shoes, apparel and related items, was decorated by Keleher and his partners, Dawson Montoya and Kyle Ballard. It is local and independent, he emphasizes, and has big plans to connect with the community as it gets established.

Partnering with local fitness business **Body Zing!**, a program of free group runs called Rock the Run is offered from the store at 5 p.m. each Friday afternoon in June, before the Rock the Plaza concerts. Body Zing! will start with a fifteen-minute core warm-up, followed by a 5 to 7 k group run led by A Runner's Mind on a course determined by the composition and desires of the group. A Runner's Mind also offers additional free group runs three times a week.

Plans are also in the offing for walking groups, and Zumba and yoga classes are planned to start in July. Classes will be held either on the Plaza or inside the store.

More information is available at runnersmind.com, or by emailing Shannon@runnersmind.com. The phone number for the Lafayette store is (925) 310-4312.

Don't Throw Stones at Glasshouse

Every homeowner who has experienced the aggravation of a plumbing failure or postponed a maintenance project until it was too

late will be interested to know that Glasshouse, a professional home management service, is expanding to Orinda and Lafayette.

The company, which launched in Oakland, Berkeley and Piedmont in March 2015, offers preventive maintenance to help a homeowner stay ahead of home maintenance issues by having a home manager visit the home quarterly to perform a comprehensive two-hour checkup. The goal is to keep the house running in tip-top shape. Additional home maintenance and repair service is available between service visits.

The subscription service for the quarterly visits costs \$50 per month. The cost of additional maintenance and repair tasks is \$75 per hour. Additional information is available at glasshouse.com.

Chamber Music

Lafayette Chamber of Commerce www.lafayettechamber.org, (925) 284-7404

Rock the Plaza, the free Friday summer concert series at Lafayette Plaza, will continue with concerts by The Big Jangle on June 7 and Lamorinda Idol Finalists on June 24. The two-hour concerts start at 6:30 p.m.

The Chamber's June Mixer will be held 5:30 – 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 22, at Capital Advantage, 3708 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 200.

Lamorinda Small Business Forum will present a program on protecting your business: robbery/

recovery/emergency. 5:30 – 7 p.m. Thursday, July 14, Bank of the West Lafayette Branch.

Moraga Chamber of Commerce

www.moragachamber.org, (925) 323-6524

A **Mixer** will be held 3 to 5 p.m. on Friday, June 24, at St Mary's College, Filipi Hall #205. The Five-year Plan and a tour the Sports Center will be featured.

Orinda Chamber of Commerce

www.orindachamber.org, (925) 254-3909

The new **Orinda business blog** is now online. Check it out at orindachamber.org. The first post includes a short documentary of Orinda 2016 restaurant tour. It was filmed and edited by Chamber member Susan Garell. The Chamber is eager to publish members' stories in the blog. Send your ideas to info@orindachamber.org.

A **"Get Into Summer Mixer"** will be held from 4:30 to 7 p.m. on June 23 at Sutter Health Urgent Care Clinic, 12 Camino Encinas in Orinda.

During the month of July members of the **Orinda and Moraga** chambers of commerce will be able to access an online training series called Hot Small Business Marketing Trends You Need to Know. Contact your chamber directly to be sure to be included in this opportunity. The series will be accessible anytime in July to those part of the chambers' network.

Randy Bennett



Bennett discusses strategy at the 2012 NCAA Tournament with Matthew Dellavedova, now an NBA star with the Cleveland Cavaliers Photo Tod Fierner

"He enjoyed the relationship he had with his players. That shaped me."

His father, Tom Bennett, a successful coach in Arizona and a member of the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame, coached Bennett at Mesa Junior College. "He never put our relationship ahead of the team," said his father, noting that on a team trip to a Hawaii tournament, Bennett did not even sit near his dad on the plane. He was team captain, and the team came first.

Bennett said his father did not encourage or discourage his desire to be a coach. "But I warned him that he would not find the players willing to put in the time and effort that he did, and it may frustrate him," Tom Bennett said.

"I knew he would be successful because of his work ethic," said Bennett's high school coach Bud Doolen, from whom Bennett learned unselfishness and putting the team first. "He wasn't a rah-rah guy, but he was prepared. I remember before one game, he was sitting in the shower room, alone, meditating and preparing for the game."

Honing Skills to be a Head Coach

Bennett first worked as an assistant in 1985 under Hank Egan, head coach at the University of San Diego, from whom he picked up pieces of his offensive game plan. Bennett remained an assistant for 16 years, never losing his desire to be a head coach. It did not have to be in Division I; he just wanted to coach. He would have been fine at a junior college, or even high school.

When head coach Brad Holland left USD in 1996 for the San Antonio Spurs of the NBA, the Toreros hired an experienced outsider. "I thought that I would have replaced him. I was naïve," Bennett said. After the same thing happened at Pepperdine, he moved to Saint Louis University.

"I didn't want to be an assistant at 50 years old," Bennett said. "I had to make a decent living." He considered leaving for a Division 2 head coaching position and a job at a junior college. Then, in 2001, Saint Mary's opened up. A fateful phone call paved his way.

Bennett's friend Rick Majerus had written a book while head coach at the University of Utah - "My Life On a Napkin: Pillow

Mints, Playground Dreams and Coaching the Runnin' Utes." In the book, Majerus said his dream job when he retired was to coach at Saint Mary's.

It so happened that the wife of Carl Clapp, then-Saint Mary's athletic director, was a huge Majerus fan. When Majerus called the Clapp home, she answered the phone. Thinking Majerus was calling to pitch the Saint Mary's job, she grabbed her husband out of the shower and made him take the call. But Majerus was calling Clapp to recommend Bennett for the coaching job, and he got the interview.

"I knew a little bit about Saint Mary's," Bennett said. "At the Final Four in Minneapolis, I remember interviewing on the second floor of a Comfort Inn, with a swimming pool, with little kids running around. But it went well."

Saint Mary's brought Bennett to the campus for a second interview and the school called him afterward. The Gaels' record was 2-27, and people weren't exactly beating down the door, so officials wanted to be sure Bennett would take the job. "Are you kidding me? I was lucky. Carl had to take a leap of faith," he said.

It required a leap of faith by Bennett himself.

Building a Winning Attitude

The Saint Mary's brand was down. The two top scorers had transferred. After the school offered a scholarship to a local player who turned it down and enrolled in a prep school that cost \$15,000 a year, Bennett realized that he had better look elsewhere.

Bennett sought a group that wanted to play for Saint Mary's and be excited about it. A friend from Arizona recommended Adam Caphorn, a player from Australia. Bennett did not know who Caphorn was, and he had never seen him play, but he needed a guard so he brought Caphorn to Saint Mary's.

Bennett recruited another guard, Anthony Woodards, out of Richmond. "I had a chip on my shoulder," said Woodards, a captain with the Richmond Fire Department. "I wasn't heavily recruited, and Randy gave me a chance. I was grateful. He gave me the opportunity to make it out of my community, to get an education, and I made sure

... continued from page A1

I played hard for him."

Caphorn and Woodards had not experienced all of the losing. They believed Saint Mary's could win. It was exactly the mindset that Bennett insisted the team project.

The Gaels won only nine games that first season. The confidence and self-esteem were growing, but the team was still not quite there. "We could have won 13. It was psychological. We had no idea what it was to win. We would run off four or five wins in a row, we thought we were decent, then we'd lose six straight," Bennett said.

He and his coaches worked on building more confidence and instilling it in the players. From coaches like Royce Youree, an Arizona coach from whom he learned many of the Saint Mary's defensive schemes, Bennett and his assistants pieced it all together.

Today, the Gaels ooze that confidence. They know what it is like to play with a 13 game winning streak or to play in the post-season. The conference championships, advancing to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament: all have contributed to the team's confidence, as well as to the high expectations.

"What I told the players in 2001, versus what I told the guys a few days ago, is not that much different," said Bennett recently. "Work hard, keep a positive attitude and get your degree." Education is Bennett's non-negotiable standard. He has no time for keeping track of whether his players are going to class, and he refuses to butt heads with them. They have to maintain a balance between athletics and education, and it is up to the players to figure out how to do it.

Bennett met his wife, Darlene, through mutual friends at the Final Four in New Orleans and they married in 1998. They have two boys, Chase and Cade. "I encourage them to try all sports. It's better for their development," said Bennett. "But they do lean toward hoops."

The Future

Is Bennett here to stay? "Yes," he said. "I don't think I can fairly project out where I'll be in 10 years. But, if after 10 years I'm still here, I'd be pretty happy." "When I first came here, I had no plan to be here 15 years. You worry about keeping your job. You have about four years to prove you can win. If you do, then comes the opportunity to go elsewhere. And I stayed. The longer I stay, the more I want to stay."

Bennett has followed his father's example in providing a positive influence on his people. "Saint Mary's is built on intimate relationships," he said. "You have players who have gone through your program; you've helped them grow into young men. They were part of your family. You feel like you want to be there for them, to have this situation for life. It's what we sell."

"Randy was the best man at my wedding, and he just attended my graduation," said Woodards, who earned his master's degree in leadership at Saint Mary's in May.

"This is a great place to raise your family," continued Bennett. "My boys were born here, their friends are here. It's getting harder and harder for someone to say to me: this new place is better. I don't know if there's a better place to live. Why would you leave?"

... continued from page A5

project (a.k.a. Rancho Laguna II) and that the developer would take charge of a major part of the repairs.

The town's public work department decided to allow construction activities to occur between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. on weekdays and 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturdays to minimize the duration of the road closure.

For questions, contact Paul Medeiros, (408) 529-6020, pmedeiros@shhomes.com, or Moraga Public Works, (92) 888-7026, publicworks@moraga.ca.us.

One door lies slightly ajar. "The NBA? Not now. Not necessarily as a coach, but on the management side. That would intrigue me. But, is it something I'm trying to do? No. It's great money, but not great

stability. Maybe down the road, with the right people.

"Why do I stay here? Why not? I'm happy, my family is happy. What is more important than that?"



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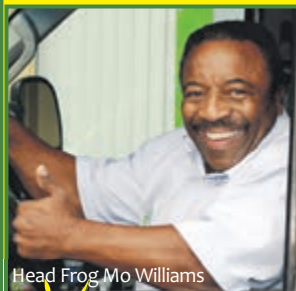
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Moraga

Rheem Boulevard Closes

No notice was sent to Lafayette.

The Sampson family lives along that damaged portion and they know that their life will just be a little more complicated, especially when school starts late August. Kindra Sampson said that her daughter going to Camplindo will have to go around from Rheem to Saint Mary's Road, all the way down to the crossing with Moraga Road, and back to the high school.

"This way is already very impacted in the morning, and it will just get worse as long as Rheem is closed," said Sampson. She

said her family has already been impacted by the noise of the Bellavista grading activities, but they expect that the repair of the boulevard will be a very good by-product of the development.

The work is a major undertaking since the road has to be excavated first to stabilize the underlying terrain with piers and tension cables that will be drilled diagonally down into the bedrock beneath the slide. It was a project the town would have had difficulty funding on its own and it is why it was part of the conditions of approval of the Bellavista

Graduation 2016

ACALANES HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR AWARDS, 2016



Photos Gint Federas

National Merit Finalists

- Cole Fang-Horvath
- Connor Virostek
- Iris Wang

National Merit Scholarship

- Iris Wang

National Merit

Commended Scholars:

- Rishabh Bhatnagar
- Boris Botchev
- Andrew Chow
- Kyle Everly
- Joseph Fonstein
- Ethan Green
- Glenn Johnston
- Alexander Kelly
- Peter Kintner
- Alexander Lee
- Alex Longbeam
- Nicholai Martinsen
- Zaid Nabulsi
- Michael Ney
- Matthew Self
- Dylan Siv
- Hope Noonan-Stoner
- Kylie Van De Wyngaerde
- Nicholas Van Oss
- Annie Wan
- Rachel Wan
- LeeAnn Wang
- Isabelle White
- Robert Whitehead

National Hispanic

Recognition Program

- Adrian Guzman
- Alex Kelly
- Michael Ney
- Kylie VanDeWyngaerde

National Merit Special

Scholarship:

- LeeAnn Wang
- Cameron Morton

Presidential scholar:

- Iris Wang

Acalanes Highest

Academic Award:

- Emma Connolly

• Cole Fang-Horvath

- Alex Kelly
- Julia Lauer
- Alex Longbeam
- Zaid Nabulsi
- Rachel Wan
- Iris Wang
- LeeAnn Wang

California Scholarship

Federation Scholarship:

- Lia White
- Brooke Alsterlind

Presidential Service Awards:

- Alyssa Kisner
- Amy Sabbadini

Air Force Academy:

- Krystal Kirkland
- Naval Academy:
- Regan McQuain
- Lexie Silva

Kiwanis's Club of Moraga

Valley:

- Nathan Brickman

American Association

of University Women

Scholarship:

- Yasmin Shamloo

Michael Masdeo Memorial

Scholarship:

- Nic Warren
- Jack Stanton
- Kaitlin Johnson

Brad Chin Inspirational

Leadership Award:

- Sabrina Elliott

William W. Scott Memorial

Scholarship:

- Jake Basilico
- Arden Childers
- Peter Tripp
- Justin Reilly

Matt Lynn Memorial

Scholarship:

- Nathan Brickman
- Tyler Henderson
- Emma Myall
- Sophia Ross

Bill Usinger Memorial

Swim Scholarship:

- Natalie Morlock
- Allyson Villanueva

Lafayette Water Polo

Foundation Scholarship:

- Lucy Fellner

Michaelangelo D'Onofrio

Arts Foundation

Scholarship:

- Raea Gragg

Acalanes Faculty

Scholarship:

- Georgia Dimick Busch
- Janina Larsen
- Elise Berg

Joan Portello Minton

Memorial Scholarship:

- Cole Fang-Horvath

Dhillon-Randahawa

Family Scholarship:

- Matt Self

Innovative Scientist

Award:

- Boris Botchev
- Zaid Nabulsi

James Garvey Memorial

Scholarship:

- Alex Kelly

Parent Club Awards:

- Joe Fonstein
- Jerry Liu
- Alex Longbeam
- Brooke Alsterlind
- Kyle McQuain
- Michelle Volga

Lafayette Partners

in Education Project

Winners:

- Acting: Emily Gray
- Applied Design: Nick DeCool, Julia Husch
- Community Service: Iris Wang
- Creative Writing: Jacob Burges

Digital Design:

- Sienna Kuan

Entrepreneurship:

- Mimi White

Instrumental Music:

- Andrew Chow, Owen Chan

Journalism: Iris Wang

Photography: Ally

- DeMartini, Dara Feller, Sabba Jweainat, Rabeeah Ali

Science & Engineering:

- Joshua Douglas & Cameron Gaskell, Zachary Wiesenthal & Joseph Fonstein, Andrew Chow

Visual Art:

- Dara Feller, Siena Kuan

Automotive Technology

Awards:

- Rex Kaufman

Scholarship Award:

- Devin MacIntyre
- Aaron Harmon

Bay Alarm Practical

Knowledge Award: Nick

- DeCool, Aidan Haughian, Jack Stanton

Charles Mori Ford

Award for Automotive

Excellence:

- Mohammad Ismaeel

Outstanding

Achievement:

- Devin MacIntyre

Steffen Ryge Memorial

Scholarship:

- Kat Bautista
- Kaia Johnson
- Siavash Keivani
- Jessica Wang

Richard C. Hansen Music

Award:

- Rachel Ferreira

Choral Music Awards

Arion Award:

- Morgan Orsolini

Shelli Francis Memorial

Scholarship:

- Kat Bautista

Choral Director's Awards:

- Emily Gray
- Kaitlyn Johnson
- Charlie Manzano-Mallison
- Maggie Ortiz Fischer
- Katie Wolf
- Taylor Wondolowski

Instrumental Music

Awards:

- Arion Band Award: Max Bucholz
- Arion Orchestra Award: Alex Longbeam
- Louis Armstrong Jazz Award: Andrew Chow

Lafayette Rotary Arthur

D. Bridges Memorial

Scholarships:

- Uma Agrawal
- Alex Kelly
- Julia Husch
- Summer Zuehlsdorf
- Lia White
- Siavash Keivani
- Jonathan Nottage
- Jacob Burges
- Callie Zucker

Drama Awards:

- AP Awards: Annie Wan
- Julia Lauer

Goodheart Award:

- Arielle Goodfriend

World Language Awards:

- Spanish: Cristina DeMattos
- Mandarin: Harry Cooper
- French: Josh Douglas

Science Award:

- Uma Agrawal
- Alex Longbeam

Social Studies Award:

- Boris Botchev

• Sean Cruz

Math Department Awards:

The Ernie DeMartini

Excellence in Math Award:

- Alex Longbeam
- Matt Self
- LeeAnn Wang

Excellence in Statistics

Award:

- Iris Wang
- Michael Ney

Athletic Awards:

Most Outstanding Senior

Athletes:

- Kyle Everly
- Hannah Kresnak

Most Valuable Senior

Athletes:

- Cameron Gaskell
- Lucy Fellner
- Julia Lyons

California Interscholastic

Federation Awards:

- Alex Kelly

Acalanes Booster Scholar

Athlete Award:

- Brooke Lennox
- Joey Christensen

Harry & Norma Radcliffe

Award:

- Michelle Volga

Leadership Anchor

Awards:

- Kyle McQuain
- Regan McQuain
- Monica Lundgren
- Kelcey Higgins
- Nicole O'Connor
- Brooke Alsterlind

Ole Chiavini Leadership

Award:

- Emily Collins

Citizenship Award:

- Sabrina Elliott

CAMPOLINDO HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR AWARDS, 2016



Photos Gint Federas

Air Force Academy:

- Patrick Timmons

Rotary Awards:

- Hope Leng

Mary Elena Dochterman

High School Achievement

Scholarship:

- Andrew Kondrich

Kiwanis Award:

- Fiona Stewart

McInerney Award:

- Katherine Erickson

Lion's Club LEO award:

- Ashley Lok
- Michelle Kwak
- Tal Shoshan

Art Dept. Awards (Collette

Sweeney) Certificate:

- ART: Madeleine Taylor
- PHOTO: Haley Charlesworth
- VIDEO: Carson Hernandez
- Plaque: Ana Glosson

CSF -Jake Donohoe

- Matthias Baker

• Maya Bulos

- Jio Chang
- Benjamin Conley
- Katherine Erickson
- Brandon Ewert
- Ivan Gomez- Siu
- Alexander Horst
- Michelle Kwak
- Steven Leserman
- Haley Lewis
- Derek Ludwig
- Ashley Lok
- Jessica Mano
- Holly Moore
- Austin Mello
- Mary Noal
- Samuel O'Donnell
- Jason Rodriguez
- Sophia Settle
- Ariel Song
- Nikhil Suri
- Fiona Stewart
- Elizabeth Timmons
- Patrick Timmons
- Hanna Weyland
- Ethan Tonomura

Drama Award (Jamie

Donohoe presenting):

- Certificate: Alex McFadden
- Plaque: Lauren Raff

English Awards (Anne

Hebert presenting):

- Certificate: Natasha McCullough
- Plaque: Uma Gaffney

Publications Award

(Charles Woolridge

presenting):

- Kelly Pien
- Leadership Awards

(Dino Petrocco presenting):

- Fiona Stewart
- Cameron Atwood
- Ana Glosson

Math Awards: (Nick

Schoen presenting):

- Plaque: Colin Parsons
- Certificate: Nikhil Suri

National Merit (John

Walker presenting)

Commended Students:

- Evan Amsden
- Miguel Baliwag
- Callan Beaver
- Jeremy Bernhardt
- Maya Bulos
- Joshua Cao
- Jio Chang
- Pieter Derksen
- Brandon Ewert
- Thomas Flynn
- Jacob Goldsmith
- Ivan Gomez-Siu
- William Gu
- Yurii Hanley
- Claire Hathaway
- Sunwoo Hong
- Zachary Hsaio
- William Hughs
- Tanvir Kaur
- Jiho Kim
- Andrew Kondrich
- Hope Leng
- Haley Lewis
- Thomas Liao
- Ashley Lok
- Peter Moore

- Mary Noal
- Kelly Pien
- Ryan Rossi
- Iman Sigman
- Adia Tajima
-

Graduation 2016

MIRAMONTE HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR AWARDS, 2016



Photos Gint Federas

<p>Orinda Womens Club Scholarship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carolyn Brager Elizabeth Bennette <p>Orinda Rotary Scholarship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lillian Hunter-Reay Chiara Marley <p>Orinda Rotary Science & Technology Scholarship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scott Wu <p>American Association of University Women Outstanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eleanor Roeder Caiseen Kelley <p>Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Misaki Kobayashi Poul Anderson Writing Contest Carolyn Brager <p>Lamorinda Arts Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Isabell Kimura Eleanor Roeder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jesse Epstein Forest Perez-Castillo Nora Guergah <p>Joseph Daugherty Memorial Scholarship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clayton Stehr <p>Diablo Black Men's Group College Scholarship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daniel Davis <p>Ernie Voight Memorial Scholarship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Griffin Schwarz <p>Will Newton Award:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amanda De Vecchi (Softball) Zachary Wong (Baseball) <p>Miramonte Service Awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daniel Huston Alexander Hwang Joseph Wang <p>President's Volunteer Service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elizabeth Bennette Carolyn Brager 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Katarina Cohen Ilene Drobny Alison Ingrey Gabriel Moran Dylan Scaff Kevin Shepard Natalie Tang Misaki Kobayashi Millie Kirchberg Ivy Li Zachary Su <p>CSF Scholarship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edward (Pete) Bull Jonathan (Kyle) <p>Wallace National Merit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cannon Armistead Mitchell Brooks Daniel Campbell Clarissa Sandvik Mitchell Tang Jonathan Zhou <p>Department Awards: Math</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samira Maboudian Mitchell Tang 	<p>English Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Henry Hodder Elizabeth Hofinga <p>Technical Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victor Leiva <p>Social Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caiseen Kelley Lucy Portnoff <p>Environmental Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Griffin Schwarz <p>Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laura Li Zachary Su <p>World Languages Latin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daniel Campbell Carolyn Brager Shawn Honaryar Elizabeth Reed, The Ann Bisio Award <p>Mandarin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Julian Cremer Elizabeth Bennette 	<p>French</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elizabeth Dunn <p>Spanish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liliana Moretti, Spanish <p>Spanish Level 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Katarina Cohen, <p>Spanish Level 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nora Guergah, <p>Visual & Performing Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carter Chan Paige Deloso <p>Craftsperson of the Year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carter Chan Paige Deloso <p>VPA Arts Distinction Awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Akasha Canonizado Deven Galang Eleanor Roeder Kevin Pack Allan Rosso Alicia Salinas Peter Undlin James Gammon Stefan Maksimovic Samuel Whiting Henry Hodder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alexandra Shaw Tia Waters <p>Outstanding Senior Music Award:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarissa Sandvik, Piano Tenor Sax - Jazz Band Zachary Su, Clarinet - Symphonic Band Lucy Portnoff, Flute - Symphonic Band Sam Whiting, Trumpet - Jazz Band and Symphonic Band <p>Miramonte Highest Academic Awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aaron Baum Holly Bohuslav Katarina Cohen Caiseen Kelley Samira Maboudian Clarissa Sandvik Mitchell Tang <p>Principal's Award:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caiseen Kelley Clayton Stehr
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Congratulations to all AUHSD Graduating Students — Lamorinda Weekly



Thank you for Supporting LPIE

On Saturday, February 20, parents and supporters from all over the community came together to help "power" LPIE's fundraising efforts. Then on Sunday, April 30, we joined together again to celebrate LPIE's 35 years of support for our schools. Because of businesses, parents, and community members, both events were overwhelming successes. Thank you to all who supported LPIE.

A BIG THANK YOU to our Power Party Event Sponsors:

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- Sue Layng, Village Associates

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Thank you to the following local businesses for donations that resulted in our record fundraising effort at the Power Party and the success of our celebration of our 35th Anniversary!

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1515 Restaurant & Lounge A Runner's Mind Acalanes High School Leadership All About Skin Care Alpenglow Beer Company American Kitchen Amphora Nueva Anomaly Vineyards Art Room Aurora Theatre Company Back to the Table Bay Area Children's Theatre Beach Blanket Babylon Bella Bronze Berkeley Rep Bistro Burger & Grill bkr Blue & Gold Fleet BMW of Concord Boeschen Vineyards Bradley School of Music Brecon Estate Winery Bridges Golf Club Buon Vino Buttercup Grill & Bar California Canoe & Kayak California Shakespeare Festival Caroline's Salon Carrie Dove Catering Chicory Chow Lafayette City of Lights Cafe Claremont Hotel Classic Home Loans, LLC Click Scan Share Clive Christian San Francisco Clos du Val Color Me Mine Concannon Vineyard Concord Pavillion Contra Costa Country Club Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Station 1 Cooperage American Grille Corner's Tavern Cost Plus World Market Costco Creative Alterations Creative Images by Jessica Cuesta Antiques | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dailey Method Danielle Gogo-Gallagher, Graphic Design David's Nails Davidson & Licht de Young Museum Deborah Rhee Detert Family Vineyards Diablo Magazine Diablo Foods Donahue Fitzgerald LLP DryStyle Lounge El Charro Elmwood Stationers Encore Gymnastics Entourage Spa & Salon EPOCH Estate Wines Erin's Voice & Piano Studio European Beauty Spa Evie Bett Farmyard Darlings Filoli Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco Flower Bowl Florist Forge Restaurant Fourth Bore GET HOT Tequila Glamorous Boutique Golden Gate Fields Golden Skate Golden State Warriors Grapevine Guitard Chocolate Gypsea Bungalow Heller Jewelers Hideout Hofssi Chocolates Honig Vineyards Indigo & Poppy International Film Showcase itty bitty bakeshoppe IVIVVA Athletica J Hilburn Jack's Restaurant & Bar James Dixon, Architect Kaur Photography Kimpton Hotel La Tapatia Lafayette Beauty Store Lafayette Community Garden & Learning Center | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lafayette Car Wash Lafayette Juniors Lafayette Park Hotel Lamorinda Music Lamorinda Nails Lamorinda Organizing Lamorinda Theatre Academy Lan's Skin Care Lavande Learning Express Toys of Lafayette Lindsay Wildlife Museum Lora Easley Lost Republic Whiskey Maloney Fine Building Mangia Maroon 5 Matt Ricca McDonald's Metro Lafayette Moonstone Beach Bar & Grill Nandiz Designs Neiman Marcus Walnut Creek Nerd4Rent Nicole Benveniste Interior Design Ninja Skincare North Face Nothing Bundt Cakes Nourot Glass Studio Nut Factory Oakland Athletics Oakland Zoo Oakwood Athletic Club ODC Odyssey Limousine Off The Grid Orange Theory Fitness Orchard Nursery Organic Coup Pancoast Pizza Pelletiere Estate Vineyard and Winery piece. Piedras Blancas Light Station Pinnacle Nutrition and Wellness Pixar Studios Powell's Sweet Shoppe Pride Mountain Vineyards Prive & Co. Jewelry Rain Jewel Renaissance Club Sport Republic of Cake | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Robin's Restaurant Rocco's Pizza Roughing It Day Camp Round Up Rustic Tavern Ryan Lendt Studios Sam's Club San Francisco Ballet San Francisco Early Music Society Sattva Village Yoga Scandia Family Fun Center Sephora Shale Oak Winery Shoes of Prey Sideboard Skin Spirit Smitten Ice Cream Smyers Glass Sony Computer Entertainment Specialtees Steve Hall Technology Consultant Sun Basket SusieCakes Table 24 Taking Root LLC TANGERINE Design Target Tart Collections Tech Museum of Innovation Terry Branam Drum Lessons TPC Stonebrae Country Club Trader Joe's Truffle University of CA Athletic Dev. V. Sattui Winery Va De Vi VICI Walkabout Footwear Ware Designs Wax-A-Peel Whimsy Boutique Whole Foods Winchester Mystery House Wine Barrel Products Wine Thieves Worth New York Writing Studio WTS, Inc. Z Space Theater |
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Giving Dreams an Address

Town of Moraga Faces Tough Budget Picture Thanks to Sinkhole Expenses

... continued from page A1

The council had on the dais a few requests for additional expenses: \$13,000 from the Chamber of Commerce, \$24,000 from the Spirit Van, and \$5,000 to help fund the Sundays at the library. The Spirit Van's request was denied completely, with the notable opposition of councilmember Phil Arth who said that yes, the town had to husband its resources this year, but that not taking care of the elderly would be unacceptable. The final decision was to give \$5,000 to the library, zero to the Spirit Van and \$9,000 to the Chamber of Commerce, but staff was directed to bring the requests from the Spirit Van and the Chamber back to re-look at funding them more during the mid-year budget review when the sinkhole costs will be known.

Cunningham presented a list of capital improvement projects that the town should take care of this coming budget cycle and asked guidance regarding what to do for the funding, since the asset replacement fund is depleted. The list of projects includes \$2.8 million for

the sinkhole, replacement of information technology equipment and police vehicles, municipal code update, and the central video surveillance system.

Installing cameras around town was a promise of the council to the residents and deciding to cut that expense or not was hotly debated. Interim Town Manager, and former Chief of Police, Bob Priebe said that the system was indeed useful but that it was an after-the-fact

device and that the robbery rate in Moraga in the past six months had decreased by 60 percent. He added that officers would certainly like to have new tools, but that given the choice he would rather allocate the money to the information system than the surveillance cameras.

The council members decided to put that expense on hold at this time and to revisit it in January in the light of the final decisions regarding the sinkhole.

Update on Sinkhole Financing

Public Works Director Edric Kwan said that even if the town gets federal or state help to repair the sinkhole, it will have to come up with the \$2.8 million first.

Reimbursement may take several years. That sum could come from the developer fund (Palos Bank) with an available balance of \$2.9 million, or from the General Fund reserve with an available balance of \$3.2 million. The council decided to split the funding need between those two sources. The administrative director warned that depleting the reserve could affect the town's credit rating and end up costing even more.

Kwan is working on an appeal to change the federal decision not to consider the sinkhole a natural disaster. Using before-and-after imagery he intends to build a stronger case for the town. That decision should not delay the repair process. Kwan expects most of the work to be completed before October 15.

The Lamorinda Weekly is Looking for a Community Columnist

Do you have a passion for local news, neighborhood antics and good sense of humor? We want to hear from you. Send two to three writing samples to Editor Peggy Spear at Peggy@Lamorindaweekly.com.



Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community.
 Send a letter to the editor: letters@lamorindaweekly.com

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Don't PAWS on This; Unique Fundraiser Coming to the Lafayette Reservoir

By Diane Claytor



Lafayette's Shelly Valerio and her dog, Curry, will be marching in Saturday's PAWS de Tutu PAWRADE.

Photo provided

In the ballet world, a pas de deux is a dance performed by two dancers. In the world of dogs and the humans who love them, a PAWS de Tutu is a fun-filled beautiful June morning, replete with a dog PAWrade, costume compAWtition, music, celebrities, prizes and a stroll around the picturesque Lafayette reservoir.

On Saturday, June 18, dogs and their human companions are invited to the Lafayette Reservoir stage at 10 a.m. to walk the red carpet and kick off the PAWS de Tutu event, which benefits Diablo Ballet's PEEK (Performing Arts Education and Enrichment for Kids) outreach programs. Charley Kayle, KOIT radio personality and self-professed dog lover, will emcee the PAWrade of pups and the costume compAWtition which follows.

"People are encouraged to think 'outside the box,' perhaps even be a little outrageous," said Kerry Silverstone, former Diablo Ballet board member and event chair. While costumes are certainly not required – even dogs are not required – "we're hoping to have an incredibly visual spectacle of creative costumes. People can – and hopefully will – go a little crazy" when coming up with costume ideas, Silverstone added. Her dogs, Ricky and Lucy, will be there and "you can guess how they'll be dressed," she stated, with a twinkle in her eye.

"We plan to start promptly at 10 a.m.," Silverstone explained, and suggests participants arrive at the Reservoir by 9:30 a.m. to check in and get ready to PAWrade in front of the judges.

Judging the compAWtition will be Renel Brooks-Moon, public address announcer for the SF Giants (and Major League Baseball's only female public address announcer); Pam Kessler, publisher of Walnut Creek Magazine, and Scott Ostler, the San Francisco Chronicle sports columnist for the last 25

years. Prizes will be awarded, with the grand prize winner receiving a \$500 VISA gift card and \$250 gift basket from Pet Food Express. Refreshments will be available and all human participants will receive a tee-shirt and goodie bag.

Following the compAWtition, everyone is invited to take a walk around the reservoir before returning to the stage area to learn which innovative and adorable canines get to take home one of the three PAWards.

Coordinated by Diablo Ballet's Teen Board with input and help from Silverstone and Diablo Ballet's Artistic Director, Lauren Jonas, this unique fundraising event benefits PEEK, the only arts education program of its kind offered by a local professional dance company. PEEK provides in-school movement curriculum and free dance performances for students and families in underserved areas;

last year it began a program within the Contra Costa County juvenile justice system bringing creative movement classes to incarcerated young women.

Teen Board president Marissa Lapointe is so excited about PAWS de Tutu. "Everyone loves dogs," she said. "Who isn't going to want to watch dogs in cute costumes and then walk around the reservoir on a summer morning?"

This feeling is echoed by Isabella Gravano, secretary of the Teen Board and a Miramonte sophomore. "It's a beautiful venue, a fun and unusual event with fantastic prizes and PEEK, which makes a huge difference in the community, will benefit," Gravano said. "It doesn't get much better."

Don't PAWS another minute. To register, go to diabloballet.org. The cost is \$30 for adults, \$20 for those 17 and under.



Edward Stegge, Diablo Ballet's PEEK Outreach Associate Director, and his dogs Tess and Zina, are ready for June 18's PAWS de Tutu.

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Mother and Daughter Vow to Fight Cancer as Teammates

By Nick Marnell



Fighting cancer is a family affair for the Browns.

Photo provided

The Brown family of Moraga had just survived a terrifying experience, but an encore lurked in the shadows.

Finley Brown beat kidney cancer late last year, making international news as a group of her biggest fans, the Moraga-Orinda Fire District firefighters, escorted her to her final chemotherapy treatment.

"I never knew it was possible for someone to look forward to going to chemo," said her mom, A.J. Brown, as her 6-year-old daughter beamed from the fire engine on the way to the hospital.

But instead of emitting a massive exhale, Brown, general manager of the California Academy of Performing Arts, fought through a constant state of anxiety. She did not feel relieved at all. "We just went through something really tough for our family. Why aren't I walking on air?" she said.

The answer came out of nowhere.

The Browns were about to depart on a mid-April Hawaii trip, presented to Finley by the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Before the family left, Brown visited her Lafayette dermatologist for a Botox treatment, and she asked the doctor to check out a mole on her leg. The dermatologist removed the mole and called Brown after the biopsy result.

"I know what you just went through with your baby girl," the doctor told Brown, "but this is melanoma." Brown, whose family has a cancer history, knew it was the deadliest form of skin cancer. She set up an appointment with a plastic surgeon in Lafayette for when she returned from Hawaii.

"I appreciated the irony of taking Finley on her Make-A-Wish trip; meanwhile I'm the one with cancer," Brown said. "My vanity saved me. I'm probably the first person in history who can say Botox saved my life."

The surgeon cut out a chunk of Brown's leg, with Finley nurturing through the procedure and the rehab. "It was magical to see her growth and her wisdom," Brown said.

Brown initially felt angry — that the family should have been done with cancer, that their quota was filled. Her spirituality helped dispel the rage. "You forgot what family you were messing with. You forgot that God has been doing beautiful work through Finley, and He was close by," she posted on her Facebook page in a "message to cancer." "He made sure we caught you before your tentacles got too deep."

As Brown continues to recuperate, she admonished Lamorindans to not take anything for granted. "Get checked out," Brown said. "Especially if you are over 40, with light skin and light hair and blue eyes."

"What a shame it would be for anybody to lose their life over something that could be prevented."

College Communications Programs Offer More Than Just Idle Talk

By Elizabeth LaScala Ph.D.

Careers in digital, print and broadcast journalism, advertising and public relations are among the most desired by college students. However, early success in these fields requires students to build their resumes while they pursue their degrees.

What are some of the things that colleges do to help their students succeed?

- They maintain faculty and staff relationships with major employers. One stand-out is the University of Cincinnati, which requires all communications students to do co-op assignments, usually with the major media outlets or employers in the city. Co-op extends the degree program over five years. Students alternate semesters of paid work with on-campus classes during the middle three years of their education. While co-op is an expensive proposition at private universities such as Drexel and Northeastern, the University of Cincinnati is a state school that charges approximately \$26,400 in tuition and fees for an out-of-state student. Scholarships are available to further reduce educational costs. Communications positions are noted for low entry-level salaries. The opportunity to work and receive scholarships can be quite attractive.

- They employ career counselors dedicated to the major. Northwestern, Penn State and Syracuse are highly regarded not only for their faculty and resources, but also the career services that are dedicated towards helping their students find internships as well as full-time jobs. While Northwestern is located within a major media market, Penn State and Syracuse are not. However, the career centers at Penn State and Syracuse do an excellent job at working with the university's alumni base to help their students find work. These schools are also excellent options for aspiring sportswriters. Their athletic programs are quite successful and well-staffed with talented media professionals.

- For students who are interested in advertising and public relations careers, they offer

an education that balances business and the liberal arts with the technical skills required to go to work. It is not necessary to be an advertising major to work in advertising or public relations. A general business major or liberal arts major with a business or communications minor can suffice. However, potential employers will expect interns and entry-level employees to have a skill set that includes strong writing, presentation skills and analytical skills. It will be difficult for an entry-level hire to advance to mid-level and senior-level positions without them. Among the small and mid-sized colleges that fit the bill include Franklin & Marshall College and Muhlenberg College, both located in Pennsylvania; two others of note are Marist College, located in New York, just outside of the Big Apple, and the College of New Jersey.

- For journalism students, they offer an opportunity to complete a second major. Most college journalism programs will recommend that students double major, usually in a subject that the student might be reporting when he or she goes to work. Criminal justice, economics, international relations and political science are popular second majors. Reporters with strong academic backgrounds in the sciences will be in high demand within major media markets. Liberal arts colleges make it easier to complete a double major. They have fewer required courses than universities that have a separate accredited school of communications. But there are also larger universities such as the University of Connecticut, the University of Delaware and Rutgers-New Brunswick that place their communications majors within their college of arts and sciences, making a double major possible. Another option is to minor in journalism and take more courses in other subjects such as a foreign language, demographics or statistical analysis.

- They host a high-quality college daily or weekly newspa-

per. The editors of the better papers are often invited to college journalism conferences not only to receive awards, but also to network with professionals who might have internships or jobs to offer. The Associated Collegiate Press recognizes excellence in student media with collegiate journalism's preeminent award, the Pacemaker. Pacemakers are awarded in each category of publication — online, newspaper, yearbook and magazine. Among the best daily newspapers: the Indiana Daily Student at Indiana University-Bloomington. Among the best weeklies: The Ithacan at Ithaca College (New York) and The Pendulum at Elon University (North Carolina).

No one needs to attend a super-selective school to work for a quality college media outlet, become an attractive candidate for an internship or to move into a rewarding career after graduation. But anyone who expects to be a serious candidate for employment in journalism, advertising or public relations needs to show that he or she has taken advantage of the opportunities that their college and its community had to offer. Their employers will expect them to be go-getters from the very start.



Elizabeth LaScala, Ph.D. 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. Visit www.doingcollege.com for more information about her services.

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Looking Good In Lamorinda

Beat the Heat in Style This Summer

By Moya Stone



Stay cool in stripes and prints from Glamorous Boutique in Lafayette.

Photo provided

Summer has rushed into Lamorinda bringing along bright sunny days and high temperatures. It's time to put away the woolens and pull out the whites.

Fashionable Ventures: Lafayette resident Julie Rubenstein is planning a photo shoot this month at Collector's Choice Antiques which will help launch Fox & Hanger, her new style consulting business. A former teacher, Rubenstein says she has always had an eye for style and fashion. Now she intends to put her knowledge and talent to work helping local women, particularly moms, get out of yoga pants and step up their look. Rubenstein is drawn to various styles and favors local thrift shops for quality bargains, such as Wayside Inn in Lafayette. Rubenstein says, "They have such great items and allow me so stay within clients' budgets." For more information check out the website: www.foxandhanger.com.

Update on The Cass Clutch: In March Lafayette resident Debra Szidon had just launched her Kickstarter campaign to raise funds for production of The Cass Clutch, a vintage inspired handbag and that was featured recently in the Lamorinda Weekly. I'm pleased to report the campaign was a big success, raising more than enough funds to get started. "People want the bag and that's great," says Szidon, who is now taking orders on her website: www.cassclutch.com.

Shop Changes: We recently said farewell to Pendleton and J. Colleen Boutique both in Lafayette.

ette. Julie Rubio of J. Colleen decided to close the bricks and mortar to devote more time to her other gig as a film producer. After the success last year of East Side Sushi she's now working on a new film titled "One." But not to worry, J. Colleen still exists online: http://jcolleen.com/shop/.

Fashionable Field Trip: Mark your calendars for the upcoming American Craft Council Show August 5-7 at Fort Mason in San Francisco. ACC, now going strong for 41 years, is a high-end market with over 220 curated artists from around the country offering artwork and handcrafted clothing, jewelry, and home decor items. New to the show this year is what they are calling Style Slam. Six local stylists have been asked to shop the show and dress models in fashions and accessories from participating artists/designers, allowing attendees to see how they can work unique clothing and accessories into their own wardrobes. Check out the website for all the scoop: http://shows.craftcouncil.org/sf.

Seasonal Trends: So what to sport to the various summer street fairs and festivals? Special Tees in Lafayette says that floral prints and bright colors are the latest looks in pants as are white denim and boot cut jeans. Eliza Jamkochian from Glamorous Boutique, also in Lafayette, is all about mixing it up. "Summer trends for this year are lots of stripes, polka dots and floral outfits," says Jamkochian "Do not be afraid to play with different fab-

rics, prints and colors."

Fashionable Reads: I recently enjoyed a memoir titled "In the Name of Gucci." Written by Patricia Gucci, a direct descendant of Guccio Gucci, founder of the iconic Italian luxury brand known for the double Gs logo. The love child of her married father, Aldo and his secret mistress, Gucci shares for the first time her parents' story and that of the popular fashion company's rise and its dramatic demise. A fascinating tale of fashion history, better than your average summer read.

Stay cool out there and go forth in style.

Moya Stone is a fashion writer and blogger at OverDressedforlife.com.



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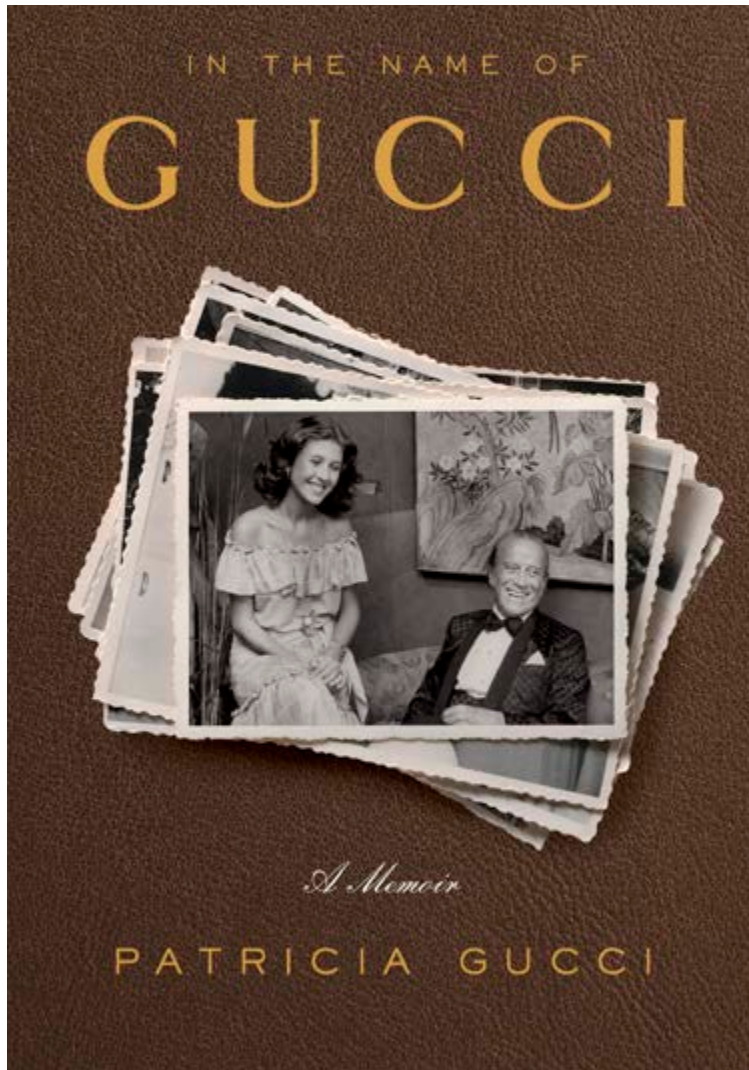
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"In the Name of Gucci," published by Crown Archetype, '16. Photo provided



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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 may be sent to storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com with the subject header In Service to the Community.

Lafayette Community Foundation Award Grants

Submitted by Rhonda Andronico



Recipients gather at the LCF annual Grant Award Ceremony.

Photo provided

The Lafayette Community Foundation hosted its annual Grant Award Ceremony on May 4 at Amphora Lafayette. In addition to an olive oil tasting hosted by Amphora, attendees were thanked for their ongoing support of LCF. A total of \$19,750 was distributed among the following nine

Contra Costa county organizations: California Shakespeare Theater, Contra Costa Interfaith Housing, Futures Explored, Inc., Generations in Jazz, Girl Scouts Twin Canyon, Lamorinda Spirit Van, Lamorinda Village, Ombudsman Service of Contra Costa County and White Pony Express.

Orinda Senior to Ride 3,000 Miles to Raise Cancer Awareness

Submitted by Richard Perez



From left, Nick Bloisa and Orinda resident Rick Perez will ride from California to Florida to raise funds and awareness for breast cancer.

Photo provided

This June, longtime Orinda resident Rick Perez, 69, and friend Nick Bloisa, 70 — both who maybe should have better sense — will cycle from Santa Monica to St. Augustine, Fla., as a fundraiser in memory of Laura Bartron, a close friend of Bloisa who succumbed to breast cancer at the age of 45. Although her life was far too short, Laura, who worked as a Nutritionist at Renaissance Club Sport in Walnut Creek, touched and enriched the lives of numerous others, friends say. Bloisa and Perez say they are determined to fight breast cancer with this epic 3,000 mile

bicycle adventure that will cross the USA.

Through this adventure, Laura's Ride will raise funds for the Danville-based Lazarus Cancer Foundation in support of patients fighting breast cancer and to help move breast cancer research forward. Their goal is to raise \$100,000.

The ride started with a Kickoff Party on June 9, then the two cyclists started their adventure on June 14. For more information and to donate, visit www.laurasride.org and www.crowdrise.com/lauras-ride.

Local Girls Awarded Gold Award, Scouts Highest Honor

Submitted by Yuka Akera



Campolindo students Kenna Sherman and Iman Sigman were honored with their Girl Scout Gold Award. Photo Lori Sherman

In May, two girls in the Orinda/Moraga Service Unit earned their Girl Scout Gold Award. This year's recipients were Kenna Sherman, a junior at Campolindo High School and Iman Sigman, a senior at Campolindo High School. They were recognized on May 22 during an awards ceremony.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award that a Girl Scout may earn and is completed by a Senior or Ambassador Scout between the ages of 14 and 18. To earn the Gold Award, which some compare to the Boy Scout Eagle Award, the Scout must identify a Take Action Project that reaches beyond the

Girl Scout organization and provides lasting benefit to the girl's larger community.

Kenna created a mentoring program at a local homeless shelter. For this program, teens from the Moraga area were paired with children at the shelter to become positive influences for the kids. Kenna trained her peers on how to work with children in less-fortunate situations. The team of mentors then went to the shelter for the first week of summer vacation in 2015. They exposed the kids to many activities, some of which they never would have been able to experience.

Iman worked with Loaves and Fishes, an organization based in Sacramento that tries to create a safe space for the homeless. Her project was designed to benefit the Mustard Seed School, which is an elementary school for homeless children in Sacramento where the rates of water-related accidents are incredibly high. Since many of the kids at this school did not have easy access to swim lessons, they were especially at risk. In 2015, she created a swim program for the summer program at Mustard Seed School. Since she is a swim coach, she thought she could do something to help. The program she created included games geared towards making kids more confident and able in the water and taught their summer team how to teach basic freestyle and backstroke. She also created a pamphlet for parents on how to keep their children safe around water.

Rheem Elementary Fourth-grader Earns 4-H P Platinum Seal

Submitted by Charlie Gruebele



Fourth-grader Madison Gruebele.

Photo provided

Lamorinda 4-H member Madison Gruebele, earned a Platinum Seal for her cultural arts presentation, "Tinikling: Filipino Bamboo Dance," at the 2016 California State 4-H Field Day that was held at UC Davis on May 28.

To advance to the state level, Madison earned gold medals at the County Level held in February and the North Central Section Level held in March. Madison chose Tinikling as her topic because of her Filipino heritage and love of dance. During her two years in Lamorinda 4-H, Madison, a fourth-grader at Rheem Elementary School, said she has learned a lot about community service, animals, sewing and public speaking. In addition to 4-H, Madi enjoys playing piano and viola, dancing, and reading.

To learn more about the 4-H Youth Development Program, visit <http://ucanr.edu/sites/contracosta4h/>.

Del Rey's Maker Faire a Sunny Event

Submitted by Marge Maceda



Students from Del Rey Elementary School worked with robots, drones, clay animation and solar technology during the school's Maker's Day Fair last June 2.

Photo Sun Light & Power-Kristin Broussard

Del Rey Elementary School, along El Camino Moraga, held a Maker's Day Fair on campus on June 2 to further foster their students' interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) and the arts.

Students and their families enjoyed the

half-day event as they gained hands-on experience working with robots, drones, clay animation, green screen movie making and solar technology.

According to Del Rey principal Kirsten Theurer, the Maker's Day Fair exemplifies great community spirit. "We hope that this fair will further inspire our future artists, scientists, doctors, astronauts, engineers and researchers."

Sun Light & Power (SLP), the company who will be installing solar systems at five OUSD schools this summer, and TerraVerde Renewable Partners LLC, the company assisting the Orinda unified School District in their solar project, did a solar power demonstration that focused on solar cell exploration and clean energy generation.

Aside from exploring STEM-related booths, students wrote movie scripts and created a video of their stories using either green screen, or clay and an iPad. John Toki, a well-known Bay Area sculptor, guided the students as they help design, weld and paint a piece of public art to be displayed at the Orinda Library and later to be installed at Del Rey.

Glorietta Elementary School, another OUSD school, will hold a similar event in the fall, with the exact date to be determined.

Eagle Scouts Mark Memorial Day With Flag Placements

Submitted by Keith Beard



Eagle Scout Aidan Beard of Troop 200, Lafayette, decorates a Veteran's grave at Oakmont Memorial Park on Saturday May 28. In all, Troop 200 scouts and leaders placed nearly 500 flags.

Photo provided

Common Interests Bring Different Faiths Together

Submitted by Terry Clark

On Saturday May 21, area residents from Christian, Muslim, and Jewish congregations gathered together at the Lafayette Reservoir to enjoy relaxed fun, fellowship, each other's foods and rich conversation under the theme "Harmony in Diversity."

The occasion was the second annual Interfaith Picnic sponsored by Neighbor to Neighbor, an East Bay partnership among different faiths established six years ago to promote understanding, respect, appreciation for others' religions and deep inter-relationships among people of all cultures and faiths.

As the 100 or so picnickers arrived, each placed a flag pin in a very large World Map at the country of origin for their ancestry. Virtually all pins landed in Europe, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, South America and elsewhere around the world. As N2N Coordinator Terry Clark explained later in the program, "The results underscore that (unless we are Native Americans) all of our families originated with immigrants from outside the United States. From these diverse origins, we come together to create the

strengths of our country."

An early highlight was the outdoor Christian worship service, conducted by Pastor Lauren Gully of the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church. Her message deepened the theme of harmony in the diversity among people of different faiths and emphasized the importance of "our many Interfaith activities in the East Bay community connecting neighbor to neighbor."

Members from the San Ramon Valley Islamic Center and Temple Isaiah also spoke from their scriptures on this theme of the day. In addition, Pastor Gully carefully explained each element of the Christian worship for the benefit of the other faiths; and everyone joined in singing hymns together on common spiritual beliefs and the scriptural imperative to "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Before the group began their meal, all formed N2N's signature "Ring of Solidarity" in prayer and reflection on their motto of "People of All Faiths Standing Together" along with blessings from Jewish, Muslim and Christian representatives.

Families Without Borders Empowers Students in Sierra Leone

By Sophie Braccini



Terri Khonsari talks to donors during the fourth annual Families Without Borders gala.

Photo Sophie Braccini

From a beautiful home and backyard tucked in the hills of Sanders Ranch in Moraga, a group of Bay Area residents recently gathered to change the world, one country at a time.

During the fourth Families Without Borders Gala, not only did they give money, shared food, and learned about FWB programs, they also enabled a dynamic that aims at supporting the future elite of Sierra Leone while infusing the beneficiaries with a spirit of community service. The non-profit expects the strategy to multiply the initial investment and serve as a model for other non-profits supporting education in impoverished areas.

Terri Khonsari had the opportunity to discover Sierra Leone six years ago when visiting her daughter Niloufar Khonsari, who was working on a Fulbright fellowship at the University of Makeni in the West African country. She says she fell in love with the country and its people. From then on, she and her husband, Dr. Hamid Khonsari, have consistently pursued a mission of creating education and leadership opportunities for young Sierra Leoneans.

Sierra Leone is bordered by Guinea and Liberia; it has a long coastline along the Atlantic Ocean. The country has a lot of natural wealth, until the civil war that killed 120,000 people between 1992 and 2002. Afterward,

Sierra Leone's economic growth's prospects were excellent until the Ebola epidemic struck the country. Today, prospects are improving again but United Nations' figures still indicate that over 60 percent of the six millions Sierra Leoneans live on less than \$1.25 a day, and the average life expectancy is 48 years.

FWB's strategy is to pay for the tuition, housing and other college expenses of college-bound students who lack financial means, supporting them until they get their degree, while asking them to work to contribute to their own living expense, mentor other students, and engage in community service. "We show them that the more they serve, the greatest leaders they will be," says Khonsari. She adds that, for example, her students now mentor the poorest of the poor school-age children, and teach adult literacy classes. According to the non-profit leader, this top-down strategy of empowerment is sustainable in the long term and multiplies the initial investment.

Over the years Khonsari's enthusiasm and truthfulness have allowed her to attract a group of faithful supporters. They all gathered at her Moraga home on May 22 for the FWB gala. The crowd was a mix of Americans of all origins, including Persians like the Khonsaris, and Africans, among many others.

Inez Wondeh, board member of FWB said she is from Liberia and met the Khonsaris through her job as chief operating officer at BASS Medical Group. It is the educational mission of the non-profit that pushed her to devote herself to it.

Floria Hakimi is a friend of Khonsari's. She is also on the advisory board of Moms Against Poverty, a non-profit supporting children in need in Senegal, Cambodia, India

and Iran. She had brought a \$10,000 check from MAP to support FWB's scholarships to help fund FWB's new learning center in Makeni.

During the event, a Skype connection was established with Sierra Leone and about a dozen students interacted with the crowd. Among them was Ibrahim Kalokoh, the first beneficiary and first college graduate of the organization's scholarship program in Sierra Leone. A very energetic and bright young man, he is now the data manager for the Human Trial of Ebola Vaccine in Sierra Leone. He is also country manager for FWB programs, overseeing all FWB activities in his country. He also launched FWB's high-speed internet café and technology center, which is the very first in Makeni.

Khonsari said that all the money collected during the successful event would be used for Sierra Leonean students' scholarships and other local educational programs. She added that her organization wants to empower students who really need it, have the desire to serve themselves in turn, and have leadership potential. FWB visits high schools in poor neighborhoods to find scholarship candidates and partners with other non-profit such as EducAid, a British non-profit that helps poor high-school students, running radio advertisements to inform people of the possibilities of the programs.

Khonsari has been talking with other groups about FWB's pay it forward approach of investing in young people who will consequently support the development of their country and she hopes the strategy will multiply.

As for now, she can't wait to go back to Sierra Leone. She says she lives here so she can serve there. "This is the home for my heart," she adds.

Daytrips & Getaways

Explore the Magic of Forestville

By Fran Endicott



Forestville is now known for good wines and food. Photos provided

The bohemian enclave of Forestville in the Russian River Valley (about 80 miles north, and west of Santa Rosa) has long attracted writers, artists, and counterculture activists. But residents are noticing changes in their quiet town; while tie-dye can still be spotted here and there, tourists now roam the streets – or street – where an original hardware store and pharmacy are nestled between wine-tasting rooms.

The town's architecture is eclectic, modest, and friendly – a built-over-time mix of quaint, free standing buildings, some dating back to the turn of the last century. Bicyclists and hikers love the many miles of trail, and kayakers and canoers flock to the river. But the real draw is the area's wineries, and the luxurious Farmhouse Inn – a romantic boutique hotel with a Michelin-starred restaurant. Proprietors Catherine Bartolomei-Smith and her brother Joe grew up in Forestville, and together they have created a sumptuous six-acre gem that is alone worth a trip to the area.

Featuring 25 varying sized farm-chic rooms with above-and-beyond amenities, the Farmhouse Inn is the epitome of casual elegance. Guests are greeted with the offer of a glass of wine, and a choice of organic bath amenities to take to the room, or take home – handmade soap, bath powders, and artisanal seasonal scrubs. Rooms are lavishly appointed with large jetted tubs, European linens, radiant heated floors, indoor-outdoor fireplaces, private patios, complimentary snacks, and fresh-baked cookies at turndown. The makings for gourmet s'mores (to be heated over one of the many fire pits) are ever-

ready in the lobby, and a beautiful three-course breakfast is included. While the Farmhouse Inn's beautiful pool, hot-tub, and spa (featuring a "farm-to-spa table" menu of treatments including ingredients like forest honey, heirloom cider apples, and garden grown herbs) are more than enough to keep you occupied during your stay, you'll want to explore the area a bit. A great place to start is Forestville's main drag – Front Street. Head to the Joseph Jewell Wines tasting room and let friendly manager Dawn Marie guide you through their portfolio of small-batch, handcrafted pinots, zins and chardonnays. Afterward, move up the road a bit to Russian River Vineyards and Farm to enjoy lunch at the only winery-based restaurant in the Russian River Valley. This historic 1890s farmhouse offers indoor or outdoor wine tasting and dining in a bucolic setting; menu items are sourced from the more than 45 different types of vegetables grown on the property. After lunch, set your sights on

Gary Farrell Winery, technically in Healdsburg, but just a short drive up the hill, directly across from your Farmhouse Inn home base. It's hard to imagine a better vantage point from which to savor the splendors of the Russian River Valley than Gary Farrell – renowned for its pinot noir and chardonnay. From your terrace perch overlooking the forested valley below, enjoy a plate of local gourmet cheeses selected expressly to complement each tasting as your wine educator explains the origins of each delicious pour.

Head back the short distance to the Farmhouse Inn and lounge by the pool, or on your private patio. Explore the sylvan gardens (designed and landscaped expertly by Roland Crighton, formerly with Valley Crest Design Group and now with Forma Design Partners) and the many seating areas, water features, and vine covered trellises that will likely make you consider a remodel or rejuvenation of your own backyard.

Though there are other restaurant choices in town, a stay at the Farmhouse Inn is not complete without dinner at its charming restaurant. Chef Steve Litke has maintained his Michelin-star status for six consecutive years, and his 'Rabbit, Rabbit, Rabbit' dinner entrée (rabbit served three ways) is legendary. He sources the ingredients for his ever-changing menu from the Bartolomei's ranch, and from local artisan farmers, and the results are spectacular, and a perfect way to end a perfect day in Forestville.

Farmhouse Inn and Restaurant, 7871 River Road, Forestville, 707-887-3300; www.farmhouseinn.com



La Senorita has Half a Century of Teaching Spanish at Campolindo

By Cathy Dausman



Lola Danielli

Photo Cathy Dausmann

The year was 1963 or mil, novecientos sesenta y tres in Spanish, when Lola Danielli arrived at Campolindo High School fresh out of U.C. Berkeley. The Spanish teacher from the previous year was not returning.

"I thought I'd died and gone to heaven," Danielli said of her new assignment in a nearly new school. More than 50 years and two generations of students later, she is still behind a Campolindo desk instilling her knowledge of Spanish and a love of teaching to every student who takes her class.

It is finals week and Danielli is preparing an 800-point multiple choice test. Students are casually dressed, but the petite Senorita is neatly coiffed in dress, sweater and her signature high heels. Danielli elects to sit in a student desk near the reporter but there is no mistaking just who is la profesora.

"I'm a hard teacher," Danielli says of her refusal to water down her teaching. "I don't care if you're the governor's son or daughter," she added. It comes, she says, from being raised on a Santa Rosa ranch and living a work ethic which didn't include taking sick days off. She still spends weekends and summers there. Her first formal education was at a one room schoolhouse where her teacher encouraged her to speak English and not the Italian her parents spoke at home. She toyed with becoming a veterinarian but "can't stand blood." She also felt she owed gratitude to the grade school teacher who in-

sisted she develop fluency in English.

She considered attending what was then San Jose State College before settling on U.C. Berkeley on the advice of her father's friend. She earned an undergraduate degree in romance languages and later earned a master's degree and nearly finished her doctorate. "I love learning," Danielli says emphatically. She encourages each of her students to become teachers and teachers of Spanish, but it is a hard sell when they are teens. "They laugh," she says. But later in life, even those who do not teach are proud of their ability to communicate in a second language, and Danielli is equally proud of them – most especially when they return to her classroom.

She counts among former students a Kaiser doctor whom she met on an ER visit, a Santa Rosa winery worker, a retired judge who was often the only Spanish speaker in his courtroom, several attorneys and a United Nations translator.

She is now teaching her second generation of estudiantes and delights to see parents of current students taking their former seats during open house. "Class of 2016 was a good year," Danielli says. Except for two C grades, her students earned "all As and Bs." When asked the inevitable, the tenured for five decades teacher says she has no plans to retire. "When it's third generation I'm going to worry," she said.

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ART

Jennifer Perlmutter Gallery presents: Painting with Light — Photography and Watercolor from June 4 to July 9, with an artist talk on June 15. Photographers: Maude Pervere, Stephen Elbert, Suzanne Engelberg, Tanya Knoop, and Watercolorist Julie Cohn. (925) 284-1485 www.jenniferperlmuttergallery.com

The Moraga Art Gallery announces a new show, "Porcelain Poetry/Textile Treasures," featuring beautifully-crafted, functional pottery by member artist Donna Arganbright of Lafayette and a selection of vibrant quilts created by guest artist Denise Oyama Miller. The show runs from June 8 to Aug. 13. The Moraga Art Gallery is located at 522 Center Street, Moraga. (925) 376-5407.

The public is invited to attend the Art and Photography Show, featuring works by some 80 adult students, at Acalanes Adult Education (AAE). Some items will be available for sale. Refreshments will be served. AAE is located at 1963 Tice Valley Blvd, Walnut Creek. The exhibit will continue on weekdays only through July 29.

MUSIC

Orinda Summer Concerts in the Park Series continues from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the Orinda Community Park. June 14: Bay Bridge Beat, 70s Funk & Soul, Food Truck: Kenny's Heart & Soul, soul food. June 21: Stratify, jazz; Food Truck: An the Go, Asian fusion. June 28: 3 Day Weekend, Motown; Food Truck: Streetdogs, Chicago style hot dogs.

Rock the Plaza Friday night concerts starting at 6:30 p.m. at Plaza Park on the corner of Mt. Diablo Boulevard and Moraga Road in Lafayette will feature The Big Jangle, a local band dedicated to playing Tom Petty tunes, on Friday, June 17, and the 2016 Lamorinda Idol Finalists on Friday, June 24.

Celebrate National Make Music Day at Lafayette Plaza Park from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on June 21 for free musical fun for all ages, including live band karaoke, singing, ukulele music and musical crafts. Make Music Day is a musical free-for-all that celebrates music in all its forms, encouraging people to band together and play in free public concerts. Make Music Day is part of international Fête de la Musique, taking place in 700 cities across 120 countries.

Thursday evening concerts continue from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Moraga Commons Park: June 23: Apple Z, Rock & Roll; June 30: Moonalice, Bay Area 60s. Picnic on a blanket or lawn chairs on the grassy hillside in front of the band shell.

Children who approach a keyboard for the first time instinctively know that what will happen will be unique and special — so rediscover the child in you. Come to St. Paul's free no charge Piano Improvisation Demonstration and Exhibition (a part of the St. Paul's Con-

cert Series) at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, June 24, whether you are a trained musician or simply want to enjoy some splendid music. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1924 Trinity Ave, Walnut Creek. For more information, contact Dwight Stone, Music Director and Producer at stonemusique@gmail.com or phone (510) 512-2623

The free Sunday Concert Series continues with award-winning baritone Zachary Gordin, renowned for bringing masterful singing and strong physicality to a wide variety of roles, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday, June 26 at The Kensington, 1580 Geary Road, Walnut Creek. Reservations required at (925) 243-7592, www.VintageKensington.com.

The MFA in Dance Program at Saint Mary's College presents Coalesce, an original and distinctive dance work that explores universal themes of culture, community, spirituality, family and the physical body within the context of distance and proximity. Coalesce is presented at 4 and 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 30 at Saint Mary's LeFevre Theatre, 1928 St. Mary's Road, Moraga. Cost: general, \$15, senior and SMC Community, \$10, Buy online at stmarys-ca.edu/forms/mfa-dance-concert.

THEATER

Town Hall Theatre Company presents "Play It Again, Sam" by Woody Allen and directed by Soren Oliver in Lafayette through June 25. Tickets and exact show times are available at www.townhalltheatre.com or at by calling (925) 283-1557.

"Florence Nightingale" performs at 8 p.m. on June 17 and 18 at the Martinez Campbell Theatre, 636 Ward St. in Martinez. Tickets at the door are \$20 and may be reserved by calling (925) 518-3277. For more information visit Onstageattheatre.homestead.com.

LECTURE & LITERATURE

"A New Color: The Art of Being Edythe Boone" is an hour long documentary about the life of a San Francisco muralist and painter. The filmmaker, "Mo" Morris, will present the film at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 18 at the Walnut Creek Library located at 1644 N. Broadway, downtown Walnut Creek. There will be a question-and-answer session with Ms. Morris after the film.

KIDS, PARENTS & TEENS

Come to the Summer Movies in the Park Series. Movies begin at dusk on Thursdays at the Orinda Community Park. June 23: "Minions."

OTHER

KPFA Radio 94.1 FM presents author Rebecca Gordon: "American Nuremberg: The American Officials Who Should Stand Trial for Post 9/11 War Crimes" from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 15, at Berkeley Hillside Club, 2286 Cedar St, Berkeley.

Answers, questions and book-signing. Cost: \$12 advance, \$15 door. For more info see <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2547547> or call (510) 967-4495.

Diablo Ballet and its Teen Board present their first annual PAWS de Tutu event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on June 18 at the Lafayette Reservoir. Participants are invited to dress up their dogs and enter the dog costume "ComPAWtition" and win some amazing prizes. Anyone interested in participating, should register online at www.diabloballet.org as participation is limited. Registration fees are \$30 for adults and \$20 for youth 17 and under.

Be a big daddy this Father's Day by adopting a new kitten or cat from Community Concern for Cats. See the adorable felines at CC4C'S adoption event from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, June 18 and 19, at Pet Food Express in Lafayette and Pleasant Hill, and Petco in Walnut Creek. For more information visit www.communityconcernforcats.org.

Honor those with Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers by participating in The Longest Day on Monday, June 20, a sunrise-to-sunset team activity held annually on the Summer Solstice that raises disease awareness and funds toward Alzheimer's care, support and research. Join an existing team or create your own team with activities that honor your loved ones. Register now at: alz.org/TLD.

ManorCare Walnut Creek Wellness Faire, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, June 22 at 1226 Rossmoor Pkwy, Walnut Creek. Local vendors will be demonstrating products, and providing health screenings. Admission is free. Call (510) 340-8453 or (925) 975-5000 to RSVP.

Ribbon cutting from 4:30 to 7 p.m. on Thursday June 23 at Sutter Health Urgent Care, 12 Camino Encinas, Orinda. There will be music and appetizers. A tour of the new urgent care facility will be offered.

Celebrate ARF's 25th birthday by growing your family by four feet. Through June 30, all dogs, cats, puppies, kittens at ARF have \$25 adoption fees. There's no better time to meet your new best friend. Stop by ARF at 2890 Mitchell Drive in Walnut Creek to meet your perfect match, or browse pets online to find your favorite furry face. Standard adoption criteria apply.

SENIORS

Mindful Aging @Moraga Library: Introduction to Meditation for Stress Relief at 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 23. Dr. Marshall Zaslove, a board certified psychiatrist, author and meditation practitioner for over 40 years, will offer simple, effective techniques, and will demonstrate the most practical methods of controlling and becalming the mind for better meditations and many other health benefits.

MOVIE REVIEW

Film Clips

Acclaimed Plummer Returns to Rheem

By Derek Zemrak



Once again Lamorinda residents will have the opportunity to hear Litz Plummer perform live at the Rheem Theatre at 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 18.

Plummer appeared at the Rheem in February to a sold-out audience, as she astonished attendees singing opera's greatest arias. This time, she will be performing the most-loved songs in the history of Broadway and the movies.

Plummer is a spinto soprano, a classification of voice that combines the melodic ease of a lyric soprano with some of the depth of tone and power of a dramatic soprano. This unique mix of timbres allows her to perform an eclectic mix of repertoires, even allowing her to sing arias from traditionally mezzo soprano roles.

At the tender age of three, Plummer announced to her parents that she would be an opera singer, presumably after watching a Bugs Bunny cartoon. The idea stayed with her through her formative years, and she finally began her formal training at age 13. At the University of Georgia, she studied with Dr. David Stoffel, a baritone, earning a bach-

elor's degree in vocal performance. After graduating, she moved to North Carolina and worked as the house singer at two Raleigh-area Macaroni Grills, eventually becoming involved with the Durham Savoyards (a Gilbert and Sullivan troupe) and the Long Leaf Opera, before moving to San Francisco to pursue the dream of a performing career.

Plummer has performed in such varied venues as the Legion of Honor, the de Young and Asian Art Museums, Martuni's, The Punchline, Broadway Studios, Copia, the Bohemian Grove, the Marin Art and Garden Center and the Eagle Tavern.

Plummer also appeared on the hit television series, "America's Got Talent."

The Rheem Theatre is proud to bring this caliber of live entertainment to Lamorinda. Plummer's performance of "Ave Maria" alone is worth the price of admission, which is \$20. Tickets can be purchased online at www.lamorindatheatres.com or at the Rheem Theatre Box-Office. Don't miss the amazing voice of Litz Plummer on June 18.

'Much Ado' is a Fast-paced Delight

By Lou Fancher



James Carpenter as Beatrice in California Shakespeare Theater's production of "Much Ado About Nothing," directed by Jackson Gay. Photo Alessandra Mello

Love and shame haven't changed in over 400 years.

Words of devotion or degradation written by William Shakespeare in approximately 1598 and hurried onto the stage in Cal Shakes' fast-paced season opener, "Much Ado About Nothing," cut to the "bones" as powerfully as when they were originally crafted.

Adapted by Kenneth Lin and Jackson Gay, the re-imagined 100-minute play has a stellar cast hurling gossip, innuendos and loving declarations at heart-racing speeds in the outdoor theater company's 25th season at Orinda's Bruns Amphitheater. If an opening scene fails to do more than alert audiences to Cal Shake's progressive approach to classic theater or folds into flatness or confusion as it introduces overused gender-bending role play, the rest of the action is a jolly jig.

Lin, widely known as a writer-producer of the Emmy-award winning "House of Cards," and Gay, who directs the production, begin Shakespeare's comedic play about gender, class and love with an add-on. Behind the scenes at a wedding, a catering crew tells exaggerated — and not so exaggerated — versions of wedding guests' behavior. While it's well-written by Lin and often clever in simple ways — "Messina's," written on the side of the catering truck is an easy leap to Messina, the city in which Shakespeare set "Much Ado" — the flip between this 21st century prologue and the actual play is cloudy. In this version, actors play multiple roles; male actors play female characters and vice versa: some people may find the additional mélange of old and new eras overly confusing.

At the same time, Lin has trimmed significant portions of the play. The resulting briskness—and the casts' incisive per-

formances—eventually erase any mix-ups and keep the basic plot afloat with dramatic, accelerated flair.

The classic "Much Ado" is a romantic comedy that delves occasionally into issues of class and society but remains primarily centered on Beatrice, a young woman with a wicked wit, and Benedick, an aristocratic soldier. Both claim to have little interest in marriage or each other, but everyone around them knows attraction sizzles between them. A second romance between the gentle Hero and brave but impetuous Claudio takes more stage time but serves primarily to underscore the bitter or steamy battles played out across social classes and between lovers.

They've all been brought together by the triumphal return of Don Pedro, Prince of Aragon. Don Pedro has defeated his brother, Don John, in a recent battle. Gathered at the home of Leonato, the father of Hero and uncle of Beatrice, resentment lurks in every corner. While the upper class folks carve each other into mincemeat, the commoners revel or trip over the leftovers—most notably, Dogberry, the constable of Messina whose verbal foibles have the nobility labeling him "an ass." Through a matrix of lies, eavesdropping and manipulations, public shaming nearly destroys the prospect of love and the possibility peace between family members. Of course, in this Shakespeare play famous for having no one die, all is well by the end and a double wedding promises to be celebratory.

James Carpenter (Beatrice) is most moving, infusing his portrayal of femininity with tremendous grace, nobility and a physicality that is never cliché or self-mocking. Stacy Ross (Benedick) inhabits the oily/prickly dynamic of a

man separated from his own self so completely that it takes conscious effort to remember this is a woman playing a man — and even more effort to care, when the acting is this good. In a performance Sunday, June 5, Lance Gardner (Ursula, Don Pedro) was infinitely watchable in high-contrasting roles. Anthony Fusco (Dogberry, Leonato) proved himself adept at all levels; charming as Messina's bumbling chief of police and hateful as a disdainful father declaring ownership of his daughter. No wonder he is a staple at Cal Shakes, A.C.T., Berkeley Rep and other Bay Area theater companies.

Eric Flatmo's set that relied largely on mobile props was appealing, if surprisingly underused. Costumes by Karina Chavarin were most effective in Carpenter's bold green jacket that mimicked a miniskirt and the first scene's quick-change hats and jackets used to establish identity. "Much Ado" runs through June 19.

For the complete season and more information, visit <http://www.calshakes.org/>.



Stacy Ross as Benedick in California Shakespeare Theater's production of MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING, directed by Jackson Gay. Photo Alessandra Mello

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Price: \$50 per participant. Max fee per family (2 or more participants): \$100. Payment available on website.

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Willow Spring Church, 1689 School St., Moraga

Service Clubs Announcements



We meet Friday mornings at 7:00 am at **The Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa**, 3666 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette. For more info, please email us at lamorindasunrise@gmail.com

June 17
John Bateson, The Last Great Battle

June 24
The curtain comes down on the Ron Melvin show!

Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary will be DARK on Friday, July 1. Happy Fourth of July. Enjoy the extra-long weekend!

Lafayette Rotary Club

Step in on a Thursday and join us for our lunch meeting. Thursday at noon Oakwood Athletic Club, 4000 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette.

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www.rotarylafayette.org
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Get Your Summer Sizzling With Shelby's Penne Pasta Arrabiata

By Susie Iventosch



Miami and New Orleans to Utah and Los Angeles, honing his skills and picking up regional influences. Eventually, he landed in northern California and was the banquet chef for eight years at Oakland's Waterfront Hotel.

Eleven years ago, Kober joined forces with Rangel and they bought Shelby's. They offer a varied and interesting menu featuring dishes from all over the world ... a menu they refer to as "European Fusion."

We are so fortunate that Kober has shared his version of Penne Pasta Arrabiata for our readers. I've usually seen arrabiata made with red chili pepper flakes, but this one is made with jalapenos, and plenty of them, but somehow, the dish is not too hot, but just perfectly flavorful and spicy.

"Our goal at Shelby's is that our guests enjoy the culinary journey through the many different types of dishes we offer," Kober said.

Shelby's recently received a full liquor license and now offers a complete bar, featuring house specialties made with Kober's homemade jams. Two that he mentioned are the Cosmo, made with currant jam; and the Purity Mule, made with kiwi jam. The jams are also packaged and available for purchase at the restaurant.

Shelby's Restaurant
2 Orinda Theatre Square
Orinda, CA 94563
Phone: (925) 254-9687
For menus, hours and a listing of their jams, please visit: www.shelbyseatbetter.com.

This tasty, spicy pasta is perfect for a summer meal. Photo Susie Iventosch

We took my father-in-law to dinner at Shelby's in Orinda for his birthday last month and had the delightful experience of having one of the owners, Arno Kober, serve us. He was full of great information about the menu and the ingredients and was such a charming fellow.

Although he is the chef and runs the kitchen, he makes a point of being out in the front of the house a couple of nights each week. Normally, his business partner, Carlos Rangel, runs the front of the restaurant, but Kober really enjoys hearing what his guests have to say, and so you'll find him working in the dining room on Wednesdays and Sundays.

Kober, who hails from Hamburg and went to culinary school in Germany, said the chef programs there last three-and-one-half years and combine hands-on restaurant experience with two months each year of attending culinary school. At the end of this program, if the student passes

both the practical and written exams, he or she is promoted to "journeyman." And, with that, the students are set free to move wherever they can find a job, and in fact, the German government highly encourages these young chefs to travel and work abroad to expand their culinary skills.

Journeyman Kober, full of adventure and eager to explore, set out for Oaxaca, Mexico. "I went on a tourist visa, knew nothing about the place, had no knowledge of Spanish, and didn't even have a job!" he said.

But, it was providence, because he immediately found a job and met his future business partner at the same time. What he treasures most about his time working in Oaxaca was the ability to become fluent in Spanish and to learn all about the different kinds of chilies, something he wasn't too familiar with, being a German.

After leaving Mexico, Kober worked at different locations around the United States from

Shelby's Penne Pasta Arrabiata (Serves 5-7)

INGREDIENTS

- 1 16-ounce package of penne pasta (Arno likes Barilla)
- 3-4 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1 large yellow onion, chopped
- 5 cloves of fresh garlic, minced
- 2 large red bell peppers, diced
- 10 spicy jalapeno peppers or 2 habanero peppers (I used jalapeno and finely diced them before sautéing with the rest of the veggies.)
- 1 lb. uncooked bacon
- 1 large can of peeled Roma tomatoes
- 50 ounces (6 ¼ cups) of vegetable stock or chicken stock
- 1 small can of tomato paste
- 1 bunch of parsley, lightly chopped
- 1 tsp. of Italian seasoning
- 1 small bunch fresh basil, leaves only (can leave whole or cut up a bit)
- 1/2 cup of sugar (I used just a couple of tablespoons ... you need just enough to balance out the acids)
- 2 cups heavy cream
- Salt and pepper to taste

Additionally you can use powdered chicken stock to season

Tools needed:

- 1 large stock pot
- Chef's knife
- Immersion blender or countertop blender

DIRECTIONS

Peel onion and cut in medium dice. Chop garlic very fine or use a garlic press. Sauté onions in 2 Tbsp. oil over medium heat, without taking on much color. Then add garlic and give it a few stirs. Cut bacon into large chunks and add to onions and garlic and sauté until bacon is cooked to medium crisp. Add jalapeno pepper and continue cooking over medium low heat.

Add the can of peeled tomatoes, tomato paste, lightly chopped parsley, Italian seasoning, basil and the vegetable or chicken stock. Simmer on low heat for about 1 -1/2 hours. Add sugar as needed to balance out the tomato acids, but the sauce should not taste sweet.

Add heavy cream and blend the sauce. At Shelby's they use a commercial immersion blender for that purpose. I used a small food processor.

The finished product should be blended until very smooth and there should not be any small chunks visible.

Season to taste with salt, pepper and powdered chicken stock, if desired.

In the meantime cook pasta according to package instructions. Toss with sauce and garnish with plenty of freshly grated Parmesan cheese. Serve piping hot.

Susie can be reached at suziventosch@gmail.com. This recipe can be found on our website: www.lamorindaweekly.com. If you would like to share your favorite recipe with Susie please contact her by email or call our office at (925) 377-0977.



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LAMORINDA SPORTS

Acalanes Baseball Wins NCS Title

By Karl Buscheck



Acalanes baseball team celebrating their title win.

Photos Gint Federas

The Acalanes baseball team capped off an undefeated league campaign by claiming the NCS division III crown with a 4-1 win over Analy on June 4.

"I don't know if I've ever been more proud of a team that I've coached," head coach Justin Santich-Hughes said after his championship club went 30-2 overall and a perfect 12-0 in DFAL play. "It's just an amazing group of guys who are very selfless."

In the title matchup at Saint Mary's Louis Guisto Field, senior ace Grant Young pitched a complete game and recorded five strikeouts in the process.

"Pitching wise, Grant did exactly what we wanted to do," Santich-Hughes explained. "We knew that Analy liked to take walks and kind of look for the other team to give them stuff. So, Grant just pitched to contact and let our defense work. And thankfully our defense played a really good game."

After falling into a 1-0 hole in the top of the first, Tommy Henderson connected on an RBI double to even the contest the bottom half of the inning.

"[Seniors] Jake Berry and Tommy Henderson were absolutely huge [this year]," Santich-Hughes said. "Our offense was very good, but they were kind of the leaders of a very good offense."

Junior Daniel Kim gave the Dons a 2-1 edge with an RBI single later in the first, and Young never gave the lead back.

"Daniel Kim had a very nice postseason," Santich-Hughes said of the outfielder. "I think he had four RBIs against Miramonte [in the semifinals and] two more against Analy."

The No. 1 seed Dons, whom MaxPreps ranked as the 30th best team in the state, had to get past both of their local rivals before arriving at the championship game.

In the quarterfinals on May 28, Acalanes blanked Campolindo 5-0 at home to put an end to the Cougars' season.

"I thought that we never reached our absolute full potential as a team," explained Campolindo outfielder Max Flower who will be

playing for Cal next season

After the Cougars went 15-11 overall and 8-4 in DFAL action, Flower pointed to the club's resiliency as its greatest attribute.

"I think we did a great job of battling back all year and never giving up," Flower said.

Four days later, the Dons dumped Miramonte out of the post-season with a 6-2 win in Lafayette.

"Acalanes was a really good team and we knew we'd have to face them sooner or later," said head coach Vince Dell'Aquila, whose Mats earned the No. 12 seed after posting a 16-11 record (6-6 in DFAL). "And I think we showed really well against them. But we came up a little bit short."

Dell'Aquila was left to wonder how the season would have worked out if his staff ace hadn't been hampered by shoulder problems.

"James Vaccaro had some arm

issues," Dell'Aquila said of the USC-bound starter. "So, he kind of just gutted through the season and gave us everything he had. But, healthy, it might have been a little bit different."

With Vaccaro limited, the Mats leaned on the likes of Tim Tague, Zach Wong, Garrett Johnson, Sam Liang and EJ Hodges bolster the pitching staff.

Next year, the Mats will once again be able to call on a strong core as the team aims for yet another NCS run.

"We had 12 juniors and sophomores that were contributors," Dell'Aquila noted. "So, as I said at our banquet, our seniors laid a great foundation and a benchmark for our players for next year. I think our players next year, if they can get to the semifinals, I think that they feel pretty good about it."



Grant Young



Daniel Kim



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Acalanes Softball Hopes to Make its Mark in NCS Quarterfinals

By Karl Buscheck



Mary Keeler



Alex Grant-Hudd

Even though star shortstop Zoe Marrott never played a single inning, the Acalanes softball team managed to advance to the NCS division III quarterfinals.

"The day she got hurt on the field – it was a practice – and it was just like the whole team was quiet," said head coach Victor Silva, recalling the scene after Marrott tore her shoulder. "And it took them a couple of days to recover. Everyone was just so down."

After earning the No. 11 seed in the NCS bracket, the Dons (9-11 overall and 4-8 in league), topped No. 6 Sonoma Valley 13-8 on the road on May 24. The playoff push – minus Marrott who's headed to Cal on a full scholarship next fall – ended three days later when the team was shutout 13-0 by Analy in Sebastopol.

"It seemed like every time we won, it was someone different stepping up," Silva explained. "It was a team effort and I don't think I've ever had so much fun. The girls all got along and they all had a great time playing softball."

During the run to the postseason, a trio of senior co-stars emerged for the Dons – including Mary Keeler who shifted from center field to cover the vacancy at shortstop.

"Alex Grant-Hudd was the MVP for us for the whole year," Silva said. "But we also couldn't have done it without Mary Keeler and Kaitlyn Johnson."

While the Dons' roster was loaded with veterans, the Cougars trotted out one of the most youthful squads in DFAL.

"We had a very young team," said Campolindo head coach Wayne Stephens, who had just one senior and three juniors to call on. "So, next year we're going to have a much more seasoned team."

While the lack of upperclassmen resulted in an 8-15 mark overall and a 0-12 record in league, Stephens said there are still positives to take away from challenging campaign.

"It gave us the ability to get the younger kids in and playing this year," Stephens said. "So, it gave them the experience needed for the varsity level."

One of the players gaining that valuable experience was freshman Katelyn Poole, who took over as the team's new catcher and cleanup hitter. The Cougars needed Poole behind the plate because the old backstop had moved to the mound.

"She knew that we were going to be short-handed in pitching. So, in the offseason she decided to take it on herself and put herself in a position that she ended up being our starting pitcher," Stephens said of sophomore Abby Morris. "She got us through the season."

Another sophomore ended up winning the job at shortstop – the most demanding defensive position on the diamond.

"Ashley Thoms, who is an all-around great athlete, stepped in and played shortstop for us," Stephens said. "She stepped into a position that we thought was going to be hard to fill."

Like the Cougars, the Mats also had a roster short on experience.

"We were predominately a young team

that I felt was very competitive – by and large – when they needed to be," said head coach Steve Renfro. "So, I was very happy with them."

After falling to Acalanes 16-12 in extra-inning on May 19 in the final game of the season, Miramonte wrapped up the year with a 7-15 mark overall and a 3-9 record in DFAL action.

The Mats' top producer was the club's power-hitting third baseman.

"Megan Bower is – without a doubt – she's the difference maker on our team," Renfro said of the sophomore. "I think she ended up hitting something like 12 home runs. She just puts a lot of runs on the board for us. So, she's quite phenomenal."

According to Renfro, Bower wasn't the only Mats underclassman who emerged this spring.

"Overall, there's probably six or seven players that are really going to grow and make this team stronger as the years go by," Renfro said. "So, I'm pretty excited about it."

Acalanes, Campolindo and Miramonte End Track Season at State Meet

By Karl Buscheck

In her first full season on the Acalanes track team, senior Julia Lyons jumped her way to the largest stage in California.

"Making it to the State meet is the biggest feat – especially for somebody who's doing it for the first time," said head coach John Crain after Lyons competed in the long jump at the 98th CIF State Track and Field Champion-

ships on June 3 and 4 in Clovis. "So, for her to finish 16th overall is a huge accomplishment."

Lyons, who will join the track team at Boston College next year thanks to her brilliant spring, soaked in the environment at Veteran's Memorial Stadium at Buchanan High School.

"When I talked to her afterwards, she was very happy to be at

the State meet," Crain said. "She was very happy to be there competing and she just enjoyed her time a lot."

Lyons was the only Don to make it to State, but Crain was thrilled with how the season concluded for the entire girls team, which shared the league crown with Miramonte.

"We knew the girls were

good," Crain said. "And they even exceeded what we thought [they'd do]. For the most part, most of the girls are coming back. So, we expect to be even better next year."

Crain was also impressed with how the boys team surpassed their preseason expectations.

"The boys had a great season. At the beginning of the year, we

didn't have a whole lot of prospects coming back from last year's team," Crain said. "But for them to finish third in league and finish third in the league championship meet, they accomplished almost as much as the girls did."

The coach added: "It's going to be fun for the next two years – or more. [We] hope it continues."

... continued on page C3

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Orinda 9U All-Star Team Wins Bigtimer Baseball Tournament

Submitted by Marc Leibowitz



Bottom, from left: Luke Holden, Tyler Akel, Grant Kurtz, Gian Maguire. Kneeling, from left: Preston Rguem, Kobe Wong, Luke Milmoie; standing: Jason Wong (coach), Archer Eames, Anderson Butner, Marc Leibowitz (coach), Charlie Watters, Ethan Yu, Tarik Rguem (coach), David Leibowitz
Photo Haidee Wong

The Orinda 9U All-Star team defeated the Blossom Valley (San Jose) Mustang All-Stars, 15-0, to win the Bigtimer Baseball 2016 Memorial Day Tournament in Santa Cruz on May 30.

Strong pitching, consistent hitting and stingy defense propelled Orinda to victory over an impressive field of travel and all-star teams from Sacramento, the East Bay, the Peninsula and the South Bay. The All-Stars went 4-1 over the weekend, outscoring their

opponents 31-2 in the semi-final and final games against Hard 90 Pound Premier and Blossom Valley. Archer Eames and Grant Kurtz starred on the mound, while David Leibowitz, Luke Milmoie and Tyler Akel led the offensive charge and Preston Rguem, Kobe Wong, and Anderson Butner anchored the defense. Ethan Yu, Charlie Watters, Luke Holden, and Gian Maguire also contributed key hits and stolen bases.

U14 AB Seals Win Tourneys to End Four-year Run Together

Submitted by Kevin Reilly



Back row, from left: Jon Zuber (manager), Jake Delaney, Nick Kresnak, Tommy Thrasher, Kade Shipp, Luke Miles, Nicolas Bamont, Grant Harper. Front row, from left: Vince Bianchina, Declan Curran, Will Windatt, Ryan Reilly, Owen Hansen, Jack Muren
Photo Matt Hansen

The AB Seals, managed by Jon Zuber, won 14U tournaments in both Woodland, Calif., and Medford, Ore., in May to successfully conclude four-plus years of tournament baseball together. On May 15 the Seals won the "Twist It" tournament in Woodland and

then traveled to Oregon where they went undefeated in six games at the Memorial Day tournament in Medford, including a 10-5 win over DC Express from Roseburg, Ore., in the championship game.

Orinda 14 U Bandits Fight Their Way to Gold Championship

Submitted by Junaid Khan



From left: Ryan Ansel, Nico Hsu, Coach Robert Filipas, Amir Khan, Lucas Olsen, Nick Acevedo, Quentin Breznikar, Nick Wong, Cambell Hoskins, Nick Watson, Greg Austin, Coach Rob Ellis, Chris Watson
Photo provided

The Orinda baseball team 14 U Bandits are the 2016 680 Diablo League Gold Champions. The championship tournament was held June 3-5 in Santa Clara.

Manager Robert Filipas credited a true team effort for the win, with every player contributing with timely hitting and outstanding error free defense. Coach Robert Ellis orchestrated the pitching rotations to allow the Bandits the depth to finish: Greg Austin, Nick Watson, Campbell Hoskins, Quentin Breznikar were the winning pitchers throughout the tournament, while Lucas Olsen and Nick Wong provided clutch relief. Ryan Ansel and Amir Khan showed nerves of steel with nail-biting saves. Nico Hsu and Campbell Hoskins alternated at catcher, throwing out multiple base runners trying to steal.

Ansel and Khan brought the big lumber to Santa Clara as both hit timely home runs

that measured over 300 feet. The championship game was a fantastic back and forth battle that came down to the last inning. In the top of the seventh inning, Bandit right fielder Nick Acevedo made a great running catch in right field which prevented the go ahead run from scoring, followed by third baseman Chris Watson snaring a rocket off the Bulldawgs bat for the final out. The Bandits had one more chance to win the game and tournament heading into the bottom of the seventh.

The Bandits, started their half of the seventh with back-to-back doubles by Olsen and Khan, followed by an intentional walk to Wong. With the bases now loaded and the crowd roaring, the inning and game ended in dramatic fashion with a walk-off single by Austin, which plated Olsen for the winning run and sent the Orinda fans in attendance into wild celebration.

Nationals Beat Giants for Little League Title in Majors Division

Submitted by Sharyn Harrington



Top row from left: Sean Harrington, coach Allyn Oh, Graham Oh, Chase McReynolds, Dante Montgomery, Mason Michilitsch, Manager James Harrington, Nathan Kim, Luke Pearson, coach Dan Otoole, Connor Otoole; Bottom row from left: Kyle Bielawski, Colin Krznicar, Cooper Kenney; not pictured Alex McLin
Photo provided

The Lafayette Little League Championship game for the Majors Division was held Saturday June 4, at Buckeye Field. The

Nationals and Giants battled it out through two great games. The Nationals came out on top after a walk off home run by Graham Oh.

Lamorinda Track Stars Exceed Expectations at State Championship

...continued from page C2



Julia Lyons

Photo Gint Federas

Like Acalanes, Campolindo brought one athlete to Clovis in junior Niki Moore.

"His performance was a good

one considering it was his first time at that venue," said head coach Chuck Woolridge after Moore ran in sixth place in the third heat of the

800-meter preliminaries. "He was up against the best competition that he's seen in his career. He stayed very poised and executed his race

as best as he could in a very tough field."

The race marked yet another high point in Moore's transformation from young sprinter to middle-distance star. The week before State, Moore won the 800-meter race at the NCS Meet of Champions.

"I think it's a nice progression [for Niki]," Woolridge said. "He came in more as a 200 and 400 [meter] runner and has moved to the 800-meter distance over the last two-and-a-half years. This year, he took the next step in terms of the training he did, and that really paid off for him in the end of the year."

Moore was the only Cougar competing at the meet, but Woolridge was pleased with how the year shook out for the boys and girls teams at large.

"I think things went really well for us. It wasn't the best season in terms of the number of athletes we advanced onto the State meet, but I think our athletes got out of the season what they had hoped to get out of it," Woolridge said. "It was just a really great group of kids to

work with."

The Mats had two runners at the State meet, but the races didn't go as planned for senior Christian Gonzales and freshman Cassy Haskell.

"State meet wasn't the greatest for us," admitted head coach Tristan Tool after Gonzales placed in seventh in the first preliminary heat of the 800-meter race and Haskell finished in 11th in her heat of the 1,600.

"[It was] tough to end the season like that," Tool said. "But they both had fantastic breakout seasons as a whole."

Their showings at the State meet don't put a damper on what promises to be bright futures for both runners.

"Cassie Haskell ended the season as the No. 3 ranked freshman in the US in the 1,600 meter," Tool said. "[It was] an impressive season for her."

Meanwhile, Gonzales will continue his running career next spring at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn.

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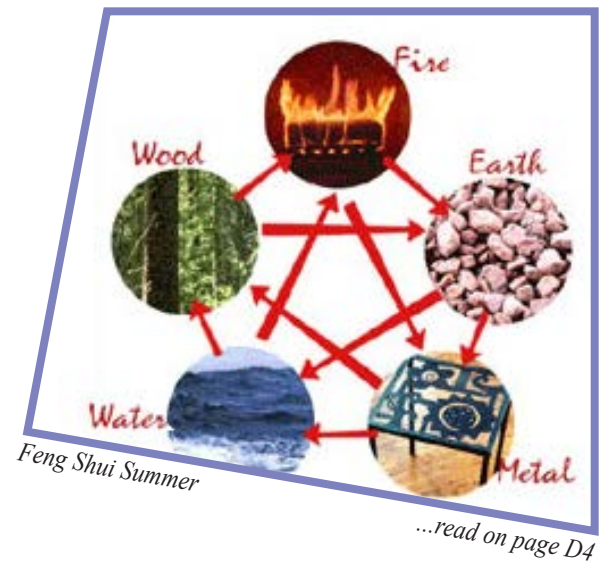
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Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 10 Issue 8 Wednesday, June 15, 2016



Digging Deep

Give Your Gardens Some Summer Love

By Cynthia Brian

“It’s better to be absolutely ridiculous than absolutely boring.” — Marilyn Monroe



Park a container of salvia, petunia, pelargonium, geranium, and other heat lovers next to a bench.

Photo Cynthia Brian

What a difference a few weeks make. Our weather went from cool, drizzly, and overcast to three digit temperatures in less than seven days, then back again. Our emerald green hills metamorphosed into golden grasslands seemingly overnight. Mother Nature is preparing us for the forthcoming summer solstice. Pool parties, barbecues, and kids playing outside portend a pleasant June. How wonderful it is to sit in a comfortable chaise on the patio on a warm evening admiring the landscape and the stars. Welcome to blooms in June.

I was delighted to have my daughter, Heather (yes, named after the flower), spend a couple of weeks with me recently. The first words out of her mouth as she walked into the garden were “Mom, your landscape looks like a scene from Alice in Wonderland. It’s so colorful, bold, beautiful.” Indeed, my garden is a riot of hues with roses, gladiolas, lilies, love-in-the-mist, calendulas, clematis, petunias, dahlias, hibiscus, geraniums, pelargoniums, calla lilies, nasturtiums, butterfly bush, guavas, daisies, poppies, osteospermum, chamomile, salvias, lavender, numerous herbs, and flowering succulents. Many of the blooms are edible, gracing my salads, sauces and stir-fries.

There is no mystery to incorporating some summer loving into your garden. My secret sauce is to plant a plethora of perennials and bulbs enhanced by color spots of annuals augmented by shrubs that bloom, trees that bear fruit, with edibles everywhere. Add your unique creative artistry to create your personalized haven and voila! Instant success, year after year.

The elements you must consider whenever you are planting perennials or any plant are soil, light, moisture needs, climate, colors and plant qualities. Once you know what you like, you can layer your landscape to attract the pollinators, birds and wildlife, all the while being water conscious and employing practical earth stewardship.

... continued on page D12



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Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

City	Last reported:	LOWEST AMOUNT:	HIGHEST AMOUNT:
LAFAYETTE	17	\$830,000	\$3,500,000
MORAGA	10	\$689,500	\$1,975,000
ORINDA	13	\$955,000	\$1,585,000

Home sales are compiled by Cal REsource, an Oakland real estate information company. Sale prices are computed from the county transfer tax information shown on the deeds that record at close of escrow and are published five to eight weeks after such recording. This information is obtained from public county records and is provided to us by California REsource. Neither Cal REsource nor this publication are liable for errors or omissions.

LAFAYETTE

- 3222 Apache Court, \$1,300,000, 4 Bdrms, 1701 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 5-16-16;
Previous Sale: \$800,000, 03-27-12
- 839 Avalon Avenue, \$1,310,000, 3 Bdrms, 1548 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 5-17-16
- 3184 Diablo View Road, \$1,122,500, 5 Bdrms, 3293 SqFt, 1991 YrBlt, 5-23-16;
Previous Sale: \$850,000, 05-30-02
- 3400 Echo Springs Road, \$1,350,000, 3 Bdrms, 1873 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 5-20-16;
Previous Sale: \$582,000, 10-16-98
- 1194 Estates Drive, \$3,500,000, 4 Bdrms, 4496 SqFt, 1990 YrBlt, 5-12-16;
Previous Sale: \$165,000, 07-13-87
- 700 Francis Drive, \$840,000, 4 Bdrms, 2069 SqFt, 1979 YrBlt, 5-20-16;
Previous Sale: \$314,000, 06-03-97
- 3299 Greenhills Drive, \$1,725,000, 3 Bdrms, 3082 SqFt, 1985 YrBlt, 5-19-16;
Previous Sale: \$708,000, 03-19-90
- 3905 Happy Valley Road, \$3,050,000, 6 Bdrms, 4578 SqFt, 1952 YrBlt, 5-20-16;
Previous Sale: \$1,900,000, 01-22-03
- 7 Hartwood Court, \$1,375,000, 4 Bdrms, 2226 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 5-20-16;
Previous Sale: \$300,000, 11-10-86
- 940 Hawthorne Drive, \$1,200,000, 2 Bdrms, 1475 SqFt, 1942 YrBlt, 5-11-16;
Previous Sale: \$899,000, 04-13-07
- 1064 Leland Drive, \$900,000, 3 Bdrms, 1621 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 5-18-16;
Previous Sale: \$840,000, 08-15-06
- 3963 Los Arabis Drive, \$1,900,000, 3 Bdrms, 2185 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 5-20-16;
Previous Sale: \$1,650,000, 08-29-14
- 3361 McGraw Lane #A, \$980,000, 3 Bdrms, 2548 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 5-13-16
- 3464 Moraga Boulevard, \$830,000, 2 Bdrms, 1405 SqFt, 1932 YrBlt, 5-13-16
- 3240 Quandt Road, \$1,250,000, 3 Bdrms, 2430 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 5-13-16
- 3546 Silver Springs Road, \$1,695,500, 3 Bdrms, 1834 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 5-20-16;
Previous Sale: \$1,100,000, 09-18-09
- 1013 Via Roble, \$1,425,000, 4 Bdrms, 2294 SqFt, 1975 YrBlt, 5-17-16;
Previous Sale: \$342,000, 03-15-95

MORAGA

- 25 Broadmoor Street, \$768,000, 2 Bdrms, 1887 SqFt, 1984 YrBlt, 5-16-16;
Previous Sale: \$660,000, 07-02-09
- 316 Corte Gabriel, \$820,000, 3 Bdrms, 2018 SqFt, 1980 YrBlt, 5-19-16;
Previous Sale: \$196,000, 12-30-86
- 804 Country Club Drive, \$742,500, 3 Bdrms, 1743 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 5-12-16;
Previous Sale: \$30,000, 07-30-93
- 135 Devin Drive, \$925,000, 3 Bdrms, 1545 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 5-20-16;
Previous Sale: \$340,000, 05-05-95
- 11 Doral Drive, \$775,000, 3 Bdrms, 2148 SqFt, 1978 YrBlt, 5-19-16;
Previous Sale: \$578,000, 11-05-01

... continued on page D8



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Feng Shui

Combat Summer's Fiery Heat With the Water Element

By Michele Duffy



A water fountain near your front door is a strong water element.

Photo provided

Graduations have come and gone along with the 2016 school year, and once again summer is in full bloom. Many people will be heading to beaches and state parks for summer vacations, either close by or near to the majestic oceans that surround our magnificent, awe inspiring coast.

If you cannot get to the beach, or you want sustainable creation of any of the Five Elements in your residence to feed your stressed-out soul, the question becomes how do we include them so our residences help melt the stress out of our lives?

The Five Elements in Feng Shui, Chinese/Tibetan Medicine and Chinese/Tibetan culture is a very vast subject, and so my aim here is to simply clarify the small but profound role applying them to your environment can play in de-stressing our lives.

The Five Elements are water, wood, fire, earth and metal, and they remain front and center in creating consciously balanced environments. Without incorporating the natural elements our residences may not be providing the real shelter home should represent for stressed-out Bay Area residents of the 21st Century: entrepreneurs, creatives or busy moms!

Part of the challenge of working with the Five Elements for westerners is little exposure to applying them growing up in our culture. So, it is helpful to gain an understanding of the ying and yang of each of the Five Elements themselves, remembering that a ying and yang version exists for each of the Five Elements.

For example, yin water is streams and yang water is oceans, while yin wood are flowers and yang wood is trees. Each element plays a role in making our residences come alive and the interplay can adapt to different tastes, styles and decors.

The interplay of the Five Elements is not a rigid play, but rather, fluid, vital and auspicious. Feng Shui adheres to principles of ying/ yang, and so to achieve balance, all five Elements are ideally present in each room and environment.

It is important to apply and place any of the Five Elements based on the Feng Shui BAGUA (see page D10) and also remembering seasonal considerations as well.

For example, place the water element (swimming pool or fountain) in the fire area (middle back) and if you are stuck with that exact scenario, Feng Shui has solutions that are easy and that fit every budget. One solution offered through a Feng Shui consultation that worked well for a Lafayette client named Kathleen was to adjust the water element in her back yard with an increase in the wood element. We added several large red ceramic potted Meyer Lemon trees and succulents and red (fire element) geraniums. Feng Shui has workable and straightforward solutions that are easily implemented. We also made sure the fire pit and grill were placed correctly in the Fame (fire) area.

We also enter summer ruled by the fire element so water is the best controller of fire and if we are feeling stress in our lives, toning down the fire element now around the home is key. It's also important to integrate personal care and wellness strategies that also include water by immersing in the ocean, a bath or a pool. That is healing, rejuvenating and creates the ultimate Five Elements balance of our personal Qi.

You may already know that one of the major unsung benefits of wellness in Feng Shui is the integrated protection of power positions in the attention to proper placement, Bagua (map) and floor plan analysis.

Five Element design includes applying the Five Elements through art, lighting, natural materials and color. Together, they play a significant role in creating calm, balanced and healthy residences room by room.

Home should always feel like when you close the front door, the stress of the day melts away and you feel inspired, invigorated and nourished in your residence.

I've mentioned water element several times because water is the most effective element to use to control the fire element of summer.

... continued on page D10



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Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

... continued from page D2

MORAGA ... continued

68 Gaywood Place, \$1,350,000, 4 Bdrms, 3369 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 5-18-16; Previous Sale: \$425,000, 09-27-95
 3 Haven Court, \$1,315,000, 3 Bdrms, 2283 SqFt, 1985 YrBlt, 5-20-16; Previous Sale: \$444,000, 12-13-90
 1305 Knoll Drive, \$1,975,000, 3 Bdrms, 3419 SqFt, 1998 YrBlt, 5-18-16; Previous Sale: \$1,150,000, 07-25-00
 152 Miramonte Drive, \$689,500, 2 Bdrms, 1514 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 5-19-16; Previous Sale: \$565,000, 03-28-08
 1936 St. Andrews Drive, \$853,000, 2 Bdrms, 2142 SqFt, 1978 YrBlt, 5-12-16; Previous Sale: \$595,000, 12-21-11

ORINDA

125 Alta Haciendas Road, \$3,600,000, 6 Bdrms, 4647 SqFt, 1983 YrBlt, 5-20-16
 11 Arroyo Drive, \$1,160,000, 3 Bdrms, 1588 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 5-16-16; Previous Sale: \$765,000, 11-22-11
 337 Camino Sobrante, \$1,580,000, 4 Bdrms, 2736 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 5-13-16; Previous Sale: \$700,000, 05-04-99
 116 Coral Drive, \$1,556,500, 6 Bdrms, 3041 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 5-19-16; Previous Sale: \$1,375,000, 08-28-13
 28 Evergreen Drive, \$1,150,000, 4 Bdrms, 1728 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 5-12-16; Previous Sale: \$827,000, 05-28-04
 231 Ivy Drive, \$1,550,000, 4 Bdrms, 2170 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 5-12-16; Previous Sale: \$1,210,000, 05-16-13
 42 Michael Lane, \$1,400,000, 3 Bdrms, 2228 SqFt, 1977 YrBlt, 5-18-16; Previous Sale: \$510,091, 12-01-98
 460 Miner Road, \$1,585,000, 3 Bdrms, 3016 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 5-11-16; Previous Sale: \$1,072,000, 08-11-11
 15 Piedmont Avenue, \$1,300,000, 3 Bdrms, 2092 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 5-11-16; Previous Sale: \$787,000, 08-12-04
 49 Scenic Drive, \$1,135,000, 4 Bdrms, 1856 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 5-17-16; Previous Sale: \$915,000, 06-09-04
 29 Tara Road, \$1,150,000, 6 Bdrms, 2988 SqFt, 1960 YrBlt, 5-17-16
 16 Valley View Lane, \$2,600,000, 4 Bdrms, 4453 SqFt, 1979 YrBlt, 5-18-16; Previous Sale: \$1,800,000, 10-21-09
 4 Via Floreado, \$955,000, 3 Bdrms, 1220 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 5-11-16

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RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Feng Shui

Combat Summer's Fiery Heat With the Water Element to De-Stress Summer

... continued from page D4



Red colored water lily flowers bring the balance to the water element.

In terms of home, the water element works best in the front of the house near the front door to activate life for the entire residence, but water is also needed in the areas also governed by the wood element. The middle left area of new beginnings and family and the far left area of wealth and prosperity both need a water element to be energized.

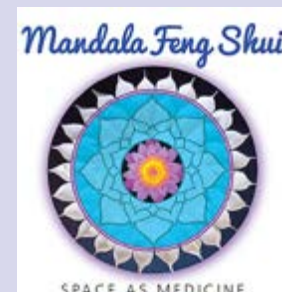
Make sure to go to this far left area of your home and see what is here now? A bathroom might be draining your wealth, so paint it a blue, a water color. Do you have a cluttered storage room or closet? This represents a lack. Clean this area and banish clutter. If you need professional help for de-cluttering this or any area of your home, remember there are professionals who know how to help.

However you plan to spend the summer, make sure you look around your home and see that the water element is represented and placed in appropriate Bagua areas. The best part is enjoying your new water fountain while you sip ice tea with mint under a tree in your backyard. Let the summer begin!

WEALTH & PROSPERITY "Gratitude" REAR LEFT <u>Wood</u> Blues, purple & reds	FAME & REPUTATION "Integrity" REAR MIDDLE <u>Fire</u> Reds	LOVE & MARRIAGE "Receptivity" REAR RIGHT <u>Earth</u> Reds, pinks, & whites
HEALTH & FAMILY "Strength" MIDDLE LEFT <u>Wood</u> Blues & Greens	CENTER <u>"Earth"</u> Yellow & earth tones	CREATIVITY & CHILDREN "Joy" MIDDLE RIGHT <u>Metal</u> White & Pastels
KNOWLEDGE & SELF CULTIVATION "Stillness" FRONT LEFT <u>Earth</u> Black, blues & greens	CAREER "Depth" FRONT MIDDLE <u>Water</u> Black & dark tones	HELPFUL PEOPLE & TRAVEL "Synchronicity" FRONT RIGHT <u>Metal</u> White, grey & black

The Bagua Map: Front Door

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, and spending time with her family; Canyon Ranch Feng Shui Master, International Feng Shui Guild (IFSG) Red Ribbon Professional. To schedule a professional 2015 Feng Shui Consultation, contact Michele at (520) 647-4887 or send an email to spaceharmony@gmail.com.





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Digging Deep

Give Your Gardens Some Summer Love

... continued from page D1



Get creative by planting basil in an old boot.

Butterflies are everywhere and the hummingbirds are the happiest I've witnessed in years, flitting from blossom to blossom with stops at the fountain for a quick drink. Hummingbirds have long memories and when you feed them they will return year after year, even migrating over 4,000 miles to get to their preferred gardens. Favorite sources of food for hummingbirds include the brightly colored blossoms of penstemon, columbine, agastache, monarda, salvia, fire poker, heuchera, rosemary, honeysuckle, fuchsia and any throated vine. Don't forget to add a gurgling water source where they will entertain you with their bathing and sipping antics.

Before hitting store shelves fruits, and vegetables travel an average of 1,500 miles, reducing quality, nutrition and taste. To increase flavor and boost the health of your family, introduce vegetables, herbs, and fruits into your organic gardening



What's summer without a wall of brilliant bougainvillea

practice. Buy four-inch pots to gallon containers of tomatoes, peppers, squash, cucumbers, eggplants and whatever else you find at your local retailer to enhance your barbecues and patio parties. You don't need a formal vegetable garden. Just tuck plants between your perennials in a place that is easily accessible to your kitchen for easy plucking. Be whimsical. Have some fun. Do as my daughter did and plant basil in a boot, thyme in a wine box, or green onions in a clear jam jar filled with water.

Who doesn't love walking barefoot in the grass on a warm summer day? Because of water restrictions, many people have allowed their lawns to die back or have replaced them with native and drought resistant plantings. If you don't have a lawn, your barefooting may have to take place in one of the parks or golf links. The Pearl's Premium grass seed that I sowed earlier in the spring is proving to be quite excellent. Although it is not



Loquats are plump and juicy.

Photos Cythia Brian

the lush deep green it was during the rainy days, it has remained a lighter jade color with a watering schedule of every five days, albeit with a few brown spots where the sprinkler missed. To walk on it is heavenly as it is very thick and carpet-like. Weeds are minimal and mowing is currently once a week. As the hot weather increases, I'll be watching closely for its drought resistant tendencies. Thus far, I am very pleased and will over-seed again in fall to enhance the lawn. If your favorite retailer doesn't carry the seed, Pearl's Premium is available on-line at www.PearlsPremium.com. Lawns are the best places for children, cartwheels and croquet.

Summer is almost here and I am definitely in love with the season. Add summer loving to your garden and be anything but boring. Share the love and be a little ridiculous.

... continued on page D14



214 Glorietta, Orinda

Opportunity awaits! Come with your imagination and be ready to create your dream home. Nestled on a sunny lot in the heart of Glorietta, this wonderful property is centrally located and has endless potential.

Offered at \$899,000

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891 AUGUSTA, MORAGA | JUST LISTED!

Magnificent home! Expanded plan 3, which has been recently remodeled through out. Elegant kitchen remodel with granite counter tops and new appliances, dining area, family room, formal living room with a fireplace. An additional bonus room over the garage could be a third bedroom, game room or a large office/den. Don't miss the back deck with gorgeous views. Community pools, tennis, golf, club house.

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Digging Deep

... continued from page D12

Cynthia Brian's Mid Month Fresh Garden Tips

TRY something new. How about growing blueberries? Find a spot with six hours of sunshine, amend the soil to make it more acidic (blueberries like a PH of 4.5 to 5.5), protect the bush from the hungry birds, and harvest for your breakfast and snacks.

ASK questions from gardeners you admire or at your local nursery for tips you can implement.

HANG a hammock or two between trees or posts for a cozy place to relax, unwind, and read a good book. Pretend you are on a holiday.

PLANT a pollinator garden. It's good for the birds, bees, butterflies, moths and healthy flies as well as the garden and you.

OPEN your nature medicine cabinet this summer. Apply aloe on sunburns instead of buying a bottle of burn ointment. Spread honey on cuts and scrapes to reduce healing time. Honey boasts anti-bacterial and anti-inflammatory properties.

CONCOCT a cocktail with fennel, mint, dill, cucumber, and edible flowers from your garden. Wow your friends with your unique creations.

PLAN ahead for bulbs for fall. Check out catalogs and garden magazines for new releases.

CUT an armful of flowers for beautiful bouquets or arrangements. Perennials will re-bloom.

GET creative with plant markers by using wooden clothespins, utensils or other items headed for the trash.

PICK plums, apricots, cherries, mulberries, and loquats.

PULL out errant blackberry bushes you find growing in your garden. Blackberry plants multiply quickly and will overrun your garden. Buy a thorn-less variety and keep it contained.



Magenta roses are perfect for arrangements.

Photos Cynthia Brian

PROTECT your plants from deer, rabbits, and gophers with wire, fencing, or organic sprays.

LOWER your stress level by sniffing citrus-oranges, lemons, grapefruit and tangerines.

REPEL mosquitoes and other pesky bugs by placing sage and rosemary on the barbecue. The smoke keeps the insects away.

SOW sweet potato eyes and eat the greens while they are maturing.

DEADHEAD spent perennial blossoms and rose blooms weekly to encourage continuous blooms.

Happy Gardening and Happy Growing!



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So don't wait until it's too late, have a complete inspection by your local ISA Certified Arborist at Advance Tree Service for all your tree care needs.

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A water-wise fountain is a must in every garden.



Cynthia Brian enjoys a public garden.

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181 Manzanita Drive

Wonderful, mid-century, original owner, contemporary home nestled among oaks & adjacent to vast open space. Large living spaces, fresh paint, newer carpets & patio/yard upgrades. Views. **\$895,000**

ORINDA



New Listing

214 Glorietta Blvd.

Opportunity awaits! Come with a vision and make this home your own. **\$899,000**

ORINDA



New Listing

18 Ramona Drive Expanded & updated in 2007. Updated kitchen opens to family room, hardwood floors. Lovely gardens, front & rear. Close to school. **\$1,285,000**

ORINDA



New Listing

96 Rheem Blvd. Spacious 4bd/3ba home. Eat-in kitchen with Wolf range, hardwood floors throughout, huge family room, au pair suite with separate entrance. **\$1,295,000**

ORINDA



9 Fleetwood Court Wonderful Harold Smith traditional 5 bdrm home located at end of court & backs up to open space. Large level yard areas, hardwood floors, kitchen with island & dining area. **\$1,395,000**

ORINDA



10 Van Tassel Lane Exceptional custom remodel of highest quality, lovely craftsmanship. Prime Sleepy Hollow street. One level living with vaulted ceilings, Chef's kitchen. Pool, lawns, gardens add to allure. **\$1,395,000**

ORINDA



New Price

352 Dalewood Drive Impressive Orinda Downs custom home on cul-de-sac with hill views & majestic oaks, Chef's kitchen adjoining family room with 2 private outdoor decks. Hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings. **\$1,950,000**

ORINDA



New Listing

108 Overhill Road East Coast meets West Coast in this exquisite Orinda estate. This custom 5 bedroom, 4.5 bathroom 3724 sq. ft. home is beautifully positioned on a rare pancake flat .46 acre lot. **\$2,850,000**

MORAGA



New Listing

1056A Larch Avenue Located down a private driveway off Larch Ave is a fabulous 3bd/2ba home w/contemporary remodeling thruout. Vaulted ceilings, hwd flrs, & spacious bdrms. Close to schools, town. **\$1,195,000**

MORAGA



19 Lynwood Place Simply gorgeous lot w/amazing potential! 4 bed family home updated w/dual-paned windows, newer kitchen, hardwood floors, new roof, fresh paint. Near park, schools, shops. **\$1,325,000**

LAFAYETTE



New Listing

3216 Ronino Way Private & tranquil, yet walking distance to top-rated schools & swim/tennis club. Remodeled 3463 sq. ft. 5bd/3ba home on cul-de-sac. Amazing hill views. Easy commute location. **\$1,629,000**

LAFAYETTE



30 Tiana Terrace Super style living on dramatic over-sized parcel w/in Tiana enclave of custom homes. Great style w/high quality amenities in/outside. Wonderful open spaces. Mt. Diablo views! **\$2,450,000**

LAFAYETTE



1155 Camino Vallecito Esheric Architectural Mid Century. Spectacular 2ac Happy Valley Estate. Beaut. updated, walls of glass, French doors, high ceilings, pano views. Kitchen/ family room, cabana/bath. Top schools. **\$3,595,000**

BERKELEY



New Listing

1299 Delaware Street Clean & classic home with 2bd/1.5ba, over 2000 sq. ft., freshly painted & newly refinished hardwood flrs. Short stroll to coffee shops, 4th Street shopping & dining, & N. Berkeley BART. **\$849,000**

PLEASANT HILL



New Listing

27 Mozden Lane End unit with 3bd/2.5ba rarely available. Lots of natural light. Large private patio w/ sliding doors from living room. Walk to shopping, movies & park. Close to freeway yet private. **\$479,000**

WALNUT CREEK



New Listing

156 Brodia Way New construction by KT Builders, a local, high-end home builder. Captivating views of Mt. Diablo & La Casa Via Valley. High ceilings, open flr pln & large .92ac lot at end of cul de sac. **\$1,895,000**



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