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Should you remodel before selling your home?

MIDRANGE PROJECT TYPE	JOB COST	RESALE VALUE	COST RECOVERED
Bathroom Remodel	\$24,022	\$26,419	110.0%
Minor Kitchen Remodel	\$26,422	\$39,000	147.6%

Contact Frank for a full report of cost vs. value for a wide range of projects. I can advise you on which projects provide the greatest return on your investment.

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Orinda sets up Downtown Development subcommittee

By Sora O'Doherty

With no regularly scheduled meetings, the newly formed Downtown Development subcommittee will meet on an "as needed" basis for the purpose of providing assistance to city staff as they move into the project.

The subcommittee, which is modeled after the earlier Wilder subcommittee, will consist of newest council member Inga Miller, who will liaison with Creeks of Orinda and the Orinda Association, and Mayor Eve Phillips. It won't be the first time Miller and Phillips have been on the same team: the two ran track together at Miramonte High School.

The subcommittee will be on hand to help staff as they begin the process of formulating questions and working with the two organizations the city council has enlisted to

work on downtown development: the Urban Land Institute Technical Assistance Panel and Mainstreet America.

In other council activity, the council decided that the full city council will interview four recruiting firms to select one to find the city's next city manager. They were scheduled to conduct the interviews Feb. 7.

Acting to narrow a list prepared by staff, the council selected three staff favorites and one more: Avery & Associates, Bob Murray & Associates, Peckham & McKenney and Ralph Anderson & Associates. The council requested that the person who will be in charge of the recruitment be present for each 15 minute interview. The council expects to spend in the neighborhood of \$22,500 to \$28,000 on the search for a new city manager.

Wet weather doesn't dampen the spirits of young marchers on Inauguration weekend

By Sora O'Doherty



Children get ready to march.

Photo Sora O'Doherty

The Kid's Inauguration Day Response and March went off without a hitch in Orinda on Sunday, Jan. 22, despite bucketing rain.

The event began in the early afternoon, when over 50 children and parents gathered at the Orinda Community Church to prepare for the march by creating colorful shirts and signs and to write letters to new President Donald Trump offering

him a view of their hopes for the future. The letters will be submitted as part of an initiative by the Southern Poverty Law Center's Teaching Tolerance project. Other activities included making beaded safety pins and posting their hopes and concerns on the board.

After spending some time at the church, the group reassembled on the steps of the Orinda Community

Hall. By this time it was raining very heavily. Undeterred, under a fleet of bright umbrellas, the group cheerfully marched to Theatre Square, around it, and returned to the starting point.

The event was organized by parent Nicole Reader with the help of an advisory board of children, including her son, 10-year old Isaac Reader-Taatjes. Isaac and his friends Sammy Ishikawa and Casey Scheiner are fifth-grade students at Del Rey Elementary School.

Ishikawa said, "Although we disagree with some of Donald Trump's points, this is not a negative event." Scheiner added, "We don't want to criticize but to support." Things of concern to the three include immigration, diversity, equal rights, education and global warming.

Reader said that she found that her children felt very upset and powerless following the 2016 presidential election, that things that were important to them were now no longer important to the world.

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The Lamorinda Real Estate Firm People Trust

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25 RUSTIC WAY | ORINDA
\$4,250,000
6 BR | 5.5 BA | 8514 Sq. Ft.
Laura Abrams | CalBRE#01272382



5 OWL HILL CT | ORINDA
\$2,775,000
4 BR | 3.5 BA | 4095 Sq. Ft.
Lynn Molloy | CalBRE#01910108



2180 SKY VIEW COURT | MORAGA
\$2,250,000
6 BR | 4 BA | 4433 Sq. Ft.
Patti Camras | CalBRE#01156248



18 LAS PIEDRAS | ORINDA
\$2,199,000
6 BR | 5.5 BA | 5684 Sq. Ft.
Meredith Linamen | CalBRE#01918299



3 CROCKETT DRIVE | MORAGA
\$1,999,000
5 BR | 3 BA | 3730 Sq. Ft.
Elena Hood | CalBRE#01221247



16 LA CINTILLA ROAD | ORINDA
\$1,799,000
6 BR | 6 BA | 4497 Sq. Ft.
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98 ESTATES DRIVE | ORINDA
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