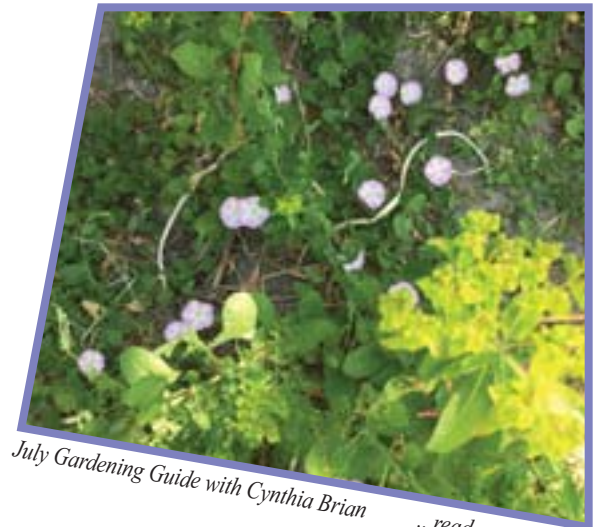


# Lamorinda OUR HOMES

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## Outdoor living, great schools and accessibility keep Lamorinda real estate hot

By Diane Claytor



The easy flow, open concept style in this new contemporary Lafayette house is what homebuyers seem to be hoping for.

Photo provided

**N**o one has to tell those of us lucky enough to live here: Lamorinda is a very desirable place to be. According to the Contra Costa Association of Realtors, home sales continued their fast pace

of activity in the first quarter of 2017 with 67 of the 90 homes sold going for more than their asking price and spending an average of only 27 days on the market. Looking at the current number of “sold” or “pending” signs

throughout the community, it appears that the second quarter, often the busiest in the real estate world, will be even better.

We know the schools in our area are outstanding. (In fact, the three

Lamorinda high schools ranked in the top 100 – out of more than 2,300 – in California, according to U.S. News and World Report’s 2017 High School Rankings, with Campolindo and Miramonte in the top 30.) And the weather we enjoy is about as good as it gets.

But is that why people choose to move here? Julie Dudum Del Santo of Dudum Real Estate believes those factors are definitely two of the most important reasons. And most realtors agree; Jim Calhoun of Alain Pinel Realtors does – especially when it comes to the schools. “It’s pretty simple,” he stated. “The reason people come here hasn’t changed in 20 years. For all that time, it’s been schools, schools, schools.”

Both Dudum Del Santo and Calhoun report that another big plus for Lamorinda is the convenience – convenience to public transportation, proximity to the freeway, employment opportunities, retail centers and a good variety of excellent restaurants. It’s the old adage realtors have been repeating forever: location, location, location.

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