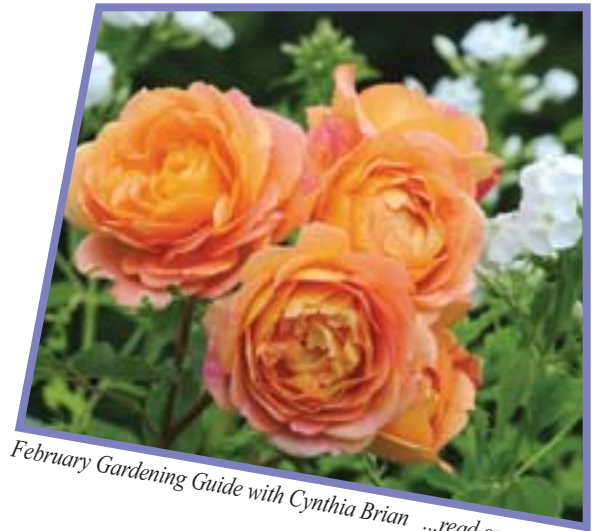


# Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 11 Issue 24 Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018



February Gardening Guide with Cynthia Brian ...read on page D11

*Feng Shui*

## Fairness and justice are highlights of 2018 Yang Earth Dog year

By Michele Duffy



Illustration Jaya Griggs, [www.jayagriggs.com](http://www.jayagriggs.com)

**G**ung Hay Fat Choy! Happy New Year!

The Chinese have a solar and lunar calendar (Lunarsolare) and as you may have realized and noted over the years, the New Year's celebrations of the western or Gregorian calendar are not the same as either of these. The Chinese Solar New Year for the Year of the Yang Earth Dog begins Feb. 4 and is the midway mark between the winter solstice and spring equinox. It's important to note that it is the Solar Chinese New Year date that is used to determine the corresponding Chinese zodiac animal birth sign for individuals. For example, if a person were born Jan. 31, 2018 he or she would be a Fire Rooster and under the preceding year of Yin Fire Rooster year of 2017 which ends Feb. 4, 2018. The Chinese Lunar New Year begins this year on Feb. 16 and is when massive global Chinese New Year's celebrations, fireworks, big parades, and the beginning of the weeklong observances and events begin.

Keep in mind that Chinese astrology is based on astronomy, philosophy, and traditional calendars and is the divination of the timing of the future. In particular, it is based on a 60-year cycle that has been documented since the time of the Shang Dynasty. This basic cycle has been constructed from two cycles: the 10 heavenly stems (the five elements

of water, wood, fire, earth and metal in their yin or female and yang or male forms) plus the 12 earthly branches, or the 12-year cycle of animals referred to as the Chinese zodiac (rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, snake, dragon, horse, ram, monkey, rooster, dog and pig). The Chinese animal zodiac also operates on a cycle of months (12 animals rule one each of the 12 months) or 'moons' and of hours of the day (12 animals with a two-hour period adds up to a 24-hour day).

The 2018 Earth Dog year will amplify all that is sincere, moral, loyal, intelligent, stable, practical, reliable, honest, grounded and a feeling for justice and the rules of fair play. Earth Dog is pragmatic, calm and serene and much gentler than his fellow Fire, Water, Wood or Metal Dogs so even though the pace of a male year can be hectic, the overall energy will be more stable, gentle, and less combative or warlike than other Dog years. Calm, clear and patient communication will be key to success this Earth Dog year.

The 2018 Earth Dog will ring in a welcomed grounding energetic favoring integrity, justice, tolerance and empathy, a more pronounced collective consciousness of fairness and justice, trustworthiness, rules of fair play, and making sure in the end, that everyone is treated fairly will be a large part of 2018 unfolding energetically. ... continued on page D4

# THE *Beaubelle* GROUP



## MORAGA - New To Market

Sought After Carroll Ranch ~ \$795,000

Don't miss this 3 bedroom, 3 full bathroom property featuring an open floor plan cathedral ceiling in the living room, kitchen with white cabinets, dining area with bay window, new paint, new carpet, charming patio, gated entry and attached garage. The community pool is steps away. Walk to downtown Rheem shopping center and Campolindo High School. Downtown Lafayette, St. Mary's College and trails are minutes away.

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## Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

City	Last reported:	LOWEST AMOUNT:	HIGHEST AMOUNT:
LAFAYETTE	8	\$630,000	\$2,025,000
MORAGA	17	\$382,000	\$2,300,000
ORINDA	6	\$1,150,000	\$1,647,000

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

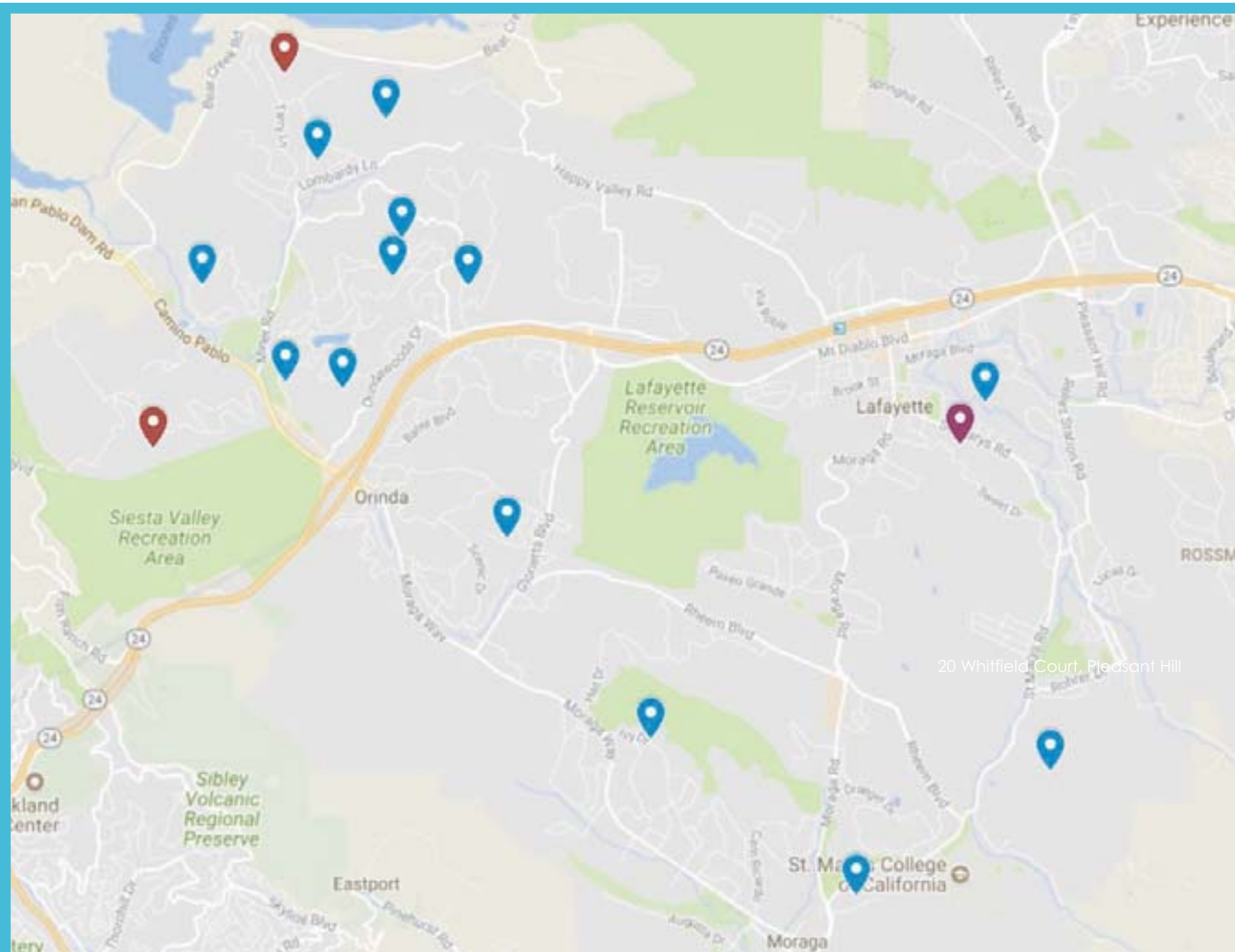
3384 Angelo Street, \$1,170,000, 3 Bdrms, 1609 SqFt, 1951 YrBl, 12-13-17  
 15 Crest Road, \$1,200,000, 3 Bdrms, 1862 SqFt, 1948 YrBl, 12-15-17  
 1200 Glen Road, \$2,025,000, 5 Bdrms, 3653 SqFt, 1974 YrBl, 12-13-17  
 3145 Gloria Terrace, \$1,150,000, 4 Bdrms, 2417 SqFt, 1944 YrBl, 12-21-17  
 4133 Hidden Valley Road, \$1,125,000, 3 Bdrms, 1995 SqFt, 1941 YrBl, 12-26-17;  
 Previous Sale: \$809,000, 04-24-13  
 1042 Leland Drive, \$1,139,000, 3 Bdrms, 1582 SqFt, 1962 YrBl, 12-14-17;  
 Previous Sale: \$910,000, 05-25-17  
 3175 Lucas Drive, \$630,000, 4 Bdrms, 1739 SqFt, 1960 YrBl, 12-15-17  
 17 Nephi Court, \$1,260,000, 5 Bdrms, 2367 SqFt, 1969 YrBl, 12-15-17;  
 Previous Sale: \$790,100, 10-12-15

### MORAGA

115 Alta Mesa Court, \$1,119,000, 3 Bdrms, 1954 SqFt, 1974 YrBl, 12-27-17;  
 Previous Sale: \$854,000, 08-15-07  
 1965 Ascot Drive #1, \$532,000, 2 Bdrms, 1301 SqFt, 1966 YrBl, 12-19-17;  
 Previous Sale: \$149,000, 03-11-13  
 1988 Ascot Drive #D, \$515,000, 3 Bdrms, 1473 SqFt, 1970 YrBl, 12-22-17  
 10 Benedita Place, \$887,000, 3 Bdrms, 2095 SqFt, 1984 YrBl, 12-15-17;  
 Previous Sale: \$184,000, 11-14-85  
 1349 Camino Pablo, \$1,300,000, 4 Bdrms, 2443 SqFt, 1978 YrBl, 12-19-17;  
 Previous Sale: \$1,150,000, 08-11-15  
 2145 Donald Drive #9, \$382,000, 2 Bdrms, 1348 SqFt, 1964 YrBl, 12-20-17;  
 Previous Sale: \$400,000, 01-27-17  
 100 Fernwood Drive, \$1,290,000, 4 Bdrms, 2091 SqFt, 1971 YrBl, 12-18-17;  
 Previous Sale: \$349,000, 06-24-88  
 18 Fleuti Drive, \$1,050,000, 5 Bdrms, 2638 SqFt, 1970 YrBl, 12-13-17  
 1820 Joseph Drive, \$1,409,000, 4 Bdrms, 2452 SqFt, 1971 YrBl, 12-13-17;  
 Previous Sale: \$307,000, 05-21-84  
 76 Miramonte Drive, \$628,000, 3 Bdrms, 1248 SqFt, 1964 YrBl, 12-21-17;  
 Previous Sale: \$480,000, 05-12-09  
 599 Rheem Boulevard, \$1,349,000, 5 Bdrms, 2630 SqFt, 1954 YrBl, 12-13-17;  
 Previous Sale: \$349,500, 08-21-98  
 1217 Rimer Drive, \$1,425,000, 4 Bdrms, 2471 SqFt, 1966 YrBl, 12-27-17

... continued on page D9





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## Feng Shui

# Fairness and justice are highlights of 2018 Yang Earth Dog year

... continued from page D1

Reassessing the inner spiritual values of individuals and society at large and consciously integrating “higher-self” values into daily life, will create a spiritual reservoir for many to rely upon in 2018. Dog year will awaken our intuition and deep moral sense and the human values of honesty, integrity, loyalty and generosity will be the values that lead to a successful path under 2018 Dog’s watchful eye.

Earth Dog is endowed with some of the finest qualities of all the Chinese Zodiac animals, including overall success at enterprises, generosity, kindness and caring for others. The 2018 Earth Dog year includes a sensitive sense of justice, the rule of law or the sense of right and wrong and balanced support for the underdog. Quiet Dog persuasion and diplomacy will take center stage and those wanting success in 2018 would do well to follow this lead by applying generosity, kindness and patience in all business matters. Finding life’s higher purpose, lending a sincere helping hand, generously reaching out to others less fortunate, will also be richly rewarded in the 2018 Dog year.

Many voices around the world will also rise to highlight the importance of universal values of dialogue and solidarity, and individual demagoguery will be rejected by the majority. There will be an increase in social awareness and interest in the socially less powerful members of our society, efforts that are aimed at creating a more fair society for all will have wings. Any tendencies to take will be replaced by widespread sentiments of generosity and selflessness, a sense of fair play and honoring commitments. Principles and dignity will be front and center and frivolity and superficiality will not find much support during Dog year. Controversial issues are given their scrutiny and due, revolutions are successful, politics are liberal, and political oppression is opposed usually in Dog years.

The 2018 Earth Dog will require more seriousness in business, a hard working approach and

being responsible for greatest success. Dog years are not supportive of waste and unnecessary expenses. This is a great year to start a new business venture, provided the Dog year values are adhered to and integrated into your business plan. If you are investing in Dog year it is advised to seek professional guidance and help. Companies that equitably share success and resources will be most rewarded in 2018 Dog year, as well as those who are practicing sound environmental policies such as implementing solar and wind technologies. Companies investing in the welfare and health of their workers and consumers through increased investment in recycling and renewable energy will be rewarded with increased revenues in 2018.

From a personal health perspective it’s a great year to create more balance in our personal care, and avoiding the truly unhealthy. Many will find the consciousness to quit smoking or dramatically increase exercise commitments or refocus on diet improvements. We will be able to be far more consistent with any health changes we decide to make in 2018 Dog year. Borrowing from Dog’s well-documented intelligence our creativity is at its height as we forge new paths for a truly balanced lifestyle. We will be more realistic and sustainable regarding our dietary choices and close the gap between work and home balance.

May 2018 Earth Dog year bless you with kindness, balance and deep happiness.

In any given year it’s considered wise and prudent to know specifically the nuances of how your personal Chinese animal sign interacts with the animal that rules the year, in 2018, it is the Yang Earth Dog, when making important life decisions about the timing with personal, professional, career, moving, love, marriage, health, or travel decisions.

For your personal Chinese Animal & I CHING 2018 Empowerment Chart Reading, you can schedule an in person or remote/Face-time session. For more details, visit [www.mandalafengshui.com](http://www.mandalafengshui.com).

<b>WEALTH &amp; PROSPERITY</b> XUN Wood Southeast Purple	<b>FAME &amp; REPUTATION</b> Li Fire South Red Summer	<b>RELATIONSHIPS</b> Kun Earth Southwest Pink
<b>FAMILY</b> ZHEN Wood East Green Spring	<b>HEALTH</b> TAI JI Earth Center Orange, Yellow Brown	<b>JOY &amp; COMPLETION</b> DUI Metal West White Autumn
<b>KNOWLEDGE &amp; SELF-CULTIVATION</b> GEN Earth Northeast Blue	<b>CAREER &amp; OPPORTUNITIES</b> KAN Water North Black & Dark Blue Winter	<b>HELPFUL PEOPLE &amp; TRAVEL</b> QIAN Metal Northeast Grey

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 2017 Feng Shui Consultation, contact Michele at (520) 647-4887 or send an email to [spaceharmony@gmail.com](mailto:spaceharmony@gmail.com).



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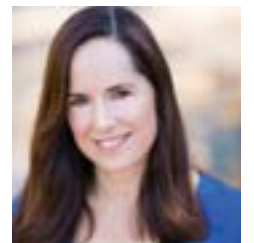
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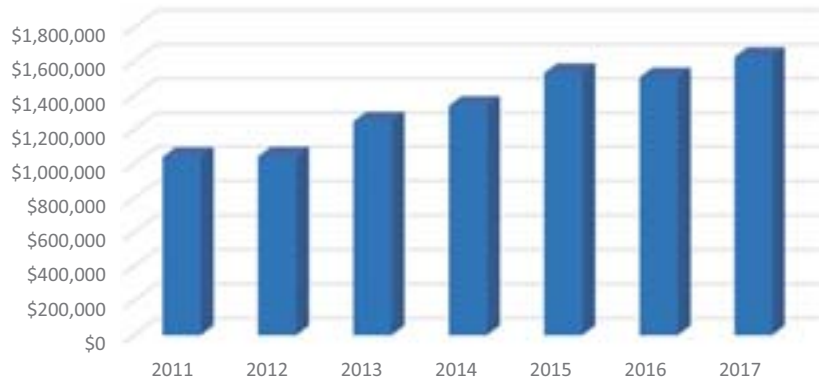
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## The Real Estate Year in Review

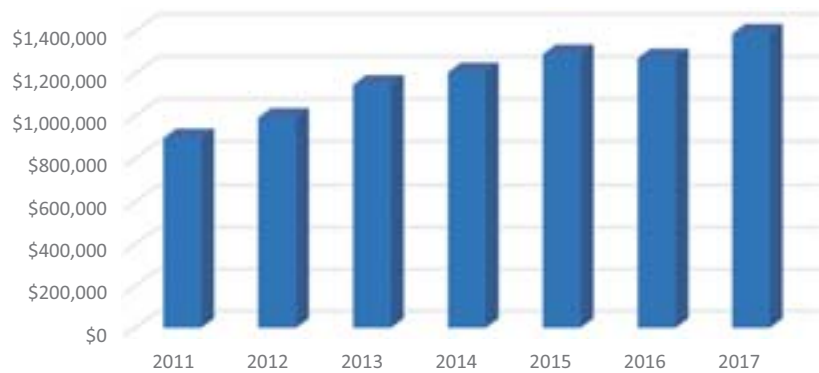
# 2017 home sales in Lamorinda

By Conrad Bassett, CRP, GMS-T

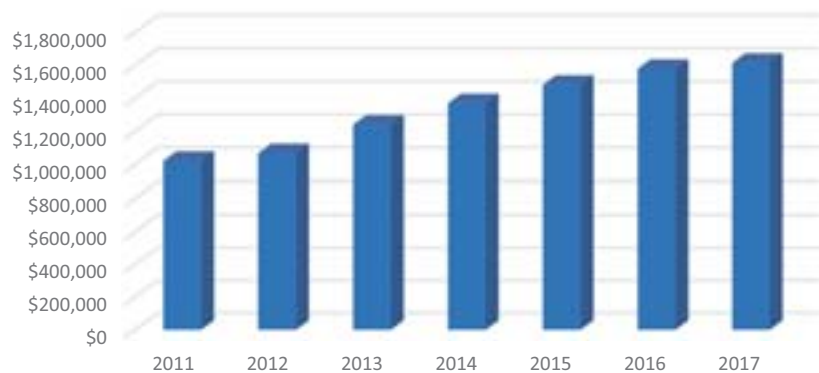
### Average sales price in Lafayette



### Average sales price in Moraga



### Average sales price in Orinda



It was another extremely strong year for sellers of residential real estate in Lamorinda; sales volume in 2017 rebounded as supply increased but that was matched by continued strong demand and average prices went up in Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda.

Homes stayed on the market for a similar limited time like in 2016 and the majority of homes sold at or above their asking price.

Per Contra Costa Association of Realtors statistics reported for closings January 1 through December 31, 2017, 312 single family homes closed in Lafayette versus 263 in 2016. There were 338 in 2015 and 302 in 2014. For the 312 reported closings, sales prices ranged from \$740,000 to \$6.5 million and the average time on market was 23 days, a slight decrease from the 28 days in 2016. The average sale price was \$1,625,636 up from \$1,506,811 in 2016. In 2015 it was \$1,531,605, \$1,339,303 in 2014, \$1,248,532 in 2013, \$1,042,921 in 2012 and \$1,040,014 in 2011. The average sales price was 102.2 percent of the final list price. There were no Lafayette short sales or foreclosures sold on the MLS.

In Moraga there were 164 single family closings which was a huge increase from 108 in 2016 and 135 in 2015. There were 150 in 2014. Prices ranged from \$725,000 to \$2.75 million. The average sale price was \$1,388,287. This was a solid rise from the \$1,272,179 in 2016. The 2015 average was \$1,290,804, \$1,205,576 in 2014 and \$1,147,207 in 2013. In 2012, it was \$991,469 and in 2011 it was \$894,768. The number of days on market in 2017 was 28 - about the same as 26 in 2016. The average home sold for 100.9 percent of its last list price. There was one REO property that closed on the MLS and no short sales.

In Orinda the number of single-family closings was at 242 - up slightly from 229 a year ago but down from 256 in 2015 and 276 in 2014. The reported sales ranged in price from \$650,000 to \$3.9 million with an average price of \$1,614,279. In 2016 it was \$1,577,727. In 2015 it was \$1,481,443 and in 2014 it was \$1,370,088. In 2013 it was \$1,240,158 and in 2012 it was \$1,068,303. The average was \$1,021,751 in 2011. The average market time was 24 days, about the same as a year ago when it was 23. The average sales price was an average of just over 102 percent the final list price for the reported sales. There were no short sales or REO (bank owned) sales in Orinda in 2016 or 2017.

There were no reported sales in the MLS in Canyon in 2017.

On an average price per square foot basis for reported sales in 2017, Lafayette homes sold for \$642.46 up solidly from 2016 when it was \$589.47. In 2015 it was \$585.87 and an increase from 2014 when it was \$546.87. In 2017, Moraga homes sold for \$565.37, a slight increase from \$558.02 per square foot in 2016, and \$532.90 in 2015. In Orinda last year it was \$609.13, also a little rise from \$594.37 in 2016 and \$560.79 in 2015 and continuing the trend that started in 2012. It was \$520.77 in 2014 and \$489.85 in 2013 and \$422.68 in 2012.

In the condominium/town home category, Lafayette had 30 closings in 2017, a big increase from the 16 closings in both 2016 and in 2015. As new developments of condominiums and townhomes are being added in Lafayette, some new construction sales will not go through the MLS.

... continued on page D10







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## Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

... continued from page D2

### MORAGA ... continued

- 23 Sanders Ranch Road, \$1,410,000, 4 Bdrms, 2697 SqFt, 1985 YrBlt, 12-19-17;  
Previous Sale: \$575,000, 03-18-91
- 94 Sanders Ranch Road, \$2,300,000, 5 Bdrms, 4605 SqFt, 1988 YrBlt, 12-20-17;  
Previous Sale: \$1,980,000, 03-09-05
- 1735 St. Andrews Drive, \$1,015,000, 2 Bdrms, 1444 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 12-21-17
- 1748 St. Andrews Drive, \$833,500, 2 Bdrms, 2029 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 12-21-17
- 22 Via Barcelona, \$1,150,000, 4 Bdrms, 2577 SqFt, 1989 YrBlt, 12-14-17;  
Previous Sale: \$420,000, 10-12-89

### ORINDA

- 55 Claremont Avenue, \$1,150,000, 4 Bdrms, 2100 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 12-21-17;  
Previous Sale: \$850,000, 05-10-13
- 8 Dos Posos, \$1,647,000, 4 Bdrms, 3652 SqFt, 2005 YrBlt, 12-15-17;  
Previous Sale: \$675,000, 03-29-05
- 2 Estabueno Drive, \$1,250,000, 2 Bdrms, 1730 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 12-13-17
- 44 Knickerbocker Lane, \$1,420,000, 3 Bdrms, 3106 SqFt, 1977 YrBlt, 12-13-17;  
Previous Sale: \$1,275,000, 03-08-05
- 132 Overhill Road, \$1,250,000, 3 Bdrms, 1334 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 12-19-17;  
Previous Sale: \$720,000, 02-20-13
- 19 Tarabrook Drive, \$1,300,000, 4 Bdrms, 1693 SqFt, 1961 YrBlt, 12-14-17;  
Previous Sale: \$784,000, 05-01-12

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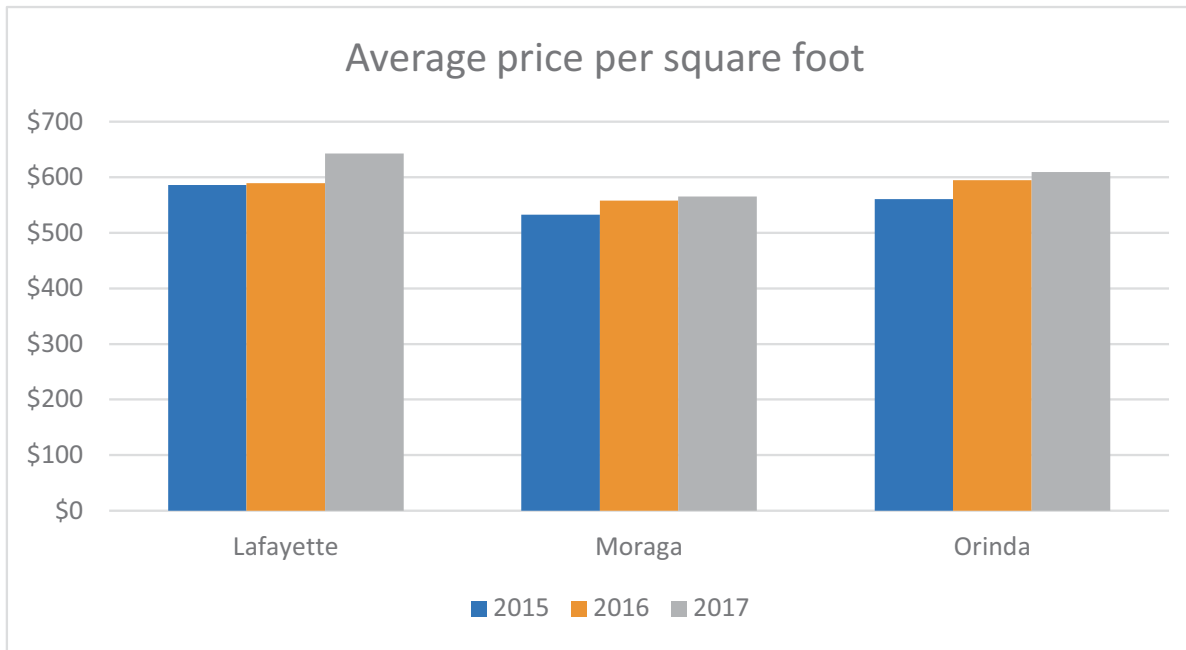
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## The Real Estate Year in Review

# 2017 home sales in Lamorinda

... continued from page D6



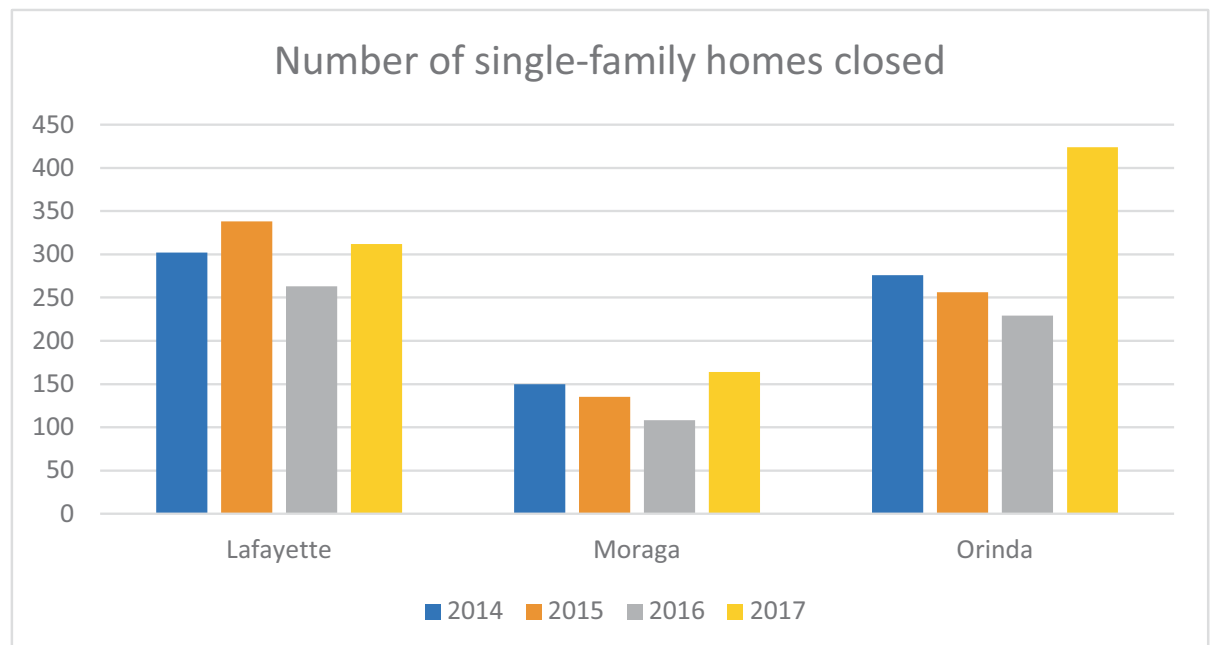
The actual sales if all of the new homes are included would increase the total. Prices ranged in 2017 from \$525,000 to \$1,239,000. Moraga had 65 closed units down again last year from the 79 closed units in 2016 and 81 in 2015. Sales ranged from \$350,000 to \$1,195,000. This includes attached homes in Moraga Country Club. Orinda had eight closings while they had four in 2016. They sold from \$425,000 for a one-bedroom on Brookwood to \$1.48 million in Orindawoods.

It should always be noted that there are also a few direct sales that do not go through the MLS and they are not reported here. These may include some foreclosures that were sold at the courthouse as well as some sales between private individuals.

As of Jan. 10, there were 33 dwellings under contract per the MLS in the three communities combined, with asking prices of \$514,500 to \$4.495 million. It should be pointed out that there is one "Potential Short Sale" that is currently pending and no REOs. Prices have continued to rise over the last few years and more owners now have equity in their homes and have not had to go the short-sale process or faced foreclosures.

A comparison of year-end inventory in the three communities combined shows 40 homes on the mar-

ket. Last January there were 45 homes on the market. Typically the biggest inventory is in the spring and early summer, however this current number may point to another year with a combination of qualified buyers vying for a continued limited supply. The current asking prices range from \$661,285 to \$1.65 million in the three communities combined.



In Lamorinda in 2017, 115 homes sold for more than \$2 million. In 2016, 82 homes sold for more than \$2 million.

Interest rates have remained historically low although there has been some increase the last several weeks but they are still very attractive to those with down payments of at least 20 percent. Corporations continue to expand and contract and also to relocate families. The minimal amount of single family new construction has helped keep supply and demand within a better balance than a lot of other neighboring communities. The East Bay and closer to San Francisco communities like Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda as well as Piedmont and several neighborhoods in Oakland and Berkeley continue to benefit from their proximity to San Francisco where prices remain very high. The East Bay is a "bargain."

The new tax laws changing the amounts that can be deducted may affect the higher end market but this has yet to be seen. The trend that began in 2011 continues today where in many situations in the three communities the seller receives multiple offers and homes sell for above the list price. This, when coupled with an extremely low supply and a willingness by sellers to be realistic in their pricing should continue to fuel a strong market in 2018.



## Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for February

# Roses are red

By Cynthia Brian

*"That which we call a rose by any other word would smell as sweet." – William Shakespeare, "Romeo and Juliet"*



*Mr. Lincoln, the perfect red rose.*

Roses are red and pink, salmon, yellow, orange, purple, white, mauve, and are available in a plethora of color combinations and variety choices. Under the thumb of a knowledgeable gardener, roses are one of the easiest plants to grow providing 10 to 11 months of beautiful blossoms. Because of our warmer California weather, my roses are still

blooming profusely even though I am in the process of performing my annual winter pruning. (Of course I am gathering the flowers to use in my indoor arrangements and potpourri). Many gardeners shy away from roses assuming they are just to "fussy" and demanding to be sustainable, yet, in my experience, I have always found roses to be the bedrock of my multi-purpose

*Photos Cynthia Brian*

gardens.

February is the perfect month to plant bare root roses. Whether you are planning to purchase bare root or containerized roses, follow these simple instructions for success.

1. Always buy healthy specimens. Choose your plants carefully. A damaged, diseased or dried rose will not recover and may cause problems for your other specimens.
2. Choose a sunny site where your rose will get at least six hours of sunshine daily.
3. Enrich the soil with a rich humus organic matter that will allow for good drainage. Roses like acidic soil with a 6.5 pH.
4. For container roses, soak the roses for at least half an hour and allow all the water to drain. Bare root roses need their root systems soaked overnight. Do not allow roots to dry out.
5. Space at least two feet apart to allow for air circulation.
6. After digging your hole, add compost or rotted material, permitting the bud union to be two to three inches below ground.
7. Add three inches of coarse mulch around the roses. The mulch keeps splashing water from spreading fungal disease on the foliage. Blackspot spores may germinate whenever leaves are wet. Fungus must be killed with a fungicide before it enters the leaf tissue. Dust or spray before a rain.
8. Water deeply directly to the soil and keep the soil moist but not soggy. Overhead sprinklers are not recommended.
9. Fertilize in the spring. I add a cup of alfalfa pellets to each plant, which I buy at the feed store, combined with diatomaceous earth. Work it well into the soil. Alfalfa supplies nitrogen, calcium, phosphorus, and plenty of other nutrients. Throughout the year, I swirl my used coffee grounds in a quart of water and throw them on the plants. Plus, whenever I eat a banana, the peel flies into the rose garden. The potassium and phosphorus aid in blooming.

... continued on page D12



## Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for February

# Roses are red

... continued from page D11



A magnificent rose garden of David Austin Thomas a Becket red, Scarborough Fair, Hyde Hall, Christopher Marlowe, Lady of Megginch, Ballerina with Treasure Trove, Graham Thomas, and Mortimer Sackler as climbers. Photos Cynthia Brian

10. Encourage beneficial insects to visit your roses to keep diseases away. By mixing lavender, bulbs, and other pollinator attracting plants with your roses, you will have fewer pests to fight.

11. Prune in January or February and cut off faded blooms throughout the year to insure continuous flowering.

Although I have a collection of types and varieties of roses in my garden, since meeting senior rosarian of David Austin English Roses, Michael Marriott, English roses have become a favorite staple because of their resistance to disease, their beau-

tiful shapes, varied foliage, and unrivaled fragrance. Marriott will share his expertise about rose care and pruning from 4 to 5 p.m. Jan. 24 on my internationally broadcast radio show, StarStyle®-Be the Star You Are!®. Tune in live or to the archives at [www.voiceamerica.com/episode/104744/david-austin-roses-with-michael-marriott-and-growing-with-the-goddess-gardener](http://www.voiceamerica.com/episode/104744/david-austin-roses-with-michael-marriott-and-growing-with-the-goddess-gardener). Description, links and photos will be at [www.StarStyleRadio.com](http://www.StarStyleRadio.com).

These are abbreviated pruning instructions that Marriott shared with me for the best outcomes for your rose garden.

... continued on page D14







*A potted Princess Anne rose by David Austin.*



*Michael Marriott's cottage garden.*



# Pruning Roses

... continued from page D13

**Why Prune:** It is imperative to prune roses annually to maintain the shape and blooming qualities of the rose. You'll keep your plant healthy and stimulate growth by removing any weak, dead or diseased canes.

**Tools:** Loppers, shears, secateurs, saw and gloves. Sterilize tools with alcohol before using and make sure tools are sharp so as not to damage the plant.

**When to Prune:** Pruning needs to be done during the dormant months of January and February. Later pruning can be detrimental as the plant's energy will be depleted and plants could be susceptible to frost.

**How to Prune:** If possible, cut above a bud on a slight angle. For a large group of shrub roses, a hedge trimmer is useful.

**How Much to Prune:** Different roses require different pruning techniques. A good rule of thumb is to prune down to one half or one third of the original height of the plant and thin out any spindly stems.

**1. Climbing and Rambling Roses** require less pruning as the goal is to get them to climb and ramble along fences, arbors, or other structures.

**2. Repeat Flowering Shrub Roses** (English roses, some old roses): The shape of the plant is the most important. You can be flexible according to your wishes, but reducing the height to one-third to two-thirds is normal.

**3. Once Flowering Shrub Roses** (old roses such as Albas, Gallicas, Damasks): Do not hard prune as flowering shoots are only produced on stems that are at least one year old.

**4. Bush Roses** (hybrid teas, floribundas, patio, polyanthas, and miniatures): Hard pruning the height by two-thirds to three-fourths and thinning is recommended.

**5. Species Roses** (originals): No pruning necessary as they are close to wild plants and thrive on neglect.

**6. Standard Roses:** Standard roses are formed by budding any of the above roses on a special stem. Pruning to one-third will be sufficient with thinning and light pruning throughout the year.

**Clean up:** Rake all leaves, stems and canes. If your roses are not patented, you can share healthy canes with friends or plant in other areas of your garden. Add mulch to the rose bush.

**McDonnell Nursery is offering a winter rose pruning workshop at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 27 at 193 Moraga Way in Orinda. Space is limited so call (925) 254-3713. This will be a very useful event for all rose lovers.**

Every year I add a few more roses to my landscape to increase colors, scents, and shapes.

This season I will be planting these selections from the glorious David Austin collection:

Comte de Chambord  
Strawberry Hill  
Crown Princess Margareta  
Olivia Rose Austin  
Huntington Rose  
Charles Rennie Mackintosh  
Lady of Shalott  
Spirit of Freedom  
The Wedgwood Rose

Investigate the choices of David Austin Roses at your favorite nursery and garden center or save 15 percent on your order through Feb. 28 at [www.DavidAustinRoses.com](http://www.DavidAustinRoses.com).

Roses are red, pink, salmon, yellow, orange, purple, white, mauve, and a multitude of other hues. I encourage you to put on your rose-colored glasses, gloves, hat, and enjoy pruning and planting the "rose that by any other word would smell as sweet."

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.

Cynthia Brian



*Yellow roses and rose hips.*



*Hedge rose in pretty pink.*





Olivia Rose Austin rose in a mixed garden.



Cynthia Brian and Michael Marriott, senior rosarian at David Austin English Roses talk everything roses from 4 to 5 p.m. Jan. 24 at [www.StarStyleRadio.com](http://www.StarStyleRadio.com).

Cynthia Brian, The Goddess Gardener, raised in the vineyards of Napa County, is a New York Times best selling author, actor, radio personality, speaker, media and writing coach as well as the Founder and Executive Director of Be the Star You Are!® 501 c3.

Tune into Cynthia's Radio show and order her books at [www.StarStyleRadio.com](http://www.StarStyleRadio.com).

Buy a copy of the new book, Growing with the Goddess Gardener, at [www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store](http://www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store).

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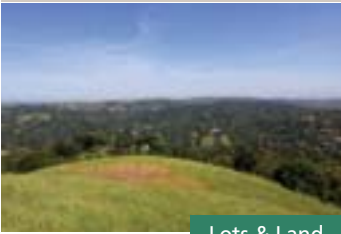
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## ORINDA



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## ORINDA

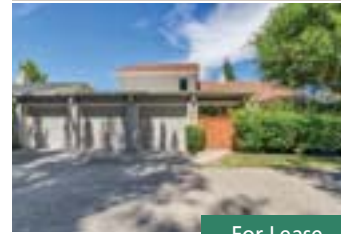


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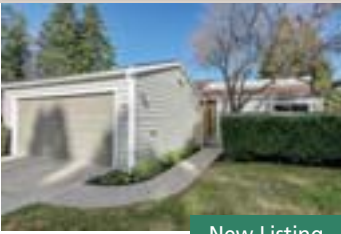
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## LAFAYETTE



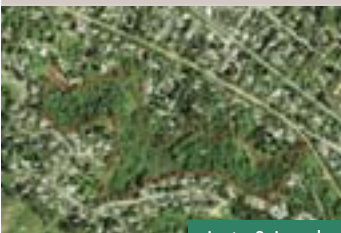
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## ROSSMOOR



New Listing

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