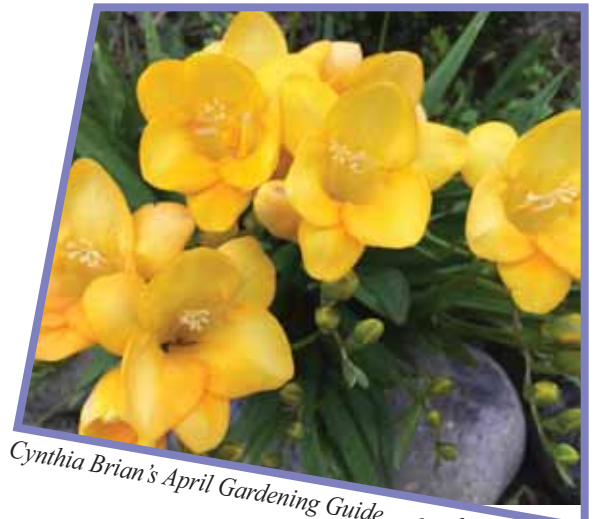


# Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 12 Issue 3 Wednesday, April 4, 2018



*Cynthia Brian's April Gardening Guide ...read on page D12*

## Young Moraga artist launches home furnishings line with Anthropologie

By Kara Navolio



*Moraga native and artist Bridgette Thornton.*

*Photo Terri Riggins*

A career as an artist is a dream that many people may wish for, but not see it as a realistic way to make a living. Not so for 26-year-old Bridgette Thornton of Moraga.

After years of pursuing painting as a side interest, Thornton has shown it's possible to make a living doing what you love. Since May, four of her paintings are being sold through the retailer Anthropologie as prints as part of their Art & Wall Décor Collection. In July the company reached out to her to have some of her floral paintings converted to designs for their Home Product Line. Her Paint and Petals collection, launching this month, just in time for spring, is featured on duvet covers, shower curtains, melamine dinnerware, and about 20 other products.

Thornton, who grew up in Moraga and graduated from Campolindo High School in 2010, got excited about art in an eighth-grade art class at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School. It was an outlet away from the pressures of school. After spending two summers taking pre-college art classes at the California College of Arts in Oakland, she got a taste of what attending an art school would be like.

She attended CCA after high school, but although her passion was painting, she chose graphic design as her major. "Graphic design was a path that seemed a more direct path to employment," stated Thornton.

... continued on page D6







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## Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

City	Last reported:	LOWEST AMOUNT:	HIGHEST AMOUNT:
LAFAYETTE	16	\$725,000	\$3,600,000
MORAGA	7	\$775,000	\$1,575,000
ORINDA	7	\$850,000	\$2,500,500

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

- 3348 Carlyle Terrace, \$975,000, 3 Bdrms, 1769 SqFt, 1955 YrBl, 3-5-18
- 4176 Coralee Lane, \$1,350,000, 4 Bdrms, 2009 SqFt, 1973 YrBl, 3-2-18;  
Previous Sale: \$745,000, 02-28-03
- 28 Crest Road, \$3,600,000, 7 Bdrms, 7007 SqFt, 1941 YrBl, 3-1-18
- 905 Dewing Avenue, \$725,000, 2 Bdrms, 1349 SqFt, 1941 YrBl, 3-2-18
- 3232 Elvia Street, \$1,275,000, 3 Bdrms, 2270 SqFt, 1961 YrBl, 3-6-18;  
Previous Sale: \$830,000, 09-05-14
- 1668 Foothill Park Circle, \$1,150,000, 4 Bdrms, 2056 SqFt, 1957 YrBl, 2-28-18;  
Previous Sale: \$832,500, 11-21-12
- 1503 Huston Road, \$1,000,000, 6 Bdrms, 2158 SqFt, 1951 YrBl, 3-6-18;  
Previous Sale: \$900,000, 08-25-15
- 3364 Johnson Road, \$950,000, 3 Bdrms, 1854 SqFt, 1972 YrBl, 3-2-18
- 1205 Monticello Road, \$2,137,500, 5 Bdrms, 2370 SqFt, 1950 YrBl, 3-5-18;  
Previous Sale: \$1,525,000, 06-27-17
- 1148 Oak Hill Road, \$1,100,000, 3 Bdrms, 1544 SqFt, 1939 YrBl, 3-5-18
- 1107 Orchard Road, \$1,775,000, 3 Bdrms, 2331 SqFt, 2009 YrBl, 3-8-18;  
Previous Sale: \$599,000, 06-15-04
- 961 Reliez Station Road, \$822,000, 3 Bdrms, 1419 SqFt, 1937 YrBl, 3-6-18;  
Previous Sale: \$192,500, 07-17-87
- 854 Revere Road, \$1,500,000, 4 Bdrms, 2382 SqFt, 1965 YrBl, 2-28-18;  
Previous Sale: \$420,000, 02-08-90
- 3090 Sweetbrier Circle, \$1,435,000, 3 Bdrms, 1649 SqFt, 1962 YrBl, 3-8-18;  
Previous Sale: \$900,000, 05-21-14
- 3326 Vaughn Road, \$950,000, 3 Bdrms, 1152 SqFt, 1949 YrBl, 3-7-18
- 1002 Woodbury Road #302, \$2,405,000, 3 Bdrms, 2931 SqFt, 2015 YrBl, 2-27-18

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Founded in 2012 in New York City, Compass is now a national and global platform with the goal of "Compass everywhere", reaching every major city worldwide in the next two to three years. Since launching in 2012, Compass aimed to simplify the real estate process. With agents and teams serving vibrant communities coast to coast, Compass is now among the country's largest owned luxury brokerages. Compass CEO Robert Reffkin recently announced the Company's goal of achieving 20 percent market share in the 20 largest US cities by 2020. Growth has been fueled by raising over \$775 million in capital to-date from the likes of, among others, SoftBank and Fidelity.

While we have been very impressed by Compass's technology platform and unmatched in-house marketing and transaction support services, what sets Compass apart is its culture. The foundation for success starts with a culture of trust, respect and a world class support organization that allows agents to



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# COMPASS

## Young Moraga artist ... continued from page D1



"But then with the lingering effects of the economic problems of 2008-10, I saw that even the safe bet didn't ensure a job anymore. So I decided to throw all my eggs in one basket and switched my major to what I loved: painting and drawing." She sold her first paintings as a college student, but a career as an artist was still a dream.

During her college internships in the fashion industry, Thornton got the opportunity to see how art can work in the business world. She saw how a painting could be used to design textiles, and one of her own designs went into production. After college she worked at BCBG, an advertising agency in Los Angeles, and furthered her knowledge about how the creative arts can be used in business. Meanwhile, she continued painting on the side and submitting her work.

After two years of submitting her work to Serena & Lily, an interior decorating site that sells original art works, she was accepted and sold her first painting on their site in 2016.

By September she was ready to make art her full-time profession. She moved back to Moraga, and once again, threw all her eggs in one basket, renting a studio in Berkeley to paint full time.

When asked about her success as an artist, Thornton explained, "Some people think you are

born with a talent, but I disagree. It's something you have to put tons of work into. I enjoy the process of investing that time, instead of focusing on the end product. I read Malcolm Gladwell's "Outliers: The Story of Success," and I agree with the concept that it takes 10,000 hours to be really good at something." Thornton is well on her way to her 10,000 hours, as she spends 10-12 hours almost every day at her workshop at Maker's Workspace in Berkeley where she paints her floral canvases with acrylics and gouache (an opaque watercolor). She also believes in keeping her energy in the right mindset, as she explains, "I live life with an abundance mindset and staying positive." She uses a vision board as inspiration; there she posts images of others' work she admires and where she wants her career to go. "I hope Anthropologie is a stepping stone to accomplishing more goals," she adds.

Thornton also believes in inspiring other young people to follow their dreams. She has spoken to girls at the Santa Catalina School in Monterey and is open to speaking to other school groups in the Bay Area. Contact her through her website [bridgettethornton.com](http://bridgettethornton.com) or see more of her designs on Instagram: @PaintandPetals.

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**We will have more information on April 10th when the home goes to market and is available for showings.**

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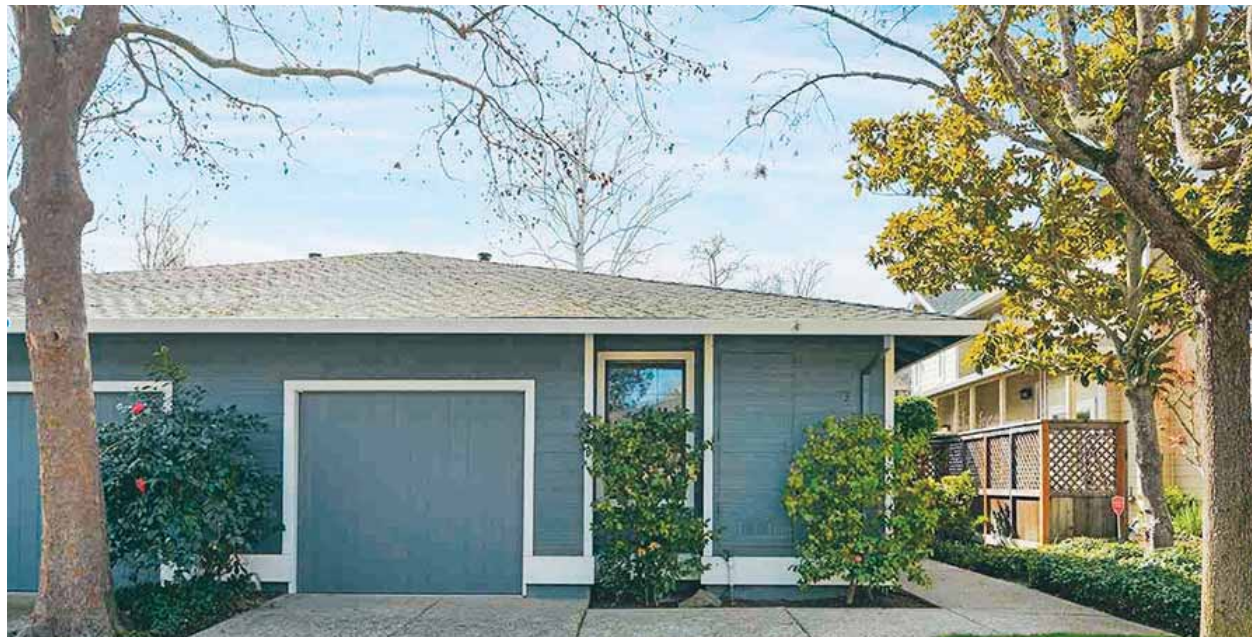
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## Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

... continued from page D2

### MORAGA

- 710 Augusta Drive, \$890,000, 2 Bdrms, 1464 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 3-6-18
- 97 Corliss Drive, \$1,453,000, 4 Bdrms, 2204 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 2-28-18;  
Previous Sale: \$259,000, 06-23-83
- 22 Del Rio Court, \$1,700,000, 4 Bdrms, 3448 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 2-28-18;  
Previous Sale: \$1,500,000, 09-22-06
- 148 Donald Drive, \$1,575,000, 4 Bdrms, 2594 SqFt, 1986 YrBlt, 3-8-18;  
Previous Sale: \$525,000, 07-30-90
- 115 Hazelwood Place, \$1,496,000, 4 Bdrms, 2511 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 3-6-18;  
Previous Sale: \$399,000, 05-24-91
- 1701 St. Andrews Drive, \$775,000, 2 Bdrms, 1262 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 3-2-18;  
Previous Sale: \$558,000, 06-02-04
- 145 Warfield Drive, \$1,445,000, 4 Bdrms, 2466 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 3-8-18

### ORINDA

- 10 Ardor Drive, \$975,000, 3 Bdrms, 1972 SqFt, 1949 YrBlt, 3-6-18
- 3 Buena Vista, \$850,000, 3 Bdrms, 1343 SqFt, 1958 YrBlt, 2-28-18;  
Previous Sale: \$686,000, 02-10-17
- 166 Camino Sobrante, \$905,000, 3 Bdrms, 1833 SqFt, 1935 YrBlt, 3-7-18;  
Previous Sale: \$799,000, 10-27-17
- 112 Crestview Drive, \$1,310,000, 3 Bdrms, 2439 SqFt, 1975 YrBlt, 3-8-18;  
Previous Sale: \$873,000, 06-08-16
- 44 Tarry Lane, \$2,498,000, 3 Bdrms, 3482 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 3-8-18;  
Previous Sale: \$1,105,100, 02-12-16
- 15 Wilder Road, \$2,500,500, 5 Bdrms, 5023 SqFt, 2015 YrBlt, 3-7-18
- 19 Wilder Road, \$2,479,000, 4 Bdrms, 4284 SqFt, 2015 YrBlt, 3-7-18



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- Fireplace
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- Digital schematic drawing for development of back yard
- Trail neighborhood

**Sold, Over asking! Trail Neighborhood**



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## Cynthia Brian's April Gardening Guide

# Weed, seed, feed

By Cynthia Brian

*"Nothing is so beautiful as spring when weeds, in wheels, shoot long, and lovely, and lush ..."* – Gerard Manley Hopkins



*Dandelions in grass*

While cleaning out our parents' ranch home I found a book published in 1918 belonging to my grandfather. The title is "The Herbalist" by Joseph E. Meyer, 1878-1950. The cover showcased a line drawing of an apothecary's garden. The first page warns in big bold letters "Special Attention: The botanical materials, medications, and recipes of this book are not intended to replace the services of physicians."

Being the major gardener and herbalist that I am, I was thrilled to discover this tiny tome filled with information that is pertinent over 100 years after publication to those of us who love to grow our own food. After reading about the anatomy of plants, the epitome of botany, and the medicinal uses of plants, I excitedly went into the garden to find weeds to feed me. Then of course, it was time to throw seeds to beautify what will become my late spring landscape.

Since the rain and hail we experienced in March, weeds are ubiquitous. Before seeding, weeding is essential. If you like to be adventurous while consuming a nutrition-



*Mushrooms sprouting everywhere. Beware!*

*Photos Cynthia Brian*

al boost, separate the dandelions from other discarded weeds. Dandelions originated in Greece and have been enjoyed as greens in salads or sautés for centuries. Dandelions provide calcium, vitamin K, vitamin A, E, riboflavin, and iron. The dried root is a beneficial home remedy as a diuretic, plus dandelions inhibit inflammation. Consider adding this food to your menu.

After a thorough weeding, it's time to seed the garden with beautiful flowers and delicious vegetables. Always choose quality seeds. Plant seeds in the correct light situations. Refer to seed packets for information when the most auspicious planting window is and where the plants will thrive. Make sure to prepare the soil properly by weeding and composting or buy good soil.

When planting indoors, choose a south or west-facing window to provide adequate light and warmth. Natural light is always best for helping seeds to sprout but you can always purchase grow lamps. Fluorescent tubes will work when placed two to four inches above the seedlings and left on for 18 hours per day. ... continued on next page





*Crabapple tree in full bloom*

If you are planting on a porch, be mindful of frosty evenings where you'll need to provide heat. Speed seed germination with a heat mat that you place under trays or containers and remove the heat mat once the seeds have sprouted.

A container for planting seeds can be anything that is at least two to three inches deep with a drainage hole. You can use milk cartons, cell packs, recycled plastic, or clay pots. Even old coffee mugs can be repurposed as long as you add gravel to the bottom. Get creative, repurpose, and recycle.

Keep the soil moist but not soggy. When a plant has two sets of leaves it's time to feed them with a half-strength fertilizer and get them to sunny locations outdoors as often as possible.

I prefer to sow directly in the ground and have experimented with seeding as early as March. However, my experience has instructed me to spread seeds when the soil is warm in late April, thinning as necessary. Follow instructions on seed packets for best

results. Keep in mind that you will not have 100 percent germination. Sow an amount of seeds that is several times the amount you wish for best results. For small seeds like arugula and greens, I carefully scatter attempting not to have the seeds clumped in one area. All plants need room to spread. For plants growing in cells or trays, I usually transplant in May and have found that these plants tend to do better than those that were planted in early spring. Planting in sets of odd numbers, three, five, seven, nine, or more provides a cohesiveness and richness of texture.

Growing a beautiful garden from seeds is easy and inexpensive. You may have to provide netting to keep hungry birds, roaming rabbits, and ravenous deer out of your yard.

Spring is a time to weed, seed and feed, both metaphorically and literally. I love experimenting in my garden and hope that a hundred years from now my books will be as relevant to readers as "The Herbalist" is.

... continued on page D14

## Seeds to start indoors    Seeds to sow in containers or directly in the garden: or in a greenhouse:

Broccoli	Eggplants	Arugula	Carrots	Greens	Nasturtiums	Penstemon	Squash
Brussels Sprouts	Peppers	Basil	Cilantro	Herbs	Parsley	Radishes	Sunflowers
Cabbage	Tomatoes	Beans	Corn	Kale	Parsnips	Spinach	Zinnias
Cauliflower	Perennial Flowers	Beets	Cucumbers	Melons	Peas	Swiss Chard	





## Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for April

- **CONTROL** snails with organic treatments. You can hand pick them, put out bowls of beer, add copper tape to ornamentals, throw egg shells in affected areas, or scatter Sluggo. Eliminate watering at night when snails feed. They multiply and flourish in the wet and damp. In dry weather they will retract into their shells sealing off the opening with mucus. Snails can be dormant for four years.
- **RAKE** lawns to remove debris and aerate. If fertilizer is needed, this is the time to apply.
- **DON'T** eat the mushrooms growing in your yard unless you are certain they are edible. Consult a mycologist as many mushrooms are toxic and potentially fatal if ingested.
- **VISIT** Wildlife Earth Day at Wagner Ranch in Orinda on Sunday, April 22 from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Several community organizations will also present earth-friendly endeavors. I will be autographing my newest book, "Growing with the Goddess Gardener" as well as talking about botanicals. For more information on this nature-lover's event organized by the naturalist guru, Toris Jaeger, visit <https://fwrna.org/wildlifefest/>.
- **PLANT** agastache, columbine, penstemon, salvia and trumpet vine to attract hummingbirds. When the threat of frost is finished, hibiscus, bougainvillea, and citrus can be planted.
- **BUY** discounted tickets to the June 15 Oakland A's versus Los Angeles Angels baseball game with a portion of proceeds benefitting the 501 c3 charity, Be the Star You Are® <http://www.BetheStarYouAre.org> or go find your seats to buy directly at <https://groupmatics.events/event/Bestar>.
- **EAT** your dandelions for a wealth of nutritional and medicinal benefits. An Italian proverb instructs, "He who wants to eat a good supper should eat a weed of every kind."
- **WALK** in the woods, a park or hug a tree to get your dose of forest bathing known as the Japanese tradition of shinrin-yoku.
- **SAVOR** springtime. It's the bugle baby for beauty, fragrance, and new life.

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.



*Penstemon seeds can be scattered in a sunny location to attract hummingbirds.*



*Walk in a forest or hug a tree to get your dose of forest bathing or shinrin-yoku*





Close up of a tulip magnolia flower.



Cynthia Brian enjoys the sea breeze

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). Available for hire for projects and lectures. [Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com](mailto:Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com) [www.GoddessGardener.com](http://www.GoddessGardener.com)

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