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Kelsey Levant, left, and John Stepp work in the Campolindo garden with advisor Jane Kelson looking on.

Photo John T. Miller

Learning farm to table techniques

By John T. Miller

Like keepers of the secrets to survival, a small percentage of students at Miramonte, Campolindo and Acalanes high schools are connected to garden projects where they learn the rudiments of seed production, cultivation and harvesting of food.

Why is this knowledge important? A report by Bayer Global estimates that “by the middle of the century, the demand for agricultural products will be 50 percent higher than in 2013, while at the same time, the amount of U.S. farmland

is decreasing.” The USDA reports that 6.6 million acres were lost from 2008-15, and the amount continues to decline.

When these students approach middle age, how will they feed themselves? The answers may be in what they learn through their garden projects.

Helping with these efforts is the Global Student Embassy, a nonprofit group. Kelsey Ring, an educator with GSE, coordinates the AUHSD gardens, leading the students in activities that connect the gardens with global environmental issues

(Las Lomas also has a garden, but is not in our Lamorinda circulation area).

GSE promotes cultural exchange with Latin American countries. Over spring break, nine students from Campolindo traveled with Spanish teacher Concepcion Martinez to Nicaragua and learned how to work with a farming group dealing with soil destroyed by growing cotton. One Miramonte student traveled to Ecuador. Students from Ecuador and Nicaragua also visit the U.S. to support local projects. ... continued on page A13

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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DANA GREEN

Moraga digs its way out of fiscal emergency

By Sophie Braccini

The Moraga town council members asked questions of administrative director Joe Tanner on May 8 before they agreed to support staff's recommendation to rescind the fiscal emergency that the town declared 10 months ago. Council members were concerned about the unsure timing of reimbursement for the completed repairs that depleted the town's reserves, and that the town could find itself in a vulnerable position again.

The town's reserves, which dropped to \$700,000 in July, have rebounded to \$1.4 million – before receipt of any federal reimbursement. Better than expected revenue and savings have helped improve the town's financial outlook. Tanner and Edric Kwan, public works director, confirmed that close to \$900,000 is expected from Caltrans in June and an additional \$1.4 million in September.

Council Member Roger Wykle asked Kwan to explain the reimbursement process and how his team was keeping on top of collecting the money. The director described a highly coded and multi-staged process involving several public agencies, which was taking time but was on track. The two anticipated reimbursements correspond to the settlement of the work to repair the Rheem sinkhole. The reopening of the Canyon bridge was also declared emergency work worthy of federal reimbursement, but Congress has not yet approved money for California to deal with all its past year's emergencies, of which the Canyon bridge is but a very small part.

Council Member Kymberleigh Korpus asked Tanner if he knew if the real estate market in Moraga had suffered from the fiscal emergency declaration. ... continued on page A13

Fraudulent voter forms reappear in Lafayette

By Nick Marnell

Anxiety flooded through Lafayette as reports of fraudulent voter information forms emerged, rekindling concerns of a similar situation that occurred during the 2016 general election.

“I received a voter guide addressed to someone who, to the best of my knowledge, has never lived at this address,” said Lafayette resident Stacy Schirmer. Scott Sommer received five false voter packets mailed to his address and Victoria Singh received two. “This actually started with the last big election. I reported them to the voting agency this time,” Singh said.

Reporting the names to the county elections division is the proper thing to do, said Scott Konopasek, assistant registrar of voters for Contra Costa County. The erroneous registrants in these situations are not real people, he said, but falsely supplied information on a voter registration form provided by a signature gatherer in 2016. Once the phony names are reported, the elections division will cancel the fraudulent voter and the name will not appear on the roster at the polls.

“This is not an attempt at voter fraud and we have not received any such reports,” Konopasek said.

Through mid-May, the elections division had received 40 reports of 67 fictitious voters, and all of the reports came from addresses in Lafayette. In every case, the fictitious voters were registered through a voter registration drive. “Who knows why in 2016 a signature-gathering employee defrauded his employer by creating fictitious voters in Lafayette in 2016,” Konopasek said. He confirmed that the district attorney has issued an arrest warrant for one of the signature-gathering suspects, who is not a Lafayette resident.

“There is nothing in this situation that was created by or poses any threat to the current political situation in Lafayette,” Konopasek said. “I live adjacent to Lafayette and I am directly affected by the effects of the Deer Hill development and the outcome of Measure L. I am well aware of the emotions in the city and neighboring areas.”

Those who receive suspicious voter information or ballots should call the Contra Costa County Elections Division at (925) 335-7800, or send an email to voter.services@vote.cccounty.us. Include the fictitious name and the address to where the bogus paperwork was sent, and then destroy the material.

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Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, May 29, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, May 21, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review

Tuesday, May 29, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Acalanes Union High School District
Wednesday, May 16, 7 p.m.
AUHSD Board Room
1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

Wednesday, May 30, 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

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www.ci.lafayette.ca.us
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Chamber of Commerce:

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New memorial unveiled

By Pippa Fisher

The culmination of many years of work, the new memorial outside the Veterans Memorial Center was officially unveiled on April 29. The monument is inscribed with the 23 names of residents of Contra Costa County who gave their lives during active service for their country since 9/11.

With many local dignitaries present, Rep. Mark DeSaulnier spoke of the sacrifice made by the young men and women and of the sacrifice of those families who lost their loved ones.

State Sen. Steve Glazer and Assemblywoman Catharine Baker, introduced by Supervisor Candace Andersen, read aloud the names of the fallen, including that of Lafayette native, Senior Airman Jonathan Vega Yelner.



Photo provided

Following the moving ceremony, the large group including Gold Star families, Blue Star friends and residents went outside where senior members of Boy Scout Troop 243 – a troop to which Yelner had belonged – unveiled the new memorial.

Community canine capers in Dogtown Downtown

By Pippa Fisher



Last year's Dogtown Downtown event.

Photo Pippa Fisher

Is Lafayette going to the dogs? It certainly is, at least on Saturday, May 19 with the ever-popular Dogtown Downtown event.

The annual community event sponsored by the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce is now in its fifth year and is always fun for all ages. It is similar to the Westminster Kennel Club Dog show in as much as both feature dogs – but this event is way cooler. And getting there is easier, too.

All friendly, social, on-leash pups of all ages will be welcome. The event is a chance for residents to mingle with dog lovers and showcase their pooch's special talents in contests such as "Best Team Trick" (owner and dog together) and "Best of Show."

If Fido has a flair for fashion, he might appreciate a chance to join in

Lafayette's third annual canine fashion show, "Doggie Vogue."

New this year is the "Doggie Howl" contest, for kids up to 10 years old only.

And there's always the "Looks Most Like Owner" category.

Registrations for all contests will be at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center Amphitheater from 9:30 a.m. where the event kicks off with Downward Dog Yoga.

From the library's outdoor pavilion at 10 a.m. dogs and owners will strut their stuff in a parade along Golden Gate Way with a police escort to the Lafayette Plaza for the contests.

As in previous years, there will be demonstrations and exhibits along with vendors and dog adoptions.

The event runs from 9:30 a.m. to midday on May 19.

It's a wrap!

By Pippa Fisher



The first wrap, installed on the corner of Lafayette Circle and Mt. Diablo Boulevard.

Photo Pippa Fisher

Observant Lafayette residents might have noticed a few random acts of art around town lately. Utility boxes around the city are now being disguised with colorful wraps, designed by Lafayette students to help celebrate the city's 50th anniversary.

The eye-catching project started with an idea from the ad hoc 50th Anniversary Committee over a year ago, and it has taken a lot of work since then from several bodies to pull it all together.

Public Art Committee Member Erling Horn and PAC Chair Janice Peacock worked with Lafayette Partners in Education Executive

Director Myrna Kimmelman, who provided a selection of elementary school art projects in a variety of mediums including pastels, watercolors, crayon and gouache as well as logos designed by high school students to the PAC for review and selection.

With funding from the city and a contract with Sequoia Signs and Graphics, Peacock set to work with local graphic designer Danielle Gogo-Gallagher to create the large-format image files – and lay out the images so that they would be visually pleasing from all angles, ensuring the image wrapped all the way around. ... continued on page A8

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*per Public Records

Traffic dangers for students near schools

By Pippa Fisher



Charlene Fernandes helps students across busy Pleasant Hill Road by Springhill School. Photo Pippa Fisher

It was not an evening during which action would be taken, but the special joint meeting of the Lafayette City Council and the Lafayette School District board was nonetheless a good opportunity for dialog between the two bodies. And traffic was front and center once again.

In fact two of the items on the agenda related to Lafayette's traffic woes. Transportation Planner James Hinkamp gave a report at the April 30 meeting on the downtown congestion plan and also gave a report summarizing issues and mitigation measures at the schools within the LAFSD.

Hinkamp went through the schools one by one, starting with Burton Valley Elementary School, which he said is the least impacted by traffic and congestion, but which however has identified "active transportation," meaning students bicycling and walking to and from school, as the main safety concern. He said that school staff supervision as well as high visibility markers have helped, and talked about the possibility of seeking grant funding to study potential Safe Routes to School solutions. Happy Valley Elementary

School, said Hinkamp, does have significant traffic congestion around morning drop-off and afternoon pickup times. He said that school staff supervision, led by the principal, coupled with double or side-by-side loading and periodic police traffic enforcement of non-compliant driver behavior has made a difference. Consideration is being given to comments from traffic engineering consulting firm Arup regarding other ideas such as modifying curbs, removing off-street parking, installing additional pavement marking and improving sidewalks to facilitate pedestrian access to and from the public right of way.

Regarding Lafayette Elementary School and Stanley Middle School, Hinkamp said that their position in downtown means that traffic congestion is a huge issue. In both cases the downtown congestion plan has potential solutions as part of the long- and short-term fixes such as the Brook Street realignment. Additionally he pointed to the recently implemented mitigation measures such as the all-direction "scramble" lights on Moraga Road and the improved shared path on First Street. ... continued on page A9

City and schools work together for student safety on campus

By Pippa Fisher

The city and school boards continue to work hard collaboratively to ensure student safety, particularly with regard to school site security.

At the April 30 joint meeting of the Lafayette city council and school board City Manager Steve Falk and Lafayette School District Superintendent Rachel Zinn presented a brief update on steps that have been and are currently being taken to improve emergency plans, particularly in the case of an active shooter on campus.

Falk explained that amid concerns over increased school shootings both he and the superintendents of both the Acalanes Union High School and the Lafayette school districts have been working hard over the past six years in collaboration with former Police Chief Eric Christensen.

During this time, Falk explained, Christensen had supervised emergency drills and active shooter training sessions for teachers in all schools.

Zinn said that with school security very much on their mind, Christensen was working on written, comprehensive, aligned plans which were almost complete when he left Lafayette but on which he is continuing to work together with new Police Chief Ben Alldritt. Zinn said she is looking forward to seeing the completed plans very soon.

In addition Christensen had done a safety audit of all campuses with homeland security, reported

Zinn. She said that during the comprehensive audit they walked through all the campuses and identified anything that needed beefing up in terms of security. Information from the audit is also expected very soon.

Zinn said that the schools themselves also continually address school and student safety, holding regular drills and that as part of the Measure C bond work, schools are also looking to do things that increase school safety such as having blinds that can be pulled down in case of an incident, double locks, and "panic bar" hardware which allows a door to be immediately locked. She said they are upgrading and updating all their alarm systems.

Zinn gave credit to Christensen and Police Officer Larry Seliga, who have worked with the schools on both security and traffic safety near campuses, referring to them as "great partners."

Vice Mayor Cam Burks also commented on the terrific work done by Falk and Christensen, which he said had to be "the number one focus" and that there has to be seamless collaboration as city and school board work together.

Burks said later that the joint school board and city council meeting had been profoundly encouraging. "I will continue to support closer engagement, both at the council and board level and between our respective staffs," said Burks.

Measure L Debate

Did you miss it? You can read the pros and cons on Measure L provided by spokespeople from both the Yes on L Campaign (Brandt Andersson and Vice Mayor Cam Burks) and the No on L Campaign (Michael Griffiths and Scott Sommer) in the Lamorida Weekly archives at <http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1205/Deer-Hill-Road-Pros-and-cons-of-Measure-L-debated.html>.

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Moraga

Public Meetings

City Council

Wednesday, May 23, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, May 21, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Design Review

Tuesday, May 29, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Moraga School District
Tuesday, June 5, 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

Department

Incident

Summary

Report

April 24 to May 7

Alarms 10

911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 11

Traffic 40

Suspicious Circumstances 8

Suspicious Subject 3

Suspicious Vehicle 4

Service to Citizen 39

Patrol Request/ Security Check 71

Vacation House Check 6

Supplemental Report 18

Welfare Check 3

Abandoned Vehicle

2000 Block Ascot Dr.
Corliss Dr./Moraga Rd.
Ascot Dr./Moraga Rd.

Accident Injury

1400 Block Moraga Rd.

Accident Property

Rheem Blvd./St. Marys Rd.

Auto Burglary

10 Block Natividad Ln.

Beat Info

10 Block Gloria Ct.

Police Department

DUI Misdemeanor

Moraga/Holm

Excessive Speed

Moraga Presb. Church

Moraga Way/Hardie Dr.

St. Andrews Dr./Moraga Way

Found Property

Police Department

Juvenile Disturbance

Camino Pablo Rd./School

100 Block Willowbrook Ln.

Litter

1400 Block Moraga Rd.

Loud Music

80 Block El Camino Flores

Loud Noise

Thorndale Puarroyo Dr.

300 Block Rheem Blvd.

Loud Party

80 Block Miramonte Dr. (2)

Ascot Ct./Ascot Dr.

Mentally Ill Commit

St. Marys College

Other Infraction

10 Block Lucia Ln.

Petty Theft

1100 Block Moraga Way

Moraga Waynilla Ln.

40 Block Cumberland Ln.

Safeway

Public Assembly Check

Acalanes High School

Safeway

Rheem Valley Shopping Center

(2)

Skate Park

St. Marys College

Reckless Driving

100 Block Miramonte Dr.

Walford Dr./Shuey Dr.

Residential Burglary

10 Block Williams Dr.

Tc - Property Damage

Larch Ave./Canyon Rd.

Tow

2000 Block Ascot Dr. (2)

Traffic Hazard

Moraga Rd./Rheem Blvd.



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2018 town goals approved at almost mid-year

By Sophie Braccini

The town council approved at the end of April the goals staff has been working on since the beginning of the year. This year's goals are predominantly continuations of last year's goals. With just over half of the year remaining, no new earth-shattering objectives were introduced. Staff and council have continued last year's goals and, since the beginning of the year, have tackled new issues that are now reflected in the goals as approved.

When Mayor Dave Trotter took the center chair in January he said that the year's goals would be "reimbursement, reimbursement, reimbursement." The town was just coming out of a traumatic period, suffering several major infrastruc-

ture failures and commensurate expenses. Getting the money back from the federal government was the obvious central preoccupation, therefore the first target for the town is to work aggressively to obtain reimbursement from the Federal Highway Administration for the town's sinkhole repair and the Canyon Road Bridge, and restore the town's general fund reserves.

Trotter also wanted to add as a separate aim to pursue a fair resolution of the town's claims, and if necessary litigation, against third parties with legal responsibility for damage to the Canyon Road Bridge. All agreed with the idea.

Fiscal discipline was also a top target. Then, following the lead

of Vice Mayor Teresa Onoda, the council agreed to add to the goals pertaining to open space preservation and implementation of the new hillside and ridgeline regulation the pursuit of partnerships to protect and acquire open space.

Infrastructure goals included searching for supplemental grant funding, additional to measure K money, to keep the roads in top condition, and develop a storm drain master implementation plan if the storm drain fee is approved.

In the area of economic development, the council agreed that the preservation of the Rheem Theatre and the development of a public-private partnership for the Hacienda de las Flores were goals that

were attainable this year.

On policy matters, the council agreed that progress should be made this year in the zoning of the Moraga Center Specific Plan and that the planning department should start reviewing the development process to better align it with people's expectations.

As far as recreation is concerned, the council adopted the goal of improving the connectedness of the Moraga trail system and developing maps of the trails. The council also wants to reach out to the Moraga School District board to explore and develop potential funding mechanisms for new, joint use recreational facilities and sports fields.

Joe Tanner: Moraga new administrative services director

By Sophie Braccini



Joe Tanner in his new office. Photo Sophie Braccini

Joe Tanner jumped in the driver's seat of Moraga's administrative services close to the finish line of the budget cycle: a very fast ride that required him to pick up speed within a few weeks. It was not a problem for the experienced professional. He says that this coming year's budget will continue previously etched tracks, but he already has a vision for changes that will need to be made.

The Moraga administrative services department covers more than finance; it also deals with human resources, risk management and special projects. But being hired two months before the budget approval at the end of June, the financial aspect is taking the bulk of the new director's attention.

With the town finally out of the danger zone and rescinding its fiscal emergency, Tanner says that he was in that situation before. For three and a half years Tanner worked for the city of Desert Hot Springs, where it used the same exceptional procedure, declaring its insolvency. "The city lost a huge percentage of its revenue when the recession hit," he remembers, "something quite different from Moraga where unforeseen natural catastrophes depleted the reserves."

Tanner agrees that having the reserve drop in the 10 percent range of the general fund was not a healthy situation. "It is dangerous because the budget is so small," he explains. "If your budget is \$60 million, then a 20 percent reserve still gives you enough to do things; in Moraga, it is not the case." He

adds that the policy that was approved to get to a 50 percent reserve makes sense for Moraga and he believes that the town will get there.

Desert Hot Springs was not the first experience Tanner had administering a city. He was hired as the interim city manager for the city of Rio Vista in 2013, after being an administrative analyst for the city of San Ramon for three years. Tanner holds an MBA from John F. Kennedy University.

He wanted to return to the Bay Area, its more balanced climate, where he and his wife were raised, and where family is largely located. He finds Moraga, its welcoming staff and community the perfect place where he wants to flourish.

Looking at the data and documents he found upon arrival, Tanner says that the town has been well managed and had put in place the mechanism, procedures and documentation that are perfectly adequate. If the storm drain funding is

addressed through the assessment that was put to a vote, he thinks that most long-term potential headaches for Moraga's infrastructure will be addressed. But Tanner noticed the town's unfunded pension liability amounts to \$5.5 million.

He notes that Moraga requires that its employees pay an additional 1 percent to CalPERS, which makes the town a bit less attractive than other municipalities but should allow to keep the debt from escalating. For him, getting out of CalPERS is out of the question, since the system would require close to \$30 million from Moraga to let it go. Tanner adds that he and town manager Cynthia Battenberg will start working on a long-term CalPERS plan once the 2018-19 budget is approved.

The other aspect of Moraga's finances that will need focused attention is the asset replacement fund. Even if roads and storm trains are taken care of, the town has not historically made any strides in saving

to maintain/replace its other assets: the vehicles (police and maintenance), the police equipment, the library, 329 and 335 Rheem Boulevard buildings, the Hacienda de las Flores, etc. In 2014, a subcommittee of the audit and finance committee had estimated the unfunded depreciation balance at the time, besides roads and drains, to be more than \$5 million. Its recommendation had been that the town set aside \$600,000 every year to keep up its assets.

Tanner said that Moraga, with its strong pluses such as quality of life and excellent school district, is a financially sound community, deriving important revenue from property tax, but that it could use more sales tax revenue. He would not go as far as the solution found by Desert Hot Springs to solve its struggling finances: allowing medicinal cannabis cultivation and commerce, but he says that Moraga could use a more dynamic business environment.

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The home's seamless floor plan enhances its inviting indoor/outdoor feel. Entering the home, you find yourself greeted by a grand foyer and staircase, cathedral ceilings and a chandelier. Main floor additional features include: living room with fireplace, large windows and access to back side patio. Formal dining room with hardwood floors. Spacious family room with fireplace and doors to backyard. Eat-in kitchen, center island, and a breakfast nook. The upper story master bedroom suite includes its own fireplace and balcony overlooking the backyard. In addition, there are three secondary bedrooms and an office. Main floor with secondary bedroom and office. Three-car garage. Upper floor additional features include: master suite, two additional bedrooms; one of which has a spiral staircase leading to a secluded loft for use as a play area or office.

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Moraga School District votes yes for storm drain fee

By Sophie Braccini

As the results from the vote regarding the storm drain fee are expected any day now, the Moraga School District board gave a last minute boost to the proponents of the fee by deciding to vote yes for its own parcels during its May 8 meeting. According to board president Richard Severy, the members had felt it necessary to take several months to gather information and public opinion before making the decision. While the MSD board does not like to spend extra dollars, as budget is tight, it felt nonetheless it was the board's responsibility to

pay its share for supporting the local infrastructure.

In his presentation to the board, Superintendent Bruce Burns noted that the district benefits from the storm drainage system and that recent drainage failures have impacted schools, namely the Rheem sinkhole and Canyon Bridge. The superintendent also indicated that the system is old, sometimes undersized and that two-thirds of the residents responded in a survey that they wanted to have the system upgraded.

The school district owns six

properties, four of which are schools. The total annual fee the district would be asked to pay is \$21,600, which is about one-tenth of 1 percent of the district's budget.

Severy said after the meeting that the money in the district is tight but that the board members considered this fee a part of the utility the district pays for services such as gas and electricity, water and sewage, and that it was normal that the district pay its fair share as any other member of the community. He noted that the town has a mechanism to appeal the fee if property owners

challenge the amount assessed to their property and that the district reserves its right to review the fee and appeal the amount if it finds it unfair, should it be approved by a majority of voters.

The board chair emphasized that the board would not have made its decision sooner because of its desire to get comprehensive input from the town in February and March, and from its constituency in April,

before making its final decision. He added that the board never considered the campaign signs that sprouted along Moraga Road in order to make its decision and that the board had nothing to do with that campaign on either side of the issue.

Three of the five board members were present on the night of the vote and unanimously approved directing Burns to vote yes on the ballots allocated to the district.

Heated discussion on the dais about process

By Sophie Braccini

The approval of a legal fee for \$23,000 started a robust discussion from Council Member Kymberleigh Korpus at the May 9 Moraga Town Council meeting. Saying that the town had a process problem, Korpus asked that the mayor's role, subcommittee responsibilities, and authority to make decisions outside public view be revisited.

The agenda of the May 9 council meeting included in the consent section a bill for \$23,000 of legal fees payable to the town's lawyer for consultation regarding the Memorandum of Understanding with the owner of the Rheem Theatre to sell that property to the Moraga Community Foundation. What Korpus said she found unacceptable was that the consultation and its fee had been authorized in February, before the council ever heard of the matter. But according to minutes from the June 10, 2015 council meeting, the Moraga Town Council provided direction to staff regarding the goal to save the Rheem Theatre, which was approved after then Town Manager Jill Keimach presented a comprehensive

staff report about the subject.

One of the 2016 town goals states: "Support and Develop a Long-term Strategy to Retain and Preserve the New Rheem Theatre. Work with all involved parties to facilitate the continued operation of the New Rheem Theatre as a public amenity for Moragans and the greater community." Under the 2017 Ongoing, Carryover, and Work Program objectives it was noted to "Continue Ongoing Efforts to Support the Rheem Theatre" and that language appeared in the 2018 town goals as "Support efforts of Moraga Community Foundation and others to reopen the Rheem Theatre."

Korpus also raised concern about the amount of legal fees, noting that more were still to come, making the legal fees total \$35,000, and that these amounts exceeded the discretionary amount of \$15,000 that is given to the town manager, who was Jim Holgersson at the time.

Council Member Jeanette Fritzy mentioned her reticence to join a closed session about the Hacienda before anything had been discussed in the open and she asked that sub-

committee roles be revisited and enforced.

Since the matter was not on the agenda, the council could not discuss the issue at the meeting. Mayor Dave Trotter simply asked that the council decide not to approve the payment of the fee at this time and that the town attorney and town manager start a discussion on this issue.

The council members unanimously agreed that this topic should be agendized for an open discussion at a future council meeting, once the budget is approved in June.

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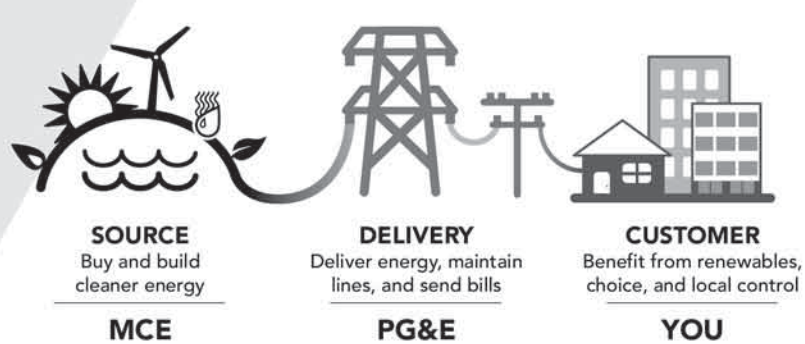
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Orinda

Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, June 12, 7 p.m.
Library Auditorium, Orinda Library
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Planning Commission

Tuesday, May 22, 7 p.m.
Library Auditorium, Orinda Library
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Citizens' Infrastructure

Oversight Commission
Wednesday, June 13, 6:30 p.m.
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,
22 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

School Board Meetings

Orinda Union School District
Monday, June 11, 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

March 29 to May 5

Alarms	32
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	1
Traffic	74
Suspicious Circumstances	1
Suspicious Subjects	5
Suspicious Vehicles	6
Patrol Request/ Security Check	15
Service to Citizen	27
Supplemental Report	7
Vacation House Check	12
Welfare Check	2
Auto Burglary	
60 Block Southwood Dr.	
Beat Info	
Eb 24 Just of Tunnel	
Commercial Burglary	
50 Block Moraga Way	
Orinda Intermediate School	
Court	
Walnut Creek Superior Cour	
Dependent Child	
Camino Pablo/Manzanita Dr.	
DUI Misd	
Wilder Sports Fields	
St. Stephens Dr./Tahos Rd.	
Fire/EMS Response Info	
50 Block Camino Don Miguel	
H&S/Possession of Contr. Sub.	
Wilder Sports Fields	
Juvenile Disturbance	
St. Stephens Dr./Eb Sr 24	
Loud Music	
10 Block La Campana Rd. (2)	
Loud Noise	
Wilder Sports Fields	
Medical Hospital	
100 Block Tres Mesas	
100 Block Diablo View Dr.	
Ordinance Violation	
10 Block Overhill Rd.	
Panhandling	
Eb Sr 24 At Bart Track	
Public Assembly Check	
Miramonte High School (2)	
20 Block Orinda Way	
Public Nuisance	
Safeway	
Reckless Driving	
Moraga Way/Camino Pablo	
Moraga Way/Whitehall Dr.	
Moraga Way/Glorietta Blvd. (2)	
Shoplift	
Safeway	
CVS	
TC - Property Damage	
Wb Sr 24 At Sb I 680	
Tow	
10 Block Altarinda Rd.	
10 Block Orinda Way	
10 Block Camino Pablo	
Traffic Hazard	
Wilder Blvd./Gateway Blvd.	
40 Block Loma Vista Dr.	
Vandalism	
Northwood Ct./Northwood Dr.	
20 Block Austin Ct.	
Verbal Dispute	
10 Block Wanfleete Ct.	
Walk Through	
Downtown (2)	
Warrant Arrest	
Eb Sr 24 At Wilder Blvd.	
Orinda Way/Santa Maria Way	

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Compromise reached: Orinda to pay \$200,000, Wilder to get sidewalks

By Sora O'Doherty

Negotiations between the Wilder Developer OGLLC and the city of Orinda have resulted in a compromise that allowed residents to support the adoption of the eighth Development Plan Amendment. The developer has agreed to remove all previously installed 3-foot sidewalks and replace them with 4-foot cement sidewalks, to install 4-foot sidewalks throughout the remainder of all the private streets in the Wilder development, and to extend the 6-foot sidewalk on Wilder Road, a public street.

The net cost to developer OGLLC of the circulation plan revisions is \$260,000, and the cost for the continuation of the 6-foot sidewalk on Wilder Road was determined to be \$70,000. The city

has agreed to provide \$200,000 for costs of public park improvements at Wilder Fields Park. These costs would otherwise have been borne by OGLLC. The amount that the city agreed to pay is equivalent to half of the net circulation plan costs plus the entire costs of the Wilder Road sidewalk extension, which the city had requested. The source of the \$200,000 payment for the public park improvements is a combination of \$100,000 in unbudgeted funds owed to the city by OGLLC for park purposes and \$100,000 in general fund unappropriated reserves.

According to the staff report presented to the city council, the compensation to OGLLC was proposed as a complete settlement of

the disputed costs between the city and the developer as they relate to the developer's reliance on staff-approved improvement plans that allowed 3-foot sidewalks without accessibility features such as curb cuts with slip-resistant domes. The developer had indicated that they were not willing to construct 4-foot sidewalks through the development without some contribution from the city.

Bruce Yamamoto expressed appreciation to Orinda staff for working with the developer, and to the residents of Wilder for letting the developer know what they really wanted. Madelyn Mallory, who has been active in the push for sidewalks in Wilder, also expressed heartfelt thanks to the staff

for their guidance. Council Member Darlene Gee was very pleased with "a really good solution that provides great connectivity and safety." Vice Mayor Inga Miller noted that the money is coming out of the general fund, and that other things might not get done as a result. Council Member Eve Phillips said that while sidewalks are very important to Wilder residents, they are also important to the general public and the rest of the community. Mayor Amy Worth noted that some incredible projects are going into Wilder, including public amenities such as the Art and Garden Center. Introduction of the Ordinance passed unanimously and was scheduled for final approval on the May 14 consent calendar.

Recognizing that special spark – Orinda School District honors its teachers

Submitted by Sylvia Jorgensen



Teacher of the Year Carol Levin, left, stands next to superintendent Carolyn Seaton and Orinda Rotary president Weylin Eng. Photo provided

Orinda has a long tradition celebrating the educators of its school district; after all, schools are the first reason people move to or stay in the city. This year the new superintendent of schools, Carolyn Seaton, has proposed a different, more systematic approach to go about the Teacher of the Year selection. The teachers were honored on May 2 during a luncheon hosted by the Orinda Rotary Club. This year's best of the best is Glorietta Elementary School first-grade teacher Carol Levin.

... continued on page A14

Orinda's Gilmore moves on

By Sora O'Doherty



Photo Sora O'Doherty

As a small city, Orinda functions as a stepping stone for staff to gain valuable experience for a few years before moving on to more challenging venues. So it is that Tonya Gilmore, who has served as assistant to the city manager for five years, is moving over to Oakland to serve as assistant to Oakland City Administrator Sabrina Landreth. Gilmore is excited about the opportunity. "Everything that happens in a city happens in Oakland," she enthused. She added that Oakland is a full-service city, providing its own police and fire services with over 200 employees. Gilmore's goal has always been to be involved and have a positive impact on people's lives, so she is happy that Oakland provides services to its residents through its Human Services Department.

... continued on page A8

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Girls Makers Market showcases young entrepreneurs

By Sora O'Doherty



Photos Sora O'Doherty

About 60 girls from Lamorinda turned up at a Girls Makers Market at the Quarry House at Wilder on May 6 where a wide variety of handcrafted products, from baked goods to cosmetics, origami to fashion, jewelry to hair accessories were offered.

Inspired by shops like Lush, Aria Forney and Hayley O'Brien, 12, were selling beeswax cosmetics. The girls obtain the beeswax from neighbors in Pleasant Hill who are beekeepers, so their ingredients are mainly locally sourced and organic. They obtain their scents online, and were mentored by Aria's aunt, who used to make lotions. They've been making their products for a couple of months and sell them at I 'Heart' Art in Pleasant Hill.

Nura Mohiuddin, 9, Betty Chesnut and Manhattan Liu, both 8, were among the bakers offering sweet treats. June Vermut-Young, 11, started sewing clothes in the third grade, after taking classes at Sewnow in Lafayette. The young designer, who reads Teen Vogue, still has time for bok fu do, volleyball and yoga. Arah Zarrin was selling reusable shopping bags that she made. The proceeds will be donated to the Orinda Library, with a matching donation from her parents.

When Roxanne Christophe's daughters had so much origami made that they started selling it to friends, she never imagined that she would preside over a burgeoning congregation of girls who are actively involved in producing goods for sale, but that is what happened. At their first sale, the Christophe girls sold \$150 of origami at the Montclair Farmers' Market. Christophe posted to the Lamorinda Families Facebook group, wondering if there were other young females who were selling their goods and got an overwhelming response. Some girls sell on Etsy, some on Instagram or other online forums, so Christophe organized a session on marketing and publicity strategies at the Lafayette War Memorial for girls 5 to 13 and discovered that there is tremendous interest.

"The girls were so excited" about making the products for the makers market, she said. "They were very self driven



to do it on their own." Christophe said that she was in part motivated by the "Me Too" movement to ask, "What do girls need to better equip themselves?" For her, the answer is "Girls need to be aware that they can be the owner of the means of production." She wants girls to be empowered, to have a goal and see it happen.

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Fire Districts

Public Meetings

Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board of Directors
 Wednesday, May 16, 7 p.m.
 Wednesday, June 6, 7 p.m.
 Go to the website for meeting location, times and agendas. Visit www.mofd.org

ConFire Board of Directors
 Tuesday, May 22, 1:30 p.m.
 Board Chamber room 107, Administration Building, 651 Pine St., Martinez
 For meeting times and agendas, visit <http://alturl.com/5p9pu>.

Questions arise over MOFD financial strategy

By Nick Marnell

The amount of money the Moraga-Orinda Fire District proposes to pay into its pension and retiree health benefit stabilization funds came under scrutiny at a May 2 public workshop, the timing questioned with firefighter contract negotiations underway.

In order to mitigate the oftentimes wild fluctuations of the required payment to fund its employee retirement plan, the MOFD board in 2017 established a pension stabilization program, an irrevocable trust fund designed to prefund pension costs and offset net pension liability. The district had entered into a similar program in 2015 to prefund its other post-employment benefits – retiree health benefits – and to offset its OPEB liability.

The district contribution to each trust fund in 2017-18 was \$374,000. In the proposed 2018-19 budget, MOFD suggested increasing the OPEB contribution to \$440,000 and the retirement fund contribution to \$1.1 million. As of June 30, the district recognized \$32.5 million in net pension liability, 16.4 million in outstanding pension obligation bonds and \$15.2 million in OPEB liability.

Former director Dick Olsen, while supportive of the district's drive to pay down those unfunded liabilities, cautioned the board that it was risking too much by contributing so much to those trust funds. "It is apparent to me that both the timing and the magnitude of the actions that the draft budget proposes

to immediately implement in order to address those problems could, unintentionally, end up depriving the board of the ability to address the firefighters compensation needs – which needs I personally deem to be an equally high priority," Olsen wrote in a letter to the board.

Firefighter and former union representative Mark DeWeese had supported the district plan to pay into those trust funds, but not so much this time around. "What's making you confident and bullish enough to put four times the money into an aggressive stock portfolio in an irrevocable trust at this time?" DeWeese asked the board. "Or is there a more coincidental timing issue of why you want to take so much money out of the reserves?"

Olsen and DeWeese received board support from Director Kathleen Famulener, who disagreed with making an increased contribution to the trust funds. "All of this money needs to be available and in the pot for good faith labor negotiations," she said.

"Those are issues that are certainly on my mind and I think on the minds of the other directors," President Brad Barber said. "They are difficult decisions and I hope that we can weigh them all carefully."

The proposed budget will come back to the board on May 16. The district labor agreement with its firefighters expires on June 30.

Lafayette ambulance service unaffected by state bid-rigging allegations

By Nick Marnell



ConFire ambulance parked in the Kaiser Walnut Creek emergency room bay on May 7, 2018. Photo Nick Marnell

Lafayette residents will notice no change in their emergency medical service as a result of allegations of anti-competitive practices made against Contra Costa County EMS by a state agency, according to Contra Costa County officials.

Ambulance transport service for most of Contra Costa County was provided by American Medical Response through 2015. When the county EMS agency opened up bidding on a new deal, the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District teamed up with subcontractor AMR in order to leverage their

combined experience and resources to secure the contract. The district and three private ambulance companies attended a bidders conference in March 2015, and only the ConFire-AMR Alliance submitted a proposal to provide ambulance service. The county Board of Supervisors, which doubles as the fire district board of directors, awarded an exclusive five-year contract to the Alliance in November 2015.

Ross Elliott, executive director of the California Ambulance Association, said that a small private ambulance company that wanted to bid complained about the county re-

quest for proposal process. "If you read between the lines, the county said that AMR was their partner at the bidders conference. The deck was stacked," Elliott said. "If a small company already knew the outcome, why would they spend up to \$40,000 to respond to an RFP? It put a chilling effect on competition." Elliott would not identify the ambulance company that fingered the Alliance.

The complaint reached the California Emergency Medical Services Authority, and in April the authority alleged that the RFP process conducted by the county EMS agency, in collusion with ConFire and AMR, stifled competition due to bid rigging. The state agency withdrew its approval of the 2015 RFP for the county EMS plan and declared the Alliance operational areas nonexclusive, effective immediately.

Contra Costa County appealed the decision, saying the EMSA had no authority to rescind its approval of the RFP and that the state agency abused its discretion and exceeded its jurisdiction by designating county operating areas as nonexclusive.

The county also called the allegations made by the California Ambulance Association unfounded. "In Contra Costa County, all contracts relevant to the provision of ambulance services in the County were approved at noticed public meetings, and all steps in the ambulance procurement process occurred openly and transparently, at public meetings," Sharon Anderson, county counsel, wrote in an April 26 letter to the EMSA.

Despite the state agency decision to curtail exclusive Alliance ambulance rights, competitors have not flocked into Lafayette to respond to emergency medical calls. "This action has no impact on the high-performing EMS system we've been providing for almost 30 months," ConFire Chief Jeff Carman said. "When Lafayette residents dial 911, they will see the same ambulances provided by ConFire and there will be no changes to the system."

Nor will the state action have any impact on Moraga or Orinda ambulance service, which is provided by the Moraga-Orinda Fire District.

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Near-record attendance at MOFD Open House



Photo Nick Marnell

From left, new probationary firefighter-paramedics Andy Kalenian, Ben Guthmiller, Thomas Schwedhelm and Mike Stiehr, were among the near-record 648 attendees at the Moraga-Orinda Fire District Open House May 2 in Orinda. Fire Chief Dave Winnacker welcomed the four as they move into front line service. "The reports of their performance

during a challenging four month academy match the high expectations the organization had for this group and we are confident they will continue to perform at a high level," Winnacker said. "With the approach of fire season, the boost in staffing is timely as we anticipate yet another busy summer and fall." – N. Marnell

It's a wrap!

"For me," says Peacock, "The images on the utility boxes celebrate the world around us and feature plants, animals, houses, people, water, green hills, and even the stars and planets above us."

Horn says that marrying the kids' art to large vinyl panels was not easy, "But Janice and her consultant did a magnificent job," he says.

The art is being wrapped around city-owned traffic signal control cabinets with the logos being ap-

plied to the smaller control boxes.

The city works department cold-water cleaned the first set of boxes near the Bank of the West at the corner of Lafayette Circle and Mt. Diablo Boulevard and Sequoia Graphics applied the first set of vinyl wraps on May 2.

And there are more to come – nine boxes in total. Residents will spot them installed at various downtown locations on Mt. Diablo Boulevard over the next few days.

... continued from page A2

Horn says the wraps should last about a year.

It has taken cooperation from many groups to make this happen. Horn says that Lafayette Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jay Lifson provided help with vendor selection, adding, "We could not have pulled this off without the crucial help of Myrna Kimmelman at LPIE and Lafayette City Council funding."

And that's a wrap.

Orinda's Gilmore moves on

Of course, she'll still have close ties to Orinda, because she'll be dropping her son, a student at Miramonte High School, off at school everyday on her way from their home in El Sobrante to work in downtown Oakland. No stranger to Oakland, she lived there in her 20s when she was first out on her own, and now her

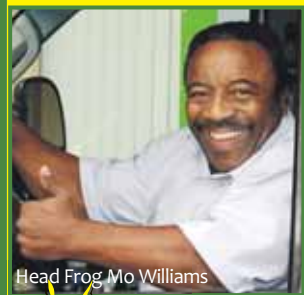
mother lives in Oakland. One of the things that pleases Gilmore is that she will be working at the architecturally significant Oakland City Hall in the Uptown District.

City Manager Steve Salomon says that he won't be filling Gilmore's position because his priority is to strengthen the city's financial team. There is currently

... continued from page A6

a half-time position he'd like to bump up to a full-time position. Salomon is okay with Orinda's role as a city where people polish their skills before moving on to a bigger city. On the other hand, he notes, Drummond Buckley, director of planning who worked for Orinda and then left, eventually returned.

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Lafayette School District 2018-19 Teacher of the Year receives special visit

Submitted by Jonathan Lance



Lamorinda Teachers of the Year, from left: Katherine Walton, AHS; Karlene Steelman, JM; Carol Levin, Glorietta; and Scott Westphal, Burton Valley.

Photo Jonathan Lance, CCOE

Recently, Contra Costa County Superintendent of Schools Karen Sakata visited Scott Westphal's classroom at Burton Valley Elementary School in Lafayette. Westphal, a 34-year Lafayette School District teacher, was named

by the district as their Teacher of the Year earlier in March. During his impressive career, Westphal has taught all subjects and instructional technology to grades K-5. Currently, he's teaching general subjects to fourth-graders at Burton Valley.

LAFSD's Instructional Support Teacher Alissa Levenberg reports, "My job is to support kids with special needs, and I work closely every year with teachers from 25 different classrooms. When I know my kids are going to be placed in Scott's classroom, I celebrate! I have witnessed, year after year, that even my most challenging students emerge from his class as more confident, resilient, and positive than when they began. Scott connects with every kid in his room. He sees them for their strengths, not for their weaknesses. It is this trait that gives him the ability to meet them exactly where they are as learners, allowing them the space and respect they need to order to move forward."

Levenberg continues: "Being in Scott's classroom is always an enjoyable experience. His humorous, laid-back temperament creates an atmosphere where students can

learn without stress. He doesn't measure his students by standards and test scores. Instead, he takes the time to get to know them as people. He then fosters that relationship of trust in order to help them reach their full potential."

The 22 Contra Costa County TOYs, class of 2018-19, including Westphal, will be introduced and honored Sept. 27 at the annual

Teacher of the Year Gala, held at the Concord Hilton. Additional Lamorinda TOYs include Katherine Walton, Acalanes Union High School District, Acalanes High School, Karlene Steelman, Moraga School District, Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School and Carol Levin, Orinda Union School District, Glorietta Elementary School (see story on page A6).

Traffic dangers for students near schools

... continued from page A3

Perhaps the school with the biggest traffic congestion issues and active transportation safety concerns, however, is Springhill Elementary. The congestion issue here is complex, Hinkamp explained, as the school sits on Pleasant Hill Road – the busiest roadway in Lafayette – and is impacted by congestion also on Reliez Valley Road. The faster speed limit of the road – 35 miles per hour – makes pedestrian safety a concern.

Hinkamp said that the school has implemented the use of crossing guards and done some capital improvements to enhance walkways on Quandt Road, along with adjusting signal timing on Pleasant Hill Road, which he said has improved it modestly.

Springhill School crossing

guard Charlene Fernandes, who has been crossing students at the Pleasant Hill Road/Quandt Road intersection for 15 years, notes that the traffic is much worse now than it has ever been. "People run red lights all the time. I've definitely had some close calls," she says.

Addressing the Reliez Valley Road congestion, Hinkamp said that the city continues to work with the county to test turn restriction signs and that they hope to have the parameters in place for a trial to begin in July which would continue into the next school year.

Both school board members and the council asked questions and made comments.

School Board Member David Gerson made the point that with the wide streets in the Burton Valley

neighborhood, creating bike lanes would seem like an easy and inexpensive solution. Vice Mayor Cam Burks echoed his concern with safety of the cyclists and asked about Safe Routes to School solutions.

Several spoke of the need for further exploration on funding and implementation of Safe Routes to School solutions and Council Member Mike Anderson suggested coordination between the school district and city in obtaining funding.

For Burks, he says that the council working actively with LAFSD is very important. "I wanted to see greater collaboration between our two bodies. I think tonight represented very positive movement in this regard."



Are you interested in learning more about the Lafayette School District? Would you like the unique opportunity to see classroom instruction in action?

Lafayette community members are invited to join Superintendent Rachel Zinn and Principal Ann Kim for a school visit on Monday, May 21st from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. at Lafayette Elementary School, 950 Moraga Rd., Lafayette. We do ask that you RSVP for this event by Wednesday, May 16th if you are planning to attend. Please email Sharon Carman at: scarman@lafsd.org or call (925) 927-3502.



Are you interested in becoming a School Board Member?

The Lafayette School District has four Governing Board seats up for election in November 2018. Three seats are a four(4) year term and one seat is a two (2) year term.

To learn more about the role of a Governing Board Member, please attend an information workshop on Monday, June 4, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. in the Lafayette School District Board Room, 3477 School Street. Contact Sharon Carman at (925) 927-3502 or scarman@lafsd.org for additional information.

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Goldsmith apprentices learn 3,000-year-old craft under close watch of master

By Pippa Fisher



Apprentice Julia Tennenbaum, right, demonstrates technique to newest apprentice Lauren Herrington. Photos Pippa Fisher



From left: Goldsmith apprentices Julia Tennenbaum, Lauren Herrington and master goldsmith Stephen Ware.

An ancient art form is flourishing in a small shop in Lafayette under the watchful eye of a master goldsmith. Four apprentices are learning the craft, benefitting from the more than 40 years of experience that Stephen Ware brings.

And, notably, Ware's four apprentices are all female.

In a male-dominated field, these four young ladies are something special, says Ware, owner of Ware Designs in Lafayette. "They are artistic, talented, smart, creative and hungry," he says.

Ware has had 12 apprentices over the years. He clearly enjoys teaching and says it makes him better. His 'number one' apprentice, Juliana Tennenbaum, who has been with Ware Designs for two years, says she is learning a lot from Ware.

Tennenbaum is clearly enthusiastic about her opportunity. In a craft traditionally passed from father to son, she explains that Ware has no ego. She says that sometimes customers come into the store and treat her like a salesperson, demanding to talk to the craftsman, but she says Ware always validates her, explaining to the customer that she is a goldsmith.

Tennenbaum came to this apprenticeship

from another traditionally male-dominated field of blacksmithing, which she had to give up following a back injury in a surfing accident.

Ware says his requirements for a potential apprentice is artistic ability. He asks that they bring an example of their artistic work. Tennenbaum recalls she brought a pauldron – the shoulder section of a suit of armor – as her audition piece.

"They must be artists with passion. No mechanics," says Ware.

Lauren Herrington is Ware's most recent recruit. She joined in January, having worked as a cobbler.

Melissa Fuhrman, a graduate of the now-closed Revere Academy in San Francisco, has been with Ware for two years, although she left for a while and now works in Ware's other store in Walnut Creek.

Azeeta Nikoui, a professional singer by night, who was previously making jewelry with wire and stones to sell on Etsy has been with Ware for almost two years.

Ware explains the apprentices are learning all the aspects of the job, from the craft itself to customer service and how to run a business. And they all pitch in, he says. "For example, Lauren is outstanding at advertis-

ing on social media, which I have no interest in," he notes.

Ware reflects on his career and the many years he spent in apprenticeship. He says he learned the "dos" and "don'ts" of running a business over the more than 40 years in the trade.

As a 2-year-old, Ware got hold of his father's pliers and took his crib apart. That was the start of a life-long pattern of taking things apart, fixing things, always keeping his hands occupied. He credits his father, who worked for Venus Pen and Paper for kindling his love of "playing with art" and recalls he would steal his dad's colored pens and pencils to color and draw.

He studied at Fuji Studios under Tomaso Fujimara in Florence and then finished his BFA in jewelry design and silversmithing in Des Moines before packing up his car and driving west to California at the age of 23. As an apprentice he worked all over the Bay Area but has been in Lafayette for 22 years, first for 13 years at the Forge before moving to the current location near the Post Office nine years ago.

Apprentices learn how to resize jewelry, solder breaks and do repairs under the watchful eye of an on-site master. Ware says

you become a master when you are working independently, avoiding pitfalls and using superior knowledge. He points out that apprenticeships first started in the middle ages. Goldsmithing has remained largely unchanged for 3,000 years, still working with the same simple tools.

Tennenbaum says she admires Ware's skill and remembers seeing him repair some earrings that had been mangled in a waste disposal unit. "He fixed them using reverse engineering. He has the ability to 'see it,' upside down and inside out," she says.

Ware's own favorite style of design uses twisted ribbons of gold.

Ware admits the internet is killing business but says customers still need repairs done and says they offer a uniqueness that can't be found elsewhere for design and customer service.

Now Ware is looking to scale back his work and decided that, rather than just sell the business, it is about passing the torch. He explains that he owes it to the people who taught him his craft and gave him his start. He hopes, as his apprentices do more, that he will be able to cut back how much he works and ease into retirement that way.

"It is my duty to pass it on," says Ware.

The opponents have presented false choices, misinformation, and scary signs with skull and crossbones.

FACTS MATTER!



The Deer Hill site is private property zoned to allow multi-family housing. After 7 years and more than 60 public hearings, the City Council approved a plan for significantly reduced development with over half the land being preserved as open space and community parklands. Measure L is about local control so we hope you will take the time to learn about this project.

www.YesonL2018.org/fact-check



Artist's rendering of Deer Hill Project

COME SEE FOR YOURSELF!

**Property Tours
of the Deer Hill Property**

**Sunday, May 20
10am-12pm
3233 Deer Hill Road**

Paid for by Yes on L, a coalition of Lafayette residents, business and community leaders for Deer Hill plan and park; Committee major funding from Dennis O'Brien, including O'Brien Land Company

Letters to the Editor

Yes on L is best option

Yes on Measure L is Lafayette's best option. It's the safest way to protect against high-density development and unbearable traffic gridlock at Deer Hill and Pleasant Hill Road across from Acalanes High School.

I don't always agree with our City Council, but this time I do. City leaders are NOT engaging in scare tactics. If Measure L is defeated, the developer can revive her application for the Terraces of Lafayette 315-unit apartment project originally filed in 2011. That project would bring much greater density and traffic headaches than the 44 Homes at Deer Hill which will be built if Measure L passes.

I'm keenly aware of the Deer Hill issues. I first became involved in 2009-2010, when I attended numerous public meetings urging the city to rezone the parcel from APO (35 units/acre) to Low-Density Residential (1 unit/5 acres). The city ultimately agreed to rezoning but never implemented the change. Thus, zoning remains APO. I'm voting Yes on L because I agree with Lafayette residents who want to keep this parcel as low density as possible.

Regarding sports field health concerns: one solution is to restrict youth-league use to weekends, when vehicle emissions are low and demand for fields is high.

Regarding future development if Measure L fails: Save Lafayette and Measure L opponents overlook that the housing crisis is impacting California legislation. New laws are trending toward less local control, more streamlined approval of high-density, low-to-moderate-income projects, and more relaxed environmental standards. In the past, Lafayette possibly could have denied the 315-unit Terraces project based on adverse environmen-

tal and traffic impacts. But laws are changing. Read Government Code section 65589.5, which restricts a city's ability to reject high-density, low-to-moderate-income projects. Read the MacArthur Transit Project's EIR (24-story, 400-unit project adjacent to highway 24, despite vehicle pollution and traffic congestion). Read the LA Times Dec. 27, 2017 article about California Air Resources Board now emphasizing design (rather than distance from freeway) to reduce housing health risk.

Given ongoing changes in the law, it's too risky to reject Measure L. Yes on L (44 homes on 22 acres) is our best compromise solution.

Linda Murphy
Lafayette

BART Projects

The continuing project at the parking lot at the Lafayette BART station began in June 2017. It was supposed to take eight months. At the time of writing BART could not give the date it will be completed.

At the April 23 Lafayette City Council meeting a presentation was made regarding the next project BART have in mind for the other side of the station, the City side. Along with a variety of special features, such as public art, the plan includes the removal of 14 much needed parking spaces. Once again the public is to be subjected to watch BART spend money on projects which are non essential, instead of using the money to make the trains and stations safe and clean for the riders.

When will we see the day when BART starts to get it's priorities right?

Ann Burns
Lafayette

No on L

Although I am a member of the Lafayette City Council, I am writing this letter in my capacity as a private citizen. From comments I have heard and questions that I have been asked, I believe that the following points need to be clarified:

* The Lafayette City Council voted 4 - 1 to have the election on Measure L in June. I voted against an early election because I don't think a hasty campaign gives time for reasoned decision making nor for the parties to try and formulate a reasonable settlement for the benefit of our community.

* The City Council has not, and by law cannot, take a position on Measure L. Four Councilmembers - in their individual capacities - have chosen to support YES; I have decided not to do so.

After much deliberation, I have decided to support the NO position. I believe that there are major problems with the proposed development, both legally and factually. This referendum is being rushed through without sufficient time to thoroughly and thoughtfully consider major issues. For example:

* what precedent will this project have on how traffic and hill-sides protection are considered in future applications?

* have other potential sports field sites been summarily dismissed without proper vetting?

* given the unresolved air quality issues, doesn't prudence dictate caution when dealing with children's health and safety?

* is a smaller scale development with a significant component of affordable housing a better use of the site and better public policy?

Despite the simplistic rhetoric proffered by both sides in this campaign, the issues involved, both legal and factual, are compli-

cated and nuanced. There is merit in both positions, and we must recognize the good faith belief of our neighbors who hold differing positions. Nobody can guarantee any outcome and it is sophistry to pretend to do so. I believe that a NO on L is legally sound, reflects our historic land use policies and provides greater opportunity for reasonable development of affordable housing. Are there questions and uncertainties associated with a NO vote? Absolutely, but I believe that the identified legal uncertainties and the factual problems associated with a YES vote are substantial. I believe that a NO vote will better serve both the historic goals of our community as well as better position us for future challenges.

Ivor E. Samson
Lafayette CA

A Line In The Sand

I applaud the MOFD Board for drawing a line in the sand with regards to spending Orinda's tax dollars in Orinda for emergency services which the voters were promised would be the case when they were asked in 1997 if they wanted to partner with Moraga to form MOFD. I am talking about the Board not agreeing to spend Orinda tax dollars for its share of a proposed \$4,000 Moraga sewer tax. Since Orinda tax payers provide 65 percent of MOFD's \$25 million of property tax revenue, they would be paying \$2,600 of that Moraga sewer tax. Now maybe the Board can focus on the remaining \$3 million dollars a year which Orinda tax payers are sending to MOFD to subsidize the cost of Moraga's emergency services. Orinda represents about 53 percent of MOFD's service area, both by population and number of firefighters stationed in and serving each community.

But by providing 65 percent of MOFD's revenue, Orinda taxpayers are effectively subsidizing one quarter of the cost of the service to Moraga. This was never envisioned by either community when MOFD was formed.

Steve Cohn
Orinda

Editor's Note:

In the letter, "A line in the sand," the proposed stormwater fee for MOFD's two Moraga parcels is \$2,540, according to MOFD. Since Orinda taxpayers provide 65 percent of MOFD's \$25 million of property tax revenue, they would be paying \$1,651 of that Moraga sewer tax.

Support of Orinda Library

Since taking up genealogical research, I've spent many hours in libraries across the country and have come to appreciate even more the valuable services they provide. Whether searching for clues to my family's roots or introducing my grandchildren to a favorite children's book, I'm continually struck by the vast resources libraries hold.

Of course, all those resources are of little use if the doors are locked. Measure J will ensure that our Orinda Library can remain open seven days a week; without Measure J funds, library hours will be cut almost in half to a mere 35 hours a week. This parcel tax measure also provides funds for ongoing maintenance that can be used only for the library.

An additional \$30 per year is a small price to pay to maintain such a valuable community service. Please join me in voting Yes on Measure J for our library.

Vanessa Crews
Orinda

... continued on page A12

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

NO on L

- ✓ **Don't be tricked by the opposition's scare tactics.** It is NOT 44 homes vs 315 apartments. Stand for no more traffic congestion, healthy environments for children and reasonable developments.
- ✓ **Exercise your right to vote!** In 2015, the City of Lafayette violated the law and denied our right to vote on the Deer Hill Project. In 2018, the courts ordered the referendum (measure L) to be put on the ballot.
- ✓ **June 5th, 2018** will be your chance to vote on this measure. Join the 2,000+ citizens that signed a petition against this project!

NO on More Traffic Congestion




- **1,224 MORE DAILY CAR TRIPS** to this gridlocked intersection in this already congested city
- Congestion will increase time in traffic for Springhill residents, Acalanes Students, and commuters entering and exiting Hwy 24
- Sports Field will be used during high-traffic times further causing congestion for residents
- Deerhill Road will be closed for 4 months or more during construction

NO on L Does Not Mean 315 Apartments



- **DON'T BE TRICKED BY THIS SCARE TACTIC**
- The Apartment project has **NEVER BEEN APPROVED** by the city
- Because the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on this project identified 13 **ADVERSE IMPACTS** that developer can not mitigate; the **CITY CAN DENY** the project at anytime
- The voters also still have the **RIGHT TO REJECT** the apartments by referendum or litigation; in other words, **YOU** can vote on it!

NO on Unhealthy Sports Field for Children



- The proposed sports field will be located in the intersection of Hwy 24 and two of the busiest streets in Lafayette
- Bay Area Quality Management District (BAAQMD) monitoring data shows the Deer Hill site reaches **UNHEALTHY AIR POLLUTION LEVELS FOR CHILDREN**
- The methods used in the Environmental Impact Report **FAILED TO MEASURE** ultra-fine particulates which penetrate deeply into lungs, bloodstream and organs per BAAQMD; and higher breathing rates of children exercising
- These factors can significantly increase the risk of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, various cancers and developmental disorders

This is Why you should Vote NO

"I believe that there are major problems with the proposed development, both legally and factually. This referendum is being rushed through without sufficient time to thoroughly and thoughtfully consider major issues. What precedent will this project have on how traffic and hillside protection are considered in future applications? With unresolved air quality issues, doesn't prudence dictate caution when dealing with children's health and safety?"

— Ivor Samson, City Council Member and Practicing Attorney

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\$5 one way within Lamorinda; \$10 one way to Concord, Martinez, Pl. Hill, Walnut Creek. Ask about GoGoGrandparent.

Prop 64 made cannabis legal in Lamorinda. So where's the pot?

By Nick Marnell

Despite California's legalization of medical marijuana and recreational marijuana for adults, the three Lamorinda municipalities have taken limited measures to make cannabis accessible to residents, in fact making pot nearly impossible to obtain commercially.

Proposition 64, the Adult Use of Marijuana Act, passed comfortably in California in November 2016, allowing commercial sales of cannabis starting in 2018. Not only did each Lamorinda municipality support the

proposition by at least the same margin as the state – 57 percent in favor – but each precinct of each community voted to pass the initiative. Yet cannabis is not available commercially anywhere in Lamorinda.

“In our case, we chose to be a follower rather than a leader,” said Lafayette Mayor Don Tatzin, whose city voted 64 percent in favor of the initiative. He said that if the city allowed retail cannabis sales, a store opened and then the city found out there were unexpected problems, Lafayette would be stuck with the existing use. “You couldn't change the regulations of the store, sort of like the gas stations in our downtown. If they applied now, those stations would never be approved under our current ordinances, but the existing stations can remain,” Tatzin said. “Our cannabis ordinance allows us to move slowly.”

“The town isn't trying to defy the will of the people, ban or restrict the legal use of marijuana in Moraga,” said town Mayor Dave Trotter. “The town's ordinances are both authorized and consistent with current California law, which allows local jurisdictions to regulate or prohibit marijuana related businesses. The town has both the right, and the responsibility, to appropriately regulate such activities in the interests of the public safety and welfare of Moragans.” Moraga, whose voters supported Prop 64 by the narrowest margin of the three Lamorinda communities – 57 percent – disallows recreational cannabis deliveries but allows cash payment for medicinal marijuana deliveries into the town. Orinda and Lafayette allow medicinal and recreational cannabis de-



Bud cannabis before harvest

BigStock

livery, and while Orinda has no payment regulations, Lafayette requires electronic payment for all marijuana deliveries.

“People wanted safety,” said Orinda Mayor Amy Worth of the reason for Prop 64 passage in her city. “Part of the law was to allow local control, the voters saw this and knew they had the ability to make local decisions on things like manufacturing and dispensaries. I'm not sure that they voted for a dispensary downtown.”

Only two of 15 Lamorinda elected officials voted against a restrictive local cannabis ordinance since the passage of Prop 64: Vice Mayor Inga Miller and Council Member Eve Phillips, both of Orinda, where the initiative passed with 63 percent of the vote.

“You have to look at those numbers,” Phillips said. Though she agrees with Worth that city residents likely do not want a dispensary, she said that laws against the outdoor growth of cannabis – which each municipality prohibits – are too restrictive and inconsistent with the voting. “Our job is to sift through the data and come up with poli-

cies that reflect the will of the community,” Phillips said.

Miller agreed that Orinda residents should be able to grow plants outdoors, but she is not convinced that the residents are not in favor of commercial outlets. Maybe voters would approve a dispensary, or a type of coffee shop, Miller said. And she dismisses the idea of dispensaries being a magnet for kids. “Children aren't showing up at Casa Orinda trying to drink,” Miller said.

The loss of cannabis tax revenue concerns Miller, who pointed to BevMo, a liquor store, as one of the top 25 sales tax payers to the city of Orinda. But Worth said she felt that any marijuana tax revenue would be gobbled up by added costs for law enforcement.

“We need more public debate on these issues,” Miller said. “I'd like to bring this back to city council because I don't think these are legitimate concerns.”

For now, Lamorindans will have to settle for cannabis deliveries and the ability to grow six plants indoors.

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Letters to the Editor

Proposed sports field at Deer Hill

More sports fields are needed in Lafayette but the proposed Deer Hill site is the wrong project in the wrong place. The intersection at Deer Hill and Pleasant Hill Roads is incredibly congested. City employee, James Hinkamp, recently referred to Pleasant Hill Road as “the busiest road in Lafayette”.

The field would be inaccessible to many. The access points are: a small

drop-off circle with handicap parking up Deer Hill and stairs which ascend the hill from the lower parking lot up to the sports field. How would the mom pushing a stroller access the field to watch her child play? If not handicapped, she'd need to park in the lower lot and climb the stairs with the stroller. I know some moms like a good challenge but count me out on that one.

If you haven't enjoyed a late afternoon/evening rush hour drive on Deer Hill, I recommend it. You'll have plenty of time to take in the scenery as you crawl along. As you're enjoying the drive try to envision soccer practice letting out at about 5 p.m. Moms will be backed up in both directions to pick up their children in the small turnaround on Deer Hill. Why wouldn't they park their cars and climb the stairs with the stroller to pick up their child from practice? See above.

There's a better site for the proposed sports field at Deer Hill and the City of Lafayette already owns the land - the Lafayette Community Park.

I've walked the Lafayette Community Park fields four times in the last few weeks. My walking partners have included community members and two City Council members. All agree there is room for another field and additional parking with a thoughtful recon-

... continued from page A11

figuration of the existing park. The City plans to contribute \$3million to the proposed sports field and amenities at Deer Hill. A turf field costs roughly \$1million to install. The Lafayette Community Park would be a more logical location for that turf field and a more fiscally responsible decision for Lafayette taxpayers.

Jean Follmer
Lafayette

Yes on J

My husband and I recently moved back to Orinda and couldn't be happier to be a part of this community that values libraries and learning. Having grown up in Orinda, I am the beneficiary of the community spirit that has given us excellent schools and a beautiful library. Now, with two small boys, I look forward to giving them the same. That is why my husband and I will be voting Yes on Measure J to support the Orinda Library.

Measure J adds just \$30 per year to our taxes, but gives the community so much more in return. It's such a small price to pay it forward to the families and children who will live, learn, and thrive in our community.

Betsy and Dana Ream
Orinda



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Learning farm to table techniques



A painted welcome sign will greet visitors to the Miramonte garden.

Miramonte
First-year science teacher Chrissie Orangio runs the garden in connection with a semester-long Horticulture class. "One of the chief goals is to create outdoor spaces so students can learn outside of the classroom," she says. Her class is asked to design a space based on community needs and to learn how to grow food in a small amount of space.

Orangio is no stranger to global environmental concerns, having worked in South Africa and as a GSE coordinator.

The first semester class cre-

ated an outdoor classroom where a previous garden struggled to take shape. They added several fruit trees to the ones already there, trimmed the grape vines and other established plants, and built benches to allow classes to use the space.

The spring semester task is to build one piece of a mindfulness garden that will leave a mark on the school. Some ideas include art and murals in the garden, learning about herbs and medicinal uses of plants, and a zen garden. The group is also adding a greenhouse in the near future.

A drawback is lack of sign-ups for next year's Horticulture class. "The class was canceled," says Orangio, "but the Garden Club will continue running it after school and weekends, along with GSE."

Campolindo

Although Campolindo doesn't have a class responsible for the garden, science teacher and advisor Jane Kelson says, "Of the four high schools in the district, we have the most active and largest club." Fellow science teachers Tren Kauzer and Roxanna Jackman help out.

They meet at lunch and after school on Thursdays, with a main core of 10-20 students. Unlike the others, their garden area is separated from the campus by the large student parking lot.

"It's therapeutic for them to be in the garden," says Kelson. "It gets them off their phones and talking while working. Some great conversations happen out here."

Seedlings grow in the greenhouse donated by the Rotary Club, and an aquaponic system will soon be installed. The group grew fava beans over the winter and then ground them up into a nitrogen-rich amendment for the raised beds.

Kelson, a veteran teacher, speaks enthusiastically about the

program: "We love it. It's the students' space. We're less worried about a perfect garden than a perfect learning place."

The garden is student-run and designed. A pair of students particularly stand out: Kelsey Levante helped write and obtain a grant from Allied Waste, and John Stepp built raised beds as part of his Eagle Scout project. The club's efforts with recycling - their three-bin system greatly increased the diversion rate from 6 to 38 percent - won prize money from the AUHSD.

Acalanes

James Poling, a first-year science teacher at AHS, inherited the garden project and the Environmental Science class that would use it as their "lab." Poling, a Miramonte grad, has a bachelor's degree in biology, with a minor in chemistry from UC Davis.

The raised beds were in disrepair and gophers had invaded the garden area. "I want to return the

... continued from page A1

garden to its former glory," says Poling. "I'm proud of us rebuilding seven raised beds so far with recycled wood and solving the rodent problem with gopher wire."

Poling has a small but active group of students, and is looking for other people willing to help, mentioning Girl Scouts and Eagle Scouts and looking to the Lafayette Masters Gardening Association.

"I'm optimistic about where we're going, but realistic about this being a rebuilding year," admits Poling. "I'm happy to be here and look forward to harvesting food to donate to the Food Bank."

Jessica Glover, a student in the Environmental Science class, said, "I like getting outside and enjoy learning how plants grow." She hopes to do a garden at home with her father.

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Moraga digs its way out

Everyone on the dais and staff chimed in, saying that different people have said different things, but that the number of homes sold in Moraga stays high with amounts in line with surrounding communities.

Korpus also wondered if it would not be wiser to keep the emergency active in case the reimbursements do not come in as scheduled, and the town is faced

with another catastrophic incident. The town manager responded that the council could then re-declare the emergency if it felt it needed to seek voters' approval outside of the normal voting cycle to get additional funding. She noted that this had been the motivation for the declaration in the first place, but that the town never elected to use that possibility.

Korpus said that the council

... continued from page A1

should reflect in the future about the pertinence of the choice that was made in July, not because of its technicality or because it had an impact on the town's credit rating - which it did not - but because of the impact it had on the public's opinion and the trust it placed in the town's management.

The council members unanimously agreed to rescind the declaration of emergency.

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Recognizing that special spark – Orinda School District honors its teachers

... continued from page A6

Seaton, who has a doctorate in education from USC, proposed using the National Board for Teaching Standards and its criteria to certify teachers as the grid to select the best teachers. Five standards were reviewed: commitment to students and their learning; knowledge of the subjects taught and how to teach those subjects to students; responsibility exhibited in the management and monitoring of student learning; systematic thinking about teaching practice and learning from experience; and involvement in learning communities. Each of the standards were detailed with substandards.

During her presentation at the luncheon, the superintendent explained that each member of staff were encouraged to submit nominations in each of the district's schools, then the principals used the standards grid to select the teacher of the year for that site. A committee then visited the classrooms of these selected few, interviewed them, and made the hard choice: selecting the best of the best in the district.

The lighthearted and often

moving ceremony celebrated each teacher chosen for each school.

The first teacher selected was Danee Jurichko, inclusion specialist at Orinda Intermediate School. Jurichko, who had started in the school district as an aid, got so passionate about special education that she went back to school to get her credential and returned to make an impact. Her dedication and professionalism were highlighted.

Sleepy Hollow Elementary School kindergarten teacher Jessica Greer was the second nominee. Greer's classroom was described as a place of wonder and learning where each child is acknowledged and respected. She was called a very gifted teacher.

Kevin Cutler, who is married to Greer (they met at OIS), is the technology coach for the district and was recognized as a superman, non-assuming and humble, a tenacious thinker who runs with ideas and delivers results.

Third-grade teacher Marta Wallace from Del Rey Elementary was the next nominee. A former attorney, she started by vol-

unteering in the classroom before going back to school to get her credential. She has taught for 13 years, was said to have a special knack for special needs students, and is passionate about working with her colleagues.

Julie Ritzman, second-grade teacher at Wagner Ranch Elementary, was acknowledged for the joy she brings to her job and her students. She was called an exemplar educator, always positive, with students who believe in her.

The final nominee, Levin, was selected as Orinda School District teacher of the year. Levin was called a "queen of differentiation" who can bring learning to life. Levin was said to really know each of her students, making learning fun. She has been an educator for 35 years, with 20 of those spent with the OSD. She commented that she could be at her best only when supported by others, the community of teachers and the parents; for her, teaching children is a collaborative effort. She will retire at the end of the school year.



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~ Life in LAMORINDA ~

Acalanes musical educator set to retire

By John T. Miller



Norm Dea at "the office."

Photo John T. Miller

Revered music instructor Norm Dea, who worked 35 years in the Acalanes Union High School District, will retire at the end of this school year. Instead of answering the bell in August on the first day of school, he will be vacationing in Kauai.

"I loved working with the students," says Dea. "The best moments for me have been getting a chance to talk to them and watch them grow up as people and to hear about their future plans. It's satisfying to know that I have some effect on how they grow up."

Dea's career nearly didn't get off the ground. He always wanted to be a music teacher, citing the influence of his Marina Junior High School instructor George Carter, but after earning a degree in music and music education from San Francisco State University, and finishing his student teaching at Tamalpais High School in Mill Valley, Dea spent a year and half looking for a job.

"There were 50-70 candidates for each opening and I made plenty of interviews, but no job offers," recalled Dea. "I was almost ready to give it up and go back to college for a degree in technology."

His break came when his mentor at Tamalpais, Bob Greenwood, recommended Dea to ex-band director at Acalanes, L. LeRoy Roach. Dea interviewed and got his first job in August 1983 at Las Lomas.

"It was a small, underdeveloped program and the band was tiny. We were required to do marching band and I wasn't having a lot of fun," said Dea. "I thought about resigning, but then our Winter Concerts were good and we started picking up more and more students from our feeder school, Walnut Creek Intermediate."

Dea was the sixth teacher in six years, and, by staying for 25 years, the stability helped build the program into one of the best in the state.

In 2008, Dea made one of the most difficult decisions in his career and moved to Acalanes to take over for Rick Meyer. One of the deciding factors was the opportunity to have a string orchestra, and to follow what he called two legendary teachers – Meyer, who taught 24 years at AHS, and Roach, who

taught 27 years. Both are in the California Music Educators Association Hall of Fame.

The transition was difficult at first, according to Dea. "They were resistant to the change of teachers and it took a little work and patience, but when the third year came I felt we were all on the same page and I had won the kids over."

On a typical day, Dea arrives at AHS at 5:30 a.m. for paperwork, score study, and classroom preparation. He greets the Jazz Band at 7:30 a.m. and after a full day of teaching, he might still be there late into the evenings with concerts, rehearsals, or other events. Often, he travels with groups over the weekend. "It's time consuming," said Dea, "but also a labor of love. It's been fun."

He's had scores of memorable moments over the years, and pointed to an example this year, when the wind ensemble traveled to a high-end band and orchestra festival at Sonoma State University at Weill Hall. "We were in the Green Music Center, a jaw-dropping beautiful concert hall with a large audience and national adjudicators. The students were outstanding," said Dea. "We went into the clinic and just glowed about it."

Many former students around the country keep in touch with Dea on social media, and will often sit down over coffee or drinks and visit. They tell him about college and if they're still playing. "Even though most of them don't continue in music careers, it's nice to see them be good music consumers and understand the value of music education."

Dea mentioned a pair of former students who are still in music, one being John Douglas, from Las Lomas, who works as a saxophone coach at Acalanes, and another is Will Baker, who graduated from AHS and subs in the San Francisco Symphony and Opera on bass trombone.

An overriding influence in Dea's career came from Greenwood, his Tamalpais High mentor. "He instilled values that I still use today, including giving back to my profession through service."

Dea is proud of his leadership roles in music education, including serving as president of the 15-coun-

ty CMEA Bay Section, president of the State CMEA, and as president of the California Band Association. With these positions added to his teaching load, it was like he had two full-time jobs.

Although Dea will officially retire on June 11, a previous commitment will take him – along with 42 students and 12 parents – to Munich, Salzburg and Vienna from June 19-27 where they will play in concert halls and outdoor amphitheaters. ... continued on page B2

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The Peter Pan Foundation makes a difference through music and service

Submitted by Gina Campo



Photos courtesy Peter Pan Foundation

The Peter Pan Foundation is a nonprofit group in Lafayette, whose mission is to spread light, love and joy every day throughout the Bay Area at a dizzying pace, like when 10 princesses knocked on the door of a little girl with cancer, just to host a tea party to brighten her day.

This is all in a day's work for the foundation, which has had a busy few months: throwing a Super-Hero Christmas party for foster kids; being "knighted" by the St. Baldrick's Foundation for seven years of performances at the annual Children's Hospital shave event; helping the San Francisco chapter of Make-A-Wish fulfill wishes; offering special performances for kids with sensory issues, the deaf community, casting a Cinderella in a wheelchair in its upcoming spring benefit musical, and raising hundreds of thousands of dollars donated to worthy causes over the past 10 years.

"We inspire children of all ages to reach their full potential

by building confidence, character and creativity through music and theatre, while instilling the value of community outreach and philanthropy," said founder Leslie Noel.

While the goal is to bring music and magic to all audiences, the performers benefit as well.

"Performing as Spiderman in the Easter Seals Bay Area event was my favorite event I've ever done," exclaimed teen Garrett Hannigan of Walnut Creek. "The kids were so amazing and kind and loving, as were the rest of our super squad. I'm always so humbled by these events and I hope that we never stop, because they are truly amazing."

This year the Peter Pan Foundation has partnered with the local Make-A-Wish chapter and has been helping present and fulfill wishes. John Jatoft of Concord, a father of a PPF member, stepped up recently to help present Jacob with his wish.

"As Batman, I was able to present our honorary hero with a spe-

cial trip to Disney World Florida and Universal Studios," said Jatoft. "Jacob was surrounded by family and friends and we enjoyed a magical moment where wishes come true. I felt like I was the one that was granted a wish by this special young man and his family."

The Peter Pan Foundation will present its annual original musical "Wish Upon a Star" over the Memorial Day weekend at Diablo Valley College, 321 Golf Club Road, in Pleasant Hill. The magical musical adventure includes princesses, villains, heroes and many other beloved characters sure to delight audiences of all ages.

The show features more than 200 performers in several alternating casts, with show times at 2 and 7 p.m. on May 26, 27, 28 with the younger casts performing at 10 a.m. May 27 and 28. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for students, seniors and military and can be purchased at www.peterpanfoundation.org. Proceeds benefit UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland.



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Wagner Ranch musical opens June 1

Submitted by Kim Tarantino



Wagner Ranch Elementary School will feature the ogre-iffic antics of Shrek, Fiona, Donkey, Lord Farquaad, as well as all the hilarious fairy tale characters that will come to life during the spring musical production of "Shrek Jr." Friday, June 1 through Saturday, June 2. For tickets, visit <https://wr-orinda-ca.schoolloop.com/>.

One of two Wagner Ranch Elementary casts of this year's "Shrek Jr." spring production.

Photo provided

Acalanes musical educator set to retire

... continued from page B1

When asked how he was able to fund all the activities, Dea laughed and said, "I just hold out my hand and the parents give me a check." Seriously, he added, "The parents in the Performing Arts Boosters have been very generous in funding and being there at concerts for help with logistics and chaperoning."

Dea also mentioned the Lafayette Partners in Education as a great source for funding and support.

Bruce Lengacher, the Vocal Music instructor at AHS who has worked alongside Dea for the past 10 years, said, "Norm is an icon in musical education in the state of California. He pulled the state out of the red in 2013 in smart and resourceful ways, and then worked to get all the musical organizations back together under one umbrella called the California All-State Music Education Conference. He's one of the most

efficient teachers I've ever seen. I consider him a great colleague and a friend."

After his Kauai vacation, Dea will return to the area and plans to stay busy in the musical education arena, judging festivals, giving clinics, and mentoring younger teachers. "I also hope to pick up my tuba again and play in some of the local bands," he said. "I don't think I'll have any problem keeping busy in my retirement."

Some shared words about Mr. Dea

From Reider Martinsen, a senior in the Symphonic Wind Ensemble:

"Mr. Dea is one of my favorite teachers, and I've really enjoyed having Band with him for the last four years. I love walking into the band room because he greets me with a fist bump or a hug. He's a funny guy, too, which makes our class entertaining."

From SeoYoung Kim, a sophomore in the String Orchestra:

"All I know is that I'll really miss his interesting humor. I just want to know what his next Instagram user name will be."

From Janis Workman, parent of Kenny, a senior in the Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble, Emma, a junior in the Symphonic Band, and Walter, a freshman in the Concert Band.

"Mr. Dea ... has a quick wit, but manages to see the good in each of his students. All three of my teenag-

ers are studying with Mr. Dea this year, and he has managed to convince each of them that they are his favorite. He will be dearly missed at Acalanes and in our family."

From Suzanne Everly, Acalanes Instrumental Music Boosters President and parent of Ryan, a junior in the Symphonic Wind Ensemble and in the Jazz Ensemble, and Kyle, a sophomore in college who played for Mr. Dea for four years.

"Both of my kids had the privilege of having Mr. Dea as a teacher. He encouraged them to challenge themselves as musicians, as well as individuals. Not only did he teach them to appreciate all different genres of music, but he also taught them the 'language' of music, self-discipline, accountability and being part of a 'team.' My children are better people because of having a teacher like Mr. Dea."



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Talking with children about race

By Lou Fancher



Photo Lou Fancher

The best way to talk about race with your children begins with a conversation with yourself. The self-speak must include close examination aimed at stripping the cover off a person's choice of friends, social media habits, knowledge or ignorance about the history or culture of races other than one's own, selection of life partner or spouse, decisions about where to live, employment and more. Often, unburying unconscious fears or shadowed prejudice and discrimination upon reflection reveal an adult's unexpected and unwelcome, but nevertheless, deeply ingrained, implicit bias. The self-exam should be balanced by noting one's strengths, positive attributes and ideas for improvement. As role models to children, it's a vital first step.

This was the primary construct and repeated touchpoint of a two-hour discussion and audience Q&A May 9 at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center. A six-person panel of experts in child and adolescent psychology and medicine offered professional and personal insights on the topic. The event, well-attended by approximately 85 people and presented by Walnut Creek-based Pacific Coast Psychiatric Associates, offered opportunity for donations in support of Lafayette Partners in Education.

Led by facilitator and psychiatrist Dr. Ardis Martin, the panel included psychiatrist Dr. Anisha Patel-Dunn, pediatrician Dr. Juliana Hebert, psychotherapist Lisa Thompson, psychiatrist Dr. Yanni Rho and Amber Lerma, MD.

Except for Martin, who said her patients are her children and their cultural competency is her passion, all of the women are mothers of K-12 age children. In addition to living and/or working in Lamorinda's affluent, primarily white community, the experts were selected in part to present diversity. Mexican, African American, Asian, Indian and white perspectives added dimension to the conversation. The only disappointment, if one must be stated, is that no men were on the panel.

Even so, Martin's clear agenda – the why, what and how to's – transcended gender, economic status or other categories to focus on the importance of speaking with all children about race. Concerns expressed by panel and audience members touched on global social discord on matters of race and recent live or social media conversations among students at local schools. Patel-Dunn said a statement by a student at Lafayette Elementary School about not liking "kids with brown skin" prompted staff to reach out to her about addressing the problem. She shared comments she'd received (from adults) to a flyer publicizing the panel discussion and said they illustrated adults might benefit from guidance and insights for talking to their children about race. "We're not here with a political agenda," she said. "We're here as medical and mental health providers who work with children and adolescents in our community."

Especially for children attending schools that lack racial diversity,

dispelling myths through frank, safe, non-judgement-heavy conversations at home is a valuable practice. Schools with multicultural curriculum and anti-biased programs that present realistic positives and negatives of interracial interactions offer honest starting points for understanding race dynamics. A diverse faculty is ideal for instantly establishing racial parity. But often, schools fall short on several if not all counts and Martin presented research demonstrating that students at schools that are predominantly white are more negative about interracial friendships. Balancing the information children receive from institutional bias or outright prejudice that is especially prevalent on social media is an adult responsibility that must not be overlooked.

Panelists recalled personal childhood memories of racial bias that collectively resulted in feelings of shame, negative self-esteem, anger, confusion – regardless of whether or not they were perpetrator or victim. Serving as role models for their children naturally turned the discussion to self-examination. The unconscious bias of parents, educators and adults working with children is a condition that develops over time. Martin said that means modeling is rarely "perfect" and makes talking to kids crucial. She asked, "How do you locate a problem you don't realize you have? You have to look for it: look at patterns in your life like your Facebook page, your friends, the places you feel comfortable hanging out."

Rho sought to normalize bias while also offering solutions to counter the naturally occurring phenomenon. "It's the way brains are wired. But the more exposure we get to 'other' (people and races) the more categories a person has." A broader frame allows children as they grow into adulthood to see people as individuals instead of as representative of an entire group.

Offering resources and advice, the "how" tips included talking in safe places without shaming and avoiding jumping to conclusions, like assuming that a 3-year-old who notices skin color is racist. Instead, encourage kids to talk about race and keep the conversation going by seeking multiracial/multiethnic opportunities, friendships, literature and entertainment. Admit personal biases with honesty and tell your children the changes you are making

due to increased awareness. Because we can never totally prevent the problems associated with racial bias from impacting and shaping our children, make sure the conversation with school-age children includes age-appropriate, nonviolent methods for them to defend themselves or speak out in the defense of others.

Finally, encourage your child's school to seek diversity in staff, provide racial bias awareness training for educators and expand the curriculum to reflect the triumphs, tribulations and truth about races and people worldwide.

Extensive literature, child development guides, ideas for classroom teachers, a "White Privilege Checklist" and other resource materials will be online in mid-May at www.pcpasf.com/events. Online resource for determining implicit bias: <https://implicit.harvard.edu/>

Lamorinda OoTM teams advance to World Finals

Submitted by Melissa Matosian



Top row, from left: (Moraga Rotary) Jack Ericsson-King, Vishal Lashkari, Alex Clare, Sebastian Fojut, Zachary Yu, and Ryan Ericsson King; bottom row: (Orinda Rotary) Alyssa Angsupanich, Kent Schechter, Michael Lin, Chloe Lai, Keira Taylor, Amy Schechter, and Naomi Cheng. Photo provided

Two local high school Rotary teams and one middle school team will be heading to the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals, which will be held May 23-26, at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa.

The teams pictured are representing the Orinda Rotary and the Moraga Rotary. Both teams competed in Problem 2: Emoji, Speak for Yourself as well as completing a Spontaneous Problem in the

regional competition and the state competition at UC Riverside where they placed first (Moraga Rotary) and second (Orinda Rotary). Orinda Intermediate School placed second in the same problem for Division II and will also advance to the World Finals. According to the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals website, approximately 850 teams will represent their area in the largest creative problem solving program in the world.

Cal Shakes summer conservatory at Saint Mary's College

By Sophie Braccini



Students performing "Twelfth Night" from 2015 Oakland Conservatory. Photo Jay Yamada

It is a match so perfect that one would wonder why it did not happen sooner: a summer Shakespeare Conservatory led by Cal Shakes on the beautiful grounds of Saint Mary's College. The theater company brings the experience of years of teaching youth Shakespeare during the summer while the college's performing arts-theater department offers the venue, including the Lefevre Theater and theater students who are engaged, passionate and ready to be hired as teaching assistants.

Rebecca Engle, who teaches theater history, acting and theater masterpieces at the college met socially with Eric Ting, CalShakes artistic director, and a conversation started. Both teams felt that there

were possible synergies, as they share the same passion for theater, high standard for quality, and also have both committed to social justice and integration of all through the arts.

Clive Worsley, director of artistic learning at Cal Shakes, said that he loved working with the Saint Mary's team to build a Moraga program. He said that the course offers an immersive theater experience rooted in passion for artistic exploration and excellence. He appreciates that the students will come to a wonderful venue including plenty of outdoor space, and a well-equipped theater where they will perform at the end of their experience.

... continued on page B9

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Eleven Young Women Receive AAUW OML Scholarship Awards

Submitted by Mary Ann McLeod and Jan Cushman



Back row, from left: Samantha Stuber, keynote speaker; Audrey Moore, Campolindo High School; Samantha Purcell, Saint Mary's College; Madeline Kalil, Acalanes High School. (Absent: Zahra Hasanain, Miramonte High School); front row: Isabelle Katz and Liesel Hilkemeyer, Joaquin Moraga Intermediate; Maggie Conklin and Marianne Eichmann, Orinda Intermediate; Jada Hembrador and Maya Martono, Stanley Intermediate. (Not pictured: Ella Easley from Stanley)

Photo Sandy Fox-Sohner

The AAUW Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette branch presented 11 outstanding young Lamorinda women with college scholarships and Tech Trek camp scholarships on April 22.

The keynote speaker Samantha Stuber, College and Career Center Director at Miramonte High School, gave an inspirational speech on "The Equation to Success," addressing components that make leaders in the classroom, at home and in the workplace: service, authenticity, and learned tools, such as setting goals, communication skills, the importance of engagement and inclusion.

Stuber is a Lamorinda native who worked in several small businesses but eventually found her passion in helping students during the monumental and high-pressure time in their high school years. She continues her service by creating a website that will help students in all socio-economic levels find the

scholarship help they need.

This marks the 50th year the OML Branch has supported young women in the community by awarding scholarships to senior young women. In 1968 the Orinda Branch awarded a gift certificate to the senior girl at Miramonte with the highest grade point average. Through the years, the awards and procedures have changed but the goals have remained the same.

The Scholarship Committee is committed to encouraging local, young women graduates who demonstrate academic excellence and are discovering their personal qualities through community service. While reading applications and essays is important, it is the time members spend interviewing the girls that helps decide which girl is most deserving of the award.

Three 2018 High School Scholarships of \$1,200 were awarded to Zahra Hasanain

(Miramonte High School), Madeline Kalil (Acalanes High School), and Audrey Moore (Campolindo High School). Samantha Purcell, a senior at Saint Mary's College, was awarded the Gayle Uilkema \$5,000 Scholarship.

The awardees participated in programs that benefited their school community such as EquiTeam, Environmental Club, volleyball and track and field teams, as well as Latin Club and Public Speaking. Locally they served Be the Star You Are Charity, Lawrence Hall of Science, Project Empathy and Ronald McDonald House Charities. Moore volunteered to teach Spanish to Haitian migrant workers in the Dominican Republic and Hasanain volunteered in a hospital in Pakistan.

Thanks to generous donations, successful fundraisers and wonderful Branch

Hopper at Stanford University this July.

The 2018 Tech Trek scholarship winners are Liesel Hilkemeyer and Isabelle Katz from Joaquin Moraga Intermediate, Jada Hembrador and Maya Martono from Orinda Intermediate School, and Maggie Conklin, Ella Easley and Marianne Eichmann from Stanley Middle School. Through hands-on activities, being surrounded by like-minded girls who love math and science and exposure to women role models in STEM, these young women are encouraged to pursue science technology engineering and math careers.

These girls were chosen after a rigorous process of being nominated by their teachers, completing an application, and being interviewed by a team of three AAUW-OML members.

In Memory

Mary Corinne Collins Moore

1936 – 2018



Mary was born in Duluth, Minn., on Dec. 9, 1936. She died peacefully on April 26, 2018, in Walnut Creek, Calif. She is the daughter of Emmons Collins and Mary (Bradley) Collins. She is the sister of Stephen Collins and Johanna Duclos, and twin sister of Sarah Wyard.

Mary graduated from Smith College in Northampton, Mass., before moving to San Francisco where she met John W. Moore. They married in 1966 and were together for 47 years until John's death in 2013.

Mary and John made their home in Moraga where they raised their two children: Robert Emmons (Bob) Moore and Mary Katherine (Katie) Wunder,

married to loving son-in-law Michael Wunder. Mary and John became the happy grandparents of Mary Elizabeth (Mimi) Swanson, and her step-brothers, Cristian and Brandon Wunder.

Mary's life was filled with adventure and laughter. Her quick wit and sense of humor endeared her to those of us lucky enough to know her. Mary added sparkle to all gatherings, with the Fourth of July being her signature event.

Mary also had a kind and generous spirit, donating many hundreds of hours in service to her church and community. She spent tireless hours at the Bay Area Crisis Nursery. She loved her volunteer job in the Endoscopy department of John Muir Hospital and she helped found the Valley Adult Day Care Center (LARC).

She will be remembered most for being an unconditionally loving mother, wife, grandmother, daughter, sister, aunt, cousin and friend.

Mary was famous for her delicious frosted brownies and all agree they have never been equaled. As a gift to those who love Mary, Bob and Katie have agreed to share her well-guarded secret brownie recipe. Copies will be available at the Celebration of Mary's Life, which will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 19 at the Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, 433 Moraga Way in Orinda. There will be a dessert reception following the church service.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Lamorinda Adult Respite Center "LARC", Bay Area Crisis Nursery or Moraga Community Foundation.

Two new Troop 243 Eagle Scouts honored

Submitted by Lisa Schreiber



Cameron Shapoorian and Nelson Rogers

Photo David Cowen

Boy Scout Troop 243 of Lafayette honored two new Eagle Scouts at a Court of Honor on May 11 at Lafayette Christian Church. Cameron Shapoorian and Nelson Rogers earned the Eagle Scout Rank, the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scout program. Requirements include earning a minimum of 21 merit badges and demonstrating Scout spirit, service, and leadership. This includes an extensive service project that the Scout plans, organizes, leads, and manages. Eagle Scouts are presented with a medal and a badge that visibly recognizes the accomplishments of the Scout.

Shapoorian is a senior at Acalanes High School. Since joining Troop 243, he has held numerous leadership positions, including senior patrol leader. His two years of National

Youth Leadership Training prepared him well. Shapoorian's Eagle Project involved refurbishing a 21-foot tall Acalanes High School sign which had been donated to the school by the Classes of 1961 and 1962 but which had fallen into disrepair and been abandoned. The work involved heavy machinery and much sanding and repainting, but six months later, it was ready to be reinstalled. In the fall, Cameron will attend Diablo Valley College in hopes of transferring to a four-year school to pursue a master's degree in software engineering.

Rogers is a sophomore at Acalanes High School. His Scouting experience began in first grade as a Tiger Scout in Lafayette Pack 220. In Troop 243, he served as patrol leader, instructor, guide, and senior patrol leader. Rogers' Eagle Project consisted of assembling a jazz ensemble, creating and practicing a repertoire of songs, and then performing at retirement communities locally and throughout California. With the support of the Generations in Jazz Foundation, Nelson Rogers & the Jazz Eagles shared their music with a very special – and appreciative – part of the community. Boy Scouts has imbued Rogers with leadership skills that he routinely puts to use as a swim coach during the summer and as a curling coach all year long.

Since its formation in 1955, 205 Scouts from Troop 243 have been awarded the Eagle Scout Rank.

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.

Share Your Celebrations and Remembrances

If you would like to share an announcement about a special event or achievement, such as a wedding, engagement, scholarship or graduation of a local resident, or about a special person from Lamorinda who has passed, send a photo along with your text (up to 250 words) to storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com, and include "Celebrations and Remembrances" in the subject line.

Submit stories and story ideas to
storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com

In Memory

Lucille Jane Madsen

Rossmoor Resident

October 26, 1913-April 28, 2018



Lucille Madsen passed away at her home in Rossmoor on Saturday. She was a much-loved mother, grandmother, great grandmother and aunt.

Lucille Andrade was born in Oakland, Calif., and graduated from Oakland High School. She married Christian Madsen in 1933, and they lived in Oakland and Orinda, as well as their summer home in Strawberry, Calif., until Chris' death in 1999.

Lucille moved to Rossmoor in 2000, and has been active in church activities, as well as many groups in Rossmoor. She was a member

of Daughters of the Nile, the Rossmoor Squares, the International Club, The Centenarian Club, and the Oakland High Alumni club, and was a Sweetheart of the Orinda Masonic Lodge.

Lucille is survived by her daughter Lois Moore (Bob) of Truckee, Calif.; grandson Erik Moore of Reno, Nev., granddaughter Robyn Carr (Matthew) of Bozeman, Mont., and great grandson Oliver Carr, as well as her many nieces, nephews and Godchildren.

Friends and family are invited to celebrate Lucille's life on Thursday, May 17, at 11 a.m. at Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church in Orinda. A reception will follow, with internment at Oakmont Cemetery at 2 p.m. (925-765-6538).

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Lucille's honor to Lamorinda Adult Respite Center, Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, 433 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA 94563.

2018 SUMMER CAMPS/Classes

Alphabetical listing of all 47 camps and classes

Academy of Language and Music Arts/ ALMA
www.alma-leap.com
Phone: (925) 254-5056
Private and group lessons; instruments, languages and performing ensembles. All ages/levels welcome.

Adventure Day Camp
www.adventuredaycamp.com
Phone: (925) 937-6500
Traditional summer day camp with a wide range of camp activities for children ages 3-15.

Amazing Math Classes
m.adler@sbcglobal.net
Phone: (925) 888-7036
www.moraga.ca.us
Weeklong sessions taught by experienced, funny teachers through the Moraga Parks and Rec. Dept.

Art ROOM
www.theart-room.com
Phone: (925) 299-1515
Sketching, drawing, pastels, canvas painting, silk painting, ceramics, and collaborative artwork.

Artemis Rowing
www.artemisrowingclub.org
Phone: (510) 542-9673
Introduces rowing to 6th through 12th graders at the Jack London Aquatic Center in Oakland.

Aspen Network Team Camp
www.aspennetwork.net
Phone: (925) 262-3135
Teens and young adults with social differences discover a safe space at our camp in Tahoe.

Avid4 Adventure
www.avid4.com
Phone: (800) 977-9873
Experience the power of authentic outdoor adventure for pre-K – 7th graders of all levels.

Back to the Table Cooking Camp
http://backtothetablecookingsschool.com/classes
Phone: (925) 284-1120
Weekly themed cooking camps 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday and one day camps on Fridays.

Berkeley Rep School of Theatre
berkeleyrep.org/summerintensive
Phone: (510) 647-2972
Discover the art of theater-making with professional playwrights and directors-grades 9-12.

Build a Peace Village
www.orindacommunitychurch.org
Phone: (925) 254-4906
Orinda Community Church and Mindful Littles host Joy, Art, Music and Meditation camp June 11-15.

Camp Awesome
www.LafayetteRec.org
Phone: (925) 284-2232
Fun, flexible, and affordable. Open all 10 weeks of summer: day, afternoon, and early care options.

Camp Doodles
www.campdoodles.com
Phone: (415) 388-4386
Grow creative intelligence through Making and Art - held at St. Stephens in Orinda.

Camp Galileo
www.galileo-camps.com
Phone: (800) 854-3684
Mix of art, science and outdoor activities. Pre-K to 5th grades. Held at Glorietta in Orinda.

Camp Kefli
www.temple-isaiah.org/kefli
Phone: (925) 284-9191
Creative theme days and adventures that enrich and delight our weekly campers.

Camp Orinda
http://orindaparksandrec.org
Phone: (925) 254-2445
Full-day traditional camp experience with field trips for active kids, looking for adventure.

Carondelet High School
www.CarondeletHS.org/Summer
Co-ed programs for students ages 7-17 include: leadership, tech, educational, enrichment or sports.

CAPA Dance Camps
https://capadance.net
Phone: 925-376-2454
CAPA has four dance studios in the shopping center in Moraga's Rheem Valley shopping center.

Cougar Youth Football Camp
www.campofootball.com
kmacy@auhsdschools.org
Directed by Head Coach Kevin Macy for grades 4-8 held at Campolindo High School. Equipment supplied.

DONS Youth Football Academy
www.acalanesdonsfootball.com
Help kids 5th - 8th grades with transition to tackle football in a fun, fast-paced, and non-contact environment.

Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church
www.LOPC.org
Email: ryan@LOPC.org
Vacation Bible Camp -4-years old through completed 4th graders. Songs, stories, games, experiments and more.

Lafayette Parks & Recreation
www.LafayetteRec.org
Phone: (925) 284-2232
Art, soccer, cheerleading, cooking, dance, science, engineering, tennis, music, robotics, basketball, chess...

Lafayette Summer Music Jazz Workshop
www.lafsmw.org
Master classes, improvisation workshops and jazz combos led by preeminent, professional musicians.

Lafayette Tennis Club
www.lafayettetennis.com
Phone (925) 937-2582
Offering morning and afternoon clinics in the finest and most modern method of tennis instruction.

Lamorinda School of Musical Arts
xiomydma@gmail.com
Phone: (925) 878-5159
Joyful music classes where children as young as 4 years old can learn to sing and play the piano.

LMYA Swim
www.lmyaswim.com
Gutter Guppy Program focuses on teaching stroke technique to young swimmers in a fun, low-key environment.



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The VBS Summer Sports Camp, July 16-20, 9-12 a.m. for grades 1-5. Cost \$50. Fun activities, music, crafts and much more.
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www.willowspringchurch.com

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continued on page B5

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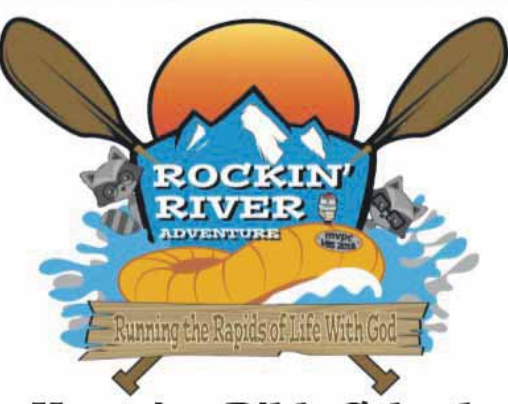
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Miramonte Swim Club (MSC)
www.msccgators.org
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www.orionacademy.org
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www.PerformingAcademy.com
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www.saklan.org
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www.vivaelespanol.org

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www.willowsspringchurch.com

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Youth Ink ceremony 2018

Submitted by Chantal Valentine



The winners as a group.

Photo Cheri Larsh Arellano

The Orinda Junior Women's Club, which organizes Youth Ink, an annual creative writing contest open to all sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students who live in or attend school in Orinda, sponsored by the Orinda Community Foundation, Friends of

the Orinda Library and the Lamorinda Arts Council, held its awards ceremony April 19 at the Orinda Library Auditorium. The Youth Ink 2018 prompt, "My World," was chosen because it encompasses almost limitless potential for subject matter, thereby encouraging young writers to personalize their pieces. Entrants were encouraged to write about anything they liked: real or imaginary, but did not have to adhere to the prompt.

Winners and honorable mentions:

Winners

First Prize, \$250:

Malayna Chang, OIS, Run My Life

Second Prize, \$125:

Kate Laudy, Athenian School, Eleven

Third Prizes, jointly awarded, \$75:

Jarret Zundel, OIS, Waterfall; Zoey Patterson, Athenian School, Cartographer

Honorable Mentions (in alphabetical order)

Gift Certificates from Orinda Books:

Katie Walsh, president of OJWC gave the welcome speech and presented the awards, Elizabeth Perlman, founder and executive director of The Intuitive Writing Project, was the guest speaker, and Lin Look spoke on behalf of the Orinda Library. Winners and honorable mentions received certificates and their prizes, and got the opportunity to read their pieces in front of the audience.

Eloise Anagnost	The Silent Angels
Mia Balonick	My World Disturbed
Nick Blair	Goodbye
Devon Bradley	Yusraardini's Choice
Kaylin Chang	The World of a Rock
Lukas Hendriks	My Sugar Bowl World
Olivia Huynh	Clementine Grace
Kiara Kofoed	The Man with the Black Cape
Astrid Olsson	Sunday Morning
Jade Peng	A New Land of Oz

Judges:

John Inouye, Cynthia Leslie-Bole, Scott Ostler, Elizabeth Perlman, Chrissa Ventrelle

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ART

The Moraga Art Gallery presents an international exhibit, "Impressionism Times 2," featuring the work of lifelong friends: ceramicist Jacqueline Proulx of Walnut Creek and the celebrated French-Canadian expressionist painter Rita Rodrigue, a resident of Quebec. The show, which also includes the gallery's 13 member artists and several guest artists, runs through June 2. The public is invited to an opening reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 24. For more information, visit www.moragaartgallery.com or call (925) 376-5407.

"Creative Synergy" Artists Susan McKenna List, Camille Young and Dalia Alekna, who worked together for years in their Lafayette La Fiesta Square studio, reunite in this show of their original oils, watercolors, pastels and jewelry. The show runs through May at The Orinda Library Art Gallery, 26 Orinda Way.

Lamorinda Village Travel Series: Photographer Rick Whitacre at 1 p.m. on May 22, at LOPC, 49 Knox Dr. Love photography and nature? Come see/hear from Rick! His specialty is scenes from the national and state parks. Recently, his work has expanded to include astrophotography to help convey the expanse and magnitude of our natural world. Free for Lamorinda Village members; \$5 donation is appreciated for nonmembers. Call (925) 283-3500 to register.

The Lamorinda Arts Alliance and the Concord Art Association are delighted to present a joint Art Show and Sale from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 2 at the Lafayette Christian Church at 584 Glenside Dr., Lafayette. There will be 24 artists who work in many mediums including ceramics, jewelry, printmaking, painting, photography, weaving and sculpture. There will be art demonstrations, live music, and light refreshments. <https://laa4art.org>, <http://concordartassociation.blogspot.com>

MUSIC

Saint Mary's choirs (Glee Club and Chamber Singers) present a "send-off" concert series at 8 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, May 17 and 18 at the Saint Mary's Chapel before heading off to perform in the Champions Competition at the 2018 World Choir Games held this year in South Africa. Enjoy a performance of the competition program, including works by Heinrich Schütz, Shawn Kirchner, Knut Nystedt, Craig Hella Johnson, and arrangements of modern contemporary music by Al Jarreau, Linkin Park, and Laura Mvula, and the Beatles. Free, but there will be a good will offering during the concert.

Gold Coast Chamber Players concert, "French Connection" at 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 19 in the Community Hall at the Lafayette Library. Tickets: \$45 General, \$40 Senior, \$15 Student. Purchase online at www.gcplayers.org or by phone at (925) 283-3728.

The Diablo Women's Chorale invites you to join them at their Spring Concert, "The Rhythm of Life," at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 19 at Hillside Covenant Church, 2060 Magnolia Way in Walnut Creek. Join this musical celebration of the changing seasons of our heart, the poetry in both joy and sorrow, and the soaring melodies of our soul as we traverse this thing called life. On a journey through different musical genres and eras, from calypso to folk and Gershwin to Sting, the Diablo Women's Chorale will move and inspire. Purchase advance tickets by calling 1-800-838-3006 or online at www.DiabloWomensChorale.org. Prices are \$25 General Admission and \$15 Student.

Cantare Con Vivo closes its 31st season with "A Jubilant Song," featuring all performing choirs on stage, presenting a diverse selection of American music, including folk, classical, popular, show songs and spirituals. "A Jubilant Song" will begin at 4 p.m. on Saturday,

May 20 at the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Dr., Lafayette. Tickets: General \$27.50; Senior \$22; Student \$10. Purchase Tickets by phone (510) 836-0789 or online: https://cantareconvivo.secure.force.com/ticket/#details_a0S-0B000005BBJMUA4. www.cantareconvivo.org

Stanley Middle School presents Jazz Café from 6 to 10 p.m. on Friday, June 1 in the Stanley Multipurpose room. This is a collaborative performance of Jazz student musicians from Stanley, Campolindo and Acalanes. Support the fundraising efforts of the Stanley Middle School Jazz Program and enjoy a memorable evening of music. General admission \$10; elementary students \$5; free for children under 6. Food, raffle drawings and silent auction (cash only). Tickets at stanleymusic.org or at the door (cash only).

Diablo Choral Artists presents their concert "Variations on Love and Laughter" at 7 p.m. on June 9 at Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek. There will be a drawing for a gift basket at the concert, and a reception following the concert. General Admission: Adults \$25, Seniors 60+ \$15, Students \$5, Children 5-12 free. Details and ticket purchase on website: www.dcachorus.org. Tickets are available from choir members, or through Brown Paper Tickets, 800-838-2006.

THEATER

DVC Drama presents a new musical "Godspell" running through May 20 at 321 Golf Club Rd., Pleasant Hill. A small group of people help Jesus tell different parables by using a wide variety of games, storytelling techniques, and a hefty dose of comic timing. An eclectic blend of songs, ranging in style from pop to vaudeville, is employed as the story of Jesus' life dances across the stage. The messages of kindness, tolerance, community, and love come vibrantly to life. Show times are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and at 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets, call (925) 969-2358 or visit www.dvc-drama.net.

The Peter Pan Foundation presents its annual original musical "Wish Upon a Star" over Memorial Day weekend May 26-28 at Diablo Valley College, 321 Golf Club Road, in Pleasant Hill. The magical musical adventure includes princesses, villains, heroes and many other beloved characters sure to delight audiences of all ages. Proceeds benefit UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland. The show features more than 200 performers in several alternating casts. Showtimes and casts available online. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for students, seniors and military and can be purchased at www.peterpanfoundation.org.

Town Hall Theatre Company Presents "Sense & Sensibility", based on the novel by Jane Austen from June 2-23, with previews at 8 p.m. on May 31 and June 1. The play follows the adventures (and misadventures) of the Dashwood sisters - sensible Elinor and hypersensitive Marianne - in gossipy late 18th century Regency England. As the play opens, their father's unexpected demise leaves the family in dire financial straits; and both sisters must learn to navigate the rising societal pressures, preserve reputations and somehow find happiness and true love. Tickets: \$18 Previews, \$27-30 Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings, \$25-27 Sunday matinee. Discounts available for seniors and youth. Box Office: (925) 283-1557; www.townhalltheatre.com

LECTURE & LITERATURE

Orinda Books presents a Luncheon with Georgeanne Brennan, introducing her new book, "Windows on Provence," at 11:30 a.m. on May 17. Luncheon will include Salade Nicoise using Georgeanne's recipe, crusty French bread, a glass of Rose' and a Provencal biscuit. \$20 includes \$10 off price of book. Call (925) 254-7606 to make your reservation.

KIDS, PARENTS & TEENS

Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church invites moms, grandmothers and daughters in preschool/kindergarten to a Royal Princess Tea Party from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 19, including tea, scones, crafts, story time and more. Register online: mvpctoday.org. 10 Moraga Valley Ln., Moraga. 376.4800; mvpctoday.org.

OTHER

Patxi's Pizza in Lafayette is hosting a Dine and Donate on Wednesday, May 16, for Campolindo's Make-A-Wish Club. The fundraiser lasts all day (dine-in, delivery, or pick-up) and proceeds benefit Make-A-Wish, which grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions. Please remember to say you're there for the Make-A-Wish Club at Campolindo to make sure 15% of your order gets donated.

Lafayette Juniors 19th Annual Kitchen Tour from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 19. Tour six beautiful Lafayette homes for a great cause, with masterfully designed unique, elegant, and awe-inspiring kitchens. The Tour benefits No One Left Behind, Girls Inc., City Slicker Farms, White Pony Express and Contra Costa Crisis Center. Tickets are \$50 (\$45 tax deductible), box lunch available for \$15. Purchase tickets at www.lafayettejuniors.org or Premier Kitchens in Lafayette.

Dogtown Downton, from 9:30 a.m. to noon on May 19 at Lafayette Plaza Park. The event starts in the Lafayette Library and Learning Center outdoor pavilion with Downward-Dog Yoga followed by a Police Escorted Doggie Parade from the Lafayette Library and Learning Center up Golden Gate Way to Lafayette Plaza at 10 a.m. At the Plaza enjoy demonstrations, exhibits, marketing and swag. Contests include Looks Most Like Owner; Best Costume; and Best Team Trick, (register your pet for the contests at the Library Plaza beginning at 9 a.m.). Dogs must be social, friendly and on leash at all times. <http://www.lafayettechamber.org/events/dogtown-downton/>

Kittens are here! See them at Community Concern for Cats' weekend adoption event from 1 to 4 p.m. on May 19 and 20 at Pet Food Express in Lafayette and Pleasant Hill, and Petco in Walnut Creek. For more information, see www.communityconcernforcats.org.

"A Fantastic Woman" ("Una Mujer Fantastica"), Oscar winner for the 2018 Best Foreign Language Film, will be shown by Mountain Shadow Film Society at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 19 at the Walnut Creek Library, 1644 N. Broadway. It is the first Chilean film to win an Oscar. \$12 General Admission. More information about the program as well as Mountain Shadow Film Society, is available at <http://mountainshadow.org>.

Come celebrate diversity and promote our unity at Soul Food Lamorinda from 2 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 20 at the Intercultural Center at Saint Mary's College. Soul Food Lamorinda is a free Baha'i-inspired program that combines an audio-visual presentation with readings from various faiths, philosophers and leaders, allowing us to reflect on inspiring themes and reminding us of the oneness of humanity. This month's program, "Planet Dreams" will explore the unity and diversity of the human family, and how this can be celebrated and encouraged through a collective vision. Free. For more info: www.meetup.com/Soul-Food-Lamorinda/

Melanie Wahlberg, C.S. will be talking about "Never Alone - How God's Spiritual Ideas Work in Us" at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 20 at the Christian Science Church, 650 Danville Blvd, Danville. Everyone is welcome at this free event, and loving, free childcare is provided. The event lasts just one hour. Traduccion Simultaneo al Espanol in the Sunday School room. Come to treat yourself to an hour of peace, enlightenment and inspiration.

... continued on next page

Two new movies open this week in Orinda

By Derek Zemrak



The Orinda Theatre will be screening two new movies on Thursday with an advanced showing of "Deadpool 2" at 7 p.m. "Deadpool 2" is the sequel to the 2016 Twentieth Century Fox blockbuster hit "Deadpool." Ryan Reynolds, who received a Golden Globe nomination for the original, will be reprising his role as Deadpool. After surviving a near fatal bovine attack, a disfigured cafeteria chef (Wade Wilson) struggles to fulfill his dream of becoming Mayberry's hottest bartender while also learning to cope with his lost sense of taste. Searching to regain his spice for life, as well as a flux capacitor, Wade must battle ninjas, the Yakuza, and a pack of sexually aggressive canines as he journeys around the world to discover the importance of family, friendship, and flavor – finding a new taste for adventure and earning the coveted coffee mug title of World's Best Lover.

If "Deadpool 2" is half as good as the original, it will be worth seeing.



Also, starting this Friday is the star-studded film, "Book Club."

Diane (Diane Keaton) is recently widowed after 40 years of marriage. Vivian (Jane Fonda) enjoys her men with no strings attached. Sharon (Candice Bergen) is still working through a decades-old divorce. Carol's (Mary Steenburgen) marriage is in a slump after 35 years. Their lives are turned upside down to hilarious ends when their book club tackles the infamous "Fifty Shades of Grey." From discovering new romance to rekindling old flames, they inspire each other to make their next chapter the best chapter. The movie co-stars Andy Garcia, Craig T. Nelson, Don Johnson, Ed Begely Jr., Alicia Silverstone and Oscar winner ("The Goodbye Girl") and 2010 California Independent Film Festival Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, Richard Dreyfuss.

See you at the movies!

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May 18	May 25
<p>In the beginning was GEORGE CHAFFEY a founding father of LMSR. Now hear the rest of his story of his elaborate lifestyle.</p>	<p>4-way Speech Contest</p>
<p>Join us, there's a project happening that needs you!</p>	

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.

<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">May 17: Four-Way Test Speech contest.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">May 24: Steve King: 2018 Trends</p>
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Thank you for supporting our Concert at the Res event.

www.rotarylafayette.org
www.facebook.com/Rotary-Club-of-Lafayette-Ca-197392963631366

◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆

OTHER ... continued

Lafayette Chamber is having a mixer 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 23 at Premier Kitchens 3373 Mt. Diablo Blvd. in Lafayette. Free to members and those interested on becoming a member.

Contra Costa Tale Spinners from 7 to 9 p.m. on May 24 at the Orinda Library. Contra Costa Tale Spinners is storytelling for adults, told live and without notes. Everyone is welcome to this informal open mic, whether you want to tell a story or just listen. Adults and teens 13 and up will enjoy stories old and new - personal, traditional, historical, original and literary. The (optional) theme for this month is "Discovery!"

The City of Orinda is hosting a Pan-Asian Arts Festival this Memorial Day weekend, May 26 and 27 at the Orinda Community Center and Orinda Library. The two-day celebration, part of Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month, is free of charge and features programs for all ages. The festivities include a Chinese lion dance, Asian art exhibits, Bollywood dancing, Japanese

animated films, Henna hand painting, Gamelan dance, food trucks and Mochi-making. More information and a full schedule of events is available at <http://friendsoftheorindalibrary.org/2018/04/03/pan-asian-arts-festival/>

Oakmont Memorial Park and Mortuary will host a Memorial Day Patriotic Remembrance at 11 a.m. on May 28 to pay tribute to the valiant men and women who have protected our freedom by serving in the military. This is a free and family-friendly community event open to the entire public. Following the program food and refreshments will be provided for all. Oakmont Memorial Park and Mortuary, 2099 Reliez Valley Road, Lafayette.

Orinda Library Writers Group from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on May 29 at the Orinda Library, Group Study Room A. Meet with a friendly group of beginning writers in a supportive environment to motivate, critique and inspire one another. Share two pages of your writing (any genre) and get feedback from the group.

Join the LOPC breakfast speakers group at 7 a.m. on May 30 for

"Breakfast with Jim Barnett- commentator for Golden State Warriors" Date and time subject to change. RSVP to Janet@LOPC.org or call (925) 283-8722.

Many Faces of Skin Cancers from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on May 30 at the Lafayette Library Community Room. Join an engaging panel of medical experts including Drs. Kelly Hood, MD, Arash Mohebbati, Susan Kao and Christine Chung, as they offer insights into the latest information on prevention, risk factors, new treatment options, and explore the unique issues of skin cancer survivors. Reservations recommended, call (925) 677-5041.

Wine Tasting to Benefit Family Builders from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on May 31 at Wine Thieves - 3401 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette. Cost: \$40. Ticket Purchase: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/family-builders-wine-tasting-benefit-tickets-44393389824>

Come break all the rules at the "Night at the Library" – includes cocktails, vino, silent Disco (?!?) and fun around every corner beginning at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, June 2 in the stacks of the Lafayette Li-

brary. Immerse yourself in merriment, while supporting the library and its programs. www.LLLCF.org/Night2018

Lamorinda Village Travel Series: Just Cruising! at 1 p.m. on June 5 at LOPC, 49 Knox Dr., call (925) 283-3500 to register. New trends are making cruises more attractive than ever. Ron Hermanson from Cruise Holidays will share ideas and options for cruise travel. Learn about river cruises exploring new destinations, great rivers of Europe, ship/cruise descriptions and accommodations, advantages of river cruising (vs. other methods of travel) and more! Free for Lamorinda Village members; \$5 donation is appreciated for nonmembers.

SENIORS

Facing Aging or Chronic Illness from 1 to 2 p.m. on May 23 in the Orinda Library, Group Study Room A. Face aging or chronic illness through awakening your spirit of creativity. Explore artistic expression with local artist, Felicia Morris, as a way to move with greater awareness and love through life's challenges.

Contra Costa County Community Warning System - How to Receive Emergency Notifications by Vincent Martinez, Senior Emergency Planning Coordinator from 10:30 a.m. to noon on May 24 in the Cedar Room, Lafayette Community Center. Contra Costa's Community Warning System (CWS) is an all-hazards integrated system designed to warn and inform residents about an emergency or disaster and the protective action residents need to take to stay safe. Learn about the various methods of notification and how to register to receive them. Free.

Cut the Cable Cord (And Possibly Your Cable Bill!) by Orlando Guzman, Technology Guru with the Lafayette Library from 10:30 to noon on May 31 in the Cedar Room at the Lafayette Community Center. Streaming media services abound, but what are they? How do they work? It's not easy untangling your choices. Let Orlando shed some light on smart TVs and streaming media services, and help you make choices that might decrease or eliminate your cable bill altogether! Members Free; Non-Members \$10.

Cal Shakes summer conservatory at Saint Mary's College

... continued from page B3

Engle knows how the campus is so welcoming and beautiful in summer, several camps are run there, a lot of events are booked such as weddings and seminars and the theater facility is not fully in use during those months, so some summer programing with Cal Shakes was a good match.

Summer conservatory is for children 8 to 18, it is led by five teaching artists with a cohort of students. All the teachers are professional artists and each has a student assistant. Cal Shakes hired the teaching assistants and a number of SMC students were

hired for these positions.

Engle noted that this provides an opportunity for students to work with a master teacher, improve their craft while acquiring hands-on pedagogical skills, something she felt will help them with other opportunities. She sees American actors who can "do" Shakespeare as an elite, belonging to a specialized desirable niche.

When the program was announced it was immediately sold out and dates were added, another mark of the attractiveness of this educational offer.

Both Engler and Worsley highlighted the alignment of values of both institutions; their common desire to reach a diverse community and creating theater that speaks to 21st century audiences. Last year, both Cal Shakes and Saint Mary's Theater programed a play by Oakland-native contemporary playwright Marcus Gardley, "black Odyssey" by Cal Shakes in the Bruns Amphitheater in Orinda, and "and Jesus Moonwalks the Mississippi" at Saint Mary's. "There was a natural deep resonance between how we train young theater artists and

what they (Cal Shakes) are doing," said Engler. It would not be

surprising to see more collaboration in the future.

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A cheesy twist for cauliflower

By Susie Iventosch



Roasted and stuffed cauliflower

Photo Susie Iventosch

I was looking for a new and interesting way to serve cauliflower and came across a recipe on the Food Network that looked amazing! It called for stuffing the cauliflower with a cheesy mixture and then coating it with a panko crust before baking. I've now seen this done with many different kinds of fillings, from Middle Eastern flavors such as garam masala to ground meats like beef or turkey. You can even roast the whole head of cauliflower with no filling at all, just using an herb and panko crust for a crunchy outside edge. We decided to stuff ours with a sharp cheddar-arugula filling and it turned out great, but you could easily use spinach or meat, along with your favorite cheese. When you get ready to stuff the cauliflower, it is best to have a pastry bag on hand. I tried using a large plastic baggie, but it broke at the seam part way through, and I had to resort to hand-stuffing with a small spoon and my fingers. I didn't want to use my only pastry bag, because I use it to frost cupcakes and didn't want the onion

flavor to infiltrate my next batch of frosting. But, I will definitely buy an extra pastry bag for savory occasions such as this.



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.

Whole Cauliflower Roasted and Stuffed

INGREDIENTS

1 whole head of cauliflower, white, orange or purple

Filling

2 Tbsp. olive oil
1 small yellow onion, finely chopped
1 large shallot, finely chopped
1 clove garlic, minced
5 ounces (approximately) arugula, finely chopped
4 slices of turkey bacon (or regular bacon) cooked and cut into small pieces
2 eggs
1 ½ cups grated sharp white cheddar cheese
¼ cup Half & Half or milk
½ cup panko
½ tsp. salt
1 tsp. black pepper

Crust

Mix together:
½ cup freshly grated Parmesan
¼ cup panko
4 Tbsp. melted butter

DIRECTIONS

Prepare cauliflower by removing all the leaves (including carefully removing inner leaves) and enough of the stem to make the bottom of the head of cauliflower flat enough to sit on a baking tray. When the cauliflower is turned upside down, you will see all kinds of nooks and crannies, into which you will pipe the filling. Be careful not to break any of the florets or stems as you clear off the leaves.

Bring a large pot of water to a boil and cook the entire head of cauliflower for 8 minutes. This is just a partial cooking, so be sure not to cook all the way through. The timing may vary depending upon the size of your cauliflower. Remove from water, drain and cool. Set aside.

Meanwhile, heat olive oil in frying pan and cook onions, shallots and garlic until translucent. Add chopped arugula and continue to cook until arugula is wilted. Remove from heat and cool for about 5 minutes. Transfer the onion mixture to a mixing bowl. Add remaining filling ingredients and mix well.

Place the filling mixture into a pastry bag, fitted with a wide tip. You can also just use the coupler and the regular bag opening, to squeeze the filling into the cauliflower. If you do not have a pastry bag, then you can stuff the cauliflower using a small spoon and your fingers, pushing the filling deep in between the florets and reaching the center and beyond, toward the top of the cauliflower.

Once all of the filling has been used, turn the cauliflower right side up on a greased baking sheet. Now, using your hands, pat the crust mixture all around the cauliflower to make a nice coating all the way around, except the bottom.

Bake at 400 F for approximately 30 to 35 minutes, until crust is golden brown and a knife inserts easily into the cauliflower. Slice in wedges and serve hot!

Dog Flu in the Bay Area

By Mona Miller, DVM

Just a few months ago, Canine Influenza Virus hit Northern California with intensity, causing 413 positive cases to be identified before Valentine's Day, ranging from the San Francisco Bay Area to Reno, Nevada. This created a flurry of activity among veterinarians, pet owners, kennel/boarder facilities and groomers – all seeking more information and quick vaccinations for susceptible dogs. This virus is most likely here to stay, and those with dogs in "air space contact" with other dogs should seek vaccination.

There are two strains of CIV: H3N2 is the strain in California, and the other is H3N8. Strain H3N2 originated as an avian flu virus, first detected in South Korea in 2007. It was identified in Chicago in April 2015, and it is unknown how it was introduced into the U.S. While this has been reported to infect cats, it is a dog-only flu disease. The other strain, H3N8, originated in horses, and was identified in 2004 in Florida greyhounds. This is also considered a dog-specific virus – meaning that it does not infect other species.

According to Merck Animal Health, as of 2018, only two states in the continental U.S. have not reported CIV, along with Alaska and Hawaii. Compare this to 2013, when 15 states total did not have any reports, and to 2008 when 35 states had not reported its prevalence. In 2007, only Florida and Tennessee had reports of CIV present.

It appears that there are some significant differences between CIV and human H3N2 flu viruses. The two biggest differences is that CIV does not appear to be a seasonal problem, and that CIV mutation doesn't appear to be at a rapid rate, so the CIV vaccine is stable and protective from one year to the next.

Nowadays, some dogs travel to a variety of geographic locations – whether it's from relocation after natural disasters (think of wildfires and hurricanes, during which pets get lost and then picked up by rescue organizations); or from traveling across county or state lines for vacation or dog shows. There is no question that the potential for spreading disease increases with travel movement, and in my opinion, this is the most likely manner that these virus strains enter local areas.

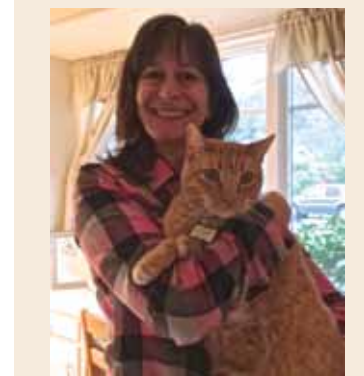
Dog in "same air space contact" as other dogs are at risk for spreading and getting CIV, as well as other respiratory infections. I use this phrase to identify situations in which one dog might cough, sneeze or have contact with another through saliva or eye discharge. My specific categories include kennel or boarding facilities, grooming parlors, doggy day care, dog parks, agility or other dog group activities (including parades), dog shows, and dog walkers who take multiple dogs. There is a growing trend for individuals to offer dog boarding in their private homes – I counsel my clients to realize that this is a type of "kennel" or boarding facility in that multiple dogs are together in the same room or backyard. Indirect contact can occur if your dog is in contact with a friend's dog that goes to the kennel, grooming parlor, etc., even if your dog doesn't.

Like most human flu cases, most canine cases will be mild to moderate in severity. However, comparable to human flu, there will be some dogs who will develop high fevers, pneumonia, and may die. Incubation period is two to four days between exposure and developing clinical signs. Symptoms include cough, sneeze, eye or nose discharge, lethargy, fever, not eating, and possibly vomiting. Di-

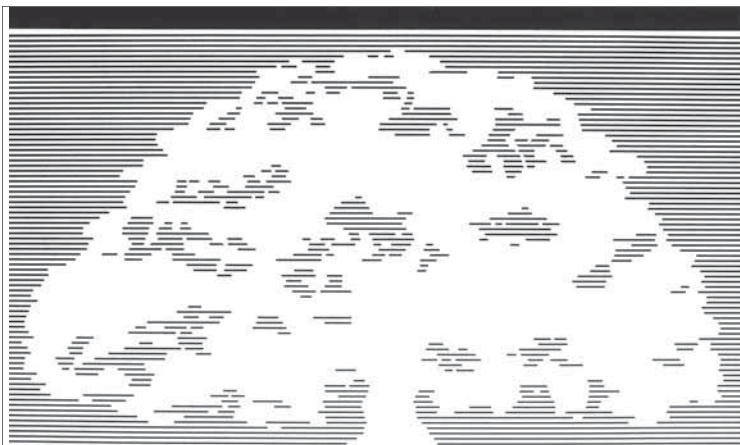
agnosis is made with specific laboratory tests acquired from oral and conjunctival swabs. Treatment is supportive care, based on the level of symptoms. Isolation from other dogs is necessary for up to three weeks after signs resolve, in order to prevent further spread.

For this disease, prevention is key, through proper vaccination of dogs at risk. In my opinion, it's best to vaccinate for both strains of CIV – and most veterinarians carry (or can order) the "bivalent" vaccine that has both strains in it. Initially, the dog should receive two vaccines at two to four weeks apart, and then be maintained with an annual booster. The vaccine has minimal negative side effects, and is considered highly protective. If your dog is at risk as described above, ask your veterinarian about vaccination.

Further information can be found at the following websites: cvma.net, dogflu.com, and veterinarypartner.com.



Dr. Mona Miller lives in Lafayette with her son, two cats and yellow Labrador. She attended UC Berkeley as an undergraduate, and received her DVM from UC Davis. She has been happy to call Lafayette home since 2001. She can be reached via email at MonaSDVM@aol.com. She welcomes questions from readers that may get incorporated into a column.



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LAMORINDA SPORTS

Split decision for Lamorinda Lacrosse at DAL Championships

By Jon Kingdon



Jacob Torba Photos Gint Federas



Beniam Huff



Cole Grossen



Frankie Veverka



Keri Wendt

The boys and girls DAL championship games played on May 4 had a distinct Lamorinda flavor to it.

The Miramonte boys were playing at Acalanes and the Acalanes girls were playing at Miramonte.

The teams came away with a split decision: the Acalanes boys defeated Miramonte 12-2 while the Miramonte girls defeated Acalanes 11-5.

The Acalanes (7-0) and Miramonte (6-1) boys finished 1-2 in league play.

The Miramonte (7-1), Campolindo (7-1) and Acalanes (6-2) girls finished 1-2-3 in league play. Acalanes defeated Campolindo in the semifinals setting up final against Miramonte.

The Miramonte girls fell behind 4-1 at the start but scored 10 of the next 11 goals. Miramonte head coach Jackie Pelletier did not single out any individuals: "It was a team effort. Every girl stepped up their game. We were very physical and had a real presence out there. We got about every ground ball and draw in the game."

The Acalanes boys team jumped out to an early lead and kept up the pressure all game. Acalanes head coach Brent Ringwood explained it this way: "We established our pace on offense and did not make any mistakes. We kept peppering the goal, got an early lead and it was on from there."

Miramonte, coming into the game averaging 11 goals per game,

saw their offense almost completely stifled. Ringwood gave much of the credit to their 10-man riding game (harassing the player with the ball before he can pass the ball upfield): "We brought our goalie out of the game and marked somebody, allowing us to match up with Miramonte. It is hard for an opponent to practice for and our kids were patient."

Ringwood very much welcomes the return of two key players from injuries: midfielder Matt Mariano (knee) and attacker Colin Jeffries (ankle).

Entering the NCS playoffs, the Acalanes and Miramonte boys and the Acalanes, Campolindo and Miramonte girls teams were all playing well. In fact, the five schools

had a combined 26-7 record in their last 33 games.

You can now add 10-0 to that record as all five of the Lamorinda teams won each of their playoff games. The Acalanes boys team outscored Sonoma Academy and Livermore by a combined score of 39-7. The Miramonte boys defeated Head Royce (18-10) Petaluma (12-6). The Miramonte girls won their two games over Livermore and San Marin by a combined 35-7 score.

Campolindo defeated Petaluma (18-2) and Marin Academy (11-10) while Acalanes won their two games over Bishop O'Dowd (16-5) and Casa Grande (13-3).



Tori Fleming

Acalanes and Miramonte Competitive Sport Cheer teams come to fore

By Jon Kingdon



Miramonte CSC Stunt Team



Photo provided

What do George W. Bush, Samuel L. Jackson, Kirk and Michael Douglas all have in common? They were all cheerleaders in high school. Cheerleading dates to 1877 at Princeton University though females did not begin to participate in cheerleading until 1923. Yet it was not until the onset of World War II that women began to numerically dominate this field.

There are different types of cheer teams: Spirit cheerleading teams cheer at the games and rallies and perform at event halftimes; Traditional Competitive Cheer, which typically has 2 1/2 minute cheer routines that are performed at competitions, and consists of a music and cheer section that are judged by a panel in the categories of stunt difficulty and execution, tumbling, dance motions and cheer execution; and Competitive Sport Cheer, which has come to the fore and is now an official high school sport in the Diablo Athletic League. Rather than a number of groups competing against each other, CSC competition is a head-to-head match between two schools. Each school will perform the same routines, earning points for the school that performs their routines the cleanest and most precise. This entails jumps and tumbling, pyramids and tosses and partner stunts.

This past year, Acalanes and Miramonte joined four other

schools in the DAL with competitive cheer teams for the first time. Clayton Valley and Concord finished 1-2 and went on to compete in the NCS tournament with Acalanes (4-2) and Miramonte (1-5) providing ample competition in their premier seasons.

Jazzlyn Boynton and Alexis Caviness, both students at Diablo Valley College, are the cheerleader coaches at Acalanes High School. Boynton and Caviness, both former cheerleaders at Acalanes, split the responsibilities of coaching the Dons. Says Boynton: "I teach the stunts and jumping required and Alexis, who was a gymnast, teaches the tumbling."

Carol Herndon is the head cheerleader coach at Miramonte High School along with Meghan Hashimoto, Danielle Herndon, and Victoria Carozza, all of whom have high school and all-star competitive cheerleading experience. Said Herndon: "I sat on the board with the other cheerleading coaches in Sacramento to help cheer become a sport in California and was the one on a board to see how it would play out."

The past three years, the Matoradors were the national champions in the Traditional Cheer Competition. Despite their success in TCC, there will be changes at Miramonte according to Herndon: "This next year, we are not doing traditional

cheer and will be focusing on competitive cheer. There was disappointment for some of the ath-

letes but it is just too difficult to do both."

Competitive sports cheer will

have as many as 30 girls on the roster.

... continued on page C3



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Oakland Strokes sweep to nationals

Submitted by Rachel Yates



Oakland Strokes Men's Junior Varsity 8+ cross the finish line to secure Gold Photos provided

The many hours of training, early mornings and grueling land and water workouts paid off this weekend for the Oakland Strokes Rowing Program as they put on a powerful performance to take a record breaking 18 medals, and advance a total of seven boats to the USRowing Junior National Championships.

The varsity women's team put on a commanding performance to medal in every event they entered. This performance, combined with the success of the women's novice team led to a win of the Women's Team Points Trophy by a convincing margin over cross bay rivals Marin. The varsity women's head coach Allison Dobb Ray, associate women's head coach Anita Sarrett, and strength coach Frank Clayton were clearly delighted with the outcome of the team effort. "I am most proud of the team performance - winning the points trophy speaks to the strength of our team and the team culture the team has worked so hard to build," Dobb Ray said.

The longstanding rivalries in the varsity men's programs made for some intense races, with Newport, Marin, Capital and Oakland battling it out in nail biting finishes.

The Oakland Men qualified three of their boats for Nationals and set the stage for some fierce competition in Sacramento in June.

As the varsity men's head coach Brian

De Regt noted, "We're very pleased with how the boys handled themselves through the season and rose to the occasion when it mattered most ... The most gratifying part of the weekend was watching our athletes learn what can happen when they fully buy into the process, and discover just how much they're capable of."

As a 'no-cut' program, the success of the Oakland Strokes program is a testament to the commitment and work of the coaching staff at both novice and varsity levels. Many of the athletes who are heading their first, second - or even third - National championships had no rowing experience before joining the Strokes. Instead, most come through one of the summer 'Learn to Row' sessions or joined as novices in the fall. The team heading to Nationals has an eclectic mix of athletes - some who have rowed since middle school, while others joined the program as high school juniors.

What unites them, according to managing director Dana Hooper, is the transformative power of rowing. "Rowing ... is a sport that allows a diverse group of young men and women to come together and learn to work as one, and ultimately achieve goals that are greater than they ever could have achieved individually."



Oakland Strokes Women's Team dominate the medal podium with 5 Golds, 3 Silver and 3 Bronze medals, winning the overall Team Points Trophy.

2017-2018 Boys DAL All League

Winter Sports

Photos Gint Federas

DAL All-League - Foothill Division Boys Basketball - 2017-18

1st Team All-League - Foothill Division
Carter Mahaney Campolindo

2nd Team All-League - Foothill Division
Robby Rowell Acalanes
Aiden McNamara Acalanes

Honorable Mention - Foothill Division
Brandon Betson Miramonte
Andrew Logan Miramonte
Trevin Kroichick Campolindo
David Ahazie Campolindo



Carter Mahaney



Robby Rowell

DAL All-League - Foothill Division Boys Soccer - 2017-18

1st Team All-League - Foothill Division
Jose Carra Hernandez Campolindo

2nd Team All-League - Foothill Division
Seppi Ortman Campolindo

Honorable Mention - Foothill Division
Kellen Clancy Campolindo
Lucas Allen Campolindo
Jamiel Liu Campolindo



Jose Carra-Hernandez



Seppi Ortman

DAL All-League - Valley Division Boys Soccer - 2017-18

Co-Most Valuable Player - Valley Division
Sam Pinto Miramonte

Most Valuable Offensive Player - Valley Division
Alex Topping Acalanes

1st Team All-League - Valley Division
Travis Stevenson Acalanes
Chris Rogers Acalanes
Ben Andrews Miramonte
Cole Kelez Miramonte
Owen Reed Miramonte

2nd Team All-League - Valley Division
Nick Geannacopulos Acalanes
Oliver Feigin Acalanes
Luca Argast Miramonte
Ross Gruen Miramonte
Andrew Byrne Miramonte

Honorable Mention - Valley Division
Tai Fox Miramonte
Giovanni Sponzilli Miramonte
Conor Roemer Miramonte
Reider Martinsen Acalanes
Dominic Van Cleave Schottland Acalanes
Luke Denham Acalanes



Sam Pinto



Alex Topping



Travis Stevenson



Owen Madaus Provided

2nd Team All-League - Valley Division
Nick Geannacopulos Acalanes
Oliver Feigin Acalanes
Luca Argast Miramonte
Ross Gruen Miramonte
Andrew Byrne Miramonte

Honorable Mention - Valley Division
Tai Fox Miramonte
Giovanni Sponzilli Miramonte
Conor Roemer Miramonte
Reider Martinsen Acalanes
Dominic Van Cleave Schottland Acalanes
Luke Denham Acalanes

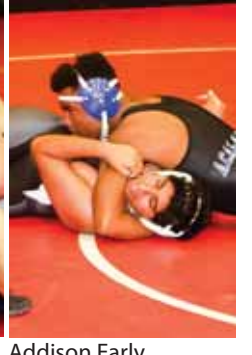
DAL All-League Boys Wrestling - 2017-18

2nd Team All-League
145 Owen Madaus Miramonte
160 Issac Douglas Acalanes

Honorable Mention
106 Noah Hamann Campolindo
152 Steven Williams Campolindo
182 Addison Early Acalanes



Isaac Douglas



Addison Early

2017-2018 Girls DAL All League Winter Sports will be included on May 30

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Lamorinda Divers qualify for NCS

Submitted by Trish Cetrone



Back row, from left: Josiah Klock, Riley Pellman, Brenna Cetrone, Hailey Tang, Daniel Zabronsky, Audrey Lundgren, Emma Smith, Emma Taylor, Jacqueline Samaniego; front row: Michaela Ricker, Kelly Robles, Madeline Landau; not pictured: Deivi Moretti. Photos Stephanie Klock



Brenna Cetrone and Josiah Klock

Divers from the combined CLAM high school team for Miramonte, Campolindo, Acalanes and Las Lomas participated in the DAL League Championship meet Saturday, May 5 at Acalanes High School. Eight team members automatically qualified for NCS and three achieved consideration. NCS Championships took place May 10 in Livermore and CIF State Championships take place May 18-19 in Clovis. The combined CLAM high school team is coached by Will Haynes.

NCS Qualifiers

Girls/Year/School

Brenna Cetrone, Senior, Miramonte
Audrey Lundgren, Junior, Acalanes
Riley Pellman, Freshman, Las Lomas*
Michaela Ricker, Freshman, Campolindo*
Jacqueline Samaniego, Junior, Acalanes

Emma Smith, Freshman, Campolindo*
Hailey Tang, Sophomore, Campolindo
Emma Taylor, Junior, Miramonte
*Consideration

Boys/Year/School

Josiah Klock, Sophomore, Campolindo
Deivi Moretti, Junior, Miramonte
Daniel Zabronsky, Freshman, Campolindo

Competitive Sport Cheer teams

... continued from page C1

Sallina Boynton (Jazzlyn's mother and former coach) filled in last year as coach at Las Lomas High School. She will be coaching next year at Acalanes along with her daughter and Caviness and appreciates the difficulty of competitive cheer: "You compete at jumping, tumbling, partner stunts and pyramids. There are six levels and three different routines with each level and you have a short window to learn the routines. It's a lot of work and a lot of fun. I'm very happy that it's a sport."

There are positions in competitive cheer like in other sports. There are backs, two bases (the ones who lift the girls and the flyers (the ones who are lifted).

Miramonte's co-captains this past season were Olivia Kaufman and Jaqui Yuqi, who Herndon came to rely on: "They filled the traditional roles of captain. They made sure the girls showed up on time and made sure they focused on their work and at the games and helped us call the routines."

The Acalanes' captains were Sierra Taylor and Maia Warren. "They helped out particularly when the players were not focused and paying attention," said Jazzlyn Boynton.

Another difference between competitive cheer and traditional cheer is the uniforms the girls wear. The uniforms are more akin to a volleyball uniform, with long sleeve Spandex-type jerseys and Spandex shorts.

Competitive cheer is growing in college as well, according to Herndon: "The NCAA has just recognized this sport and there is going to be recruiting and scholarships but it is just in its early stages."

With the more difficult and athletic stunts in competitive cheer, unfortunately come the risk of greater injury. According to Boynton: "We see more injuries in competition with more stunting and tumbling resulting in sprained ankles and injuries to other joints."

The practice required for the teams range from two to three days a week with practices lasting two hours.

With one year under her belt, Sallina Boynton is more confident approaching next season: "As coaches, we will know better how to facilitate and divide the practices."

Echoing that sentiment, Herndon says: "We now have a better idea on how to prepare the girls for the games and how long we need to do so."

California Magic 07 Boys win Cinco de Mayo Fiesta

Submitted by Megan Shields



Photo provided

The California Magic Soccer Club's 07 boys captured the AFC Cinco de Mayo Fiesta division title early May in Hayward. "The boys played amazing futbol, always building out from the back, making combination plays through the middle and scoring smart goals," said Coach Michael Muniz.

"They trained hard this spring and have developed not only a culture of dedication to the game, but a strong bond as teammates. We are all proud of them." The team had one loss during the two-day tournament and beat that same team in the final game to clinch the championship.

California Magic 08 Girls sweep Bay Area Spring Cup

Submitted by Megan Shields



Photo provided

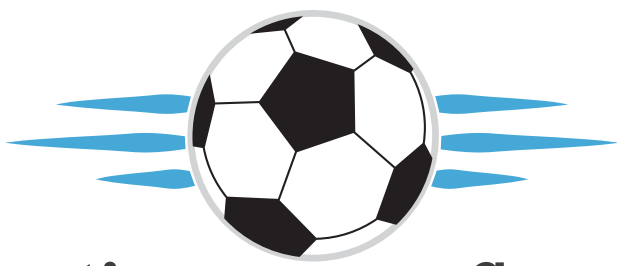
The California Magic Soccer Club's 08 girls went undefeated in the Bay Area Spring Cup claiming their division's Spring Cup title. Coach Beto Zambrano applauded the cohesiveness and passion the team displayed throughout the tournament. "The championship match tested their resiliency

and patience. The team knew what they wanted and worked hard for each victory," said Zambrano. The tournament hosted over 300 teams from across California at the end of April, playing games throughout the South Bay.

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Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 12 Issue 6 Wednesday, May 16, 2018



Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian

...read on page D12

Locals take part in world's largest citizen scientist project

By Sora O'Doherty



Liz Bittner, park supervisor of the Tilden Park Botanical Garden, collects samples in Orinda during Sudden Oak Death Blitz.
Photos Sora O'Doherty

Sudden Oak Death is an emerging infectious disease, and citizen scientists can help predict its spread. On April 28 in the Orinda Library, Matteo Garbelotto, professor of environmental policy at UC Berkeley, brought his Sudden Oak Death Blitz to town, lecturing on the disease and training citizens to go out and collect specimens to add to the database. Although the disease kills oak trees, it is spread by carrier trees, mainly tanoaks and California bay laurels. Laurels can actually recover from the disease, which is fatal to nearby oak trees.

After the training, participants went out to examine trees. If an infected tree was found, 6 to 10 leaves were to be collected and labeled as to the exact location, latitude and longitude, of the tree, which was also marked with a blue plastic strip tied loosely around a limb. Non-infected trees were also to be noted. The collected specimens were then returned within 48 hours to a collection site at Orinda Fire Station 45, picked up by local naturalist William Hudson and returned to the UC Berkeley Forest Pathology Lab for DNA identification to determine if the disease is actually present.

The expensive testing takes a number of months and is funded by the U.S. Forestry Service and a number of private donors, according to Hudson. The results of the spring blitz will be available in October. In the fall, Garbelotto offers comprehensive workshops on dealing with SOD, particularly how to protect uninfected trees.

The Blitz is the first plant disease citizen science project in the world and one of the largest in the country. Data is collected by over 500 collectors and accessed by over a million people. Sudden Oak Death is ramorum blight, caused by the pathogen *Phytophthora ramorum*. Over 200 species of ornamental plants are affected by the disease, which also infects coastal live oaks, black oaks, tanoaks, California bay laurels and Manzanita trees.



... continued on page D4



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Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

City	Last reported:	LOWEST AMOUNT:	HIGHEST AMOUNT:
LAFAYETTE	4	\$1,250,000	\$2,222,500
MORAGA	8	\$407,000	\$2,078,000
ORINDA	9	\$910,000	\$2,700,000

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

60 Leslyn Lane, \$2,222,500, 5 Bdrms, 4256 SqFt, 1987 YrBlt, 4-9-18;

Previous Sale: \$700,000, 09-20-89

517 McBride Drive, \$1,500,000, 4 Bdrms, 1977 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 4-6-18;

Previous Sale: \$340,000, 10-28-88

800 Solana Drive, \$2,200,000, 4 Bdrms, 3509 SqFt, 1949 YrBlt, 4-10-18;

Previous Sale: \$1,165,000, 04-05-12

3337 Victoria Avenue, \$1,250,000, 3 Bdrms, 1304 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 4-9-18;

Previous Sale: \$901,000, 01-10-07

MORAGA

1965 Ascot Drive #10, \$500,000, 2 Bdrms, 1130 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 4-10-18;

Previous Sale: \$205,000, 02-03-12

2087 Ascot Drive #124, \$407,000, 1 Bdrms, 761 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 4-10-18;

Previous Sale: \$180,500, 04-22-10

202 Corliss Drive, \$1,470,000, 4 Bdrms, 2570 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 4-5-18;

Previous Sale: \$170,000, - -

486 Fernwood Drive, \$1,680,000, 4 Bdrms, 2962 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 4-6-18

117 Goodfellow Drive, \$982,000, 3 Bdrms, 1768 SqFt, 1966 YrBlt, 4-6-18

5 Haven Court, \$1,835,000, 5 Bdrms, 2988 SqFt, 1985 YrBlt, 4-6-18;

Previous Sale: \$1,475,000, 07-31-08

53 Merrill Circle #N, \$2,078,000, 3 Bdrms, 4661 SqFt, 1990 YrBlt, 4-9-18;

Previous Sale: \$1,050,000, 12-01-92

1795 St. Andrews Drive, \$1,125,000, 3 Bdrms, 2828 SqFt, 1979 YrBlt, 4-5-18

ORINDA

73 Ardilla Road, \$910,000, 4 Bdrms, 2350 SqFt, 1955 YrBlt, 4-6-18

47 Charles Hill Road, \$2,700,000, 4 Bdrms, 2460 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 4-6-18;

Previous Sale: \$1,800,000, 05-11-06

3 El Gavilan Road, \$1,250,000, 2 Bdrms, 1241 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 4-10-18

4 Kenmore Court, \$1,255,000, 3 Bdrms, 1832 SqFt, 1947 YrBlt, 4-6-18;

Previous Sale: \$901,000, 07-02-13

18 Las Cascadas Road, \$2,500,000, 5 Bdrms, 4072 SqFt, 1988 YrBlt, 4-6-18;

Previous Sale: \$1,560,000, 05-04-12

161 Overhill Road, \$1,500,000, 4 Bdrms, 1654 SqFt, 1953 YrBlt, 4-10-18

116 Scenic Drive, \$1,830,000, 3 Bdrms, 2146 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 4-10-18;

Previous Sale: \$1,055,000, 05-19-09

23 Wilder Road, \$2,110,000, 4 Bdrms, 3380 SqFt, 2015 YrBlt, 4-5-18;

Previous Sale: \$1,925,000, 08-12-16

533 the Glade, \$1,500,000, 3 Bdrms, 2127 SqFt, 1985 YrBlt, 4-5-18;

Previous Sale: \$981,000, 10-02-09

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1195 PLEASANT HILL CIRCLE, LAFAYETTE
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735 GLENSIDE DRIVE, LAFAYETTE
OFFERED AT \$1,395,000

JUST LISTED



4 SHANNON COURT, MORAGA
OFFERED AT \$2,200,000

PENDING



3279 MT. DIABLO COURT #13, LAFAYETTE
OFFERED AT \$889,000

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Locals take part in world's largest citizen scientist project

... continued from page D1



Local trees were inspected during Sudden Oak Death Blitz.

Photo Sora O'Doherty

The exotic disease, which kills four types of oak trees, was brought into California in many locations with the importation of ornamental plants from Asia to domestic nurseries. The first escape of the disease was noted in 1987.

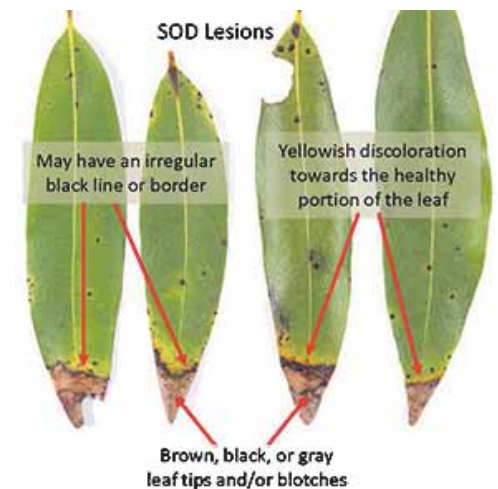
Garbelotto has found that citizen scientists are as accurate, if not more accurate, than professional scientists in the collection of specimens of SOD. His is the largest database ever created for a forest disease. Over the past three years, huge jumps in in-

fection levels have been recorded. The occurrence of the disease is affected by climatic conditions, such as drought. SOD thrives in wet years, declines in dry. The highest infection levels ever recorded were in 2017. Highly visited tourist sites also contribute to the spread of the disease, as tourists carry it from one area to another, increasing the risk of long distance spread. Currently SOD is found in the wildlands of 14 coastal California counties, from Monterey to Humboldt.

Symptomatic bay leaves are often the first sign that SOD has arrived at a location, and generally precedes oak infections. Some management options are available (sanitation, chemical preventative treatments, bay removal), but they are effective only if implemented before oaks and tanoaks are infected; hence, timely detection of the disease on bay laurel leaves is key for a successful proactive attempt to slow down the SOD epidemic, according to Garbelotto.

"The Orinda Library is an excellent location for training East Bay participants because it is so accessible by car or BART," Hudson said, "and we really appreciate the support from Sierra Campana and her predecessors." Volunteer Liz Bittner, park supervisor of the Tilden Park Botanical Garden, said that she attended the training because the park is trying to be more active in identifying and hopefully controlling sudden oak death.

More information about Sudden Oak Death Blitz program can be found at sodblitz.org.



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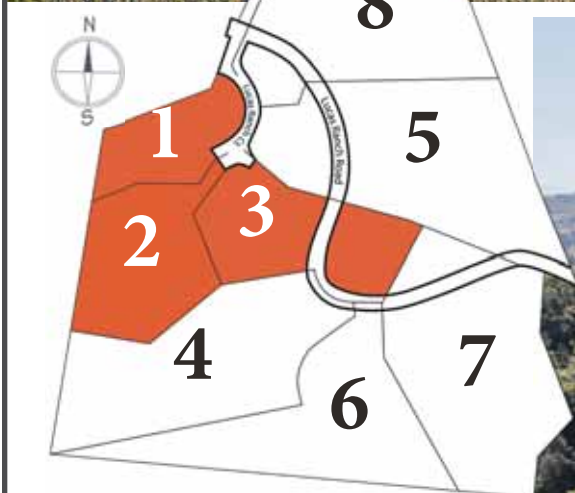
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New designs for spring

By Amanda Eck



Photos provided

The spring season can bring lots of surprises. Sometimes the weather can change wildly from day to day. Just down the hill from me, cherry blossoms bloomed on one side of the street – and not until weeks later on the other. My favorite spring surprises, however, are often found on the other side of the country.

I recently returned from North Carolina where I attended the spring furnishings market at High Point. The High Point Market is the largest furnishings industry trade show in the world, bringing more than 75,000 people to High Point every six months. With more than 2,000 exhibitors and 11.5 million square feet of showrooms, it's like Disney World for interior designers. I always return from market with innovative ideas for assembling spaces.

Coming back with new ideas is easy though. You'd almost have to be asleep to not have that happen. As nice as those fresh, creative ideas are, they aren't the true "gold nuggets" of the visit. When I go, I spend extra effort looking for the surprises – the things you'd never expect to find both pleasant and unpleasant in ways only that unique situation found at market can provide.

The first thing I look for at High Point is scale. Not the size of the place – although it is simply massive. Your feet remind you at the end of every day how big it is, and I think I broke my fit bit from walking so much. But seriously, I'm looking for how big things are in relationship to the other. Is that sofa arm too low or too

high, or how far you sink into it when you're sitting down.

It is not always easy to comprehend the scale of an item (especially lighting) from a website or catalog, so getting to see these pieces up close makes all the difference. Speaking of lighting, I noticed that brass/gold fixtures are not going anywhere anytime soon. We are seeing lots of iron/metal finishes as well as painted metal in an array of colors.

I also look for comfort and quality. And then there's the quality of construction. Opening drawers to feel if they glide with ease or if I have to put some muscle into it, doors that open and close easily, and looking at the underside of pieces to determine if there are globs of glue. The old adage you get what you pay for still stands true. And I will admit, many do not make the cut.

Upholstery is another item that can only be felt and experienced in person. I am a huge advocate for quality upholstery that is made in the USA and unfortunately local furnishings stores have limited options to choose from. I like to bring my clients the best their money can buy and many times those pieces are not sitting on a showroom floor to see. So, I make sure when I am at market to sit, bounce, lay and even roll on furniture to see if it makes the cut. You never know what something is like until you're physically interacting with it. Not only is the sit test important, but the feel and durability of the fabric needs to be considered.

... continued on page D10



Lamorinda Market Activity



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New designs for spring

No use in having a high-quality piece of furniture upholstered in a fabric that will not stand the wear and tear of everyday life. I try and use a Crypton Home fabric any chance I get.

Those are not my favorite surprises though. The very best surprises are the ones I call the "one-offs."

Hunting for the one-off is like being a talent scout. You're sifting and sorting through dozens of hopefuls trying to find the ones that really provide something intriguing. They are sometimes new players who are visionaries with a product or service I'd never seen before. They could also be a stalwart optimist who's been to market several times before offering a product I'd seen but now it comes with a new twist or use that made it relevant where before it was only forgettable. My favorite one-off is the reclusive artisan who just recently found their courage to show off their skill.

... continued from page D8

Here's to hoping you all have a wonderful, surprise-filled spring friends. Until next time!

As the Owner and Principal Designer of Lamorinda-based Amanda Carol Interiors, Amanda Eck believes your home's interior should be both approachable and well-appointed. She often asserts, "Beauty is a necessity."

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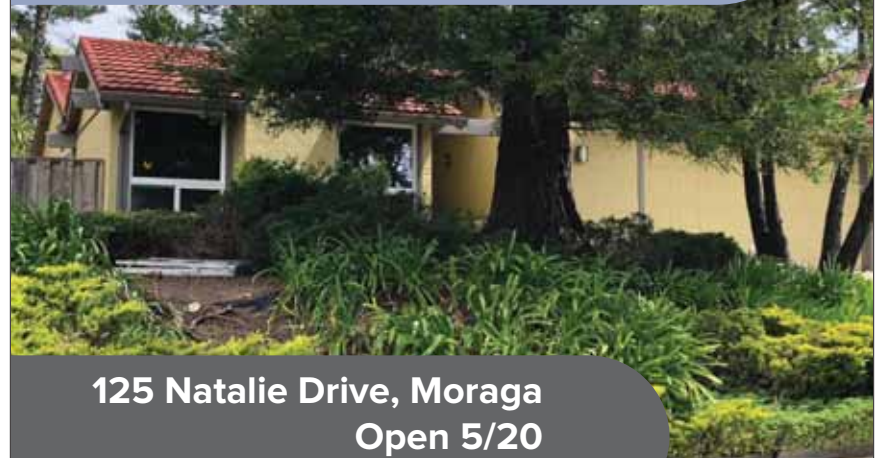


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Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian

The intriguing life of ladybugs

By Cynthia Brian

"Ladybug, ladybug, fly away home. Your house is on fire and your children will burn." – Nursery Rhyme



Barley and weeds infested with aphids are a habitat for lady beetles.

Photos Cynthia Brian

If you were like me, when you were a child, this ladybug nursery rhyme was one of your favorites. I could imagine the tiny red beetle with the black dots on her back swooping in like a great eagle to rescue her babies. As an adult, of course, I know better than to wish for the ladybugs to fly away home. I want them to make my garden their home to keep the aphids away.

Every year around this time you'll find containers of ladybugs for sale at garden centers. Often when you get these ladybirds home (yes, they are also known as ladybirds or ladybug beetles) they disappear as soon as you open the carton, leaving you wondering where they went and why. The answer is simple. Ladybugs only stay in a habitat that provides food and their main cuisine is aphids. If your garden doesn't have aphids, you may rejoice that these red angels have flown to liberate another's garden. In one year, a single ladybird will eat 5,000 aphids or more.

A most exciting experience transpired in my daughter's garden and I was fortunate to witness the metamorphosis. As Heather prepared her yard for a party she began to cut a field of wild barley and weeds when she noticed many numerous living things. She crouched down on her knees for a closer look to see a plethora of bugs in a vari-

ety of stages including ladybugs. That's when she called me. She didn't want to disturb the life cycle of what she ascertained were breeding ladybugs.

My first question to her was "where are the aphids" to which she answered that she hadn't seen any. I went to the field and from where I stood, I couldn't see anything either, but as soon as I knelt down for an up close and personal look, I was mesmerized. I had never observed ladybugs in their egg, larvae, pupa, or youngster forms. Various stems were hatching at different times. Yellow eggs hung next to larvae that resembled a caterpillar alligator. Then the next stage of pupa was orange with black dots. Juveniles were an orange-yellow without black spots. Adults could be seen on the same stem. The field was alive with birthing ladybugs.

Nearby oleanders were cloaked with aphids as were many of the weeds. The four-stage life cycle of the ladybug begins with the female laying a dozen to 50 eggs after mating onto a plant that will be rich with food. Although we call them ladybugs, there are both female and male ladybeetles. In one season a female may produce 1,000 or more eggs, some of which will become a meal for the larvae. The black and spotted larvae emerge from the eggs in only about four days feeding voraciously on aphids, in-

sect eggs, mites, and other bugs. Resembling alligator like caterpillars, they'll eat 400 or more aphids before they pupate in the next two to three weeks. The pupal stage lasts for three to 12 days when the adult beetles metamorphic into the ladybugs that we recognize.

The adults will stay in a garden as long as aphids or other insects they munch on prevail. When temperatures drop below 55 degrees, ladybugs will hibernate for up to nine months to survive the cold. Once the weather warms, these dynamos begin their feeding frenzy once again until their lifespan of about one year reaches its limits.

If you have lots of aphids in your garden, you have a prime habitat for ladybugs. Get up close, look under leaves, and watch the fascinating cycle of one of our favorite garden friends. Don't fret when the ladybeetles fly away home because it usually means that your landscaping is now aphid free.

... continued on page D14



Ladybug larva resembles an alligator caterpillar on barley.

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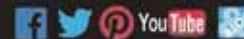
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CalBRE #01251227

39 Berkeley Ave, Orinda



Charming contemporary home featuring 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms nestled in Orinda's lovely Claremont neighborhood. Beautiful hardwood floors throughout with walls of windows bringing in tons of light and the views of the hills across the valley. **\$1,125,000**

91 Redwood Terrace, Orinda



Unparalleled view property high atop Orinda's Claremont neighborhood. Two-level, 3,502 sf on one-third acre features multiple view decks, surrounding oak trees and natural terrain. See Briones Reservoir, past the historic Orinda Country Club, and beyond Mt. Diablo. **\$1,650,000**

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Cynthia Brian's Mid-month Gardening Guide

- **DEADHEAD** roses! Roses are abundant and magnificent this month with a profusion of blooms. As petals die, make sure to cut back to encourage more blooms.
- **SHOWER** and wash all clothes after hiking or being in the garden as ticks are hiding in the brush. See your physician or go to Urgent Care if you are bitten by a tick as they carry significant diseases.
- **EXAMINE** your pets for ticks.
- **CONSIDER** purchasing repellent clothing to protect yourself from mosquitos, ticks, and insect-borne diseases. Visit <http://www.insectshield.com>
- **LAST CHANCE** to buy discounted baseball tickets for the June 15th Oakland A's versus Los Angeles Angels with an on-the-field watching of the dinosaur fireworks show. <https://groupmatics.events/event/Bestar> More information at <http://www.BetheStarYouAre.org>
- **REPLACE** cracked or broken risers on your irrigation system.
- **WAIT** to pull leaves from daffodils and other spring bulbs until the leaves are completely dry.
- **ADD** a welcome stepping stone to your pathway.
- **PICK** colorful nasturtiums for your dinner salad.
- **PREPARE** your patio for the end of month barbecues and warm weather festivities, including graduations.
- **HANG** your tools on a fence or in a shed for easy to find and use accessibility.
- **PLANT** geraniums for vibrant color that returns annually.
- **VISIT** America's most famous conservationist and the Father of the National Park Service's home, the John Muir National Historic site in Martinez. <https://www.nps.gov/jomu/index.htm>
- **THANK** you to everyone who visited our Be the Star You Are! charity booth at the Moraga Faire. We appreciate the community spirit.

Have a safe and fun Memorial Day and congratulations to all of the graduates.

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.
Cynthia Brian



Hang garden tools for ease of use.

Photos Cynthia Brian



A pretty patio ready to celebrate the spring and summer special occasions.



Geranium "Distinction" needs to be in every collection with its pure red flowers.



Look closely and you'll see the larva, the teen, and the adult ladybird.

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.

Buy a copy of the new book, Growing with the Goddess Gardener, at www.cynthiabrian.com/online-store.

Available for hire for projects and lectures.

Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com
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Cynthia Brian in the John Muir gardens.

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131 Donna Maria Way
Lovely Mid-Century Modern home on a South Orinda cul-de-sac just steps to Del Rey Elem. & Miramonte High.

\$1,195,000

ORINDA



11 Parkway Court Steps from Glorietta Elementary School, this single story turnkey home has been beautifully remodeled and maintained throughout the years.

\$1,299,000

ORINDA



36 Via Floreado
A very rare gem. Incredible style in tree house setting. Includes 2-story cottage.

\$1,475,000

ORINDA



1 Idyll Court
Super Glorietta Location! Cul-de-sac with exceptional lot. Lots of light, privacy, and convenience.

\$1,499,000

ORINDA



10 Tara Road
Mid-Century Wow! Dramatic floor to ceiling windows with views to the pool, lawn and green valley beyond.

\$1,500,000

ORINDA



55 La Cuesta Road A rich combination of history, modern upgrades, and beautiful views can become your sanctuary, everyday! 3 Beds/3++Baths.

\$1,515,000

ORINDA



4 Rich Acres Road
Private and tranquil 1.05 acre setting. 5 Bed/4 Bath/3800 sq.ft. Vaulted ceilings, and filled with natural light.

\$1,550,000

ORINDA



11 Hacienda Circle
Peaceful, private 3 Bed/2Bath home. Vintage oak floors, oversized windows, and light filled floor plan.

\$1,595,000

ORINDA



5 Charles Hill Place
Incredible style inside & out - this property lives FUN! Creatively renovated impeccably 3Bed/2.5Bath home.

\$1,695,000

ORINDA



9 Hall Drive
Renovated 4 Bed/3.5 Bath home of traditional flair & exceptional design. Privacy, sunlight, views!

\$1,890,000

ORINDA



1 Hartford Road
North Orinda beauty, built in 2008, this custom 5031 sq ft/ 6 Beds/ 4.5 Baths home is situated on a secluded level 1.06 acre lot.

\$2,850,000

ORINDA



15 Orinda View Road Elegant Orinda Hills 4715 sq ft home with beautiful valley views from all rooms. An open design concept with great separation of spaces.

\$3,750,000

MORAGA



42 Miramonte.com
Spacious Miramonte Gardens Townhome w/2 Masters upstairs + bed/office on the first floor.

\$779,000

LAFAYETTE



1000 Dewing Ave.
Premium 4th Floor NE corner unit with deck. 2 Bed /2 Bath/ 1152 sq. ft. & 2 Parking Spaces.

\$1,044,000

LAFAYETTE



14 Diablo Circle
This charming single-story home is located on the most coveted street in Lafayette's Hidden Valley neighborhood.

\$1,250,000

BERKELEY



1216 Grizzly Peak Boulevard
This jewel opens to Golden Gate & San Francisco Bay views. The Private spaces are filled w/warmth & beauty.

\$1,050,000

The Village Associates:

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Patricia Battersby
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Meara Dunsmore

Linda Ehrich
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