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Connected Horse clients – a couple, both patient and caregiver, affected by a dementia diagnosis – enjoy their interaction with a non-judgmental equine in Orinda. Photo Elaine Chan

‘Connected Horse’ program offers sense of control

By Sophie Braccini

When Gloria and Richard participated in a Connected Horse six-week session it was not about a wild riding adventure; they did not even climb on the horses. The experience was about connecting with a non-judgmental equine, and sharing a moment of peace – even enlightenment – with the animal and each other. The couple, one of whom is dealing with dementia, found a place to be present

together and happy. Paula Hertel and Nancy Schier Anzelmo, who developed the therapeutic program which was validated at both Stanford University and UC Davis, are currently offering the program in Lamorinda and will soon expand it to Alameda County.

Hertel, who is a social worker with 30 years of experience working in senior housing memory care units with older adults

and their families, was struck by the fact that the number of people diagnosed early with dementia is growing and that most of the time someone in their immediate family becomes the caregiver. “And now what?” she asks. Yes, there are groups and books dealing with this diagnosis, but it is often very scary and overwhelming, with the disease suddenly taking over everything and redefining relationships. ... continued on page A12

Advertising



Letters to the Editor	A11
Community Service	B4
Not to be Missed	B6-B7
HOW TO CONTACT US	B7
Classified	C2
Shop Orinda	C4

10th Annual **Senior Symposium**

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Deer Hill Road, rezoned

By Pippa Fisher



Deer Hill Road

Photo City of Lafayette

In a unanimous vote at its July 9 meeting, minus Vice Mayor Cam Burks who was absent, the Lafayette City Council voted to rezone the controversial land along Deer Hill Road to R-65, bringing the parcel into compliance with Lafayette’s general plan and al-

lowing 1.5-acre lots at 3233 Deer Hill Road.

The rezoning will allow a future development application of up to 14 single-family homes and an equal number of accessory dwelling units on the property.

Following the defeat of Measure L, the

proposition that would have rezoned the land to low-density allowing the development of 44 homes, a dog park, a tot lot, a sports field and extra parking, the parcel reverted to APO (administrative and professional offices) zoning and needed to be brought into conformance with the city’s general plan.

Also since the defeat of Measure L, the developer, O’Brien Land Company has asked the city to resume processing the original application for the 315-apartment complex known as the Terraces, which had been suspended in 2014 in favor of the lower density 44-unit Homes at Deer Hill. Since the Terraces application was deemed complete, although not approved, the new low-density zoning does not apply. City staff has resumed processing this application where it left off and is currently reviewing the environmental impact reports.

The council voted at the meeting not to extend the 45-day development moratorium, which it had enacted at a special meeting on June 13.

There was plenty of public comment, with most urging caution in next steps.

Burks is encouraged that residents are involved and voicing opinions, saying that this continues to be an incredibly important matter for the property owner and the community at large.

“Along with this public input, I’m confident that city staff and appropriate commissions will provide the council with comprehensive and accurate information to enable us to make our decisions,” Burks said later.

To help city leaders navigate the twists and turns of the saga of this 22-acre, privately owned land parcel, the council brought in the independent legal counsel of Coblenz, Patch, Duffy and Bass. Council Member Ivor Samson reported during the meeting that the San Francisco-based company is retained for a period not to exceed July 28.

The saga is set to continue. As Mayor Don Tatzin has said on several prior occasions, whatever happens in the end will be determined in court.

Civic News A1-A12

Orinda rejects temporary events regulation – page A6.

Fire Districts A8

Management changes at ConFire – page A8.

Life in Lamorinda B1-B8

Finding the perfect nanny match – page B1.



Sports C1-C4

Campo grad John Torchio heads to Wisconsin – page C1.



Our Homes D1-D16

Recovering from the North Bay fire – page D1.





Public Meetings

City Council
Monday, Aug. 13, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission
Monday, Aug. 6, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review
Monday, Aug. 13, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

School Board Meetings
Acalanes Union High School District
Wednesday, Aug. 8, 7 p.m.
AUHSD Board Room
1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District
TBA
Regular Board Meeting
District Office Board Room
3477 School St., Lafayette
www.lafsd.k12.ca.us

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements
City of Lafayette:
www.ci.lafayette.ca.us
Phone: (925) 284-1968
Chamber of Commerce:
www.lafayettechamber.org

Tatzin not running for re-election

By Pippa Fisher

(Editor's Note: This article first appeared on the Lamorinda Weekly website on July 10)

After 33 years serving on the city council, Mayor Don Tatzin has announced that he will not be running for re-election after his term expires in November.

Tatzin made the announcement at the end of the July 9 city council meeting, noting that, by the end of his term, he will have served on the council for a third of a century, two-thirds of the city's existence as an incorporated community and for half of his life.

"My reasons for retiring are solely personal," said Tatzin, adding that he would like to spend more time with his wife. "I have been on the council for more than 90 percent of the years during which we have been married and being a council member is like having two families."

... continued on page A11

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Lafayette puts 'awesome' into after-school care

By Pippa Fisher



Awesome camper Camilla Steffen has fun in the playground with Counselor Popcorn. Photo Ying Stroebe

In an attempt to address the dire need across the community for after school care providers, Lafayette's Parks, Trails and Recreation Department will be taking their "awesome" brand of child care and offering five-day a week supervision and activities after school in the community center.

PTR Director Jonathan Katayanagi explained that over the past three years the demand has skyrocketed. "The numbers of working parents have risen steeply. We were getting letters and emails demanding an after-school program," he said. "We were approached by a lot of parents. There is a real shortage of care. We hope that we can help fill this community need."

The schools, as well as Lafayette Elementary School District Superintendent of Schools Rachel Zinn, were getting similar requests. Although the elementary schools offer their own after-school programs, there is not enough space in them to meet demand.

Recreation Coordinator Steven Heinsma, who is in charge of the new program, says that the demand is mostly coming from parents of kindergarten children, as young families move into the area.

Heinsma says that the department looked at its resources and sent out a survey in the spring, which produced over 200 responses showing the great need.

Heinsma is working closely with fellow Recreation Coordinator Tricia Young, who is in charge of the tiny tots preschool and kinder gym program, and is providing support and guidance to ensure they develop programs to allow kids to grow and learn.

As summer rolls along the program is filling fast. Currently the program is offering a maximum of 30 spots for kindergarten through fifth grade, although the program can take some late-shift Transitional Kindergarten students.

Children will be transported from their schools to the community center. Staff will ride the buses with the children for the first week, but every day children will be walked onto the bus by teachers at the schools and be received straight off the bus at the community center by staff. And with a staff ratio of 1-10 students, there will be plenty of supervision to keep children safe.

The program will offer free play, sports, hikes, arts and crafts, science, homework help as well as other enrichment programs. The cost, says Heinsma, will work out to an average of about \$9 an hour and, although priority is given to those seeking five-day care, families may also sign up for partial-week use.

... continued on page A11

'Day in the Life' photo contest coincides with 50th anniversary party

By Pippa Fisher



2017 photo contest winner "Boots on the Square" by Stu Selland

By now most residents are aware of a major party happening in and around the Lafayette Library and Learning Center July 29 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Lafayette's incorporation. But as residents head out to party they should remember to grab their cameras, since that is also the date for this year's "Day in the Life" photo contest.

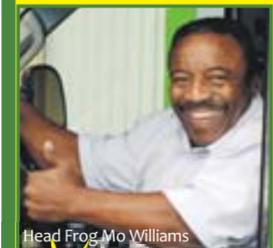
The rules call for a digital image taken somewhere within Lafayette to address the question "What does Lafayette look like to you on the special occasion of the 50th anniversary of incorporation?"

The contest, now in its third year, is open to those who live, work or have students attending schools in Lafayette. As in prior years, the contest is sponsored and judged by the public art committee. Submissions will be on display in the library gallery next January. Only photos taken on July 29 may be submitted and they must be received by Aug. 17.

And yes, smartphone photos are welcome too.

For further details on contest rules residents can go to <http://www.lovelafayette.org/city-hall/commissions-committees/public-art-committee/day-in-the-life-photo-contest>.

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Performers provide harmony at city council

By Pippa Fisher



Andrew Mondello and Madison Gerringer perform at the July 9 city council meeting as Council Member Ivor Samson watches. Photo Pippa Fisher

Providing somewhat more joy than has been seen lately in city council meetings, the Town Hall Theatre opened the meeting with sparkle and talent from its youth education program.

At the beginning of the July 9 meeting, Lafayette City Council members and city staff took their places amidst the audience to enjoy the entertainment.

Six children treated the crowd to selections from “Bye Bye Birdie” and “Alone in the Universe” from “Seussical the Musical” under the watchful and encouraging eye of Education Director Madison

Gerringer.

In fact, Gerringer and teaching artist Andrew Mondello even performed a number themselves, with an impressive rendition of “The Song that Goes Like This” from Monty Python’s “Spamalot.”

And residents can expect more of the same. Once a month a local organization will guarantee good vibes and something upon which everyone in the room can agree – at least for half an hour before the meeting starts.

Next up is the Performing Academy on Aug. 13.

Two seats up for grabs on Lafayette City Council

The Nov. 6 general municipal election will fill two seats in Lafayette this year, vacated by Don Tatzin and Ivor Samson.

Any person who is 18 years of age or older, a citizen of the United States, a resident and registered voter of the city in which they are seeking office and who is not disqualified by the constitution of laws of the state of California from holding a civil office, is eligible to be elected or appointed to a city office, according to the city website.

Candidates can obtain nomination papers from the city clerk, which must be filed with the city clerk in person no later than 5 p.m. on Aug. 10.

If one or more incumbents do not file nomination papers by 5 p.m. on Aug. 10, the filing period for qualified individuals who are not currently city council members will be extended to 5 p.m. on Aug. 15.

For further information regarding the process contact City Clerk Joanne Robbins at (925) 284-1968.

– P. Fisher

New downtown light panels complement dramatic sculpture

By Pippa Fisher



Sculptures by artist Ben Trautman in downtown Lafayette.

them during the day, since they blend so well into the stonework. However at night, illuminated with blue light, the panels are striking.

The panels by local artist Ben Trautman lead the way to a large sculpture by the same artist – his tall tree trunk sculpture entitled “Shadow.”

The light panels and the “Shadow” sculpture were paid for by K.B. Home as part of the city’s 1 percent for the arts program.

In the city’s Weekly Roundup communication Trautman is quoted as saying, “The light panel series reveals the beauty of the tree across many scales and levels of abstraction. The blue in the wall panels emphasizes the idea that trees are full of tubes and structures that move water from the ground and air. These abstract pieces will work in dialog with the trunk sculpture and the large trees on site.”

Photos provided

Among the latest additions to Lafayette’s public art are some panels installed along a stone wall under a walk way leading into the Town Center III condominiums, behind Panda Express and to the south of the walkway leading to the BART station. It is easy to miss



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Square footage, acreage, and other information herein, has been received from one or more of a variety of different sources. Such information has not been verified by Alain Pinel Realtors*. If important to buyers, buyers should conduct their own investigation.



Moraga

Public Meetings

City Council

Wednesday, July 25, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, Aug. 6, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, Aug. 13, 7 p.m.
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Moraga School District
TBA
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

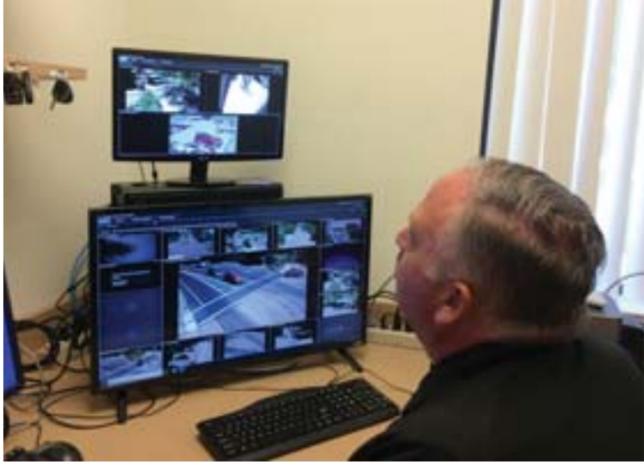
Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report



Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community.
Send a letter to the editor:
letters@lamorinda weekly.com

Cameras installed in Moraga help capture crooks

By Sophie Braccini



Moraga Chief of Police Jon King looks at the live footage of the surveillance cameras. Photo Sophie Braccini

It is quite rare to see an officer sit in front of video monitors showing Moraga's live traffic captured in different town locations. Chief of Police Jon King is adamant that the police force is not "watching Moraga;" the cameras now operational all around town are used only when linked with a crime – and they have already proven their efficacy.

King recalled an incident a few days ago when his officers were called in on a shoplifting

case at TJ Maxx. The officers followed the suspects' car using the different cameras posted at strategic locations in town and saw the vehicle was heading to Lafayette down Moraga Road. Officers alerted their colleagues down the hill, who, using their own cameras, traced the car to the Lafayette Safeway parking lot. King says that the perpetrators were arrested, the goods stolen in Moraga found, along with all kinds of other suspicious

items, including the car itself that had been stolen. King adds that he was sold on the usefulness of the cameras and license plate readers when a pilot camera installed last year was instrumental in identifying an Uber driver who had been accused of sexual battery on a client.

In the room where the monitors are installed, small images from all the cameras are live at the same time. It is easy to select one and make it larger. To read a license plate, the chief stops an image and zooms on the plate, showing a crystal clear image of the car's identification, including its make and any bumper stickers. King adds that the cameras work with infrared light at night to capture images in those lighting conditions.

The police department would not disclose where all the cameras are precisely located; they are high enough and hidden to avoid vandalism. The chief adds that the Moraga Country Club and several homeowner's associations that own camera systems are now connected to the police station viewing system. King says that he would like every-

one in town who owns cameras to inform the police and possibly have a camera angle taking views of the street so incidents happening around town can be spotted.

The chief adds that the cameras could be used to find evidence of crimes committed on foot as well, such as an assault happening in the line of sight of his system.

While looking at the system with this reporter the chief saw someone running a stop sign. He said this was not the type of crime his officers were after, unless something more sinister happened afterward. He insisted that his officers would not be monitoring what is happening in town.

The camera system was funded by Moraga residents. The Moraga Community Foundation raised the \$60,000 that had been deemed necessary to purchase five cameras/license plate readers at the instigation of residents Kristen Beckwith and Paul Cohun. The cost of the cameras and installation came in lower than estimated, which has allowed the police department to do more.

... continued on page A11

Update on election race

By Sophie Braccini

Positions on Moraga's town council and school board will be open for election this November. On the council, Mayor Dave Trotter will be running for a fourth term. Vice Mayor Teresa Onoda's seat is also up for election but she has not decided yet if she will run or not. She said that she has a lot of balls in the air and will decide after she has the information she needs to

make a good decision. She adds that she has tried to give Moraga 100 percent of her time and energy and will not go into four more years without being sure that she can make that kind of commitment again. Thirty-year Moraga resident Steve Woehleke is also running for the council. His longtime involvement with the town includes tenures on the Design Review Board, Plan-

ning Commission and Hacienda Foundation board of directors. He already has a website: www.steve4moraga.com.

Two Moraga school board incumbents, Heather O'Donnell and Jim Obsitnik, said they would not run again. The third, Jon Nickens, did not answer our inquiry.

Running mandates filing. The open period to file started on July

16 and will end on Aug. 10. The process involves making an appointment with Marty McInturf, town clerk. She explains that it takes her about an hour to go through the paperwork with a new candidate and that the process can be daunting. The Fair Political Practices Commission requires filing of three different forms. The FPPC provides information at <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/learn/campaign-rules/candidate-toolkit-getting-started.html>. The candidate also needs nomination papers from at least 20 registered voters, and has to provide a declaration of candidacy. McInturf says that a statement is optional. Candidates must return to the town offices to file their papers. The town does not charge a filing fee, but the county asks for \$269 for printing costs.

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Hacienda event highlights Moraga's easy-going style

By Sophie Braccini



Crowds at the Hacienda for food truck night.

Photo Sophie Braccini

The success level of an event at the Hacienda de las Flores is often measured by the level of confusion created by cars jamming the parking lot of the historic property. In that regard, the first food truck event of the year was already a big success: it was really difficult to access even the drop-off at the public park. But once drivers found a parking space, most likely along an adjacent street's curb, the fun was complete; some 500 residents of all ages playing and frolicking joyfully filled the lawn and visited

the attending food trucks, enjoying a perfectly serene dinner under the majestic trees.

The July 20 evening garden party was a striking sight. Six food trucks had parked on the driveway around the large green expanse of the lawn. On it the parks and recreation department had installed 25 large wood picnic tables where families sat to dine. In the middle grassy area, people played old-fashioned lawn games and groups sat on blankets with picnic baskets.

Long lines of adults formed in

front of the trucks while dozens of little children age 4 to 7 played chasing games around the tables and groups, and younger ones just toddling were learning to walk on the grass under the watchful eye of an adult. Groups of older residents attracted by the mild weather and the perspective of not having to cook were spending the evening putting the world to rights and playing guessing games about who would run this year for town council.

... continued on page A11

Fifth Annual Fandango



Party like it's 1849!

Fandango to Benefit the Moraga Adobe

Saturday, August 25th at 6 pm

Buy Tickets at www.MoragaAdobe.org

Moraga Community Foundation (MCF) Seeks Applicants for Board Positions

MCF a 501.c.3 organization was formed in 2015 with the goal of working with the community regarding projects that build a vibrant future for Moraga. MCF has demonstrated our community involvement by raising funds for the Town's security camera initiative and with the re-opening of the Rheem Theatre this past June. We now are looking for Directors that will take the Foundation to new level.

Individuals residing in the Moraga area or with their principle place of business in Moraga are eligible to apply.

MCF terms are for 2 years and applicants must be willing to operate under the by-laws of MCF. For more information, regarding MCF please o to at www.moragacommunityfoundation.org.

Letters of interest must be received no later than Friday, August 24th and emailed to applicants@moragacommunityfoundation.org. For additional information, call MCF Director Bob Fritzky at (925) 247-0171.



To Donate, go to: www.moragacommunityfoundation.org or: MCF, 1480 Moraga Road, Ste. C #191, Moraga, CA 94556

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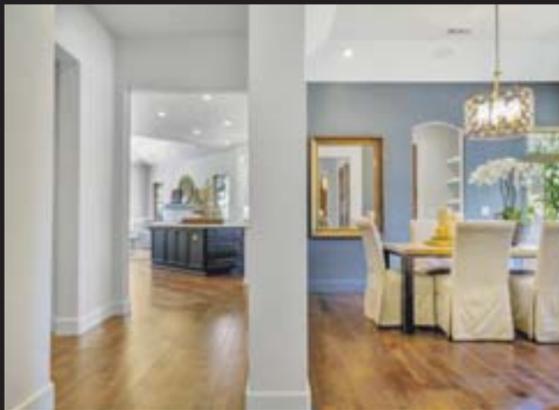


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Orinda

Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, Aug. 21, 7 p.m.
Library Auditorium, Orinda Library
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Planning Commission

Tuesday, July 31, 7 p.m.
Library Auditorium, Orinda Library
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Citizens' Infrastructure

Oversight Commission

TBA
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,
22 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

School Board Meetings

Orinda Union School District

TBA
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
now on page A8**

Free summer events for kids at Orinda

Theatre

By Sora O'Doherty

The Orinda Theater is offering free programming for children this summer in the hopes of giving their parents a little down time. The following is a schedule of events for late July and early August:

"Happy Feet"

Saturday, July 28, 11 a.m.

"The Wizard of Oz"

Thursday, August 9, 6:30 p.m.

Free Kids Club (according to the Orinda Theatre, its like wine without the calories!) available at 10:30 a.m. on select Thursdays in July and August:

July 26 -

Sing-along with Octopretzel

Aug. 9 -

Lindsay Wildlife Live Animals

Aug. 16 -

Magician Brian Scott

All events will be held at the Orinda Theatre, in Theatre Square. Parking in the Theater Square garage is available free on Saturdays and Sundays. Monday through Friday, three hours of parking is free with validation.

Orinda adopts new fees and charges for business registration

By Sora O'Doherty

Following a public hearing, the Orinda City Council adopted new fees for business registrations, which are now required under a law adopted last December. New registrations

will cost businesses \$50, and annual renewals will cost \$35. No late fees will be charged through Dec. 1. After that, businesses may be charged an additional \$25 if the registration fee is not paid

within 30 days, or an additional \$50 if the registration is more than 30 days late. Sophie Braccini, executive director of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce, said that the Chamber supports

the registration program and is happy to assist with implementation. Council Member Eve Phillips voted against the fees, saying the program appeared to her to be "a solution chasing a problem."

Orinda rejects regulation of temporary events; Frank Lloyd Wright home is only problem

By Sora O'Doherty

It turned out that a rather complicated issue that came before the Orinda City Council was actually quite simple: the sole problem is that a property on Great Oak Circle is being used for weddings and large parties, giving rise to numerous complaints from surrounding property owners. The council had asked staff to look at the possibility of expanding the requirements for temporary event permits to cover private parties. Trying to find a way to craft rules that would take in the problematic events, staff came up with a complicated two-tier system. However, the plan was rejected first by the Planning Commission on April 24 and then by the Orinda City Council on July 10, after hearing public comments.

Neighbors of the property, which is a 3.5-acre site with a Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Usonian house, told the city council that they felt they were held hostage to these events when 100 people were present, with very loud music being played. Maureen Peratta told the council that she didn't always call the police because she felt sorry for the brides and grooms, but at the same time, her family could not enjoy their home on nearby Moraga Court. "We can't hear



Frank Lloyd Wright house in Orinda

anything," she said. "We can't even hear the TV." Michael Boone lives on Orchard Road, a half block from the property. He complained about noise every Saturday night, stating that a fine of "\$1,000 is nothing," alleging that the owner of the property was renting it for \$15,000 a night. He begged the council to help, and garnered loud applause from the audience. Tim Garlick told the council that the property was featured as a wedding venue in Vogue Magazine, the San Francisco Chronicle and the East Bay

Times. He complained about professional disc jockeys playing loud music for six hours straight, from 4 to 10 p.m.

Clint Johnson, also of Moraga Court, told the council, "I'm all for parties," but that he is against this historic landmark site being used as a commercial venue. Johnson, who has been a firefighter for 22 years, said that the events present escape issues and that the people who live on Great Oaks Drive are impacted. The traffic could delay responses to emergencies, he said. He also noted that there are people

walking while intoxicated, and perhaps driving while drunk. He believes that the property owners are using nearby church property for parking without the knowledge or permission of the churches.

Some speakers said that police did not respond to every complaint. Contacted after the meeting, Orinda Chief of Police Mark Nagel agreed that a loud party complaint might not be responded to when there were more serious events requiring police attention.

... continued on page A11

City council shocks private road residents by rejecting task force

By Sora O'Doherty

Although private road residents had strongly sought a task force to examine how the issue of private roads in Orinda could be addressed, and although the Citizens Infrastructure Oversight Committee had made recommendations about the composition and role of a task force on private roads, the Orinda City Council on July 10 shut down the idea of a task force, preferring not to spend money on a task force to address an issue the council considers too expensive to fix. The single council member to support the task force was Darlene Gee, a transportation engineer. Council Member Eve Phillips recused herself, having recently purchased a home on a private street in the Roads of Hacienda area.

It has been clear that city staff opposed the idea of the task force. When Public Works Director Larry Theis presented the idea to the CIOC, he began by saying that although it was asked to consider

the task force, it did not have to recommend one. City Manager Steve Salomon made it clear, too, that Theis was not alone in his views, but was strongly backed by Salomon, who worked with Theis on the report, which, he admitted, was difficult to write. "I don't want Larry to bear the brunt of this," Salomon said. "We both feel very strongly." Theis presented the staff report to the council, and stated that staff recommend that the task force not be created. Just the task force alone, and not the work that might result from the task force, was estimated to cost the city \$90,000 for nine months, Theis told the council.

Salomon said that the number of miles of private streets in California has increased over time. Cities are strapped for cash, he said. Salomon addressed arguments that it isn't fair that some streets are maintained by the city and others are not. "There is nothing fair about taxes," he concluded.

Salomon focused on the risk associated with private streets, risks that would be assumed by the city if it accepted the roads as public. It isn't just the cost of maintaining the roads, Salomon explained, but this risk of claims and litigation. Even now, the majority of the claims and litigation faced by the city arise from things that happen on the streets, he said. The acceptance of private streets would be a huge risk for the city, according to Salomon. "Once you start going down that path, it is a huge risk to the finances of the community," he said, adding, "There was adequate notification when the properties were purchased."

Public speakers came prepared to address the recommendations of the CIOC; their comments focused on the issues in the CIOC recommendations. Contacted after the meeting, private street advocate Steve Cohn said that the group was shocked by the turn of events. Robert Hubner, a member of the CIOC addressed the council as a private citizen. "We all live on either a private or a public road," he said, "but we all have an interest." He asked that the facilitator recommended by the CIOC be a non-affected person.

Joel Libove said that roads that are in excellent condition should become public roads. He noted that private road residents face additional problems, for example, Contra Costa County refused to deal with a vicious animal because the location was on a private street.

Cohn said that Orinda has raised \$55 million to fix public roads, and now it is time to take care of private roads. He noted that some 20 percent of Orinda residents live on private streets.

Melissa Roeder said that private street residents have a wealth of data to share. "We don't want to be vulnerable to catastrophes," she said. "The city had no mon-

ey before" to repair public roads, "and it raised it," she added. Beth Eliasm argued, "I'm told I'm a second class citizen," adding that she didn't understand what she was buying when she purchased her home. Madelyn Mallory envisioned the task force as a feasibility study. For example, she said, Orinda could use transfer taxes to fund private roads.

Gee said that Orinda is unique in that it didn't incorporate until 1985, and she opined that 20 percent private roads is high. "Twenty percent of residents is a huge part of our community," she said. "I've heard some fabulous ideas and I'm also impressed with what Orinda citizens have stepped up to do," she added.

Vice Mayor Inga Miller said, "The comment about being a second class citizen really hit my heartstrings; I don't like anyone to feel like that." However, she believes that it is not worth the city's time to pay for a task force for the small city of just 19,000 residents. "It's extremely cavalier to think that taxpayers will agree" to pay for private roads, she said, as there are still areas of public roads that have yet to be funded. She concluded, "There's really no way to take this on."

As the council moved toward asking staff to return again with suggestions for revising the city's policy on accepting private roads, Gee argued strongly against the city's current policy. "If we have a policy that can't be met, that isn't a policy." Requiring that to be accepted as a public road a street must be a through connection eliminates 98 percent of private roads, she said. "That is not really a policy." In the end, it was decided that staff would work with the CIOC on updating the city's policy on accepting private roads and return to the city council at a later date.



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Pilot parking permit program adopted for Brookwood

By Sora O'Doherty

Cars parked all day by BART commuters have been an especially difficult problem for residents of Brookwood Road, as well as for employees who work in downtown Orinda. Therefore the city has accepted the recommendation of the public works department and adopted a pilot program under which residents will receive permits that allow 24-hour-a-day parking, and the road will be limited to four-hour parking, except for existing areas already limited to two-hour parking, which will remain as is. The parking restrictions will apply from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday except holidays.

There are 47 street parking spaces on Brookwood Road and there are 94 residential units. The residential units are a mix of single family homes, with condominiums at 63 and 72 Brookwood. There was a lot of discussion between staff and the council on how many permits to issue for the pilot program. After a lot of back and forth, the council decided to issue two permits per household for the first 30 days of the pilot program, and after that up to four per household if requested and available. The permits allow all day parking, but don't guarantee that a parking space will be available. Many of the residential

units do have at least one off-street parking space, and some residents will not need the permits, if, for example, they commute to work and return home after 6 p.m.

The pilot program will begin when the new signage is in place and will continue for six months. If the pilot is successful, the permit program would be made permanent. The cost of a permit will be \$80 per year, reduced to \$40 after July 1. The fees for the permits will offset the costs of implementing the program, which include new signage and enforcement, in addition to the costs incurred by the city in conjunction with a contract with Turbo Data Systems to issue the permits. Permits will be issued on a first come, first served basis.

There is concern that the BART parkers displaced from Brookwood Road will migrate to nearby areas, such as Spring Road, so the city will be monitoring that and the council will re-examine the issue in about 45 days. Some enforcement efforts will be reallocated from different areas to focus on downtown Orinda. If successful, this pilot program would become permanent and would be District A, to be followed by other parking districts around downtown Orinda.

OUSD board moves forward with two school bonds

By Sora O'Doherty



New building at Glorietta Elementary School

Photo Sora O'Doherty

Two bond issues that together could raise \$105 million to modernize Orinda's kindergarten through 12th grade schools will be on the ballot for the Nov. 6 general election. The Orinda Union School District board recently completed a comprehensive master facilities plan to update its four elementary schools, Orinda Intermediate School, and the Wagner Ranch Nature Area. Orinda's schools are between 45 and 60 years old, and the last public bond measure was nearly 25 years ago. At a special meeting on July 19, the four board

members present voted unanimously to authorize the measures to be placed on the general election ballot.

Orinda is seeking approval from the voters for two bonds because an elementary school district is limited to a maximum of 3 cents per \$100 of assessed property value for each bond issue authorized by the voters. That is equivalent to \$30 per \$100,000 of assessed value each, or \$60 per \$100,000 of assessed value for the two bond issues for each voter.

... continued on page A12

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Fire Districts

Public Meetings

Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board of Directors
 Wednesday, Aug. 1, 7 p.m.
 Go to the website for meeting location, times and agendas. Visit www.mofd.org

ConFire Board of Directors
 Tuesday, August 7, 1:30 p.m.
 Board Chamber room 107, Administration Building, 651 Pine St., Martinez
 For meeting times and agendas, visit <http://alturl.com/5p9pu>.

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MOFD board races loading up with candidates

By Nick Marnell

Three seats on the Moraga-Orinda Fire District board will be up for election this November, and if the early announcement period gives any indication, two of the races will be hotly contested this fall.

Board President Brad Barber announced his candidacy for Division 4, in Orinda. "We've made great progress on several fronts on the board, but I don't think we are quite finished. I would like to finish

what we started," he said. Barber will be opposed by Michael Donner, a business owner and a retired firefighter from the Oakland Fire Department. "I hope to bring some balance to the board with my firefighting and business experience," Donner said.

Division 3 Director Steve Anderson will also run for re-election. "There is a lot more to be done, particularly with the labor negotiations," Anderson said. "I realize

how critical it is to provide service to the community and to maintain the district's financial sustainability."

Opposing Anderson is Steve Danziger, a retired city of Oakland and Oakland Fire Department administrator. "Fire safety in our area is a critical community concern and I believe that my city government and fire service experience can benefit the area," Danziger said. Both Division 3 candidates live in

Orinda; the division includes portions of Moraga and Orinda.

"I've pulled papers, and I expect to run unopposed," said Kathleen Famulener, director from Division 1 in Moraga. Though Famulener expects no opposition, unconfirmed reports swirl that Divisions 3 and 4 will have even more candidates running for those seats.

All qualified candidates' positions will be presented in the Oct. 17 issue of the Lamorinda Weekly.

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Management changes and restructuring at ConFire

By Nick Marnell



Assistant Fire Chief Will Pigeon, left, and Fire Chief Jeff Carman

Photo ConFire

The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District reorganized its management and information technology departments in June and also bid farewell to an as-

sistant fire chief, who retired after 29 years with the district.

Ed Gonzales departed the district at the end of June. "I was fortunate to have had the opportunities

to promote through each rank to end my career working as the assistant fire chief leading our operations division," Gonzales said. "I'm glad to have been involved in the time of rebuilding (Lafayette) Fire Station 16 and reopening Engine 1 in Walnut Creek to strengthen our response levels."

Fire Chief Jeff Carman praised the chief for making ConFire a better place over his long career. "Chief Gonzales' work to make our organization a leader in the fire service will be long remembered, and we wish him nothing but success in all he does in retirement," Carman said.

The district promoted Battalion Chief Chuck Stark as interim assistant chief of emergency operations. ConFire expects to name a permanent assistant chief in six to nine months.

Addressing the expansion of the district communications and dispatch center, and the increasing importance of technology in the fire service, Carman again stayed inside the company and promoted

a ConFire employee to a new chief officer position.

"I'm pleased to announce Fire Captain Will Pigeon has been promoted to assistant fire chief, Communications Division," Carman said. Pigeon will lead the newly created ConFire division which comprises 44 personnel in the Contra Costa Regional Fire Communications Center and the district's Information Systems group. The new division includes fulltime dispatchers and dispatch supervisors, plus the ambulance system monitors, who were added in 2016 as part of the district Alliance with American Medical Response. The center dispatches emergency calls for seven county fire agencies, including the Moraga-Orinda Fire District.

"The fire service and technology are two of my greatest interests. I'm honored to bring them together to serve as assistant chief for Contra Costa County Fire," Pigeon said. "I look forward to working with our great team to provide even better and more efficient services to our community."

Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report July 3 to July 8

Alarms	8
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	4
Traffic	31
Suspicious Circumstances	5
Suspicious Subject	2
Suspicious Vehicle	8
Service to Citizen	29
Patrol Request/ Security Check	13
Vacation House Check	6
Supplemental Report	7
Welfare Check	1
Abandoned Vehicle	1000 Block Larch Ave. 2000 Block Donald Dr. 1000 Block Al Ta Mesa Dr.
Accident Property	Moraga Commons Corliss Dr./Moraga Rd.

Animal Cruel Ty	20 Block Hour Fitness
Auto Burglary	Moraga Commons 100 Block Fairfield Pl. 300 Block Springfield Pl. 70 Block Miramonte Dr. 1400 Block Moraga Rd. 100 Block Eileen Ct. Corliss Dr./Lynwood Pl. Moraga Rd./Corliss Dr. Miramonte Dr./Moraga Way Ascot Dr./Moraga Rd. 1200 Block Moraga Way Police Department
Civil	Hacienda
Civil Problem	600 Block Augusta Dr.
Civil Standby	Moraga Commons
Excessive Speed	1500 Block School St. Juniper Way/Rimer Dr. 30 Block Miramonte Dr.
Fireworks	
Forgery	
H&S Violation	
Identity Theft	
Juvenile Disturbance	
Litter	
Loud Noise	

Mentally Ill Commit	St. Marys College 10 Block Hammond Pl. 20 Block Broadmoor 2100 Block Ascot Dr. Homegoods 100 Block Miramonte Dr. Rheem Valley Shopping Center (3) Moraga Royale Retirement Home Canyon Rd./Camino Pablo Moraga Way/School St. Safeway Police Department Moraga Rd./Buckingham Dr. 1200 Block Moraga Way Joaquin Moraga Int School Los Perales Elementary School
Missing Juvenile	
Other Misdemeanor	
Petty Theft From Veh.	
Prom Shoot	
Public Assembly Check	
Reckless Driving	
Shoplift	
Subject Stop	
Traffic Hazard	
Trespass	
Vandalism	

Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report July 1 to July 14

Alarms	47
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	8
Traffic	124
Suspicious Circumstances	9
Suspicious Subjects	14
Suspicious Vehicles	12
Patrol Request/ Security Check	26
Service to Citizen	49
Supplemental Report	6
Vacation House Check	41
Welfare Check	6
Abandoned Vehicle	50 Block Brookwood Rd.
Accident Injury	Miner Rd./Camino Pablo 200 Block Sundown Terrace
Accident Property	Bigleaf Rd./Rabble Rd. 10 Block Patricia Rd. Camino Pablo/Wildcat Canyon Rd. Orindawoods Dr./The Knoll
Auto Burglary	50 Block Moraga Way 300 Block Camino Sobrante 20 Block St Stephens Dr.
Barking Dog	20 Block Woodacres Ct.
Battery	10 Block Idyll Ct.
Beat Info	Eb Sr 24 At Camino Pablo
Burglary	400 Block Camino Sobrante Post Office
Civil	10 Block La Campana Rd. 60 Block Davis Rd. 20 Block Keith Dr. 50 Block La Cresta Rd. 10 Block Cresta Blanca 100 Block Lombardy Ln.

Commercial Burglary	Orinda Country Club
Death Suicide	10 Block Bates Blvd.
Disturbing The Peace	10 Block Irwin Way Glorietta Blvd./Meadow View Rd. 10 Block Altarinda Rd. 30 Block Via Farallon Dalewood Park
Elder Abuse	200 Block La Espiral Loma Vista Dr./La Bolsita Way El Toyonal/Loma Vista Dr. 100 Block El Toyonal 200 Block Overhill Rd. La Encinal/El Toyonal
Fireworks	10 Block Irwin Way 10 Block Williams Ct. Police Department (5) 30 Block El Toyonal Glorietta Elementary School Miramonte High School
Forgery	10 Block Donald Dr. 20 Block Irwin Way 70 Block La Espiral 20 Block Silverwood Ct. Hall Dr./Donald Dr.
Identity Theft	10 Block La Campana Rd. (2) 30 Block Vista Del Mar Camino Sobrante/La Espiral Vida Descansada/La Noria
Juvenile Disturbance	10 Block El Toyonal 20 Block Orinda View Rd. 60 Block Brookwood Rd. 10 Block La Encinal 40 Block Hillcrest Dr. 10 Block La Cintilla (2)
Lost Property	
Loud Noise	
Loud Party	
Ordinance Violation	

Other Felony	400 Block Camino Sobrante
Petty Theft	Library 50 Block Moraga Way 400 Block Camino Sobrante 20 Block Bryant Way 20 Block Keith Dr. 10 Block Bobolink Rd. 30 Block Meadow View Rd. Wilder Sports Fields Ori 10 Block Williams Ct. 10 Block Camino Sobrante (2) 20 Block Orinda Way CVS 200 Block Lomas Cantadas Moraga Way/Glorietta Blvd. (2) Moraga Way/Valley View Dr. 20 Block Rabble Rd. Lavenida Dr./Estabueno Dr. Beverages And More Beverages And More (2) El Toyonal/Vallecito Ln. El Toyonal/Alta Vista Moraga Way/Ardor Dr. Valley View Dr./Moraga Way Bear Creek Rd./San Pablo Dam Rd. 100 Block La Espiral Mt Diablo Blvd./Acalanes Rd. Theatre Square 10 Block Irving Ln. 60 Block Davis Rd. 30 Block Zander Dr. Serano Community Center Park St Stephens Dr./Tahos Rd.
Petty Theft From Veh	
Phone Harass	
Public Assembly Check	
Reckless Driving	
Shoplift	
Tc - Property Damage	
Traffic Hazard	
Unauthorized Possession	
Unwanted Guest	
Vandalism	
Vehicle Theft	
Violation Restraining Ord	
Walk Through	
Warrant Arrest	



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The work on St. Mary's Road is expected to continue into August. In late August, some additional valve replacement work will occur on Lucille Lane and is expected to take about a month. Crews will work Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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The Lafayette School District is currently seeking applicants who are active in a senior citizens' organization to fill an open position on the Measure C Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee.

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Tally Home: charming shop in quaint Orinda neighborhood

By Sora O'Doherty



Photos Sora O'Doherty

Four equestrian friends have decided to follow a retail dream by opening an Orinda shop for home décor called Tally Home. Megan Lindberg and Liz Peterson are both designers who grew up in Orinda, although Peterson now lives in Canyon. Anne Branagh, also from Orinda, is the bookkeeper, and Kerry Armidstead is the fourth partner, who shares in the running of the shop. Although Tally Home opened on May 1, its origins go back decades.

Lindberg's parents liked to collect antiques as a pastime as they traveled through Europe, especially in France and England. They favored the French Normandy style. They had planned

to build a second home in Pebble Beach. When Lindberg's mother developed cancer, she escaped into designing this home. Collecting was such a passion for her parents to do together, Lindberg says, and every piece has a story.

Sadly, Lindberg's mother died shortly after the house was finished, about 20 years ago. Lindberg's father established the Carol Ann Read Breast Health Center in his wife's honor. The family wanted to assure that women experiencing breast cancer would have someplace to go and receive an immediate diagnosis, with state-of-the-art technology focusing strictly on breast health in a supportive environment. The Center is located in

Oakland, a subsidiary of Alta Bates hospital. Lindberg's father sold the Pebble Beach home about three years ago and put the furniture into storage. When the family thought about what to do with the collection, Lindberg says it felt right to sell the pieces and give one-half of the profits to Carol Ann Read Breast Health Center. Pink ribbons on pieces in the shop indicate that half the proceeds of the sale of that item will go to the Center.

When the partners noticed that the shop in Orinda was going to be available, it seemed the perfect opportunity. Tally Home's inventory includes new items, and gift items, with a scattering of antique pieces, usually the larger furni-

ture. The partners remembered Phairs as the place to go for wedding gifts, baby gifts, or hostess gifts. They wanted to fill that niche, to be a place where you can purchase truly unique gifts. The shop also offers engraving.

In addition to furniture, the shop offers gift items, including some hand made by local artisans. Marcella Austenfeld creates jewelry inspired by Native American craftsmanship and culture and her native Canadian heritage. All of her pieces are crafted in her home studio in Orinda. Jen Hensley is a fabric designer, a mom of three and a graduate of Miramonte High School. Tally Home features items for the home created by

Hensley, including quilts, pillows and napkins.

A special event was held at the shop in memory of Carol Ann Read on July 12. Alta Bates Summit Medical Center co-sponsored the event. Half of the pink ribbon purchases and 15 percent of all other purchases were donated to the Carol Ann Read Breast Health Program. Tally Home may consider events to aid other charities in the future. Tally Home is located at 85 Orinda Way, close to Geppetto's Café. Summer hours are from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays through August.

Lafayette business part of fundraiser for pet lifesaving equipment

By Nick Marnell

A foundation that provides pet resuscitation equipment for fire, police and other medical first responders, and bulletproof vests for police K-9 units, raised over \$150,000 in July to be allocated for

pet lifesaving equipment among fire and police agencies in California.

The Police and Working K-9 Foundation fundraiser took place at Oakland-based Pet Food Express

locations in California over the July 14-15 weekend. For a \$15 donation, customers washed their dogs at the company's self-service pet wash (no reports of bathed cats), and 100 percent of the proceeds went to the foundation to provide pet oxygen masks for medical first responders, as well as bulletproof vests for police K-9s.

The dog wash also aimed to raise awareness for California Senate Bill 1305, Emergency Medical Service Providers: Dogs and Cats. The bill, introduced by Sen. Steve Glazer of Orinda, would permit first responders to provide care to an injured domesticated animal at the scene of an emergency prior to transferring the animal to a veteri-



Capt. Chuck Wong of Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 4 demonstrates a pet oxygen mask with Kona, also a task force member. Photo provided

nary care facility. Currently, a veterinarian is the only person authorized to give lifesaving first aid to a pet.

Michael Donner, a retired firefighter from the Oakland Fire Department, stopped at the Lafayette Pet Food Express on July 15. "Our goal was to save lives first, property second," said Donner, regarding administering lifesaving care to an injured pet. "I never once thought, 'Gee, I'm not supposed to do that.' Rather, what can I do to save this animal?"

As to the allocation of the equipment purchased with the donations, "The equipment will go to whoever needs it most," said Louise Tully, foundation president. "We decide on the allocation by the needs of the departments in the cities and counties where the funds were raised. If a given department has everything that they need, we

try to help other cities nearby that may have budget challenges and not be as fortunate."

In Lamorinda, Fire Station 44 of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District is equipped with a pet oxygen mask, as is one district battalion chief office. "MOFD is committed to the best possible outcomes for the citizens of our district," Fire Chief Dave Winnacker said.

Neither of the two Contra Costa County Fire Protection District stations in Lafayette has a pet oxygen mask kit, and not one of the three Lamorinda police departments has a K-9 unit.

Donations for the pet rescue equipment will be accepted at the Lafayette Pet Food Express counter until July 31. The Lafayette location collected more than \$2,500 during the July weekend event.

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Lafayette puts 'awesome' into after-school care

... continued from page A2

The recreation department staff know what they are doing in this field. With many years of the ever-popular Camp Awesome providing summertime fun and activities, parents have confidence in the program, as the survey proved.

Details on how to apply can be found on the PTR page of the city website <http://www.lovelafayette.org>

org/city-hall/city-departments/parks-trails-recreation/recreation-programs/after-school-awesome.

Heinsma says the goal is to expand the program in the future. "I am excited to have all the kids here, to help them build a love for the community center and to have fun," he says.

How awesome is that?

Tatzin not running for re-election

... continued from page A2

I will need to have heart surgery within a few years and I am not sure for how long I will be out of commission or what my abilities will be when I return."

Tatzin said that he knows he will miss being involved with council decisions and city life but expressed his confidence that there are many qualified citizens who can be outstanding council members.

Those remaining so late into the night at the city meeting gave him a standing ovation, although the news was a surprise to most.

Lafayette resident and Circulation Commissioner Lynn Hiden was sad to hear the news the following morning.

"With his institutional memory, region-wide respect, his ability to negotiate, a killer logic, and his dedication, he was very good for us. Which had been his intent, all along," notes Hiden.

Lafayette City Manager Steve Falk describes Tatzin's accomplishments on behalf of the city as nothing short of monumental.

"Don has had a hand in every significant project that the city has completed over the last three decades," says Falk, explaining that list includes the development of the Lafayette Community Park and Buckeye Fields, the acquisition of

Leigh Creekside Park, the deal to acquire the Acalanes Ridge Open Space, the rebuilding of Lafayette Plaza, the Veterans Memorial Building, and the new Lafayette Police Station.

"To my mind, Don's greatest accomplishment is probably his least well-known," says Falk. "He was the financial architect behind the \$50 million Lafayette Library and Learning Center; his plan not only helped pay for the Library but also endowed the Library Foundation with more than \$10 million, thus ensuring that the Library would not only be built, but also successful for generations."

Highlighting his moral leadership, Falk notes that, "During his 33 years on the city council, Don Tatzin has been an unwavering champion for transparency, for public participation, for people with disabilities, and for fiscal responsibility. By making these his priorities, he set an example for other council members and for all of the many staff members who worked for the city during Don's tenure.

"The city and its residents are far better off because Don Tatzin chose to devote more than half of his life to public service," reflects Falk.

Orinda rejects regulation of temporary events

... continued from page A6

However, he also said that on each occasion upon which the police had been called to the Great Oaks property, the owner was polite and responsive. Over the past year, police have received 12 complaints about the property. Drummond Buckley, director of planning, was asked how Orinda can do a better job of enforcing existing code requirements. He responded that they might use an acoustic engineer to measure decibels, and added that some Orinda police cars now have equipment to measure decibel levels. He also suggested that the city is allowed to charge a single violation for each hour of an event, potentially leading to multiple fines being imposed on the violator. However, he added, it is difficult to capture commerciality.

City attorney Richard Taylor noted that the city can fine-tune code enforcement, but that it is up to the city to prove commerciality. He added that two years ago the state increased county fines to \$1,500 but did not increase city

fines. Vice Mayor Inga Miller said that she liked enforcement rather than the proposed permits, and Council Member Darlene Gee said that she supports vigorous, aggressive enforcement rather than new rules that would affect the entire community when there is only one offender. "It is an incredibly frustrating issue," Taylor said, "when someone who doesn't even live in the community continues to get away with imposing misery on our residents." Council Member Dean Orr agreed that it is very frustrating, and said that the council is very sympathetic to the residents. Mayor Amy Worth expressed concerns about the public safety issues that had been raised.

In the end, the council decided not to pursue changes to the temporary event permit program, but asked staff to come back to them with ideas for stronger code enforcement. The owner of the property in question did not respond to requests for comment on this issue.

Cameras installed in Moraga help capture crooks

... continued from page A4

King's first additional project in Moraga was creating a safe exchange zone monitored by a camera. The chief explains that people in town have asked his department to create a place where safe exchange of goods could happen. He says that other departments have done this and it has proven useful to people wanting to buy or sell items online and needing a safe place to trade goods for money with a stranger. The parking spot next to the entrance of the building

at 329 Rheem Blvd. where the police department is located will be marked and a red emergency phone is also available there, next to the door, connecting people to police dispatch 24/7.

His second project is a portable camera unit that he says can be installed if a series of crimes are noted in a particular location.

The camera records are stored for 30 to 60 days at the department. The data is not shared over the internet.

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Letters to the Editor

Editor:

OPERA IS AFFORDABLE! [Re: "10th anniversary of Opera in the Park"]

Contrary to the remark quoted in your article of July 11, it is possible to enjoy live opera performances without breaking the budget. Yes, the best seats are costly, but that's true in sports venues as well. Here are some opportunities your readers should know about.

San Francisco Opera has "rush" days for students and military (sfopera.com/rush) and standing room for anyone. Civic Center BART station is a few minutes' walk away.

Opera San Jose (which is only one hour away via 680 and is a superb company performing in a gorgeous theatre) has subscriptions starting at \$100 for 4 operas. The city garage one block away charges \$5 for parking evenings and Sundays. (operasj.org)

Our wonderful region is also home to Livermore

Valley Opera, West Bay Opera (performing in Palo Alto), West Edge Opera (Berkeley), and Island City Opera (Alameda), all charging very modest fees.

And of course the Met broadcasts live performances of world-class singers to our local movie theatres on Saturday mornings (encores on Wednesdays) for about \$25 (metopera.org/Season/In-Cinemas). Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek cinemas broadcast these. Bet you can't get a good stadium seat for that! – let alone paying for parking and the outrageous prices for inferior food at ball parks.

I'm glad that the Orinda Rotary Club offers a charming outdoor summer opera event – what a great way to introduce people to this wonderful art form! Let's be sure your readers know that after their first taste, there are many ways to afford opera.

Linda Riebel
Lafayette

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

Hacienda event highlights Moraga's easy-going style

... continued from page A5

From time to time a little group of teenagers from the local high school strolled by, putting on airs of such dignity and showing off their summer tans. Old friends were meeting in the lines, some council members were meandering and talking to their constituency while parks and recreation staff member Clinton Calkins was keeping an eye on everything.

The organizer of the evening had been there since setup in the morning and was enjoying a slice of pizza, knowing that he would have to stay late that night to make sure everything was cleaned up and ready for the wedding booked for the next day.

Calkins had hired the six trucks. He explained that it was a mix of old favorites and new ones. A foody himself, Calkins had tasted everything and was confident residents would enjoy it. At a nearby table three young mothers with their little ones, including a newborn, agreed that there was food for everyone at the event and that all was delicious. They said that they had bought food at the trucks last year and were very happy to see them back. For them, besides the food, the community feel and the beauty of the space were the prime attractions.

This Friday night an additional vendor captured a lot of attention: Canyon Club Brewery that is set to open at the corner of Country Club Drive and Canyon Road before the end of the year installed a stand and was providing samples of a few of its alcoholic creations.

Calkins explains that this is his third year organizing the event, making it a much easier task. He knows the trucks and their owners and how to negotiate with them. The town had to do it that way rather than hiring a company such as Taste of the World to run the event because all the existing truck companies deemed Moraga too small to be worthy of their attention. Calkins says he likes it better that way; it gives flexibility for the town to hire the people they really love and the truck owners also like it because they do not have to pay a flat fee plus a percentage to an organizer, but instead give 10 percent of their gross sales to the town. Calkins explains that the fees received cover the town's costs, including table rentals, county health permits, staff time and marketing.

The next Hacienda food truck

event is scheduled on Aug. 10, and will feature Yummi BBQ, Sip & Slide, Cosa Nostra Pasta Truck, Flavors of Cali, Golden Gate Gyro and the popular dessert truck Izzya's Frozen Custard. The third event will be on Aug. 24 and the fourth and last event on Sept. 14.

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'Connected Horse' program

... continued from page A1

Hertel had been working with gerontologist Schier Anzelmo for years; together they decided to create a program that would support the dyad: both the affected adult and their caregiver.

Hertel had been involved with horses all her life on a recreational level, and knew that in the presence of that powerful animal, transformation can happen. Gloria and Richard were invited to join the UC Davis pilot and were able to come back twice as Connected Horse partnered with Xenophon Therapeutic Riding Center in Orinda to use their barn and horses.

Connected Horse is about approaching, sensing, touching, smelling, and taking care of the horses by grooming them or walking with them.

Gloria says that when her husband was diagnosed four years ago she became very anxious, she needed skills, she needed help for herself in order to help her husband. She explains that the first blessing came by participating in the program together, sharing the closeness of a mutual experience. She says that her husband understands that they can do things together and that she still has a partner.

The caregiver explains that at Connected Horse clients do not have to do anything, they are present with the horses, and the animals know where people are

physically and emotionally, and are supportive of them. "They can see you, they are present," Gloria says. She noted that her husband had a natural ability with the horse and it let him pick up its leg to have its hoof cleaned. She said that his feeling of being able to make a difference for the horse, to be able to take care of the large animal, made him very happy. Richard said he had clear memories of the different places he had been with the horses and he talked fondly about the program.

Gloria even goes a step further into an almost spiritual realm when she talks about Connected Horse. She says that the horses being totally in the present moment understand and feel when humans are troubled and are capable of helping process those feelings. She says it had transformed her approach to life, that she notices things differently, is more in the moment and less judgmental. She adds that the horses do things in their own time, that our will to be in control has to be put aside, that it is like God's will, to which one surrenders.

Hertel explains the horses' natural empathy through their genetic makeup. She explains that they are herd animals and that despite their size, they can become prey in the wild. "They have evolved to be in tune with their environment and alert," Hertel says. "In the wild they will

mirror each other's emotions and they do the same with humans. If you are nervous they will sense it and become nervous, if you are relaxed, they will relax." Hertel explains that the clients are taught to breath and ground themselves if they feel nervous; they will then notice the difference in the horse's behavior; the clients then understand that they can have an impact on their environment and can take the realization that they are still in control home with them.

The program, says Hertel, gives each participant something different; the two university trials measured the program's efficiency. Clients were tested before and after the six-week sessions and the results showed an increase in confidence, self-worth, a decrease in the feelings of isolation, and a physical improvement as well – people stood straighter. What is most important to Hertel is nurturing the dyad's quality of life. For her having them getting a new experience together strengthens the relationship, and offers a way for the two to fight together for the quality of their story.

Connected Horse is a service that is grant funded and that can be offered to families affected by dementia. Available in Lamorinda, the program has now secured funding to develop it in Alameda County. More information can be found at www.connectedhorse.com.

OUSD board school bonds

... continued from page A7

Stuart House, OUSD Director of Facilities, Operations and Maintenance, but speaking as a private citizen who resides in Orinda, explained this at the meeting. "My house is valued at about \$2 mil-

lion," he said, "with an assessed value of about \$1.2 million." He calculates that adding \$60 per \$100,000 of assessed value will increase his annual tax bill by \$720. "This doesn't seem like a big ask," he said. "It's not going to break the bank." Assessed values differ based upon the market value of the home at the time it was purchased, with older homes having lower assessed values and more recently purchase homes having higher assessed values.

According to attorney David Casnocha, bond counsel for the school district, the bonds will be issued in a three-part series two years apart for each issue. Bonds usually have a 25-year term. Therefore, according to Casnocha, the period of the tax will likely be 31 years, ending 25 from the date the last bond series is sold. The two ballot measures show slightly different annual obligations because one bond measure is \$5 million greater than the other and they differ slightly, with one focusing more on facilities updates to improve academic excellence and STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) programs, the other focusing more on insuring the safety of and repair of the buildings.

One major goal of the plan is to install air conditioning in the schools. The primary objectives of the bonds is to fund the facilities master plan, which is designed to update STEAM classrooms, provide laboratories in each school, maintain libraries, upgrade technology infra-

structure, and acquire, construct and/or repair classroom facilities, sites and equipment. The bonds will also fund safety measures, such as electrical updates, fire safety, security lighting, communications and camera systems, and classroom locks.

According to the district, Orinda schools have fallen behind neighboring areas such as Lafayette, Moraga and Walnut Creek, and updates are needed to insure high-quality instruction in core academic subjects such as science, technology, engineering, math, reading and writing to help prepare students to compete in high school, college and 21st-century careers. Without air conditioning, schools could be forced to close when temperatures are too high.

The bond elections are governed by constitutional and statutory provisions that require that two-thirds of the school board must approve the measures being placed on the ballot and 55 percent of the voters must approve the measures before they can take effect. In addition, the laws provide accountability requirements, including annual independent financial and performance audits of how funds are spent, and the formation of a Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee.

To view the comprehensive master plan, visit <http://lpamas-terplans.com/orinda-usd-fmp/>.

~ Life in LAMORINDA ~

Lamorinda Nannies founder provides matchmaking for families

By Sophie Braccini



Ashley Stewart, founder of Lamorinda Nannies

Photo provided

Ashley Stewart moved to Orinda three years ago with her family. She was a stay-at-home mother wanting to return to work doing something that revolved around parenting and was linked to the community. She looked for unmet needs and, from personal experience, found evidence of families struggling to identify and hire quality nannies who understood their parenting styles. Noticing a local need, Stewart opened the first Lamorinda nanny agency last January.

Stewart's primary focus is on finding full-time and part-time steady care. Through word of mouth, Stewart says she has started to build a network of professional experienced nannies who are excited about finding jobs close to their own homes. "A part-time nanny I employed myself has already referred three of her friends who want to work here," she says.

Stewart notes the diverse group of women she has decided to work with is made of professionals with many years of experience. Half of them are bilingual, speaking English and Spanish, but others also speak Mandarin or Farsi, or are monolingual.

Lamorinda Nannies charges families a flat placement fee, which covers the entire process and is charged only when the nanny starts working. The process begins with an interview of the whole family, if possible in their home, something Stewart

finds important because she wants to really understand the parenting style and the expectations of the parents. She then identifies candidates she knows and has already screened to introduce to her client.

Lamorinda Nannies pays for the nannies' background checks, which Stewart says is the industry protocol, and charges clients placement fees of \$3,800 for a full-time nanny, \$2,800 for part-time and \$800 for a temporary assignment. Stewart explains that the screening process, the interviews, and the verification of the references justify the fee. Their nannies usually charge between \$20 and \$25 per hour, with a few asking more depending on the range of their experience. She leaves the salary negotiation to the families.

Stewart also organizes the Trust-Line registration with the Department of Justice. The young mother says that properly vetting the candidates takes time and families who do it alone can get hundreds of resumes and can be overwhelmed by the process.

The interview process allows Stewart to uncover each of the nanny's unique styles. For example, she might ask specific questions about when a nanny disagreed with a family and how they handled that. The interview answers aren't shared with families, but help Stewart to get to know the nannies personally so she can create good matches for

them and for the families. Her objective is to send one or two candidates to each family.

Her experience with the placements has given Stewart some insight into what works best to create the best relationship between nannies and families. Her main focus is on communication; she gives the families and nannies a journal as they start working together where they can exchange notes. "The best nannies always talk about communication," Stewart says. "They know the parents are in control but need to be listening to what the nanny says."

Stewart adds she can continue to be in touch with both sides during the negotiation process, if needed. Sometimes it takes a few weeks or it can go very fast, and if for any reason the nanny or family ends employment within 60 days, she will find a replacement at no charge.

Stewart does not necessarily want to expand her agency beyond Lamorinda because she wants to maintain a personal touch. For more information, visit www.lamorindanannies.com.



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Family doctor offers home pediatric visits

By Sophie Braccini



Dr. Sheriff and her daughter talk health and nutrition at the Orinda farmers' market. Photos Sophie Braccini

Dr. Nazia Sheriff's young patients do not have far to go to see her. Sheriff's practice, Olive Leaf Pediatrics, goes everywhere the doctor goes – in the patients' home – the best way, according to the young practitioner, to take the time needed to deliver holistic pediatric care.

Sheriff travels around Lamorinda with her treatment and diagnostic bags, which contain all the equipment she needs to examine, perform tests and administer basic treatment to her young patients. "It's literally your doctor's office brought to you," she says. The bags are not that big but they contain everything Sheriff needs, such as a breathing treatment machine, basic antibiotics, creams, a weight scale, an audioscope, as well as tools to take blood pressure or temperature, and more.

Sheriff has been a pediatrician for 10 years. She started her career working in a Chicago hospital, in the pediatric ICU. But she began to question the system where family doctors were being replaced by more administrative systems, risking the loss of personalized care, and in her realm of pediatrics, reducing emphasis in preventive care, something that she sees as key.

When her family moved to California two years ago she decided it was the opportunity to redefine her career, and practice the medicine that she loves. She chose to go it alone rather than join an existing practice because she wanted to follow the holistic approach she finds the most healing. According to Sheriff, insurance companies push for doctors to limit their interaction with patients to a maximum of 10 to 25 minutes. During this limited time doctors must complete all the history as well as the checkup, in addition to addressing any concerns the patient might have and offering guidance.

She said that she met some great professionals when working

for existing practices, but she often found herself going over time, unable to spend all the time she wanted with her patients. She decided to step out of the box.

She says that what makes Olive Leaf Pediatrics unique is that all the well-child and newborn visits, and all the acute visits can be done in the home. The appointments are usually 30 minutes to an hour long, sometimes an hour and a half for a newborn. Sheriff can have additional discussions about nutrition and fitness, or even positive discipline training, if parents want advice in these areas. She also touches upon mindfulness if the parents are interested in discussing it. The parents have access to her directly when needed. "It's like having a pediatrician in your pocket," she says, adding that she will keep her practice at 150 patients to be sure to stay available.

The doctor has structured

her business practice by having patients pay either an annual or monthly fee per child that gives them unlimited access to her. If patients have PPO insurance she provides them a super bill that they submit to their insurance for reimbursement. For those who are not sure about becoming members she also has a service-based fee.

Born in Pakistan, Sheriff moved to the U.S. with her parents when she was 5 years old. Her mother is a pharmacist and her father a CPA. The mother of two children, ages 9 and 7, Sheriff does not do a lot in terms of self-promotion, but she sometimes has a table at the Orinda farmers' market where she disseminates information, and she conducts children's activities, such as planting seeds of edible flowers.

You can find more information about Sheriff and her practice at www.oliveleafpeds.com.



Dr. Sheriff with her medicine bag on her way to see a patient

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Local photographer has 7 photos selected for U.S. 'O Beautiful' stamp series

By Sora O'Doherty



Photo provided

Photographer Gary Crabbe, who grew up in Lamorinda, was honored by having seven of his photographs selected by the U.S. Postal Service for its "O Beautiful" series of Forever Stamps. One of the seven selected is a view of the Orinda Hills. "This is probably the first time this area has been fea-

tured on a stamp," Crabbe told The Lamorinda Weekly.

The photo was taken, he remembered, sometime in the middle to late part of March. Although he cannot remember the exact year, he thinks it was 1993. He shot it from the Berkeley Hills along Grizzly Peak overlooking the Siesta Val-

ley all the way across, beyond Lafayette Reservoir to Mount Diablo to capture the sun rising over the mountain. Using a Nikon camera, Crabbe said that he probably used a 28-70 zoom lens.

Crabbe grew up in Lafayette. He moved there with his parents when he was in the sixth grade, and attended four Lafayette schools, including Acalanes High School. He grew up on Dianne Court and later lived on Brook Street for 10 years. His parents lived in the Moraga Country Club Area.

Crabbe has been shooting photos for close to 28 years now, he said. The photos chosen for the stamp series probably cover 25 years of his work. More information about his photograph, Spring sunrise over green hills, near Orinda, Contra Costa County, California ID# LMO-1099aM, is available on Crabbe's website: <http://enlightphoto.com/usps-o-beautiful-stamps-by-gary-crabbe>. The stamps are available for purchase at all U.S. post offices.

Ukulele Camp turns kids on to music

By John T. Miller



From left: Ukulele students Austin Herting, Cooper Vashel, Ty Herting, and Chase Vashel strum along with instructor Vincent Lay. Photo John T. Miller

Talented musician and teacher Vince Lay is running ukulele camps as part of the Music Coop's programs in Lafayette.

Located on Golden Gate Way, the ukulele camp is turning children on to the versatile Hawaiian instrument with classes that meet from 1 to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday for two hours each day.

In their week of camp, the students learn to play "Demons," by Imagine Dragons, "The Lion Sleeps Tonight," by the Tokens, and "Somewhere Over the Rainbow"—the version made famous by Israel "IZ" Kamakawiwo'ole.

They will give a concert that's

open to family and friends on July 28, but the current students chimed in that they weren't quite willing to perform for anyone other than family just yet.

"We cover basic chord structures and give the students an introduction to the ukulele," says Lay. The four-string instrument is officially pronounced "oo ka lay lay" in Hawaiian, but Lay uses the Western pronunciation, even though he's been corrected many times.

Lay spent 10 years at the Red House Music Studios in Walnut Creek, heading youth summer programs and youth and adult rock band programs and workshops.

An accomplished guitarist and songwriter, he has performed with multiple bands in the Bay Area for the last 20 years. He's released 16 full-length albums and played in 46 states throughout the United States.

For more information, or to sign up for a ukulele camp, call Lay at (925) 407-6639, or he can be reach at Vincelaymusic@gmail.com, or at Music Coop website Mymusiccoop.com. Cost for the weeklong session is \$200.

The Music Coop has studios in Lafayette and Walnut Creek. More information on the organization will be in the next issue of the Lamorinda Weekly.

'Everybody' – a must see for everyone at Cal Shakes

By Sophie Braccini



The five Somebodies-Sarita Ocón (left foreground), Lance Gardner (left rear), Jenny Nelson, Jomar Tagatac (second from right), and Stacy Ross (far right) getting their roles assigned by a nightly lottery conducted by Victor Talmadge (Death). Photo Alessandra Mello / mellophoto.com

It is said that theater is a place to examine the human condition's most essential questions, and "Everybody," the new play that opened at Cal Shakes on July 21, has fulfilled that mission. Based on ancient mythological tales that endure, this play strips human reality to the bone. In doing so it holds some of the moralistic and deep universal accents of old myths. Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, the writer who reformulated the play, gave it contemporary relevance and humor, taking everybody on a most memorable and relevant theatrical journey.

Yes, the play is about death, and it is also full of humor – dark humor, at times, of course. The story is simple, God is not happy with his creation and asks Death to bring him everybody to explain to their creator what they have done wrong and what they have done right. Death calls everybody. One person embodies that concept and takes on the moniker of Everybody.

Everybody is terrified and, as Everybody knows there is no saying no to death, he/she asks to at least bring someone along not to have to face the unknowable alone. Death agrees and tells her/him that if Everybody can find someone to join her/ him, then Everybody can bring that person along.

The play shows the reaction of friends, next of kin, and how all that has surrounded Everybody all her/his life will now respond to her/his plea as she/he faces the ultimate test.

The direction by Natakí Garrett is remarkable. She explained that she is a friend of the playwright and has been following Jacobs-Jenkins' work for years. She also said that

he does not give a lot of cues to directors on how to set his plays up. Garrett and the CalShakes creative team have created a set and scenic movements to give the audience the feel that the characters are just one of them. It would not be fair to future audiences to share too much about how the play is delivered. But the audience really gets an almost unsettling feeling that it is one of them who will face God that night. It is of course purposeful; we will all be alone within our mortal envelope when Death comes.

The set, the sounds, the lights, all participate in the creation of the theatrical illusion under the stars. Rarely has it felt that a play was made for the outside setting of the Bruns amphitheater as much as "Everybody." Often the backdrop there recreates the illusion of an indoor traditional theater. But here the mythical dimension of the tale, its timeless and universal reach feels as if it was made for this immense outdoors.

Something has to be said about the actors. Every night only God and Death are already cast, all the other characters are chosen through a lottery, a simple and wonderful way to remind us of the uncontrollable randomness of life. Garrett explained that she cast a group of actors that would resemble the audience at Cal Shakes. She scrutinized tens of shots where the audience was present. All the actors are some of the best in the Bay Area and deliver superbly. The night this reporter saw the play, Stacy Ross was playing Everybody, rendering a very convincing performance. She is a beautiful actress in every sense of the word, digging deep into our humanity, and creating a

touching and highly loveable character. Britney Frazier who conducts the opening by channeling God is superb.

There are several spectacular moments in the play. Spectators will love the esthetics and creativity of the dance of the bones. The last scene has surprises and delivers the ultimate lesson. When the play ended after 90 minutes, this reporter found herself wanting more.

... continued on page B8

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Fundraising support with a focus on literacy

Submitted by Domini Tarman



A Monument Crisis volunteer accepts books and toiletries from Pi Beta Phi Contra Costa Alumnae Club members Lynn Hoaglin and Domini Tarman, an Orinda resident. Photo provided

In addition to friendship and social activities, the Pi Beta Phi Alumnae Club of Contra Costa promotes and supports community service projects, with a special focus on literacy. The club comprises women from numerous colleges all over the country who now call this county home, including a significant number of Lamorinda residents.

Members were pleased this year to support another county-based organization, the Monument Crisis Center. MCC is a nonprofit family resource center for central

and east Contra Costa County that provides food, helpful programs and referrals to low-income individuals, teens, families and seniors.

The club collected much-needed toiletries such as shampoos, soaps and lotions for MCC, and facilitated a book drive this spring to donate dozens of children's books to the center.

At the time of donation, MCC had a summer camp going and counselors were thrilled to get the new books.

Rivals join forces for a good cause

Submitted by Emma Workman



Emma Workman, far left, and co-planner Maisey Mills, far right, at with some members of the Oakland Lacrosse Club at the March 30 event night Photo provided

Division rivals Acalanes and Miramonte faced each other March 30 in a pivotal girls lacrosse game. In the up and down battle, Miramonte narrowly pulled out the win, 13-12. For junior midfielder Emma Workman from Acalanes and senior defender Maisey Mills from Miramonte, however, the game had a larger meaning.

For the last two years Workman and Mills have volunteered for the Oakland Lacrosse Club, a nonprofit that uses lacrosse to develop leadership skills, provide academic support, and wellness education to youth from Oakland public middle schools. Both Workman and Mills served as coaches during the fall program, introducing beginners from Oakland public schools to the sport of lacrosse.

Mills, who will be attending Claremont-Mckenna College next year, shared what she enjoyed about her Oakland Lacrosse experience: "I volunteered for OLC because I loved seeing the spirit and passion of the girls who came out to play lacrosse. For two hours every Sunday they gave practice all they had and had the most fun I've ever seen. I knew I needed to be a part of that energy. I wanted to help organize this fundraiser to allow more and more kids to be a part of the incredible energy that OLC exudes."

Workman explained why her time with

Oakland Lacrosse has been so meaningful to her: "Oakland Lacrosse has emboldened me as a player, coach, and person to give my all into everything that I do. The players at OLC have especially inspired me, having a certain resilience and grit that no other lacrosse players, that I've seen, could match."

Workman and Mills valued their experience so much that they decided to join forces and run a joint fundraiser at the Acalanes versus Miramonte game. They helped raise awareness of the OLC through a Gofundme page and an email campaign encouraging people to donate. Collectively they raised \$2,000 for the OLC.

"One of my favorite aspects of running Oakland Lacrosse is seeing how the collective lacrosse community comes together to support our organization. I have been especially impressed with Emma and Maisey," said Kevin Kelley, the founder and executive director of the Oakland Lacrosse Club. "Not only are they part of the Oakland Lacrosse high school coaching council, but they took the initiative in creating this joint fundraiser. It is both impressive and inspiring to see young people to see young people take action."

To learn more about the Oakland Lacrosse Club check out www.oaklandlacrosse.org.

Lafayette Little League donations help children in Dominican Republic

Submitted by Tony Dudum and Andy Orear



Photo Oakland A's staff and Tony Dudum

Lafayette Little League parent and manager Tony Dudum organized a baseball equipment drive over the summer to benefit kids in the Dominican Republic. It was a huge success with hundreds of pieces of equipment ranging from bats, balls, helmets, and uniforms donated by the families of Lafayette Little League. This will help needy

kids in the Dominican Republic play baseball at a more comfortable level.

With the help of Lafayette Little League parents and kids, as well as the Oakland A's Assistant General Manager Dan Feinstein for shipping the donations, the equipment is now in transit to the children of the Dominican Republic.

In Memory

Charles Bullard



Charles Frederick Bullard III passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by his family. Charles is survived by his son, Sydney, and his daughter, Helen. He was preceded in death by his wife, Susan, in 2006. He is also survived by his brothers, Philip and John, his sisters, Frances and Marie, and sister and brother-in-law, Karen and Lee. Charles was an accomplished artist and builder, having constructed a 37-foot sailboat in Hawaii in the 1970s which he and Susan sailed to San Francisco and Florida before settling down to build their family home in California. Charles' ashes will be spread in the woods around his home, La Buandarie in France, in the near future.

In Memory

Jennifer Wightman Harlow

Resident of Cape Town, South Africa
Formerly of Tahoe City, California
December 9, 1984 - May 13, 2018



Jennifer Wightman Harlow, 33 years old, died in a rock fall accident on May 13, 2018 while hiking on Table Mountain above Cape Town, South Africa. Jen will best be remembered for her steadfast individualism, infectious laugh, and stellar dance moves.

The daughter of Dianne Shorett Harlow and Peter Wightman Harlow, Jen was born in 1984 and grew up in the North Lake Tahoe area of California. She enjoyed Nordic skiing and academic challenge, and in 2003, graduated as Valedictorian of her class at North Tahoe High School. During her late teens, Jen was a part of the Far West Nordic Ski Association, and

twice competed in the US Junior National Cross Country Ski Championships in Alaska and Utah.

Jen followed her father, grandfather, and great-grandfather to Harvard College, where she captained their intercollegiate Nordic ski team and earned an A.B. in Physics.

Following her undergraduate work, Jen made her way out to the Rocky Mountains, where she earned her Ph.D. in physics from the University of Colorado, Boulder. From 2007 to 2013, Jen studied and worked at JILA in the lab of Konrad Lehnert. She and friends often hiked the peaks and valleys there, enjoying breathtaking views of the Flatirons.

After completing her graduate education, Jen moved to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, as the tech manager for EGG-energy, a small company focusing on affordable solar energy access for people without electricity. A year later, she moved to Cape Town, South Africa, to work with Dimagi, Inc, a global social enterprise using mobile application technology to increase access to critical services in developing countries. Jen played a critical role in some of Dimagi South Africa's biggest projects, collaborating with NGOs and community health workers in countries throughout the African continent. Her development work included addressing HIV, TB and malaria treatment, empowerment of female farming collectives, and most recently, leading the design of a mobile application intended to improve maternal and newborn health outcomes in rural Ethiopia.

In South Africa, Jen found a ready group of likeminded hiking enthusiasts who made regular trips up the rugged terrain of Lions Head and Table Mountain. In January 2018, she joined Hiker's Network Search and Rescue team, excited to spend time outdoors and to help keep others safe. The last few years of her life were the happiest for she had found her true home there.

Jen is preceded in death by her father, Peter Wightman Harlow, and grandparents John Hopkins and Elizabeth Eddy Shorett, and Albert Mason and Hazel Wightman Harlow. She is survived by her mother, Dianne Shorett Harlow of Moraga, CA, her brother Michael Shorett Harlow of St. Paul, MN, and brother Stephen Wightman Harlow of Venice, CA.

A celebration of life will take place at 4 pm on August 4th at Tahoe XC Ski Center in Tahoe City, CA. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in Jen's name to The Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team (www.tahoenordicsar.com; PO Box 7703, Tahoe City, CA 96145; 530-581-4038).

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.

Redding is ready for its close-up

By Fran Miller



Sundial Bridge

Photos Fran Miller

When planning a summer weekend getaway, Lamorindans likely look to Santa Cruz, Carmel, or Tahoe. But Redding? The largest town in California's northernmost region is not traditionally top-of-mind when plotting a little family R&R.

It should be.

Boasting a multitude of recreational activities, Redding (about a 3-hour drive from the East Bay) is ripe for discovery. A new hotel, miles of bike trails, and a nature preserve are just a few of the attractions. Travelers who've never been will be surprised with the town's offerings, and those who've visited in the past will find that recent revitalizations make the area nearly unrecognizable.

Key to the town's reinvigoration is the new Sheraton Redding at the Sundial Bridge. The first four-star level hotel in the region, it's adjacent to its namesake – Redding's most iconic landmark. The LEED-certified property offers comfy guest rooms with floor-to-ceiling windows that overlook Turtle Bay Exploration Park, which boasts 300 acres of botanical gardens, an interactive museum, and a

forestry and wildlife center filled with 64 different animal species. Sheraton's resort-style accommodations include a heated swimming pool and hot tub, a fitness center, and creative family amenities such as tents and sleeping bags which staff will set up in-room upon request. S'mores kits can be purchased at the front desk for use at the outdoor fire pit, and fishing poles are also available for those hoping to reel one in on the nearby Sacramento River. On Fridays and Saturdays, animal ambassadors from Turtle Bay greet guests in the hotel lobby.

Steps from the Sheraton is the spectacular Sundial Bridge, a sky-soaring beacon that spans the Sacramento River. The bridge – designed by renowned Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava – is one of the world's largest working sundials and is a day and night communal gathering spot for all ages. Steel, glass, and granite combine to create the stunning structure that alone is worth a visit.

The bridge connects the north and south sides of Turtle Bay, where visitors can visit Spike the porcupine, Whisper the bobcat, and Sweet Pea the skunk. During summer months, wander through the Butterfly House and observe Monarchs emerging from their cocoons. Deck yourself in colorful lorikeets at The Parrot Playhouse, an interactive aviary where guests become a parrot perch. Turtle Bay's 200-acre arboretum is a peaceful sanctuary of native trees and plants. A one-mile walking loop trail surrounds the arboretum and directly links to the paved, multipurpose, 11-mile Sacramento River Trail, just one of many trails in the area. Bring your bikes to take advantage of the more than 200 miles of paved and unpaved trails, all within a 15-mile radius of Redding's city center. You'll pedal past waterfalls, flowing rivers, mountains and forests.

Take an excursion to nearby Whiskeytown Lake, Mount Shasta, Lassen Volcanic National Park, Shasta Dam, or Lake Shasta Caverns, a geological wonder featuring multicolored columns, tall stone draperies, stalactites and stalagmites, glistening crystals, and limestone and marble formations, accessed via scenic boat rides across Lake Shasta.

The Sheraton's own Mosaic Restaurant, named for the white mosaic tiles lining the Sundial Bridge (which can be



Lake Shasta Caverns

viewed from the restaurant's back patio), is a popular Italian-inspired destination that's become a favored gathering spot for both locals and tourists. Chef James Vereb serves up tasty items such as artisan wood-fired pizzas, shareable appetizers, and hearty salads and pastas, all made with local, farm fresh ingredients. Mosaic also boasts a vibrant bar scene; enjoy craft beers, creatively crafted cocktails, and curated local wines.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.sheratonredding.com>

<https://www.turtlebay.org>

<http://lakeshastacaverns.com>

<http://www.sheratonredding.com/redding-restaurants>

Family Focus

Help your child choose friends wisely

By Margie Ryerson, MFT

By the time they are in third or fourth grade, many children are already discerning in their selection of friends. Your child may pick someone to be a friend based on interests or personality or popularity or a variety of other criteria. Sometimes it's simply a matter of another child reaching out to your child in friendship. Friendships can be quite uncomplicated at this stage – until they're not.

What gets in the way for some elementary through middle school children is when someone they thought was a good friend either begins ignoring them to be with others or even worse, disparages them behind their backs. Occasionally the so-called friend says hurtful comments directly, but typically there are passive-aggressive displays of withdrawal that are difficult to decipher.

For example, Lila and Ava were good friends beginning in second grade. Now, in seventh grade, Lila is hanging out more and more with a new group of friends. Ava makes efforts to restore their close relationship, and frequently asks Lila if she's mad at her and to tell her if she's done anything wrong. Lila says everything is fine and she's not mad, but she continues to pursue other friendships while giving little attention to Ava.

No matter how a person chooses to de-escalate a friendship, the result is painful for the one who feels abandoned. I currently see

Ava in my therapy practice, and we spend much time rebuilding her shattered self-confidence and self-esteem. We look at how the fact that Lila is making different choices doesn't mean there is something wrong or missing in Ava. Lila, Ava, and their classmates are in the developmental phase of discovering and forming their identities. This process often means trying on various relationships to see which seem to be a good fit at certain times. If Lila wants to be more popular, she may gravitate to a certain group. If she wants to identify as more artistic, she may turn to a different group.

Sometimes some members of the most popular groups in elementary and middle schools behave meanly to those outside their circle. If your child tries to be a part of such a group and opens up to you about his or her struggles, help them examine their thinking. She or he may want to feel more popular or avoid being a target, so they want to align themselves with those in power. Encourage them to think about how it is important for them to like, respect and trust their friends. As the saying goes, we're known by the company we keep, so ask if they really want to endorse the way the popular group treats others.

It is important to identify what constitutes abusive behavior with your child. Some think this term only describes physical mistreat-

ment or verbally volatile behavior. But definitions include, "to treat in a harmful, injurious or offensive way," and "to speak insultingly, harshly and unjustly to or about; to revile; to malign." When you help your children recognize the signs of abusive behavior, they will be better able to make decisions about their relationships.

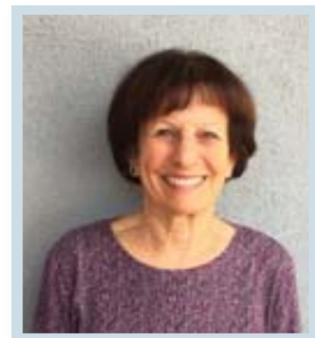
As your child's role model, if you are able to assess your own friendships that don't seem to be working well, you will be better able to help him or her pay attention to their feelings. If your child has negative feelings about a friend, she or he has choices. Your child can make peace with the friend's limitations, can try to directly address any problems, or can reduce the amount of contact your child has with the friend. The child doesn't need to disengage completely – or "ghost" a former friend – unless the relationship becomes abusive. It is always preferable to remain polite and cordial to people, but this doesn't mean your child needs to maintain an unhealthy friendship. Show him or her and tell your child how there are many other people to get to know and to befriend.

Often boys (and some girls) guard their feelings and don't share them easily, so it is especially important to look for signs that your child may be experiencing difficulty with peer relationships. When a child wants to maintain his or her

privacy and independence regarding friendships, and perhaps other matters as well, it is more difficult for parents to chime in. As many parents who have tried to steer their child know, the more you try to advise, the more resistance you will get. The best approach is a supportive one (even if you have to stifle yourself), where you let your child know that you trust his or her judgment and you're available if your child ever wants to talk. Think long-term instead of short-term. You want to pave the way for your child to eventually feel comfortable in sharing with you.

However, if you see your child showing signs of distress, such as withdrawing from family and friends, cutting, substance use, extreme mood instability, psychosomatic complaints or failure to engage in schoolwork, it is important to be proactive and not wait for him or her to come to you. You need to point out the signs you see, reassure your child that he or she is loved and accepted, and ask to please let you know what your child is experiencing. If your child is reluctant to talk with you or another trusted family member or friend, ask if they would be willing to talk to a therapist. You may need to insist that he or she be evaluated for depression. Too often, and sometimes tragically, when children keep painful feelings to themselves and don't express them verbally, they may act them out in a physical manner.

For parents with a child who doesn't share easily or welcome input, it can help to occasionally mention your own experiences – casually, so that it doesn't seem like you're trying to make a point. The goal is for your child not to feel that your attention is on him or her; rather that you are just trying to share some aspects of yourself with no reciprocity in mind. Over time, if you continue to respect your child's boundaries, most children and young adults will appreciate your efforts and be willing to be more communicative with you.



Margie Ryerson, MFT, is a marriage and family therapist in Orinda and Walnut Creek. Contact her at (925) 376-9323 or margierye@yahoo.com. She is the author of "Treat Your Partner Like a Dog: How to Breed a Better Relationship" and "Appetite for Life: Inspiring Stories of Recovery from Anorexia, Bulimia, and Compulsive Overeating."

'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat' opens Aug. 3 at Woodminster

Submitted by Kathy Kahn



Romar DeClaro plays Joseph in this year's production. Photo provided

Producers Associates continues the 52nd season of the Woodminster Summer Musicals with "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." The Biblical saga of Joseph and his coat of many colors comes to life Aug. 3-12 at Woodminster Amphitheater in Oakland's Joaquin Miller Park, located on Joaquin Miller Road at upper Sanborn Drive. Told entirely through song, the musical follows Joseph, favorite son of Jacob, as he overcomes many challenges through his honesty and good character.

Celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2018, "Joseph" continues

to be one of the most enduring shows of all time. The musical follows Joseph after he's been sold into slavery by his brothers and is full of catchy songs in a variety of styles from French ballad, "Those Canaan Days," to country, "One More Angel in Heaven," along with the unforgettable classics "Any Dream Will Do" and "Close Every Door."

"Joseph" was the first Lloyd Webber and Rice musical to be performed publicly, first as a choir school concert piece in 1968, and then as a full-fledged production in 1970, and it won the Tony Award for best musical

and best original score in 1982.

Says director Joel Schlader, "This show is ... fun and fast and lively, a perfect show for families, and our Kids Come Free program and K75 (discounted kids ticket) pricing make an evening at the theater affordable for parents who want to bring their kids and their kids' friends."

Music direction is by Mark Dietrich and choreography by Marissa Joy Ganz. Woodminster shows are performed with live orchestras, and musicians are members of Musicians Local No. 6.

Tickets are available by phone, at (510) 531-9597, online at www.woodminster.com, or in person at Woodminster Amphitheater 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekends, or at the box office two hours before any performance. Performances are Aug. 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, and 12, all at 8 p.m. in this open-air performance facility.

Closing out the 52nd season of Woodminster Summer Musicals, Lin-Manuel Miranda and Quiara Alegria Hudes' "In The Heights" will be performed Aug. 31-Sept. 9.

For more information about the 2018 season or the history of the organization, visit www.woodminster.com.

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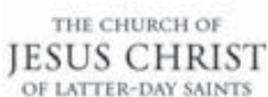


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Not to be missed

ART

The Jennifer Perlmutter Gallery is pleased to present "Surreal," which opens on Aug. 2, featuring the work of Bay Area artist Tom Gehrig. The exhibit will also include works by Catherine Moore, Carol Aust, and sculpture by Southern California artist Emily Maddigan. In times when truth is stranger than fiction, and the daily news feels surreal, we look to art for understanding and perspective. Viewers will be delighted by this engaging exhibit of work, a tribute to surreal art. The exhibit is on view through Sept. 1, with an artist's reception from 6 to 8 p.m. on Aug 2. www.jenniferperlmuttergallery.com

The American Craft Show returns to the Festival Pavilion at San Francisco's Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture Aug. 3-5 for a not-to-be-missed weekend showcasing more than 250 of the country's top contemporary craft artists, including talented emerging makers. Craft collectors and design enthusiasts will also have the chance to engage in three experiential showcases: Make Room: Modern Design Meets Craft, Style Slam, and Let's Make. As the largest juried fine craft show on the West Coast, this show is a truly unique chance to shop one-of-a-kind, handmade pieces, eat and drink artisanal foods and beverages, and meet the country's best artists. Tickets: \$12. Buy advance online at https://craftcouncil.org/sf.

Valley Art Gallery presents "Celebrating Light" featuring Artist Judith Feins and her plein air landscapes. The show runs through Aug. 4. www.valleyart-gallery.org; (925) 935-4311

Saint Mary's College Museum of Art (SMCMoA) and the California Watercolor Association (CWA) present "The Color of Summer." Fifty new works are on view reflecting the member artists' charge to capture their visions of summer. CWA is one of the largest and most active watermedia organizations in the nation with a mission to create, foster, and sustain artistic growth and interest in watermedia. This exhibition will include a series of events such as plein air painting, live demonstrations, and lessons for youth. The exhibition runs through Aug. 26.

MUSIC

Jazz in July, with the Mark Holzinger Trio from 7:30 to 9 p.m. on Sunday, July 29, St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 451 Moraga Way in Orinda. (925) 254-0769, smumcorinda@gmail.com. Suggested donation of \$20, no one turned away.

Free summer concerts Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Orinda Community Park, 28 Orinda Way. Food trucks will be provided for all events by Tastes of the World: July 31: Bay Bridge Beat; Aug 7: Little Dog 2; Aug 14: Floor-shakers

You are invited to join your neighbors from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings at the Moraga Commons Park for a relaxing free concert in the park. Bring your picnic blanket or lawn chairs to the grassy hillside in front of the band shell. Enjoy the music while your children enjoy the park. The volunteers of MPF will cook dinner for you with the Snack Bar opening at 6 p.m. The lineup includes the following: July 26: Kings of 88 - Classic piano rock hits; Aug 2:

Moonalice - Bay Area 60's psychedelic rock.

THEATER

California Shakespeare Theater continues its 44th Season with the West Coast Premiere of "Everybody," a sparkling new riff on the 15th-century morality play "The Summoning of Everyman" by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins. "Everybody" plays through Aug. 5 at the Bruns Amphitheater in Orinda. Tickets (ranging from \$20-\$92) are available through the Cal Shakes Box Office at (510) 548-9666 or by visiting www.calshakes.org. Ticket prices are subject to change without notice.

Orinda Starlight Village Players present Dave Freeman's fast, furious and frantic farce, "Kindly Keep It Covered," through Aug. 11 at the Orinda Community Park's outdoor amphitheater. Showtimes and dates at www.orsvp.org. Call (925) 528-9225 or email info@orsvp.org for reservations.

KIDS, PARENTS & TEENS

Twilight at Fernandez Ranch from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 16 at 1081 Christie Road, Martinez. Step outside and enjoy a night of outdoor exploration for the whole family. Llama meet-and-greet with Llamas of Circle Home, reptile show-and-touch with East Bay Vivarium, visit birds of prey with Lindsay Wildlife, Sliders food truck, ice cream, arts and crafts, and more! The event is open to the public, free of charge, and ADA accessible. Free parking available.

Lafayette will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in a big way from 2:30-7 p.m. on July 29. The celebration begins at 2:30 p.m., in the Community Hall at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center, with an informal reception honoring those who made Lafayette possible. If you'd like to tell your historic stories of Lafayette - or if you just want to listen to tales of the City - simply arrive at the Community Hall. The main party is from 4 to 7 p.m. and will include a special Back Forty Texas BBQ dinner along with entertainment from Dave Martin's House Party band, a kid zone with games and activities and a parade at 5 p.m.

OTHER

Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center presents Project Censored - Addressing 'Fake News' from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 26, at Mt. Diablo Peace and Justice Center at Our Savior's Lutheran, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette. Students and Faculty discuss investigative journalism, identify censored news stories, their suppression and the problem of 'fake news'. Cost: \$10 pre-registered (\$15 at door), \$5 Peace Center members, free for students. For more info see http://ourpeacecenter.org or call (925) 933-7850 or email margli@ourpeacecenter.org.

National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 7. Gather with your neighbors and celebrate National Night Out, building neighborhood camaraderie and making our town safer. For more information, see the information on the Moraga Police webpage: police.moraga.ca.us.

What Does Lafayette Look Like to you on the special occasion of our 50th Anniversary of Incorporation? The City of Lafayette Public Art Committee is sponsoring another "Day in the

Life" photo contest in celebration of the city's 50th. Photos must be taken in Lafayette on July 29 and submitted by Aug. 17. There are a few rules that apply and you must register to enter. You can find out all the details and more about the contest at http://www.lovelafayette.org/city-hall/commissions-committees/public-art-committee/day-in-the-life-photo-contest.

A Bird's Rainbow from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. on July 30 in the Orinda Library Garden Room. Join us as well-known local birder, photographer and educator, Bob Lewis, explains why birds are often brightly colored, where the color come from, and what makes hummingbirds so special.

Travel Adventures with Road Scholar from 1 to 2 p.m. on Aug 1 in the Orinda Library Garden Room. Ambassador Mary Ann Irwin shares her travel experiences and information about Road Scholar, a trusted, well known travel program geared toward solo and couples travelers over the age of 50. You'll learn about the history and mission of the Road Scholar organization, the benefits of group travel, the educational component, and the cost of a program as well as what's included.

Diablo Ballet's Annual Gourmet Gallop food and wine walk returns to downtown Walnut Creek for the eighth consecutive year from 6 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 9. The event, sponsored by Diablo Magazine, invites guests to sip, sample and stroll their way through 18 downtown Walnut Creek locations as they experience a one-of-a-kind culinary adventure. Tickets are on sale now to the public and only \$39 if purchased on or before July 26. After that date, the price goes up to \$45 per person. Special group pricing is available. Tickets are available online at www.diabloballet.org or by calling (925) 943-1775.

A Life Rebuilt: The Remarkable Transformation of a War Orphan from 4 to 5 p.m. on Aug 9 in the Orinda Library Auditorium. Born in 1939 Belgium, Sylvia Ruth Guttman became an orphan at age 3 when her parents were sent to their deaths at Auschwitz. In her debut memoir, "A Life Rebuilt: The Remarkable Transformation of a War Orphan," chronicles her escape to Switzerland with her two sisters, their arrival in New York to the home of her uncle and his abusive wife, and her struggles to overcome the trauma of her childhood. For more information about Sylvia visit her website at https://sylviaruthguttman.com/.

POLITICAL GATHERINGS

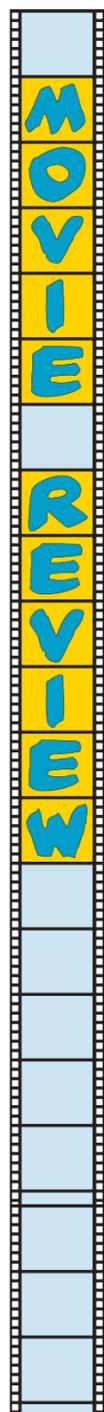
Join the Lamorinda Democratic Club for a fun evening of political trivia and frozen margaritas at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 9 at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center. Proceeds from this fun event will benefit the Lamorinda Democratic Club American Dream 2109 Scholarship. Suggested donation is \$20 per person or \$100 for a table of 5 or 6. Contact hotaugtrivia@gmail.com for more information.

... continued on next page

Please submit events:
calendar@lamorinda
weekly.com

Live at Orinda Concert Series returns Aug. 12

By Derek Zemrak



Lillias White Photo provided

Tony and Emmy award winner Lillias White will kick off opening night of the Live at Orinda Concert Series at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 12 as the Orinda Theatre is once again transformed into a cabaret.

Lillias White has been recognized on Broadway with the Tony Award, Drama Desk Award, People's Choice Award and Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Actress in a Musical for her role as Sonja in Cy Coleman's "The Life." In film, she had roles in the animated features "Hercules" and "Anastasia" and on TV, White was featured on "Sesame Street" (Emmy Award), "Law and Order," and Baz Luhrmann's Netflix series, "The Get Down."

White has just finished a month-long pre-Broadway run in Tony-winning director Jerry Mitchell's ("Kinky Boots") new musical "Half Time." Co-starring with her Broadway contemporaries Donna McKechnie ("A Chorus Line"), Andre DeShields ("The Wiz"), and Georgia Engel ("Mary Tyler Moore Show"), "Half Time" is about professional basketball's first 60-plus dance team. Earlier in 2018, White won the NAACP Award for her starring role in the LA production of "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" (directed by Emmy and Tony winner Phylicia Rashad).

In 1981, the Brooklyn, New York native made her Broadway debut in "Barnum." She played Effie in the 1987 revival of "Dreamgirls," for which she won the Drama League Award for Best Actress in a Musical. Lillias

has also appeared on Broadway in "Cats," "Carrie," the original Broadway production of the Tony-winning "Once on this Island," "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" (with Matthew Broderick), "Chicago" and "Fela!", for which she received another Tony nomination.

White's concert performances include "Funny Girl," "Hair," "Dreamgirls" and "South Pacific," which was broadcast by PBS's Great Performances. She has appeared in concert at the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center and has toured internationally with her one-woman shows – from "Brooklyn to Broadway," "My Guy Cy," and "The Lillias White Effect." White holds a Ph.D. in Fine Arts from City University New York.

White's rendition of "Moon Rain" is remarkable and it will be a treat to hear it in the 180-seat auditorium in the Orinda Theatre.

Live at Orinda Theatre Concert Series is produced by Derek Zemrak, Leonard Pirkle and Michael Williams and is sponsored by the Orinda Community Foundation.

Tickets for Opening Night with Lillias White are now on sale at the Orinda Theatre box office or online at www.lamorindatheatres.com. Available ticket prices range from \$55 to \$75 and all seats are reserved. It is recommended that you purchase your tickets early because these shows have all sold out.

Mark your calendar for these upcoming concerts at the Orinda Theatre:

Sept. 20 – Franc D'Ambrosio ("Phantom of the Opera")

Oct. 4 – Lorna Luft ("Songs My Mother Taught Me: A Celebration of the Music of Judy Garland")

Nov. 8 – Maureen McGovern (Multi-Grammy Award nominee)

Dec. 16 – Karen Mason (Broadway star – "Mama Mia!" "Sunset Boulevard")

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More info: www.lamorindasunrise.com
or email lamorindasunrise@gmail.com

July 27

Rich Shearer, a man of few words gets verbose about himself.

August 3

Newly installed Club President, **Chris Laszcz-Davis** gives us the State of the Club address.

Purchase Raffle Tickets for the VW "luv" Bug !

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.

July 26:

Dr. Michael Baker
"What's Up With Korea?"

August 2:

Andy and Wendy Scheck
Harvesting Honey

www.rotarylafayette.org

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

◆ Not to be missed ◆ Not to be missed ◆

SENIORS

Transportation Circles: What are they and how do you create one at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 26 at Aegis Moraga. Worried about giving up your car keys? What if you had a transportation plan before you face that moment? Learn how to navigate this major life change to give you the confidence you need to get around town. RSVP to Lamorinda Village (925) 283-3500 space is limited! Lunch included.

Home Match Program presented by Max Moy-Borgen, Home Match Contra Costa from

10:30 a.m. to noon on July 31 in the Sequoia Room, Lafayette Community Center. Do you live alone on a fixed income? Do you have a spare room? Do you need help around the house, extra income to pay for basic necessities, or just a little companionship? Covia Senior Communities' Home Match program matches homeowners with people seeking affordable housing in the area. Learn about this program that will be expanding in Contra Costa County this year. Free. To sign up, please call Lafayette Senior Services at (925) 284-5050, email seniors@lovelafayette.org or register online at www.lafayetterec.org.

Lafayette Community Foundation's 10th Annual Senior Symposium, "Aging By Design" will take place from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Aug. 4 at Acalanes High School. Attendees will hear from a variety of experts including Dr. Alan D. Brast, a medical/mental health professional for more than 40 years. In addition, many vendors and nonprofit agencies will have booths at the Symposium's Resource Fair providing information about their products and services. Free. Please register in advance by visiting <http://www.lafayetterecf.org>.

Lamorinda Weekly

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A sweet and savory summer snack

By Susie Iventosch



Bacon-wrapped blue cheese-stuffed figs

Photo Susie Iventosch

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.



I have been wanting to publish this fig recipe for a few years now, but because we spend our summers in Idaho, we keep missing the fig season in the Bay Area and so I seem to forget about them. But, in a turn of luck last week we made a quick trip to the Bay Area for a family event and while shopping for a dinner party, I spied beautiful Mission figs in the market. I did not hesitate to pick up a basket of them for appetizers. The produce man said that we are still in the first of two summer figs seasons and so there's plenty of time to make this dish before they disappear again.

The California fig season opens in June and goes through July, with a second wave arriving in August through October. This may be changing. More than 90 percent of America's fig crops are grown in California and farmers are trying to find ways to extend the season throughout the year. But for now, we still mainly see

figs in the markets during these two short back-to-back seasons.

This recipe is a bit time-consuming due to wrapping the bacon around each stuffed fig, but it is definitely worth it! We use turkey bacon, because it's

precooked and also less fatty, but you can certainly use pork bacon that has been cooked until done, but not crispy. You will want to get it crispy after you've wrapped the fig and secured it with a toothpick.

Bacon-wrapped blue cheese-stuffed figs

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pint basket black Mission figs (12 or so)
- 1/3 cup crumbled blue or Gorgonzola cheese
- 6-10 strips turkey bacon, cut in half lengthwise (depending upon how many figs you have)
- Toothpicks

DIRECTIONS

- Heat oven to 400 F and spray a baking sheet with cooking spray.
- Remove the stem tip from the figs, and slice each fig in half lengthwise. Place figs flesh side up on a baking sheet. With your thumb or index finger, make a small indentation into the pulp of the fig. Push about a 1/2 teaspoon of blue cheese or Gorgonzola crumbles into the cavity. Next, wrap each fig with a half strip of bacon, wrapping around the middle of the fig and secure with a toothpick.
- Bake for approximately 10 minutes, or until cheese begins to brown and bacon begins to get crispy.
- Serve hot.

Steps to Success for the College Transfer Student

By Elizabeth LaScala, PhD

A student recently wrote to me: "My family can't afford to send me straight to a four-year college. My dream is to attend a community college and transfer to UC San Diego. What are my chances of filling all the requirements, and holding down a part-time job and transferring in two years? I know getting the right advice at the right time is very important."

Unfortunately, this student's predicament is not unique. A slice of historical context helps. The Master Plan for Higher Education, ratified in 1960, created the California Community College system, consisting of 112 statewide accredited two-year colleges and its accompanying transfer option to a four-year state university. As designed in 1960 the system rested heavily on a healthy transfer path between the CCCs—and California's public four-year institutions. The role of the CCCs remains critical to a transfer option to California's public four-year institutions, namely our nine University of California campuses and 23 California State Universities. However, the demographics and fiscal realities of the state have changed dramatically. Students who plan to attend a community college today and transfer successfully (<http://www.doingcollege.com/college/transfer-student-counseling/>) must bravely confront a new world.

The following eight recommendations can help our high

school students plan how to use the transfer path as effectively as possible.

1. **Don't make community college an afterthought.** The community college option should not be a late addition to your college admissions plan. You should create a written game plan for the (hopefully) two-year transfer path. Although the plan will likely change based on the availability of classes, schedule conflicts or a change in a student's academic goals, having a plan ensures you get and stay on track.

2. **Go beyond your high school's requirements for graduation.** Earning strong grades in each UC/CSU required course in high school increases your chances of passing the assessment exams that place you in college level English and math coursework in a community college environment. That could mean skipping over remedial classes, which have no transfer credits. Advanced Placement classes and AP exams where you earned a passing grade of 3 or higher can be used for some required courses as well.

3. **Participate in California's Early Assessment Program (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/g/hs/eapindex.asp>).** The EAP testing is offered to juniors at their high schools. Through the assessment, California juniors have the opportunity to measure their English and math skills toward the end of

11th grade. Juniors can evaluate their college 'readiness' and plan their final year in high school to take coursework to strengthen their ability to be successful in the CCC system.

4. **Identify your transfer path in high school.** At the end of your junior year or early in your senior year begin to research both the CCCs as well as the four-year public or private universities you are interested in attending to complete your degree. Visit the campuses and well in advance of the visit be sure to make appointments with the transfer counseling departments to assess your status and your transfer plan (the one you put together prior to the visit). Then you will be prepared to really zero in on the schools that make it to your final list.

5. **Discover articulation agreements.** Most CCCs have what are called "articulation agreements" with the public UCs and CSUs and often with some private colleges as well. These agreements specify the required general education courses and prerequisites for your intended major. Select classes with your articulation plan clearly in mind. Since universities, especially state schools, can and do change their transfer requirements, staying current on the changes is your responsibility. The state's budgetary challenges can make the transfer path a moving target. Your best bet is to check your articulation agree-

ment criteria at <http://www.assist.org/web-assist/welcome.html> and take charge of it. You can identify a counselor to work with at the CCC, but be aware that some are very informed while others not so much, and there is quite a bit of turnover. If you find a knowledgeable counselor, stay in touch by meeting early and often. If you do not have luck at first, try, try again.

6. **Be prepared to enroll in classes at more than one CCC.** Despite the inconvenience, you may have to take required, transferable coursework at more than one CCC in order to get the classes you need to move forward along the transfer path.

7. **Your Grade Point Average (GPA) is the best predictor of success.** Just as in high school, your GPA in a community college (in classes that have transferrable credits) is probably the single most important factor in the transfer admissions decision. Study hard and get tutoring help early. Don't wait to fail or drop a class; that only delays your transfer plans.

8. **Don't let life get in the way.** Students who can attend CCC full-time are more likely to earn a degree. Try to build the rest of your life around your academic priorities. Living at home for the first year or two helps to ensure that earning money will not get in the way of earning your degree.

The eight tips above are indispensable tools as you navigate

the transfer process. Use them for transfer success!



Elizabeth LaScala, PhD personally guides each student through each step of selecting and applying to well-matched schools for undergraduate, graduate and professional school admissions. For over two decades, Elizabeth has placed hundreds of students in some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in the U.S. By attending professional conferences, visiting college campuses and making personal contacts with admissions networks, Elizabeth stays current on the latest trends and the evolving nature of admissions and passes that know-how on to her clients. Both college and graduate school advising is available and the number of clients taken is limited to ensure each applicant has personalized attention. Contact Elizabeth early in the process to make a difference in your outcomes. Write elizabeth@doingcollege.com; visit www.doingcollege.com or call (925) 385-0562.

'Everybody' – a must see for everyone at Cal Shakes

... continued from page B3

We have the privilege of having this beautiful setting in our Lamorinda community, this play there is a summer must-see. There is some use of offensive words in the play, but no blasphemy, and someone undresses, to swim suit level. Parents will decide whether or not the play is appropriate for

young children.

Featured in The New York Times as "one of this country's most original and illuminating writers," Jacobs-Jenkins' play "Everybody" was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in the drama category in 2017. His other plays include "War," "Gloria"

(Pulitzer Prize-finalist), "Appropriate," "An Octoroon" and "Neighbors."

California Shakespeare Theater's production of "Everybody" runs at the Bruns Amphitheater in Orinda until Aug. 5. For tickets, visit www.calshakes.org.

www.Lamorindaweekly.com

Most Frequently Viewed Stories From Our Last Issue:

The screenshot shows the website layout with a navigation bar at the top. The main content area features several article thumbnails with headlines such as 'Tatzin not running for re-election', 'Modern Tones - unique recording facility opens in Lafayette', 'ADA complaints and lawsuits on the rise in Lafayette', and 'Neighborhood fun on the Fourth'. A sidebar on the right contains a 'Next, frequently viewed stories at' section with a link to www.lamorindaweekly.com.

- ADA complaints and lawsuits on the rise in Lafayette
- Lamorinda Safety Fair, Classic Car Show and Police Motorcycle Competition July 21
- Modern Tones - unique recording facility opens in Lafayette
- Tatzin not running for re election
- Challenging summer commute in Moraga
- Special Olympian Ryan Heptig gets gold
- Council prepares for legal battle over hillside and ridgeline development
- Neighborhood fun on the Fourth
- Lafayette prepares for 50th anniversary celebration
- 10th anniversary of Opera in the Park

If you wish to view any of the stories above go to www.lamorindaweekly.com and click the link below the story.

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LAMORINDA SPORTS

Submit stories to
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 (we prefer to receive your original photo file, minimum size:
 200 dpi and 1200 pixels wide)

John Torchio heads to Wisconsin

By Jon Kingdon



John Torchio

Photos Gint Federas

Normally when one goes off to college to study and play on a Division I football team, the workload from what students were used to in high school increases exponentially. For Campolindo graduate John Torchio, heading off to the University of Wisconsin to study and play football, it may prove to be more of a respite for the three-sport athlete.

Sports have always been in John Torchio's blood.

Torchio played multiple sports growing up – flag football, CYO basketball, swimming, soccer and volleyball though a family history may have directed him to a true love of football: “My grandfather and father both played quarterback at the University of California. It did have an influence in my playing football but there was never any pressure to play from my parents. I just had a love for the game.”

Torchio, who played quarterback on Campolindo's freshman team and then wide receiver and free safety and backup QB for the varsity the next two years, was called upon to play quarterback as a senior. Says Torchio: “I definitely wanted to play QB. Playing receiver helped me learn the offense faster and it gave me an appreciation

for what the receivers had to do and what they would complain about.”

With the graduation of Jacob Westphal, Campolindo head coach Kevin Macy was without an established quarterback for the 2017 season so he moved Torchio to quarterback while asking him to continue to start at free safety as well: “John showed constant improvement his senior year. As the quarterback, we designed a lot of run plays for him and as the year progressed, he became far more polished as a passer. At the start, he was more of an athlete and by the end of the season, he was a true quarterback.”

It's one thing to play both offense and defense in football. It's another to play two such demanding positions at QB and FS. Says Macy: “John was some who was in great shape with a big motor and just wanted to compete.”

Torchio even played on special teams by his own choice: “I just love football. When I went out of the game, I would get bored on the sidelines. I knew I could rest after the game.”

Macy appreciated the leadership Torchio brought to the team: “John carried his class from a young kid all the way through

high school. Everyone in his class looked up to him. He was not a demanding leader but he set the bar high for himself and his teammates knew they had to work to keep up with him.”

Torchio had an equal appreciation for Macy: “Coach Macy means the world to me. He does things no one else does. We would do a drill for 45 minutes that did not seem to relate to football and yet somehow, he would find a way to relate it to our next game. He is a great motivator and he's the reason the program is so good.”

After a 15-game season and making it to the state semifinals, Torchio took all of one day off and then returned to Campolindo's basketball team. Head coach Steven Dyer saw Torchio bring a football mentality to the basketball team: “John is a tough guy physically and brought a winning mentality to our team with all the success he had in football. He was a good leader that really helped our program. He was a good defender, rebounder and did a great job finishing off plays. He liked being with the guys and enjoyed the competition.”

Torchio also spoke highly of Dyer: “Coach Dyer was a really

smart X's and O's type of coach. He was all business on the court but more of your friend off the court. He really wants to win.”

Torchio had bypassed playing baseball in the spring prior to his senior season to focus on preparing for the upcoming football season, but chose to play baseball as a senior and was on the team that made it to the NCS finals.

At Campolindo, the academics were not overlooked by Torchio: “Campolindo really challenged me. The homework and studying for tests were somewhat akin to how I would prepare for sports. I learned that I needed a strong work ethic for a successful outcome in school and athletics. I think sports helped me get my work done. Time management was crucial. I would be tired so I would grind it out so I did not have time to screw around to motivate me to finish it so I could sleep.”

Torchio singled out two teachers: Tom Renno, his government and economics teacher, and Anne Hebert, his English teacher for special appreciation. “They expected good grades and efforts and I liked being held to a high standard and they were sports fans as well.”

When looking back on the most gratifying moments of his career, Torchio cites winning the state championship his junior year and the NCS championship as a senior.

Besides all of the time in athletics, Torchio also takes great pride in that he was in the school choir (bass) for four years and became an Eagle Scout the spring of his junior year.

Though offered a scholarship to play football at the University of California, Torchio chose to go to Wisconsin where his sister Katharine, who will be a senior, is on the soccer team: “She was a factor in my decision but I just really liked the atmosphere there. It was a hard choice between Cal and Wisconsin but my father's attitude was ‘Whatever makes you happy.’ It's an opportunity to live in a new area as I will eventually return to the Bay Area after college.”

As is his wont, the proactive Torchio left for Wisconsin on June 16 to take classes and prepare for the upcoming season. Torchio is going to major in business but does not rule out the possibility of playing professionally as a defensive back. Don't bet against his success both on and off the field.



John Torchio during last year's NCS Championship game.

Heritage open tennis tournament at MCC is springboard to success

By John T. Miller



Mackenzie McDonald

Photos provided

Moraga Country Club will play host to the 32nd annual \$25,000 Heritage Bank of Commerce Open Tennis Championships from Aug 7-12.

The major sponsor for this prestigious event is the Heritage Bank of Commerce and the presenting sponsor is the Pine Grove Business

Center of Orinda. The event attracts a wide range of players, including former local high school standouts, top collegiate players and touring pros.

Head tennis pro Mark Orwig has been spearheading the event at MCC since its inception in 1987. “We started out with a \$2,000



Karue Sell

purse, which rose to \$10,000, and eventually ended up at the current level of \$25,000,” he says. “Along with the prize money growing to its current level, the quality of the competition has grown as well.”

Two of the previous winners, Mackenzie McDonald in 2015, and Karue Sell in 2017 (both pictured

above), have gone on to great success on the pro tour.

In 2016, McDonald went on to win both the collegiate singles championship for UCLA and the doubles championship, becoming the first player to accomplish that feat since 2001. At Wimbledon this year, he made it to the round of 16 before los-

ing in four sets to Milos Raonic.

Sell, who originally hails from Brazil, was also a standout at UCLA where he went 21-2 in singles dual matches in 2016. He is currently doing well on the pro circuit, ranked 372 in the world and posting a 21-10 record in singles competition this year.

Deadline for participants to sign up is July 31. Currently, about 25 players have committed. Orwig says that typically they expect at least 120 men and 40 women players to compete. The field will boast players from across the nation and some international competitors as well.

The prize money will be split between the top finishers in Men's singles and doubles, Women's singles and doubles and mixed doubles.

For those wishing to view the event, admission is free. For more information, contact Orwig at (925) 376-1314.



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Haley Van Dyke heading to the University of Washington

By Jon Kingdon



Haley Van Dyke

Photo Gint Federas

Like most of the top athletes that have gone through the Lamorinda school system, Haley Van Dyke grew up playing many sports. Up through seventh grade, Van Dyke played soccer and volleyball, which she says, "I enjoyed but it was not as challenging as basketball." It was in eighth grade that Van Dyke chose to make basketball her main sport as she explained with great understatement: "I tried basketball and found I was not too bad at this and just kept going with it."

It did not take long for Van Dyke to realize that she made the right choice: "When I played in the Elite Youth Basketball League, I played against a lot of top players and I realized that I could compete at their level."

One of her early coaches was Art Thoms who coached her in AAU basketball and then at Campolindo High School. Said Thoms: "She did not have much basketball experience to start with but right away you could see she had the skills to improve. It was really fun working with her because she developed so fast. As she grew, she was able to do things that other girls could not do. As an example, she learned the power dribble which enabled her to control the ball and get to the rim, a technique few girls

could learn so quickly."

Van Dyke started for the varsity all four years improving her scoring, rebounding and assist statistics each season averaging her senior year 29.8 points, 17.3 rebounds and 3.8 assists per game. She also finished her career with 343 blocked shots.

It was not just basketball for Van Dyke at Campolindo: "It was a real good education for me. I had a lot of help from my teachers and they were always available for extra time. All my teachers were great and very supportive. It could be difficult to balance sports and school so I would plan ahead according to my schedule."

Not to be overlooked was the support she got from her parents: "My parents were always there for me through my athletic career taking me to sports and games and led me to play basketball and always backed me up."

Thoms also spoke highly of Van Dyke's ability to keep things in perspective: "The thing that stands out with Haley is that she works hard in practice but she still has a lot of fun. Her toughness and competitiveness come out in the game where she gets locked in and focused but she is fun-loving away from the game."

Van Dyke appreciated how

hard Thoms worked to make her a better player: "He was very hard on me and pushed me to get better which helped me to develop as a player. The yelling and the constructive criticism really helped me to develop as a player."

Playing against top players in high school like Sabrina Ionescu (Miramonte High School) also helped Van Dyke's game: "I had to guard her and it was cool because she is now one of the top players in the nation and I have also had the opportunity to work out with her." The rivalry will continue as Ionescu now plays at the University of Oregon and Van Dyke has chosen to attend the University of Washington. Van Dyke had been considering going to Indiana, Florida and USC but opted for Washington because "it was mostly the campus and how close it was to home and how I could go there and improve the program."

After a 7-23 record last season, Washington has a lot of room for improvement and Huskies' Coach Jody Wynn is very much anticipating Van Dyke's arrival: "Haley is a versatile player that can score from the perimeter as well as make plays around the basket. She is an instinctive rebounder and can defend multiple positions. Haley has a great upside and will continue to expand her versatility in our system and will make an immediate impact to our program. She is a terrific teammate and student and will really flourish here at UW."

With so many highlights to choose from in her time at Campolindo Van Dyke singles out the team's performance the past two years: "Our team my junior year really connected with great chemistry and we made it to the state finals. This past season also making the state finals despite losing so many players from the prior season, particularly Ashley Thom who we missed due to injury and scoring 60 points against Moreau Catholic."

It's not just Van Dyke's height and athletic ability that has brought about her basketball excellence. It's her basketball IQ: "I always knew where the ball is. It just seems natural to me. I can shoot, rebound and drive to the basket. At Washington, I just want to build up my overall confidence."

With her success both on and off the court, that should be the least of her concerns as she heads off to Washington.

Lafayette resident heads to Caltech

Submitted by Gint Federas



Luc Davis

Photo provided

Lafayette resident Luc Davis, a recent Tilden Preparatory School graduate, will be heading to California Institute of Technology in the fall as a member of the Caltech Men's Fencing Team.

Moraga 10U Allstars win tournament

Submitted by Kevin Zellmer



Front row, from left: Ty Madson, Brody Reed, Jack Braun, Cameron Mayo, Everett Zellmer; middle row: Luke McLeod, Justin Nagayama, Tyler Rogers, Logan Childers, Cole Fischer; coaches: Brad Rogers, Drew Fischer; not pictured: Lucas Cano, Carson Rossi, Landi Giordani, Coach Patrick Rossi

Photo provided

The weekend of July 7-8 the Moraga 10U Allstars baseball team played in the regional Fremont Baseball Tournament. With a combined score of 38-5 and striking out 31 opponents the 10U Allstars won the first three games with consecutive shut outs and went on to beat the Oakland Raptors 9-5 to win the tournament.

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Moraga hosts 22nd Annual 4th of July Fun Run

Submitted by Eric Yabu



Eventual female and male winners, Amy Crain (#545) and Niki Moore (#487), take off at the start of the 5-mile race. Photos Shirley DeFrancisci and Eric Yabu



Many kids line up for the 2-mile race instead of the kiddie races.

Campolindo's Cross Country and Track and Field programs along with title sponsor Kirsten Buckley Real Estate hosted their 22nd Annual Moraga Fourth of July Fun Run last week to kick off the town's holiday festivities. Nearly 700 participants took part in the event which featured 400- and 800-meter Kiddie Runs, a 2-mile race, and a 5-mile race. The kiddies received medals and glow sticks for their efforts. In the 2-mile race, the overall winner was Jayson Fernbacher in a time of 12:25. The top female finisher was Ellie Buckley in 13:29. The 5-mile race was won by Niki Moore in 25:54 while Amy Crain won the women's race in 30:31.

For complete results please go to the website at: moragafunrun.com.



JM eighth-grader Ellie Buckley coming in as the top female 2-mile finisher.



Jayson Fernbacher heads to the finish line to take the 2-mile race.

Mini Meet - OMPA's youngest swimmers

Submitted by Amy Campbell



The 48th annual Mini Meet, hosted by Meadow Swim and Tennis Club, took place on Sunday, July 15. Over 550 swimmers ages 4 to 8 from the nine clubs that make up the Orinda Moraga Pool Association (OMPA) competed in this year's "Hollywood" themed event. Evelyn and Miles Gaffney from Miramonte broke the 25 yard breaststroke records for their age group, and Jack Deal from Orinda Park Pool broke the record for the boys 7 year old 25 yard free. Orinda Country Club took first place for the

second year in a row, followed by Moraga Valley Pool and Orinda Park Pool.



Photos provided

1. Orinda Country Club: 671.50 pts.
2. Moraga Valley Pool Swim Team: 490.50 pts.
3. Orinda Park Pool: 356 pts.
4. Meadow Swim Team: 319.50 pts.
5. Sleepy Hollow Legends: 286.50 pts.
6. Moraga Country Club: 250 pts.
7. Miramonte Swim Club: 148 pts.
8. Moraga Ranch Swim Club: 89 pts.
9. Campolindo Cabana Club Marlins: 18 pts.



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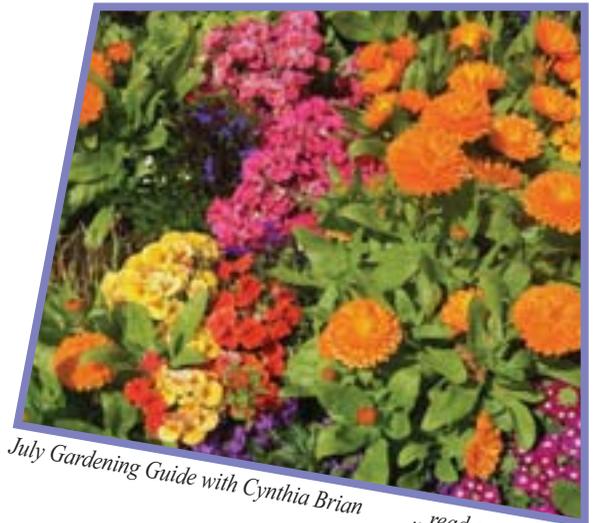
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Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 12 Issue 11 Wednesday, July 25, 2018



July Gardening Guide with Cynthia Brian
...read on page D12

Fire transforms homeowner

By Cathy Dausman



Joe and Betsy Magagna's home after the North Bay fire.

Photos provided

“If I were 10 years younger, I’d be rebuilding,” says former North Bay resident Betsy Magagna. It’s summer and Magagna, dressed in shorts and a tee, looks happy, relaxed and tan sitting on the deck of her rental home on a Lamorinda hillside.

Less than a year ago Magagna and her husband Joe were feeling “very settled” in the Santa Rosa home they had purchased 10 years previously, having retired from Chicago to be near family. With a strong network of friends and activities, the couple anticipated living in that house for another 10 years.

Magagna filled her home with books, a collection of artwork 50 years in the making and furnishings from grandparents and in-laws – an 18th century mantle clock, Limoges and Haviland china, a 1915 wedding photo and Magagna’s beloved grand piano. A photo taken several years ago shows 16 rose bushes in full bloom along the backyard fence and deer grazing on the golf course just beyond.

“We were very happy there,” Magagna says. “The last thing on our mind was fire.”

That all changed Oct. 8. Magagna called 911 that night to report smelling smoke; she was told it had drifted in from a fire to the south. But three hours later police were rushing house to house, frantically knocking on doors, compelling residents to leave – now.

Magagna grabbed her purse and iPad, asked her husband about his medications and the couple, dressed only in shoes, shorts and a T-shirt, drove away. ... continued on page D4

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Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

City	Last reported:	LOWEST AMOUNT:	HIGHEST AMOUNT:
LAFAYETTE	23	\$600,000	\$3,600,000
MORAGA	20	\$540,000	\$2,200,000
ORINDA	13	\$775,000	\$3,025,000

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

- 860 Broadmoor Court, \$2,409,000, 5 Bdrms, 3435 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 6-12-18;
Previous Sale: \$1,900,000, 08-04-05
- 3716 Crestmont Place, \$2,938,500, 4 Bdrms, 4291 SqFt, 2000 YrBlt, 6-7-18;
Previous Sale: \$2,875,000, 08-16-16
- 1281 Del Arroyo Court, \$1,380,000, 3 Bdrms, 1751 SqFt, 1954 YrBlt, 6-12-18;
Previous Sale: \$350,000, 12-15-93
- 14 Diablo Circle, \$1,482,000, 3 Bdrms, 2208 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 6-13-18
- 592 Francis Drive, \$925,000, 3 Bdrms, 1836 SqFt, 1967 YrBlt, 6-7-18;
Previous Sale: \$51,000, 02-08-74
- 3271 Hillview Lane, \$860,000, 2 Bdrms, 1111 SqFt, 1949 YrBlt, 6-5-18
- 129 Jordan Place, \$1,900,000, 4 Bdrms, 3288 SqFt, 2006 YrBlt, 6-5-18;
Previous Sale: \$1,645,000, 11-01-13
- 1044 Lindsey Court, \$1,400,000, 3 Bdrms, 1807 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 6-14-18;
Previous Sale: \$807,000, 08-29-03
- 3174 Lucas Drive, \$1,050,000, 3 Bdrms, 1195 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 6-5-18;
Previous Sale: \$11,500, 02-04-72
- 865 Mountain View Drive, \$1,300,000, 3 Bdrms, 1779 SqFt, 1960 YrBlt, 6-14-18;
Previous Sale: \$655,000, 08-24-01
- 3279 Mt. Diablo Court #13, \$880,000, 3 Bdrms, 2420 SqFt, 1987 YrBlt, 6-12-18;
Previous Sale: \$805,000, 07-28-15
- 1195 Pleasant Hill Circle, \$1,385,000, 4 Bdrms, 2089 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 6-11-18;
Previous Sale: \$770,000, 09-16-10
- 2920 Rohrer Drive, \$3,350,000, 5 Bdrms, 7902 SqFt, 1990 YrBlt, 6-14-18;
Previous Sale: \$2,900,000, 01-07-14
- 25 Samantha Drive, \$3,200,000, 5 Bdrms, 4427 SqFt, 2006 YrBlt, 6-14-18;
Previous Sale: \$2,625,000, 08-24-06
- 14 Shreve Lane, \$1,009,091, 4 Bdrms, 2035 SqFt, 2013 YrBlt, 6-13-18
- 521 Silverado Drive, \$1,750,000, 4 Bdrms, 3591 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 6-1-18;
Previous Sale: \$1,425,000, 03-29-13
- 3497 South Silver Springs Road, \$1,748,500, 4 Bdrms, 2249 SqFt, 1958 YrBlt,
6-12-18; Previous Sale: \$113,000, 08-16-763350 Springhill Road,
\$3,600,000, 7 Bdrms, 3239 SqFt, 1941 YrBlt, 6-6-18;
Previous Sale: \$1,600,000, 07-31-17
- 825 Topper Lane, \$2,135,000, 3 Bdrms, 1998 SqFt, 1950 YrBlt, 6-8-18
- 847 Topper Lane, \$1,990,000, 3 Bdrms, 1980 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 6-1-18;
Previous Sale: \$1,350,000, 06-21-07
- 3 Wallabi Court, \$1,550,000, 5 Bdrms, 2688 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 5-31-18;
Previous Sale: \$990,000, 08-25-11
- 3701 West Road, \$600,000, 1 Bdrms, 832 SqFt, 1977 YrBlt, 6-4-18;
Previous Sale: \$525,000, 04-26-16
- 3412 Woodview Drive, \$1,300,000, 3 Bdrms, 2004 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 6-1-18;
Previous Sale: \$699,000, 05-15-03

MORAGA

- 830 Augusta Drive, \$875,000, 2 Bdrms, 1743 SqFt, 1978 YrBlt, 6-5-18;
Previous Sale: \$580,000, 07-02-02
- 29 Sullivan Drive, \$935,000, 3 Bdrms, 1745 SqFt, 1962 YrBlt, 6-1-18
- 56 Sullivan Drive, \$1,750,000, 4 Bdrms, 2855 SqFt, 1964 YrBlt, 6-1-18;
Previous Sale: \$1,355,000, 09-12-08

... continued on page D13

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16 TREETOP TERRACE CT., ALAMO \$2,989,988



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2661 NETHERCOTT COURT, W.C. \$1,365,000



HURLBUT TEAM 925.383.5500

951 JANET LANE, LAFAYETTE \$1,195,000



TINA FRECHMAN 925.915.0851

5 PASEO LINARES, MORAGA \$2,625,000



MATT MCLEOD 925.464.6500

40 CASTLE CREST ROAD, ALAMO \$1,780,000



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DRE# 01938194

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415.377.1884
DRE# 02047712

LISA TICHENOR



925.285.1093
DRE# 01478540

MATT MCLEOD



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DRE# 01310057

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925.915.0851
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415.999.6116
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Fire transforms homeowner

... continued from page D1

“We had every intention of coming back” the next morning, Magagna said, but that didn’t happen.

Nearly 3,000 Santa Rosa homes burned to the ground. The grand piano Magagna’s parents gave her as a gift 60 years ago was reduced to ash.

“You don’t appreciate what you have until you lose it,” she said. The couple spent the remainder of the night at a Red Cross shelter, before driving to the East Bay to stay first with their daughter, then their son, and finally moving into a San Francisco condo for three months.

“We needed space to separate ourselves from the disaster,” Magagna said, adding that events at first left them amazed, overwhelmed, exhausted and numb. The aftermath brought out both the best and the worst in people, Magagna said, but she counts herself lucky. The couple had family to live with and their home was insured. They found a beautifully updated single-story rental in Orinda whose owner Magagna calls “the nicest of ladies.”

The owner offered some of her own furniture and the rest—knives, forks, plates, pots, pans, bedding and more— the Magagnas rented. “The last thing I wanted was to go shopping,” Magagna admitted.

With the four plastic bins and file folders their daughter provided, the couple began reorganizing their lives. They spent hours with a claims adjustor and months just remembering what was in the house, down to collectible LEGOs they kept from their son’s childhood. Magagna kept paper and pencil bedside, often waking up to record something else to include on their household inventory. They needed new birth and marriage certificates, passports and social security cards. Magagna had some household photos on her iPad but wishes she’d grabbed her computer

flash drive.

Magagna says the experience has turned her into a minimalist, saying she buys something now only if she needs it. She owns two pairs of jeans and shorts and two T-shirts. That minimalist vision also drives their search to buy a Lamorinda home.

“A lot of us are on the fence” about whether to rebuild, Magagna says of her Santa Rosa neighbors and friends, and the couple has retained ownership of their lot, but watching her husband “come alive” at Christmas with their four little grandsons has left them strongly focused on buying a Lamorinda home and settling into this community.

The couple is searching for a good quality, single story home offering three-bedrooms, two baths and an open kitchen floor plan in about 2,000 square feet of living space. Magagna hopes some eye-catching picture window views will serve as a replacement for the artwork now lost to fire. A view of Mt. Diablo, Magagna says, would nearly seal the deal.

The couple has refrained from buying furniture before they buy a house in order to simplify their move and insure the furniture suits the home and its surroundings. “I want to keep things as simple as I can,” she says. Now sensitive to smoke, they also want a neighborhood with easy escape routes.

Twice the couple has presented offers on a home and twice they lost out in bidding wars. Another listing was under contract just 15 minutes into its first open house, Magagna said. She hopes their third offer will prove the charm. Betsy and Joe Magagna know they must be patient in their search.

“Be thankful for what you’ve got,” Magagna said, and know that family “is most important.”



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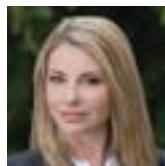


PADDY KEHOE TEAM

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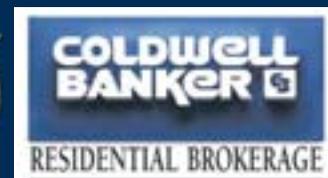
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Lamorinda Market Activity



New Off Market Listing

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Offered at \$2,750,000
Representing Seller

5 BR | 4 BA | 3,761± SQ. FT.

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65 Sleepy Hollow Lane | Orinda
Offered at \$899,000
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4 BR | 2 BA | 1,784± SQ. FT.

Not on the market in 50+ years! This wonderful mid-century single-story home is a blank slate for the new homeowner's creativity. Sunny, 2/3± acre lot offers a large, level yard space, fruit tree orchards, mature plantings and terraced gardens.



Sold

59 Corte del Caballo | Moraga
Offered at \$1,428,000
Represented Buyer

5 BR | 3 BA | 2,632± SQ. FT.

Monterey Colonial with fabulous floorplan and updated kitchen and baths on almost an acre. Special cul-de-sac location with great proximity to Campolindo High School.



Terri Bates Walker

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More About Compass

Several months ago, we wrote about becoming founding members of Compass Lamorinda. Compass is building the first modern real estate platform, pairing the industry's top talent with technology to make the search and sell experience intelligent and seamless. Compass is unique in that they are the only technology-based real estate brokerage that is not geared to removing human beings from the process. Compass embraces a culture of collaborativeness, kindness and professionalism.

Just last week three incredibly well known and respected real estate groups joined Compass Lamorinda. We recently opened a temporary office at 261 Lafayette Circle until we establish our permanent space in the near future. If you are in the neighborhood, please come by and say hello.

You may have already read or heard that Compass recently acquired Paragon Real Estate Group, a well-known and respected San Francisco brokerage. According to a recent press release, "With the addition of Paragon, Compass' Bay Area team has grown to more than 500 agents representing more than \$4.5 billion in sales volume last year. Compass is now the number one real estate company in San Francisco by sales volume and market share." Compass founder Ori Allon stated, "as we began to look for ways to expand in San Francisco, the opportunity to pair Paragon and their agents' expertise and close community ties across the entire Bay Area with the technology, marketing and support we provide to our agents at Compass, was an ideal one."

One example of how Compass is changing real estate is their plan to introduce a new modernized real estate house sign. The new sign will be illuminated so that it is visible at night, customized for each home and embedded with Bluetooth technology that pops up home details and sales information on buyers' phones as they approach. Compass aims to make the real estate sales process more efficient and effective by "Helping everyone find their place in the world".



Don't miss our recently released 2018 Q2 Lamorinda Market Update on our website. We look forward to hearing from you.

For a more comprehensive discussion see the Insight section of our website at MartinHomesTeam.com.

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The Real Estate Quarter in Review

By Conrad Bassett, CRP, GMS-T

The second quarter of 2018 was again seasonally strong with an increase in year over year closed sale activity on the residential side of Lamorinda real estate. Supply continued to be low, pending sales up, and with the average sales price remaining high in Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda.

Per Contra Costa Association of Realtors statistics reported from April 1 through June 30, 97 single family homes closed in Lafayette. This was a decrease from the 114 single family homes closed in the same period one year ago. Sales prices ranged from \$910,000 to \$4.35 million and the average number of days on market was 19, versus 17 days in the year ago second quarter. The average sales price was \$1,818,687 up from a year ago when it was \$1,684,206 and in 2016 when it was \$1,548,262 ... in 2Q2015 it was \$1,670,209. In 2Q2014 it was \$1,396,941.

In Moraga the number of single-family closings was 47, an increase of five from the year ago period. Prices ranged from \$828,000 to \$2.8 million. The average sale price was \$1,508,591 which was a solid increase from the \$1,401,392 in 2Q17 – an increase from \$1,316,655 in 2Q2016. The average marketing time was down significantly to 14 days from 27 days a year ago.

In Orinda, the number of single-family closings was at 97, an increase from 2Q17 when it was 84. Sales prices ranged from \$706,500 to \$4.25 million with an average price of \$1,705,473. A year ago it was \$1,723,552. It took an average of 24 days to have a house go pending, a slight increase from the 18 days in the same period a year ago.

In the quarter ending June 30, on an average price per square foot basis, Lafayette detached single-family homes sold at \$693.66 per square foot versus \$660 per square foot a year ago. It was \$598 per square foot in 2016 and was \$594 in 2015. Moraga homes sold for \$577.39 per square foot, a slight drop from a year ago when it was \$588 per square foot. Orinda was at \$672.90, up a lot from the \$626.18 in 2Q2017.

In Lafayette, the average sales price was 102.3 percent of the final asking price ... the same as last spring. In Moraga it was 102.1 percent and in Orinda it was 104.1 percent.

In the condominium/town home category, Lafayette had four resale closings between \$600,000 and \$1.03 million, Moraga had 34 (twice the 17 in the same quarter a year ago) ranging from \$407,000 to \$1.24 million and Orinda had two – \$1.245 million and \$1.295 million.

As of July 7, 2017, there were 72 homes under contract in the MLS in the three communities combined with asking prices of \$695,000 to \$1.65 million. A year ago there were 97 homes under contract per the MLS in the three communities combined with asking prices of \$419,000 to \$4.995 million. It should be pointed out that there is only one "Potential Short Sale" that is currently pending and subject to lender approval. At this same time a year ago there was also none. There are two pending bank owned sales.

This is due to property values continuing to increase versus the low point and many of those sellers are no longer "under water" or have been able to refinance their homes and are no longer at the point of foreclosure.

Inventory, however, remains low. There are 100 properties on the market and a year ago there were 118 available properties in the three communities combined.

There are only 45 properties on the market in Lafayette – about the same as the 50 at this same time a year ago. Asking prices in Lafayette currently range from \$995,000 to \$5.695 million. In Moraga, buyers have their choice of only 14 homes or condominiums listed between \$399,000 and \$3.05 million. A year ago at this time there were 27. So supply is way down in Moraga.

In Orinda there are 43, nearly the same as the 41 on the market at the same time a year ago. The list prices range from \$789,000 to \$4.7 million.

There are two bank-owned or short sales currently in the MLS available in the three communities.

At the high end, 62 homes sold above \$2 million in the three communities combined. A year ago there were 54. There are also 54 currently available above this amount in Lamorinda.

Interest rates continue to be at very reasonable levels and many corporations have expanded their businesses and continue to relocate families both into and out of the area.

We are also seeing an influx of buyers from San Francisco and even the Silicon Valley who find the local prices reasonable versus those areas and they are willing to make the commutes.

... continued on page D13



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41 Ascot Place, Moraga



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Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for August

The sting

By Cynthia Brian

"Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee." – Muhammed Ali



Add depth and color to your shade garden with hardy geraniums, ferns, and more.

Photos Cynthia Brian

Every morning I walk through my garden in my flip-flops with a cup of coffee in hand to appreciate nature and to investigate what has transpired in the past 20 hours. On this occasion I saw a small dead limb had fallen near one of my prized David Austin roses. Naturally, I reached down to pick it up. Immediately my left hand felt on fire, as if I had fallen into thorny brambles. Instinctively I shook it and to my horror realized that my hand was covered with at least a dozen yellow jackets.

The stings were painful and I thought quickly, immediately removing my rings and running to the medicine cabinet to swallow two antihistamine tablets. The swelling began within minutes. I then poured vinegar over my hand and forearm and made a poultice from baking soda mixed with water that I slathered over the entire area and placed my hand in a bag of ice to reduce the inflammation. After an hour, hydrocortisone cream was applied, and re-

plied as needed.

Yellow jackets are wasps and are not related to bees. Bees live in hives while yellow jackets create nests. Yellow jacket workers typically have black and yellow stripes one-half-inch long body. They have the ability to sting several times, injecting poisonous venom that causes intense pain, while bees can only sting once because their stinger becomes stuck in the skin of its victim. In early spring, these carnivores hunt for insects keeping caterpillars and other garden pests away. But during warm weather, yellow jackets are out in force scavenging for sugar and food. You'll find them prowling around trash cans, summer picnics, barbecues and outdoor diners. A colony of yellow jackets, sometimes numbering in the thousands, builds nests underground, often using a gopher or rodent burrow as their home. They also create nests in house eaves, in walls, or under decks or porches. If you see a multitude of

flying insects darting in and out, you probably have a nest of yellow jackets. They are aggressive and if provoked, will attack relentlessly, even chasing a person or an animal for great distances. Wasp venom contains an alarm secretion that will alert other yellow jackets to assault the target in an effort to protect the colony. Yellow jackets stings are painful and sometimes can be fatal.

What can you do?

In the event of stinging, be aware of symptoms that may warrant immediate medical attention due to an allergic reaction called anaphylaxis. Besides the localized swelling, pain, and redness from the sting, systemic symptoms include problems breathing or swallowing, dizziness, vomiting, diarrhea, coughing, and wheezing. Call 911. Always seek medical assistance if stung in the mouth or neck. For those who know they are allergic to bees or yellow jackets, it's advised to carry an EpiPen.

When emergency medical intervention is not warranted, try these treatments to reduce the painful effects:

1. Take an antihistamine immediately.
2. Remove rings or jewelry.
3. Pour vinegar on the affected area to act as an astringent.
4. Make a paste of baking soda and water to neutralize the venom.
5. Sprinkle meat tenderizer to reduce swelling and pain. Papain, a papaya enzyme, will break down the venom.
6. Wrap the wound in a cold pack or ice.
7. Apply hydrocortisone cream to reduce swelling and itching.

... continued on page D15



A yellow jacket nest in a burrow by the azalea.

The Real Estate Quarter in Review

Lastly, it is important to look at what homes are selling for versus their list prices. Often homes come on the market at unrealistic prices, and they do not sell, but in the second quarter of this year many homes have had multiple offers and have sold at or above the list price.

We are also seeing many buyers having to make offers without the traditional contingencies of obtaining financing or having a home appraised or even having the home inspected. Many sellers are now opting to obtain pre-sale inspections in

... continued from page D10

order to understand the condition of their homes and to also prevent a buyer from trying to renegotiate a lower price or repairs.

Of the 97 single-family sales that closed in Lafayette in the second quarter of 2018, 59 sold at or above the final list price.

In Moraga, 32 of the 47 sales were at or above the asking price and in Orinda, 76 of the 97 sold at or above the final listing price.

Lamorinda Home Sales recorded

... continued from page D2

MORAGA ... continued

- 1431 Camino Peral, \$790,000, 3 Bdrms, 1360 SqFt, 1972 YrBlt, 6-11-18;
Previous Sale: \$385,000, 05-24-02
- 5 Carey Court, \$1,290,000, 3 Bdrms, 1922 SqFt, 1987 YrBlt, 6-12-18;
Previous Sale: \$802,500, 04-27-12
- 82 David Drive, \$1,888,000, 4 Bdrms, 2819 SqFt, 1974 YrBlt, 6-13-18;
Previous Sale: \$930,000, 05-12-04
- 2133 Donald Drive #10, \$540,000, 2 Bdrms, 1224 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 6-4-18;
Previous Sale: \$375,000, 06-27-14
- 18 Fleuti Drive, \$1,475,000, 5 Bdrms, 2638 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 6-4-18;
Previous Sale: \$1,050,000, 12-13-17
- 1110 Larch Avenue, \$1,000,000, 4 Bdrms, 1560 SqFt, 1961 YrBlt, 6-11-18
- 8 Magee Court, \$1,725,000, 4 Bdrms, 3696 SqFt, 1987 YrBlt, 6-11-18
- 108 Miramonte Drive, \$620,000, 2 Bdrms, 1134 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 6-14-18;
Previous Sale: \$392,000, 05-17-10
- 182 Miramonte Drive, \$800,000, 2 Bdrms, 1772 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 6-13-18;
Previous Sale: \$232,000, 09-17-97
- 3986 Paseo Grande, \$1,380,000, 3 Bdrms, 2091 SqFt, 1969 YrBlt, 6-8-18;
Previous Sale: \$635,000, 10-24-00
- 1324 Rimer Drive, \$1,260,000, 3 Bdrms, 1840 SqFt, 1963 YrBlt, 6-1-18;
Previous Sale: \$1,150,000, 05-31-17
- 68 Sanders Ranch Road, \$1,825,000, 4 Bdrms, 3129 SqFt, 1989 YrBlt, 6-12-18;
Previous Sale: \$160,000, 06-27-88
- 1743 Spyglass Lane, \$1,310,000, 3 Bdrms, 2828 SqFt, 1985 YrBlt, 6-7-18;
Previous Sale: \$915,000, 01-16-14
- 224 Tharp Drive, \$1,300,000, 4 Bdrms, 1911 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 5-31-18;
Previous Sale: \$822,000, 04-23-04
- 481 Tharp Drive, \$1,660,000, 4 Bdrms, 3073 SqFt, 1965 YrBlt, 6-1-18;
Previous Sale: \$1,085,000, 07-01-11
- 124 Via Joaquin, \$750,000, 2 Bdrms, 1354 SqFt, 1980 YrBlt, 6-8-18;
Previous Sale: \$500,000, 06-26-12
- 152 Willowbrook Lane, \$2,200,000, 4 Bdrms, 3174 SqFt, 2015 YrBlt, 5-31-18

ORINDA

- 24 Camino Sobrante, \$1,489,000, 4 Bdrms, 2394 SqFt, 1973 YrBlt, 6-5-18;
Previous Sale: \$1,028,000, 09-15-10
- 2 Crown Court, \$1,365,000, 3 Bdrms, 1453 SqFt, 1957 YrBlt, 6-12-18;
Previous Sale: \$827,500, 05-24-13
- 467 Dalewood Drive, \$2,250,000, 3 Bdrms, 3362 SqFt, 1971 YrBlt, 6-6-18
- 576 Dalewood Drive, \$3,025,000, 4 Bdrms, 5184 SqFt, 1987 YrBlt, 6-8-18;
Previous Sale: \$1,475,000, 08-21-98
- 16 Donald Drive, \$1,705,000, 3 Bdrms, 2406 SqFt, 1959 YrBlt, 6-8-18
- 1 Idyll Court, \$1,575,000, 3 Bdrms, 2642 SqFt, 1956 YrBlt, 6-7-18;
Previous Sale: \$115,000, 02-01-77

- 55 La Cuesta Road, \$1,615,000, 3 Bdrms, 2325 SqFt, 1936 YrBlt, 6-8-18;
Previous Sale: \$1,205,000, 05-20-11
- 8 La Plaza Drive, \$1,850,000, 4 Bdrms, 2789 SqFt, 1939 YrBlt, 6-8-18;
Previous Sale: \$1,590,000, 06-06-16
- 5 Madrone Place, \$775,000, 3 Bdrms, 1631 SqFt, 1970 YrBlt, 6-14-18;
Previous Sale: \$50,000, 05-02-78
- 27 Moraga Via, \$2,020,000, 4 Bdrms, 2980 SqFt, 1969 YrBlt, 6-1-18;
Previous Sale: \$328,000, 11-05-80
- 7 Overhill Road, \$1,750,000, 4 Bdrms, 3227 SqFt, 1945 YrBlt, 6-8-18;
Previous Sale: \$110,000, 07-25-96
- 100 Van Ripper Lane, \$1,408,500, 3 Bdrms, 2085 SqFt, 1948 YrBlt, 6-8-18
- 14 Via Floreado, \$850,000, 3 Bdrms, 2000 SqFt, 1951 YrBlt, 6-7-18;
Previous Sale: \$172,000, 06-22-84

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Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for August

- **CONTROL** allergies by eating local honey. Researchers have found that by ingesting the honey from local bees, many allergy sufferers find relief.
- **CHECK** the level of water for your lawn by putting a coffee cup on your grass then running your sprinklers. To stay green, lawns require about one inch of water.
- **SOW** seeds for cool season Brassicas crops this month. Broccoli, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, kale, turnips, collards, and mustard will get a head start for fall and winter harvests.
- **PROVIDE** water for birds, bees and butterflies with a gurgling fountain in your garden.
- **WATCH** for broken irrigation pipes. If you turn on your sprinkler and you find the pressure is low, investigate the cause. It usually is an underground pipe that is leaking or has broken.
- **PLANT** colorful gazania, lobelia, primrose and petunias for instant garden pizzazz.
- **DEADHEAD** roses weekly. Your plant will stop blooming if you allow the rose hips to form.
- **ADD** fragrance and bring beneficial pollinators to your landscape with black-eyed Susan, milkweed, Echinacea, aster, lavender and bee balm.
- **WATER** deeply and less frequently to train your garden to be water thrifty.
- **PROTECT** your trees as they keep our environment cooler in summer, reduce wind, provide shade to unwind, and clean the air we breathe.
- **ADD** depth and brightness to shade gardens by including astilbe, hosta, phlox, bleeding heart, trillium, helleborus, hardy geranium, and ferns to your landscape.
- **TURN** kitchen and yard waste into high quality compost by either creating a compost pile, buying a bin or tumbler.
- **READ** my newest garden guide, "Growing with the Goddess Gardener," while swinging in the shade in your hammock. Order copies at <http://www.CynthiaBrian.com/online-store> today.
- **HARVEST** tomatoes, peaches, peppers, zucchini, and cucumbers.
- **ACT** quickly when stung by a bee or yellow jacket. Seek medical attention immediately if emergency symptoms emerge.
- **WEAR** sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat, gloves, and boots while gardening. This is sage advice that I haven't always followed but know I must. (Hence the flip-flops and the yellow jacket swarm!)

Have fun in the sun and savor summer sunsets.

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.

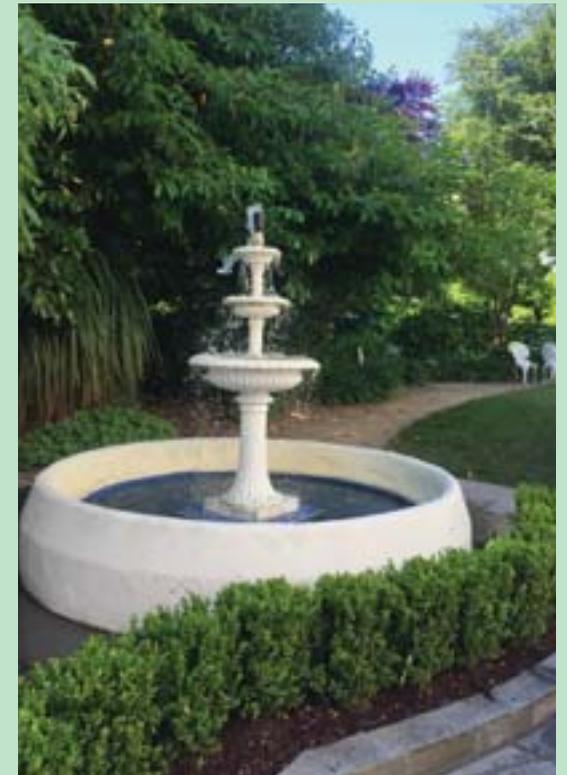
Cynthia Brian



Dahlias, zinnias, and asters speak summer.



Felipe, from Vector Control, exterminates the yellow jacket nest.



A fountain provides a water source for birds and pollinators.

Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for August

The sting

... continued from page D12



A double hammock doubles the summer relaxation.

Other popular home remedies include application of toothpaste, a wet tea bag, Preparation H, or a slice of onion. Be aware that it may take a week or longer for the pain, swelling, and itching to subside. Again, if in doubt about the severity of the sting, contact your physician.

Although my hand and forearm were swollen, red, and inflamed for three days, followed by several days of severe itching, fortunately for me I was not allergic to the multiple stings. I was prepared to call for medical help if needed and I did contact Vector Control who arrived promptly to eradicate the invaders. Felipe, the Vector Control technician, discovered two yellow jacket nests in a hole near my azalea bush. He informed me that yellow jackets will fly great distances to feed, therefore a nest in a neighborhood can negatively affect the entire block. Keep food sealed when outdoors and garbage cans closed so as not to attract these active aggressors.

If you find a nest of yellow jackets, don't try to eradicate them yourself, call Vector Control. A trained technician wearing beekeeper attire will come to your home at no charge, examine the nest, and if it is a yellow jacket colony, the technician will exterminate it. You can also call a professional pest control company who will charge you a fee for removal. Make sure to positively identify flying insects as you don't want to harm bees, honeybees, and bumblebees or other gentle ecosystem pollinators.

Bees are non-hostile and must sacrifice their lives when they sting, while yellow jackets are violent aggressors who sting numerous times. My version of Muhammed Ali's quote may be more accurate as "Float like a butterfly, sting like a yellow jacket."

Enjoy dining al fresco in these glorious warm days while being alert to keep the sting out of summer.



Sunglasses for summer! Cynthia Brian in the hydrangea garden.

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 Are1® 501 c3.

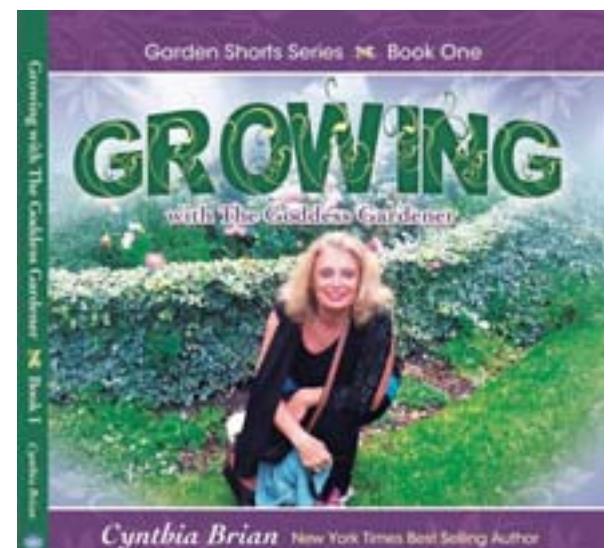
Tune into Cynthia's Radio show and order her books at www.StarStyleRadio.com.

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

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Read *Growing with the Goddess Gardener* this summer!

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